

1st Reading

Acts 10:34. 37-43
Peter recounts the deeds of Jesus.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 118.1-2, 16-17, 22-23 (*R.24*)

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

2nd Reading

Colossians 3:1-4
Set your heart on the greater gifts.

Gospel Acclamation

See Philippians 2.8-9
Alleluia, alleluia!
Christ has become our paschal
sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the
Lord. Alleluia!

Gospel

John 20:19-31 *Doubting Thomas*

LITURGY TIMES

Saturday

Reconciliation, 5-5:45pm Vigil Mass, 6pm

Sunday

Mass, 8am, 9.30am and 6pm Youth Mass, 2nd & 4th Sun, 6pm

Monday and Wednesday

Mass, 7am (except on Public Holidays which changes to 9.05am)

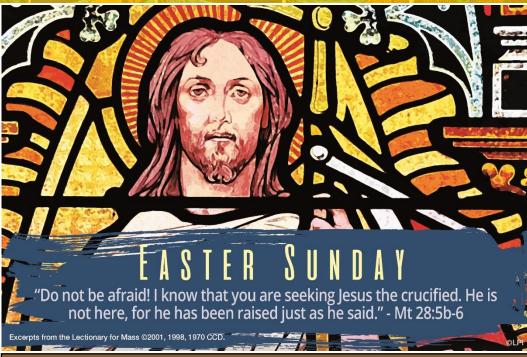
Tuesday, Thursday and Friday Mass, 9.05am Anointing Mass, 1st Fri, 9.05am

1st Friday Night Devotion Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 7.30pm

Children's Liturgy

Sat 6pm Vigil Mass & Sun 9.30am 1st & 3rd Sun of the month (during school term)

Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals,
Anointing of the Sick
by appointment



VOICE FROM THE PEWS

"Our faith is strengthened by the resurrection of Christ. The passion of Christ represents the misery of our present life, while the resurrection of Christ gives us a brilliant glimpse of the happiness of the future life. Let us apply ourselves energetically in the present life and hope in the future." St. Augustine of Hippo.

Jesus was betrayed and abandoned by his own disciples: he was condemned to death and suffered the most brutal punishment of his time; died on the cross while being mocked by the same people who welcomed him in Jerusalem like a king! Today, the Jesus' glory of resurrection overshadows the cruelty of man, and highlights the supreme power of God! People who have seen and walk in darkness will now see the great light! Jesus is showing us that in the midst of life's challenges and difficulties, a new day is dawning. When we are stuck in the mud of shame and despair, Jesus is teaching us to be hopeful. Let us not allow ourselves to be defined by our weaknesses today and let the grace of God renew us to be ready for tomorrow. For we are consecrated in the resurrection of Christ in our baptism; therefore, we share in his glorious and triumphant rising from death into life.

Today, once again, with the eyes of faith, we are looking with awe at an empty tomb. Emptiness, which is far from being void, but rather, filled with the abundance of love and mercy. Let us live our lives, then, with great conviction that He who was raised to new life will one day come to set us free. Celebrate life for Jesus has risen, Hosanna in the highest!

🔈 Fr Jepser



We are a welcoming parish. Whatever your present status in the Catholic Church, whatever your current family or marital situation, whatever your past or present religious affiliation, whatever your personal history, age, background, race or color, sexual orientation, whatever your self-esteem... you are invited, welcomed, accepted, loved and respected by the Catholic Community of Holy Spirit.

If you are not an active member of this Community, consider sharing in what we have to offer. We serve the Community through outreach, education, social activities, sacramental preparation, youth and comfort to the sick and mourning. In addition to our spiritual and outreach organisations, perhaps you have an interest in joining one of our many liturgical ministries as: Minister of Holy Communion, Lector, Welcomer, Choir, etc.

Persons are formally registered by filling out a form that is then entered into the parish data system (information supplied remains confidential). These forms are available from the parish office or in the church foyer.

To know more about the life of the parish, you can grab a copy of our Welcome Newsletter available in the foyer or go to this link on our website:

https://holyspiritstclair.com.au/w p-content/uploads/2021/03/Holy-Spirit-Parish-Welcome-Newsletter.pdf

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the People of God at Holy Spirit Parish is to witness to and to proclaim the word of God, and to pray and celebrate the Liturgy in word and sacraments so that we may be of service to others and form a community of "one mind and one heart on the way to God." (St Augustine)

PASTORAL CARE FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Our clergy and pastoral care ministers bring the sacraments of Eucharist, reconciliation, and anointing of the sick to members who are unable to participate because of illness or aging. For more information and to arrange receiving the sacraments, contact Parish Office at 9670 8222 or admin@holyspiritstclair.com.au.



PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY

There is strength and peace that comes from when we pray for one another. If you have a prayer request or want to offer a Mass for a special intention, go to: https://holyspiritstclair.com.au/mass-prayer-requests/
We ask you to please submit your prayer intentions a few days before preferred Mass.

SICK:

Yvonne Funnell, Linda Allen, Andrew Boulos, Emilia Rose Moya, Giulia & Joseph Caruana, Joel Dizon, Angela Cook, Bella Tassone, Ramon Rivera, Brian Barnes, Harry Young, Steven Johns, Alice Grech, Bill Lynch, Rosie Casha, Anne Fidler, Hanna Rose Stewart, Ferdinand Amores, Lloyd Fernandez, Benjie Santiago.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Stephen Townsend Booth, Sulia Wolfgram, Dulcie Shrieves, Peter Michael Evans, Scott Page, Virginia Fleming, Mervyn Fernandez.

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:

Enid Falleiro, Artemio Prieto, Teodora Floro, Cesar Santos Sr, Angeles Malixi, Ricardo Herft, Beryl May Turner, Isabel Siangco.

Names submitted to Parish for the sick list will show for 4 weeks at a time.

PARISH COLLECTIONS & REGULAR CONTRIBUTION

If you are a new parishioner to Holy Spirit or an existing one and you would like to participate in the Regular Parish Contribution, forms are available for completion in the foyer of the church or go to the link provided below. Please complete your details and email it to accounts@holyspiritstclair.com.au or hand it to any of our priests. 30% of the collection is for the care of our Augustinian clergy and the 70% is for the administration and maintenance costs of the parish.

Regular Parish Contribution Form and other ways to donate: www.holyspiritstclair.com.au/donations



We're grateful to those who continue to financially support our parish.

GOD BLESS YOU.



LIVE THE LITURGY Inspiration for the Week



Alleluia! Christ is risen! About today's feast, St. Augustine writes: "And he departed from our sight that we might return to our hearts and find him there. For he left us, and behold, he is here." Christ's resurrected presence lives not only in the highest heaven but in the fragile human heart. Christ's life inspires us and moves us to see a future for every human being and discover our true purpose and meaning. Every human being has a desire to live, and this cry can be heard within. There is a longing for a connection with Someone greater than ourselves that gives an import to our existence that we cannot supply. Today, our deepest questions find answers.

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

First Reading: We hear today part of the speech that Peter delivered in the household of Cornelius, a centurion and Gentile-believer in Christ. Peter bore witness to his experiences with Jesus, including Jesus' resurrection. To whom do you bear witness to your faith in the resurrected Jesus?

Second Reading: Paul urges the Colossians to remain focused on Jesus' resurrection, ascension, and final return — to "seek what is above." What do you find appealing in this spiritual exercise?

Gospel Reading: Mark's account of Jesus' resurrection focuses on the women's discovery of the empty tomb. In fact, Jesus risen from the tomb is the original ending of the Gospel of Mark. Why do you think Mark would end his Gospel with the empty tomb?

BAPTISM Preparation Meeting

Parents wishing to have their child baptized are asked to contact the Parish Office prior to attending a preparation evening. Next Baptism Preparation session is on Tue 11th April 7.00pm, at the church. Presenter is Michael Zammit.



SOFIA GOMEZ

(Daughter of Anthony and Teresa)

TOMMEN PHILLIP HORSELY

(Son of Jamie and Kristy)

ZION NABIL & LEVI ANTHONY HADDAD

(Sons of Anthony and Louise)

WEEKLY JUSTICE CHALLENGES

We celebrate the core event of our faith this week, the Resurrection of Jesus. Through the Resurrection, we are brought to new life and grace. We are assured that God's love is more powerful than anything—even death—and that Jesus fulfilled his mission of redemption. Your challenge this week is to celebrate your own new life in Christ by promoting respect for life in your community. Think of a way you can promote life. You could pray for women who are considering abortion so that they have a change of heart, and pray for doctors who perform abortions, that they, too, will have a conversion and remember their oath to protect, not destroy, life. You could pray for an end to war and violence, or for an end to the death penalty in our nation. If you aren't already, consider becoming active in your local pro-life community. How can you promote the Catholic vision of life that says every human life is sacred, from womb to tomb?

©Center for Ministry Development. Published by the Pastoral Center / PastoralCenter.com. All rights reserved.

THE SUNDAY FLOCK





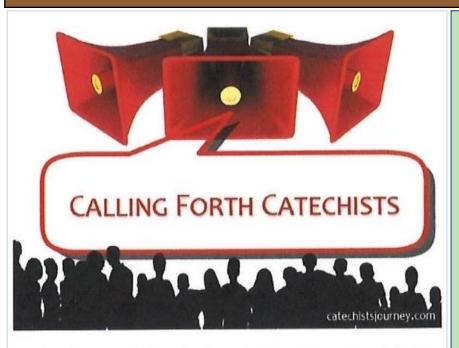
© Jean Denton flock.pastoralcenter.com

"Were not our hearts burning within us?"

Sheepish Question:

So what really IS my greatest hope?

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



Our Parish is in need of people who would like to take a role as Catechist. Catechists are needed especially at James Erskine, Blackwell and Clairgate Primary Schools. Please give your prayerful consideration to respond to this worthwhile invitation. If you need more information how to become a catechist please contact our SRE Coordinator Peter Moriarty at sre@holyspiritstclair.com.au or 0452079043

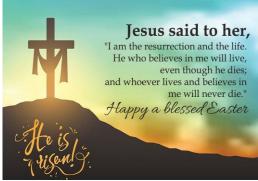
Good Shepherd Appeal – Thank you

Dear Parishioners:

Thank you so much for your generous support of our Holy Spirit Seminarians through the Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal last weekend. Your gift will ensure that we can train more visionary young men to become priests and good shepherds of Christ's flock.

For those who haven't had a chance to support these faithful young men in their vocation as good shepherds of Christ's flock, please complete the giving envelope and place your gift in the receptacle provided. All donations over \$2 are tax-deductible and will be receipted. Your generous gift will help provide for the <u>education</u>, formation and training of our 11 Holy Spirit Seminarians.

Thank you.





The Letter to the HEBREWS

Duration: 8 weeks
Registration will be on:
7pm on 27 April 2023
Start: 11th May 2023
More details will be made available
soon.

An initiative of the Spirituality

Commission



Enrolling now for 2024



Please call us on 8886 3200 to book a personalised tour!

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

2023 Sacramental Preparation

Bookings can be made online thru the Parish Website www.holyspiritstclair.com.au

CONFIRMATION (Year 5)

- Bookings available from 1 March 2023
- Parent Information & Catechesis Tuesday 2 May 5pm or Wednesday 3 May 6pm
- Preparation Sessions will be in May (3 weeks)
- Confirmation Masses: 27 May 3pm, 4 June 11.30am 18 June 11 30am

FIRST COMMUNION (Year 4)

- Bookings available from 1 June 2023
- Parent Information & Catechesis Tuesday 25 July 5pm or Wednesday 26 July 6pm
- Preparation Sessions will be August (3 weeks)
- First Communion Masses: 20 August 11.30am, 26 August 3pm, 27 August 11.30am

NOTE: Children with special needs are most welcome to join the preparation.

For all enquiries contact the Parish Office:

W: www.holyspiritstclair.com.au • E: sacraments@holyspiritstclair.com.au P: 02 9670 8222 or 0451 279 934 • A: 5 Todd Row, St Clair 2759 NSW

Notice from St Vincent de Paul Society:

"The St Marys Conference of the ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY is celebrating a milestone on Tuesday 18 April, 80 years since the conference was formed. We would like to extend an invitation to any past members and anyone else interested to the commemorative mass at Our Lady of the Rosary Church at St Marys, 7.30pm, Tuesday 18 April 23. Followed by a light supper in the Parish meeting room to catch up and reminisce. If you are interested in the work that the Society does then feel free to attend as well, you are more than welcome. Peter Morgan: (0417)403 248"



Wedding Anniversary Mass 23 April 2023, 9.30AM MASS

Couples celebrating their Wedding Anniversary in the month of April are most welcome to join us.

Morning Tea available after Mass.

FEAST OF THE DIVINE MERCY 2nd Sunday of Easter 16 April 2023

Starts at 2pm
with Adoration
(with Reconciliation),
Praise & Worship,
Divine Mercy Chaplet
and Food
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!





FUNERALS THIS WEEK:



Dear parishioner: we are reserving this space to announce funerals in our parish. Please don't hesitate in advise us for details.

Parish Administrative Support Officer.

AUGUSTINIAN SPIRITUALITY



"What does love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of men. That is what love looks like."

St Augustine of Hippo

CROSSWORD Jesus Christ is risen!														
X	S	Y	Е	S	Y	Н	R	N	I	L	L	K	J	
J	В	M	G	I	F	K	С	R	Y	E	V	S	D	
С	В	N	G	L	A	Q	E	L	G	В	I	A	Н	
L	S	M	С	N	С	D	F	A	D	С	E	G	V	
P	E	T	E	R	E	T	0	M	В	0	N	T	X	@ 2004
T	A	E	U	I	T	X	S	J	M	N	Z	A	G	© 2004 Creative
P	T	J	G	С	P	R	В	W	T	N	L	K	N	Ministry Resources
С	L	0	T	Н	D	D	A	R	K	G	D	E	I	Pty Ltd
Y	Z	S	С	R	I	P	T	U	R	E	S	N	L	
S	В	V	X	В	E	Н	Y	L	С	A	V	L	I	
D	В	Н	M	T	A	Q	В	F	E	S	0	Q	F	
G	Q	J	W	J	E	N	T	R	A	N	С	E	E	
N	R	S	T	0	N	E	M	G	M	С	Q	U	V	
G	D	P	K	P	L	I	N	E	N	M	Α	R	Y	

Try to find these words:

cloth	life	Scriptures
dark	linen	stone
entrance	Mary	taken
face	Peter	tomb

CREATION CARE TIPS

Celebrate new life today by planting some seeds or seedlings, or plan your summer garden. Pot up some herbs on a windowsill or plant a dwarf tree in a container on a porch or deck. Eating food grown locally saves drastically on the carbon footprint from food grown at great distances. Check out Barbara Kingsolver's book Animal, Vegetable, Miracle for some great inspiration about growing and eating locally grown food.



WHY DO WE DO THAT? **Catholic Life Explained**

Ouestion:

Do we need to fast for one hour before Mass, or one hour before communion?

Answer:

The practice of fasting before receiving the Eucharist is a centuries-old act of devotion that was once very different than it is today. In the 1917 Code of Canon Law, for example, anyone who wanted to receive the Eucharist had to fast from midnight until the time of communion (even water and medications were forbidden). Over the following decades, the rules for the eucharistic fast were relaxed, first by Pope Pius XII and, later, by Pope Saint Paul VI.

The current Code of Canon Law (1983) states very clearly: "A person who is to receive the Most Holy Eucharist is to abstain for at least one hour before holy communion from any food and drink, except for only water and medicine" (Canon 919, §1). And, in the case of those who are ill and the elderly, the rules are even more accommodating, "The elderly, the infirm, and those who care for them can receive the Most Holy Eucharist even if they have eaten something within the preceding hour" (Canon 919, §3).

So, if we strictly follow the "letter of the law," the fast is calculated from the time of Holy Communion and not the start of However, when we remember why we fast — it is a reminder of the deeper hungers of the spirit that our physical thirst or hunger symbolize — we see that the issue is much bigger than simply fulfilling what is called for by Church Law and tradition. Joining fasting to our prayers and reflection before Mass is an opportunity to really center ourselves and to prepare our minds, hearts, and bodies to welcome the One we receive in the Eucharist. ©*LPi*

NEXT WEEKEND (9TH APRIL): EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD, Yr A

1st Reading

Acts 2:42-47 Life of the early disciples.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 118.1-2, 16-17, 22-23 (R.24)

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

2nd Reading

Peter 1:3-9 Current trials lead to rejoicing when Christ again appears.

Gospel Acclamation

See Philippians 2.8-9 Alleluia, alleluia! You believe in me Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Gospel

John 20:19-31 Doubting Thomas.

CLEANERS: Group 3 **BANNERS:** White

15 APRIL, 6.30PM

Minister at the Altar

Jacob Fonseca

Eucharistic Ministers Bernadette Stevens Fiona Ferreira Mary Fonseca

Reader 1

Marinella Licuanan

Reader 2 Eileen Baena

Commentator Fe Uy

Music St Joseph's Choir

Powerpoint Nanette I.

Iunior Servers Volunteer Needed

Welcomers Selwyn Oliveira Sonia Oliveira Corinne Cerdor 16 APRIL, 8AM

Minister at the Altar Gloria Slade

Eucharistic Ministers

Pat Dowd Celeste Lapid Elsa Roberto

Reader 1 **Shirley Croning**

> Reader 2 Carol Vella

Commentator Sarah Damole

Music Peter Mercia

Powerpoint Louise Bucholtz

Junior Servers Volunteer Needed

Welcomers Sarah Damole Jun Damole Volunteer Needed 16 APRIL, 9.30AM

Minister at the Altar Fred Harris

Eucharistic Ministers

Michael Paulo Marie Sanosa Nida Hawley

Reader 1 Nida Hawley

Reader 2 Derrick Pereira

Commentator Joanne Staunton

Music Laudate Choir

Powerpoint Ivan Fernandes

Junior Servers Volunteer Needed

Welcomers Joe Duval Sue Oram Volunteer Needed 16 APRIL, 6PM

Minister at the Altar

Tony Cleary Eucharistic Ministers

Lumen Decena Robert Lees Roman Cunanan

Reader 1 Joseph Valladores

Reader 2 Corinne Brooker

Commentator Sheila Francis

Music Esther Rose Choir

Powerpoint

Volunteer Needed **Junior Servers**

Volunteer Needed

Welcomers Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF 10 APRIL

Mon 10 Apr: Monday Within The Octave Of Easter Tuesday Within The Octave Of Easter Tue 11 Apr: Wed 12 Apr: Wednesday Within The Octave Of Easter Thu 13 Apr: Thursday Within The Octave Of Easter Fri 14 Apr: Friday Within The Octave Of Easter Sat 15 Mar: Saturday Within The Octave Of Easter

St Clair • Erskine Park • Parts of Kemps Creek **Holy Spirit Parish**

Under the Pastoral Care of the Augustinians since 1995 Diocese of Parramatta www.parra.catholic.org.au Holy Spirit Parish St Clair-Erskine Park • Holy Spirit Parish St Clair Family Ministry • BASICGIFT (Youth Ministry)

Parish Office

5 Todd Row (PO Box 103) St Clair NSW 2759

P 02 9670 8222 E admin@holyspiritstclair.com.au W www.holyspiritstclair.com.au

9.00am to 5pm (Monday to Friday) Emergency after hours only M 0403 390 269

Office Hours Priory

Parish Council

Facebook

3 Peter Pan Glen, St Clair P TBA

Parish Staff Parish Moderator: Fr Jepser Bermudez, OSA P 02 9670 8222 E pp@holyspiritstclair.com.au

Asst Pastor: Fr Dave Austin, OSA P 02 9670 8222 E daustin@holyspiritstclair.com.au Asst Pastor: Fr Peter Tangey, OSA P 02 9670 8222 E ptangey@holyspiritstclair.com.au

Augustinian Brother: Rev. Hoang Huy Nguyen P 02 9670 8222 E ix.hoanghuy@holyspiritstclair.com.au

Parish Secretary: Elisa Reynolds P 02 9670 8222 E admin@holyspiritstclair.com.au (Tue-Fri)

Parish Bookkeeper: Mila Llamas P 02 9670 8222 E accounts@holyspiritstclair.com.au (Mon and Wed)

SRE Coordinator (Catechists): Peter Moriarty P 02 9670 8222 E sre@holyspiritstclair.com.au Sacramental Coordinator: Germaine Gil M 0451 279 934 E sacraments@holyspiritstclair.com.au

Safeguarding Parish Support Officer: Elsa Roberto P 02 9670 8222 E safeguarding@holyspiritstclair.com.au

Parish Youth Contact: Eleanor Stuart M 0431 639 895 E eleanor.stuart97@gmail.com Chair: Ana Gregoriou • Asst Chair: Paola Dicenso • Secretary: Bernadette Stevens

Members: Dominic Dimech, Jamie Dowsett, Gus Morgan, Michael Paulo, Vince Cachia, Carol Vella, Andrea Bouche,

Seaview Kama, Benjie Santiago, Eleanor Stuart (BASIC GIFT Youth Representative)

Fr Jepser Bermudez OSA, Fr Dave Austin OSA, Fr Peter Tangey OSA, Rev Hoang Huy Nguyen OSA

Schools/College Holy Spirit Primary School (7 Todd Row, St Clair) P 02 8886 3200 W www.hsstclair.catholic.edu.au

Trinity Primary School (61 Bakers Ln, Kemps Creek) P 02 8856 6200 W trinitykempscreek.catholic.edu.au Emmaus Catholic College (87 Bakers Ln, Kemps Creek) P 02 9670 8300 W emmauskempscreek.catholic.edu.au

Pls support the advertisers that support us. Thank you.

If you wish to advertise your business, contact Parish Office. See contact details on page 7.



P: 02 9623 6656 M: 0418 250 242 E: michelle@heavenlycelebrations.com.au

186 Queen Street (Star Arcade), St Marys NSW 2760

Picaluna

As a long-time member of the Parish, it would be my honour to guide you and your family through this challenging time, helping you create a beautiful and meaningful ceremony to honour and celebrate your beloved departed according to your spiritual and cultural values.

Picaluna will donate 5% of its profit to a project of Holy Spirit Parish or to a charity of your choice.

PRE-PAID FUNERALS AVAILABLE

Joy Rulewski - Celebrant & Funeral Director 0425 264 642 / 02 9191 5006 joy.rulewski@picaluna.com • picaluna.com



Sans Rival

\$75.00

\$75.00



Mob:0418664861

Pick up Address 26 Caley St Ropes Crossing



Bateman Battersby

We invite members of the parish to take advantage of our legal services specialising in:

- Property Law
- Family Law
- Business Law
- Negligence Law Wills & Estates Court Appearances

Ph: 02 4731 5899

www.batemanbattersby.com.au enquiries@batemanbattersby.com.au





PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

Our parish is grateful for your continued support. Thank you!



Support the Parish by signing up to contribute online. Setting up a onetime or recurring donation/Planned Giving is quick and easy. Visit: www.holyspiritstclair.com.au/donations. Or thru bank transfer:

Account Name: Holy Spirit Parish St Clair

Bank: CBA BSB: 067 950 Account Number: 000 005 78

The 70% of the collection is for the regular running costs of the parish.

The remaining 30% is to provide for the household expenses of our priests and to support the ministry of the Augustinians.

If you encounter any issues signing up, please email Mila, accounts@holyspiritstclair.com.au. Thank you so much for your support of our parish!

