

**1st Reading** Kings 19:9.11-13 The Lord passes by Elijah as a whisper.

**Responsorial Psalm** Psalm 89:9-14. R.v.8. Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

**2nd Reading** Romans 9:1-5 Serving Christ involves some pain.

**Gospel Acclamation** 

Psalm 129:5 Alleluia, alleluia! I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word. Alleluia!

**Gospel** Matthew 14:22-33 Jesus walks on the water.

## LITURGY TIMES

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

**Sunday** Mass, 8am, 9.30am and 6pm Youth Mass, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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, 1<sup>st</sup> Fri, 9.05am

1<sup>st</sup> Friday Night Devotion Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 7.30pm

> Children's Liturgy Sat 6pm and Sun 9.30am 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sun of the month (during school term)

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



# 19<sup>™</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

010

Peter said to him in reply, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. - Mt 14:28-29

cerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

#### GREETINGS FROM FR JOHN ZHANG, OSA

First and foremost, I give thanks to God for the greatest gift in my life - priesthood. At 9 a.m. on the 3rd of May 2023, the ordination ceremony began, and Archbishop Meng Ningyou of the Taiyuan Diocese officiated; 120 priests concelebrated and nuns, seminarians, and many faithful attended the ceremony. The laying of hands by the 120 clergy filled us with divine grace; we were deeply moved by the atmosphere at the time. With God's mercy and grace, with your prayers and generous support, I am who I am today.

The first two weeks of my ordination were full of joy, receiving roses from my family and friends. As we would often say, we cannot stay forever in the celebration mode, like the apostles when they experienced Jesus' transfiguration on the mountain. Life has to go on and I have to face the realities. However, after two weeks of celebrations, the "cactus" was also presented to us. We (5 newly ordained priests) were interrogated on 17th May in the diocese by the "National security intelligence". Not long after, I was required to be present in a teashop to meet with them again. Anyway, four hours to drink tea and to be questioned by them was not a good feeling. Nevertheless, it is with God's help and the people whom I met in my life, that is you, the parishioners of the Holy Spirit parish. An Augustinian, a Christian like you, we always journey together. Like each one of you, I love Holy Spirit Parish. I enjoyed my stay in Holy Spirit and learned new things from you and appreciated your encouragement and prayers.

Though I have left the parish, my heart remains with you. Holy Spirit Parish was my first parish assignment, and you are the first ever parishioners in my ministry. Therefore, the parish and the parishioners of the Holy Spirit have a special place in my heart. I am ever grateful to you for your presence in my journey. I would like to finish up my reflection based on Luke 19: 1-10. "Zacchaeus the Tax Collector." God always takes initiatives to find where we are, and He wants to be with us. As Pope Francis says: "Augustine does not lose the restlessness of spiritual search. And in this way he discovers that God was waiting for him; even more, that God had never ceased to seek him first." No matter what the past is, the future is always new.

🖎 Fr John.

The Holy Spirit Parish pays respect to the Darug People, the traditional custodians of the land on which we gather to celebrate our faith and worship God. We acknowledae with respect the elders past and present.



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: <u>https://holyspiritstclair.com.au/mass-prayer-requests/</u> We ask you to please submit your prayer intentions a few days before preferred Mass.

#### SICK:

Peter Ramos Leano, Chuck Mario Clarito Manuyag, Nenita Tobias, Aaron Kelly, Anne Kirby, Dolie C Molina, Luz Molina, Michael Huy, Yvonne Funnell, Linda Allen, Andrew Boulos, Emilia Rose Moya, Giulia & Joseph Caruana, Joel Dizon, Angela Cook, Bella Tassone, Ramon Rivera, Brian Barnes, Steven Johns, Alice Grech, Bill Lynch, Glen Root, Rosie Casha, Zephyr Morales, Anne Fisher, Hanna Rose Stewart, John Warne, Salvador Espadilla, Juliet Gonsalves, John Cassar.

#### **RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Beth Cabrera, Steph Cabrera, Thomas Funnell, Graciano Roson Jr, Pat Quinn, Renato Samarista, Elena Mabini.

#### **DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:**

Jose Gacis, Manuela Lopez Uy, Michael Sammut, Godwin & Rita Fenech, Rey Reyes, Edgar Warne, Elizabeth Carlin, Teodora Floro, Felix Martinez, Peran & Manda Marjanovic, David Joseph, Kitty Marren, Lea Madrid, Ben Apikotoa, Hervey & Gerard Cotte, Tony & Maria Kuljanic, Maria Vidinic, Petty Gonsalves, Stella Maloney, Andrew and Feliciano Fernandes, Lino Diamante.

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: <u>www.holyspiritstclair.com.au/donations</u>

SUPPORT OUR PARISH BY GIVING ONLINE TODAY

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



# LIVE THE LITURGY Inspiration for the Week



The fruits of our labors are not always seen in our lifetimes. Faith is not conditional on seeing results. Faith is a radical trust in what is unseen. It requires vigilance and self-investment. It requires our attention even when our efforts don't bear fruit or are unappreciated or unrecognized. A person who is open to accepting God's presence, however it comes, and is willing to share the love received with others is a true inspiration. Good works will flow from this vigilant depth of faith. It will be directed where it is most needed and detached from the need for recognition or gratitude. Faith exercised in secret is the most profound expression of faith and a testament of true love for our Creator. No one needs to know the humility, generosity, and goodness of our hearts, only God. Standing erect and watchful, we are prepared to receive the gift of Divine Love and freely share it with others, without recognition or self-benefit.

#### **QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK**

**First Reading:** Our wisdom writer speaks of the importance of trust in God's divine providence. How do you know that God has provided for you?

**Second Reading:** The author of Hebrews defines faith as "the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen." He then sites Abraham as the model of faith in terms of his obedience, trust, and courage. When have you had to completely trust in the Lord?

**Gospel Reading:** In today's Gospel reading, Jesus teaches the disciples about being vigilant and faithful with the gifts God has given us as we await the end times and return of Jesus. How well do you think you are stewarding the gifts God has given you?



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 12<sup>th</sup> Sept 7.00pm. Presenter will be Michael Zammit.



(Daughter of Guy and Alexandra) MAX WILLIAM AITKEN (Son of Timothy and Jessica)

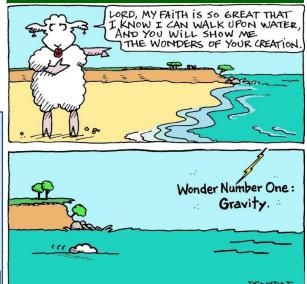


On August 14 we celebrate the feast day of St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe. He gave up his life in a concentration camp during World War II, offering to take the place of a father who was selected for the gas chamber. He was canonized a saint in 1982. Your challenge this week is to give up something on behalf of another person. It won't be your very life as it was for St. Maximilian, but it might be something you really like. Maybe you are called to give up television to help someone with their homework, or to sacrifice a meal in order to pray for a loved one suffering from cancer. It might be taking money you saved for a smart phone or tablet and donating it to people suffering from a hurricane or typhoon. What are you willing to give up for others?

 ${
m C}$  Center for Ministry Development. Published by the Pastoral Center.

# Seeing Through the Lens of Faith

# THE SUNDAY FLOCK



© Jean Denton flock.pastoralcenter.com

"Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water."

Sheepish Question: How can I square "reality" with my faith in the power of Jesus?

#### PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

COMMUNITY

SLEEPOUT

#### Hello my Parish Community,

I have been part of St Vincent de Paul since 2005 but never had the courage to take part in their winter sleepout.

On Friday the 25<sup>th</sup> August 23, I will be joining **Western Sydney** the Vinnies winter sleepout at Western Sydney University Campus and am raising funds as part of this.

I request for your kind support in donating towards this cause on my fundraising page as follows:

https://my.fundraise.vinniesnsw.org.au/western-sydney-vinniescommunity-sleepout-2023/sina

My company, Visy via Pratt Foundation, has a 'Matching Gifts/donation program' and will match your donations.

If you are unable to donate, it's totally fine but please remember me in your prayers as I am very nervous.

Thank you & God bless, Sina.



# Wedding Anniversary Mass 27 August 2023, 9.30AM MASS

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



# RCIA Enquiry Evenings Thursday, 24 August 2023, 7pm Thursday, 31 August 2023, 7pm

If you know anyone interested in the faith (either as enquirer or as sponsor), invite them to come to this session. If you are interested to know more about Jesus and the Catholic Faith, come and join us.

For more information, please contact the Parish Office.

# FUNERALS THIS WEEK:

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



From: Parish Secretary



# SAT 19TH AUGUST 2023, 7.30PM AT HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL HALL

Sausage Sizzle & Soft Drinks on Sale Free tea, coffee & biscuits

Donations for prizes are welcome Organised by the Community and Cultural Commission

# HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

"The Almighty has done great things for me." - Lk 1:49

MASS TIMES: Tue 15 Aug 7am, 9.05am, 7pm

#### PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

# Fr John's Zhang Thanksgiving Mass Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> August 9.30am



# Please bring a plate to share for Morning Tea



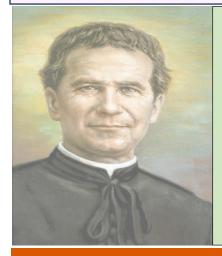


**WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023** Eleanor Stuart and Aaron Smith, Parish representatives at World Youth Day in Lisbon.

#### WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023 Reflections from young pilgrims

The first time I heard about Augustinian Youth Encounter was from Father Saldie when he invited me to come with the Augustinians on a pilgrimage to World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal. I immediately said yes, but I honestly did not expect much from AYE and was more so excited for WYD. However, AYE turned out to be an amazing experience I will never forget. At AYE I learnt the word 'synodality' or 'walking together' - and walking together as a community was exactly what we did (both physically and spiritually). As a group we did many fun activities and sessions, even celebrating our last night with a Portuguese festival filled with beautiful decorations, colour and light. We also grew closer to our Augustinian brothers and sisters from around the world. I truly value the friendships I made at AYE and will never forget the people I came across. It was inspiring to see people my age gathered for the same reason. Of course I spent plenty of time with my best friend, God. We had daily morning prayers, masses, inspiring speakers, group discussions and daily meetings in our own Australian group. One of my favourite experiences was the day we visited Fatima. From the moment I arrived, I knew I was in a holy place. As I was praying in the Basilica of the Most Holy Trinity, a breathtaking church, I could so strongly feel Our Lady's presence. I was moved to tears as I reflected on her motherly love for me and couldn't help but repeat in my mind how beautiful she is. Overall, I am so so grateful I got to attend AYE. It was one of the most joyful, life-changing experiences and the perfect way to prepare my heart for World Youth Day.

 ${\tt By}$  : Sammy Simbag, Carina, Brisbane - with the Augustinian Group



# VISIT OF DON BOSCO RELIC – 23-27 August

The Salesian Community at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, St Marys, will host a visit of the relic statue of St John Bosco (1815-1888), Father and Patron of Youth, from 23 to 27 August. A small bone of the right arm of Don Bosco was placed in the wax replica of the Saint and contained in a glass casket at the time of his beatification in 1929. The planned visit marks the centenary of Don Bosco's work in Australia and the arrival of the first Salesians in the Kimberleys in 1923. Please see the information posters and Relic Visit timetable in our church foyer.



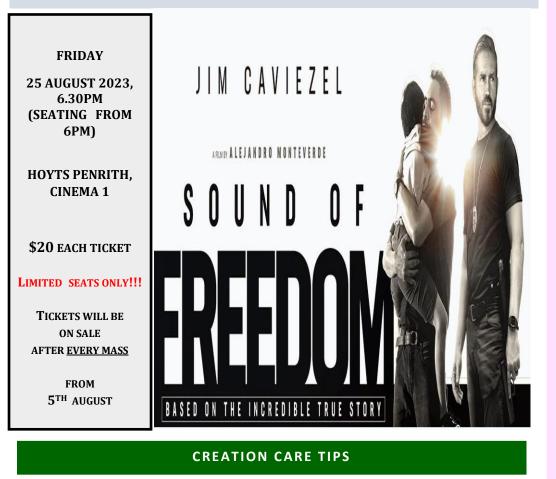
# AUGUSTINIAN SPIRITUALITY

"If God seems slow in responding, it is because He is preparing a better gift. He will not deny us. God withholds what you are not yet ready for. He wants you to have a lively desire for His greatest gifts. All of which is to say, pray always and do not lose heart.".

St Augustine of Hippo

#### **MOVIE NIGHT**

# Family Ministry of HOLY SPIRIT PARISH ST CLAIR AND ERSKINE PARK invite you to watch the film



As summer fruit comes into its abundance, do you or anyone you know have extra produce to share? If you can't eat all the apples on your tree or notice a fruit tree in your neighborhood laden with good fruit, inquire about picking it and donating it to a local food bank.



If you can't harvest it yourself, inquire about local volunteer fruit gleaning groups who will come and harvest the fruit and give the excess to those in need. Inspired? Start a gleaning program in your own community (https://bit.ly/gleaning-guide)!

© The Pastoral Center and Green Churches Network / PastoralCenter.com. All rights reserved.



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

#### Question:

Why do we make changes in the Mass? Some seem so small and unimportant. Are they really necessary?

#### Answer:

The celebration of the Eucharist is at the heart of our identity as Catholics.

Our purpose as a Church community revolves around the Eucharist. Everything we are and everything we do is measured not only by how well we celebrate, but also by how well we live the sacrament.

If that is so, then we as a community will always strive to celebrate the Mass as best we can. The reasons for some changes might seem more obvious than others, but there is a reason behind each one.

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal is the introduction to the Missal that contains all the prayers for the celebration of the Mass. The Order of Mass we use now was issued in 1975 and, as often happens over the course of years, some questions have come up about the proper way of doing some things and whether or not other practices are acceptable. These changes clarify some things and make the celebration of the Mass more meaningful for everyone. The opportunity is presented to us to better learn and understand each part of the Mass, which in turn should help us deepen our appreciation for its beauty and meaning. We will be a better Church if we have a clearer understanding and knowledge of Who and what we celebrate.

©LPi

# NEXT WEEKEND (20 AUGUST): 20<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, Yr A

**1st Reading** Isaiah 56:1.6-7 The Lord's justice is about to be revealed.

**Responsorial Psalm** Psalm 66:2-3 5-6. 8. R.v.4. O God, let all the nations praise you!

**2nd Reading** Romans 11:13-15. 29-32 *God's gifts are irrevocable.* 

#### **Gospel Acclamation**

Matthew 4:23 Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!

> **Gospel** Matthew 15:21-28

A Canaanite woman asks Jesus to heal her daughter.

CLEANERS: Group 2 BANNERS: White

#### 19 AUGUST, 6PM

Minister at the Altar Jacob Fonseca Eucharistic Ministers Janice Salmon Fiona Ferreira Mary Fonseca

**Reader 1** Madeline Mostert

Reader 2 Fe Uy Commentator

Marinella Licuanan *Music* St Joseph's Choir

*Powerpoint* Nanette I.

*Junior Servers* Volunteers Needed

*Welcomers* Selwyn Oliveira Sonia Oliveira Corinne Cerdor 20 AUGUST, 8AM

Minister at the Altar Gloria Slade Eucharistic Ministers Pat Dowd Celeste Lapid Elsa Roberto

> **Reader 1** Carol Vella **Reader 2**

Sarah Damole Commentator

Shirley Croning Music

Peter Mercia *Powerpoint* Louise Bucholtz

*Junior Servers* Volunteers Needed

Welcomers Sarah Damole Jun Damole Remia Morada

#### 20 AUGUST, 9.30AM

*Minister at the Altar* Fred Harris

**Eucharistic Ministers** Michael Paulo Marie Sanosa Nida Hawley

> **Reader 1** Derrick Pereira

**Reader 2** Joanne Staunton

*Commentator* Nida Hawley

*Music* Laudate Choir *Powerpoint* 

Ivan Fernandes

*Junior Servers* Volunteers Needed

Welcomers Joe Duval Sue Oram Volunteer Needed

#### 20 AUGUST, 6PM

*Minister at the Altar* Peter Smith

**Eucharistic Ministers** Lena Maclean Robert Lees Roman Cunanan

> *Reader 1* Corinne Brooker

**Reader 2** Sheila Francis

*Commentator* Joseph Valladores

*Music* Esther Rose Choir

*Powerpoint* Volunteers Needed

Junior Servers Volunteers Needed

*Welcomers* Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed

#### **OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF 13 AUGUST:**

Mon 14 August:Saint Maximilian Mary Kolbe, Priest And MartyrTue 15 August:The Assumption Of The Blessed Virgin MaryWed 16 August:Saint Stephen Of HungaryThu 17 August:Thursday Of The Nineteenth Week In Ordinary Time Year 1Fri 18 August:Friday Of The Nineteenth Week In Ordinary Time Year 1Sat 19 August:Saint John Eudes, Priest; Saturday Mass Of The Blessed Virgin Mary

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

	Under the Pastoral Care of the Augustinians since 1995 Diocese of Parramatta www.parra.catholic.org.au
Facebook Parish Office	Holy Spirit Parish St Clair-Erskine Park • Holy Spirit Parish St Clair Family Ministry • BASICGIFT (Youth Ministry) 5 Todd Row (PO Box 103) St Clair NSW 2759 P 02 9670 8222 E admin@holyspiritstclair.com.au W www.holyspiritstclair.com.au
<b>Office Hours</b>	9.00am to 5pm (Monday to Friday) Emergency after hours only <b>M</b> 0403 390 269
Priory	3 Peter Pan Glen, St Clair
Parish Staff	<ul> <li>Parish Moderator: Fr Jepser Bermudez, OSA P 02 9670 8222 E pp@holyspiritstclair.com.au</li> <li>Asst Pastor: Fr Dave Austin, OSA P 02 9670 8222 E daustin@holyspiritstclair.com.au</li> <li>Asst Pastor: Fr Peter Tangey, OSA P 02 9670 8222 E ptangey@holyspiritstclair.com.au</li> <li>Augustinian Brother: Rev. Hoang Huy Nguyen P 02 9670 8222 E ix.hoanghuy@holyspiritstclair.com.au</li> <li>Parish Secretary: Elisa Reynolds P 02 9670 8222 E admin@holyspiritstclair.com.au (Tue-Fri)</li> <li>Parish Bookkeeper: Mila Llamas P 02 9670 8222 E accounts@holyspiritstclair.com.au (Mon and Wed)</li> <li>SRE Coordinator (Catechists): Peter Moriarty P 02 9670 8222 E sre@holyspiritstclair.com.au</li> <li>Sacramental Coordinator: Germaine Gil M 0451 279 934 E sacraments@holyspiritstclair.com.au</li> <li>Safeguarding Parish Support Officer: Elsa Roberto P 02 9670 8222 E safeguarding@holyspiritstclair.com.au</li> <li>Parish Youth Contact: Eleanor Stuart M 0431 639 895 E eleanor.stuart97@gmail.com</li> </ul>
Parish Council	<ul> <li>Chair: Ana Gregoriou • Asst Chair: Dominic Dimech • Secretary: Paola Dicenso</li> <li>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)</li> <li>Fr Jepser Bermudez OSA, Fr Dave Austin OSA, Fr Peter Tangey OSA, Rev Hoang Huy Nguyen OSA</li> </ul>
Schools/Colleg	<ul> <li>Holy Spirit Primary School (7 Todd Row St Clair P 02 8886 3200 W www.hsstclair.catholic.edu.au</li> <li>Trinity Primary School (61 Bakers Ln, Kemps Creek) P 02 8856 6200 W trinitykempscreek.catholic.edu.au</li> <li>Emmaus Catholic College (87 Bakers Ln, Kemps Creek) P 02 9670 8300 W emmauskempscreek.catholic.edu.au</li> </ul>

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH | 19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

#### 13 AUGUST 2023



Worshipping communities of St Clair, Erskine Park and parts of Kemps Creek