

Social Justice Statement 2023 - 'Listen, Learn Love'

1st Reading Isaiah 22:19-23 The Lord appoints Eliakim over the hours of Judah.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 137:1-3.6.8. R.v.8. Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

2nd Reading Romans 11:33-36 Who knows the mind of God?

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 16:18 Alleluia, alleluia! You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church; the gates of hell will not hold out against it. Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 16:13-20 Jesus asks, "Who do people say I am?".

LITURGY TIMES

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

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

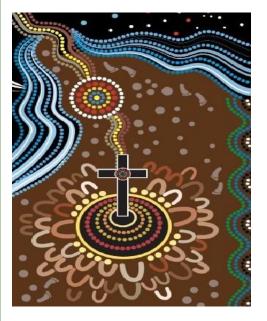
Monday and Wednesday Mass, 7am (except on Public Holidays which changes to 9.05am)

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 and Sun 9.30am 2nd & 4th Sun of the month (during school term)

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



Australia prepares for the Referendum on the Indigenous Voice to Parliament, our Catholic bishops have invited the nation to seek 'a new engagement' with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in their annual Social Justice Statement – Listen, Learn, Love: A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples - launched at Emerton on 17 August by Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, chair of the Bishops Commission for Social Justice, Mission and Service.

Bishop Long said, 'One of the objectives of this statement is that we want Catholics to understand that Catholic social teaching and Catholic social action are not simply theoretical and academic exercises. We hear what God is saying to us about justice by being with our sisters and brothers on the peripheries of society.'

Recent preparations for the Diocesan Synod have reminded us of the importance

of 'deep listening' and this is at the heart of the Statement. Bishop Long commented, 'Listening is hard. Hearing about young people taking their lives, about so many people ending up in jail, of children still being taken away from their parents and grandparents and about the ongoing racism is tough. It must be so much more difficult for these people to tell us about their painful experiences. We are deeply grateful to those who shared their stories of pain with us.'

It is worth noting that the Statement's theme was chosen in May 2022, long before the decision to propose the Voice to Parliament. The bishops are not suggesting how people should vote but reminding us of our responsibility as Church, 'to listen with deep respect and learn from (indigenous people) about what needs to be done to improve their situations. We need to walk with them, day by day, and work with them to bring about change for the better – for their people and for all of us.'

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'Our attitudes and actions towards First Nations Peoples need to be grounded in justice, love and humility,' Bishop Long said.

All are encouraged to read the Statement which can be found on:

https://bit.ly/SJS2023-24

WE CELEBRATE THE FEASTS OF ST AUGUSTINE AND ST MONICA

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 acknowledge 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:

Butch Rivera, Tony Bernard, Peter Ramos Leano, Stephan Marcel, Michelle Edwards, Yvonne Funnell, Linda Allen, Andrew Boulos, Emilia Rose Moya, Joel Dizon, Angela Cook, Bella Tassone, Ramon Rivera, Brian Barnes, Steven Johns, Alice Grech, Bill Lynch, Glen Root, Rosie Casha, Zephyr Morales, John Warne, Salvador Espadilla, William Peyroux, Giulia & Joseph Caruana, Anne Fidler, Hanna Rose Stewart, Dedrie Dimech, Mike Cimerman, Ramia Jajo.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Grazia Annecchini, Beth Cabrera, Elinor Campos Ortiz, Benjamin Ty, Pat Quinn, Tess Evangelista, Steph Rivera, Margaret Hodges, Denham De Silva.

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:

Raymond Beed, Luz B Molina, Margarita M Are, Jose M Molina, Clarefina Necitas Mandar, Jose Gacis, Matiasa Cusay, Julia Fuentes, Nancy Pereira Cunanan,

Amanda Dorotea Peña, Lira Monteiro, Orven Paranas, Louis Tham, Emily Moritz, George & Dorothy Gomes, Amelita Revilla-Columna, Sixta Santos, Pearl Francis, Rita Walters, Mervyn Walters, Moveen Stuart, Doreen D'Rozario.

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



To stand in the presence of God is to stand in the presence of incomprehensible mystery. We are people of proofs and facts. With good reason, we are becoming more doubtful of what presents itself to us, as technology makes it easy to fabricate false images and distort what is actually true. What we think is real actually may not be. We become skeptical. Does this skepticism affect our relationship with God? To have faith in God means that we must be willing to trust in the absence of full knowledge. To know the mind of God means we would know God himself, and that is impossible. To acknowledge Jesus as the Christ means we acknowledge that the reality and presence of an incarnate God has a fundamental claim on who we are. When we name this truth, we participate in a depth of knowledge that stretches us far beyond the scope of our minds. It brings us to silence, which is the only way to touch our soul.

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

First Reading: The Lord condemns Shebna (a scribe under King Hezekiah) for ignoring Isaiah's prophetic warning and elevates Eliakim with "a seat of honor." How well do you listen to prophetic voices?

Second Reading:

Today we hear Paul's concluding remarks from Romans 9:11 (reflections on God's plan of salvation for Jews and Gentiles). Paul contends that God's ways are beyond our understanding. Do you find this comforting or unsettling?

Gospel Reading:

Jesus informs Peter that his confession of him as "the Messiah, the Son of the living God" is divinely inspired. How do you imagine Peter personally reacted to the news of this revelation?



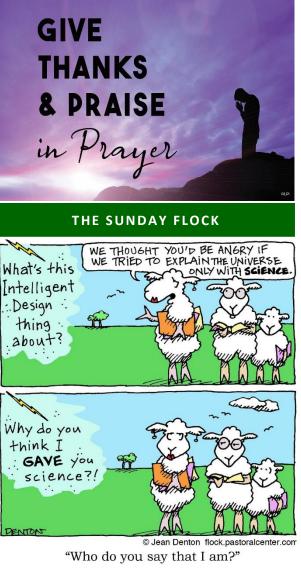
Parents wishing to have their child baptized are asked to contact the Parish Office prior to attending a preparation evening. Next Baptism Preparation session is on Tue 12th Sept 7.00pm. Presenter will be Michael Zammit.





Saint Rose of Lima (August 23) and Saint Monica (August 27) are both known for the power of their prayer. Saint Rose is believed to have prevented a devastating earthquake from destroying Lima by praying for the safety of the city. Saint Monica's persistent prayer helped in the conversion of her son, Augustine, who turned from his hedonistic life and became a Father and Doctor of our Church. Your challenge this week is to tap into the power of prayer. Prayerfully choose an injustice which you see—in your local community, in our country, or in the world. Then pray every day this week for an end to the injustice. Open your heart and listen to what God wants you to do to help end the injustice.

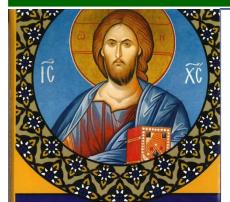
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Sheepish Question:

How has your knowledge of God grown in the last year? And who is the Son of Man?

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS





God's Word 2024: Daily Reflections

- It brings you:
- Scripture readings of the day from the Jerusalem Bible
- Inspiring reflections by eminent Australasian spiritual writers

Available at the Piety Stall for \$20 each.



This is formation for anyone interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as:

- Readers
- Extraordinary Ministers of Communion
- Communion to the Sick and Dying
- Ministers at the Altar/Acolyte

THESE COURSES ARE FREE OF CHARGE.

If you are interested or would like more information, please **contact the Office for Worship** on 0460 037 795 or mary.gale@parracatholic.org or visit our website to download an enrolment form at https://officeforworship.org.au/

The Ordination to Priesthood of Ignatius Hoang Huy Nguyen, OSA By Vincent Long Van Nguyen, OFM Conv. Bishop of Parramatta



Saturday 9.30am 16th September 2023 Followed by refreshments

Mass of Thanksgiving of Fr Ignatius Hoang Huy Nguyen, OSA : Sun 9.30am 17th September 2023 Followed by Morning Tea.



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.



Clergy Support Foundation Let us care for those who have cared for us through their lifetime of service



Please give generously to the Bishop's Father's Day Appeal supporting our retired and sick clergy parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal



Bishop's Father's Day Appeal 02 and 03 September

Please find envelops for your donation in the foyer Thank you and God bless you for your kindness.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

FILIPINO CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION (FCA) ST. CLAIR - ERSKINE PARK

Calling all Filos in St Clair/Erskine Park who are interested to join in the planning of the future of FCA and the revival of 1st Sunday of the Month (1SM Pilipino) Holy Mass.

You are needed by the organisation; we need your voice! Come along to the meeting this coming **Sunday**, **27**th of August 2023 at 4PM at the Pioneer Room, Holy Spirit Parish.

If you need more information, please feel free to call Olga Esquerra or Sarah Damole (Mob: 0405 756 752).

PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY TO THE AUGUSTINIAN FORMATION APPEAL Forming the Mext Generation of Augustinians



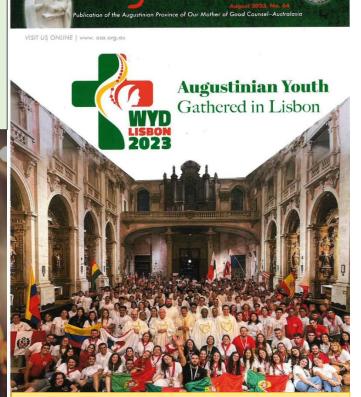


2023 MARIAN FIESTA

11 MARIAN TALK 12 NOVENA BEGINS 21 FIESTA

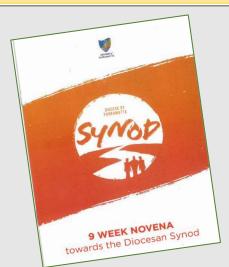


2023 MARIAN FIESTA RAFFLE TICKETS Drawn: Sat, 21/10/23 1st Prize: \$500 2nd Prize: \$300 3rd Prize: \$200



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PLEASE TAKE HOME A COPY OF THE AUGUSTINIAN MAGAZINE FROM THE FOYER



DON'T FORGET TO TAKE A BOOKLET FOR THE '9 WEEK NOVENA' towards the Diocesan Synod. They are in the Foyer.

FUNERALS THIS WEEK:

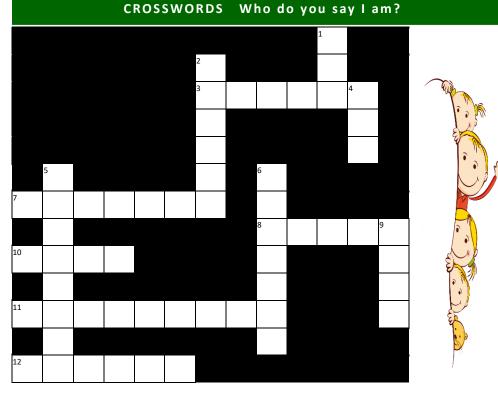
Dear parishioner: We are reserving this space to announce funerals in our parish. Please don't hesitate in advise us details.

From: Parish Secretary

AUGUSTINIAN SPIRITUALITY



"Because God has made us for Himself, our hearts are restless until they rest in Him". St Augustine of Hippo



DOWN:

- 1: Simon was the _ _ _ of Jonah
- 2: a prophet whose name begins with 'E'
- 4: our Father in heaven
- 5: a prophet whose name begins with 'J'
- 6: some people thought Jesus was John the _ _ _ _ _ _
- 9: the name Peter means _ _ _ _



- 3: being alive
- 7: God's chosen one
- 8: Jesus gave Simon his new name
- 10: these are used to unlock things
- 11: Jesus' followers
- 12: Jesus said "On this rock I will build my _ _ _ _ _

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CREATION CARE TIPS

With the back-to-school season upon us, shop at a second-hand store or organize a clothing swap for what the kids need this year, rather than buy all new clothes, backpacks, and school supplies.

Over-consumerism and the desire for new things contribute to an unsustainable economy that continues to deplete the earth of natural resources. Remember the old saying, "Use it up, wear it out, make it do, or do without."



WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained: Priestly Ordination of Men

Question:

Why are only men allowed to be priests. **Answer:**

One of the most debated and — in some circles — contentious teachings of the Church is that only men can be ordained as priests and deacons. Critics see it as a way of strengthening a patriarchal system in which women have little or no voice. Those who support this teaching look to New Testament teaching (where we read of Jesus choosing only men to be apostles) and the long-standing practice of the Church. This was certainly the perspective of St. John

Paul II who, in his 1994 apostolic letter, Ordinatio Sacerdotalis, closed the discussion on the possibility of ordaining women as priests.

In the letter, he reflected on the dignity of women and their call to share in the life and mission of the Church, but he concluded by solemnly declaring that "the Church has no authority whatsoever to confer priestly ordination on women and that this judgement is to be definitely held by all the Church's faithful" (no. 4).

This position has been upheld by Pope Francis in interviews, most notably as he returned from his 2016 visit to Sweden.

The ordination of women to the diaconate is another question and one which is being studied. In 2016, Pope Francis created a 12-member commission to study the question from perspectives several theological, liturgical, historical, etc.). The commission issued an initial report for Pope Francis who later said that the commission had not yet produced a "definite response" to the question because of a lack of agreement on the role of female deacons in the Early Church.

For now, however, regardless of what changes might come from ongoing study and debate, the Church continues to reserve ordination to the diaconate to men only, recognizing a vital link between the diaconate and the priesthood and the lack of certainty about the presence and function of female deacons throughout history.

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NEXT WEEKEND (3RD SEPTEMBER): 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, Yr A

1st Reading Jeremiah 20:7-9 Despite discouragement, God's word burns in Jeremiah's heart.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 62:2-6. 8-9. R.v.2 *My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.*

2nd Reading Romans 12:1-2 *Offer yourself as a living sacrifice.*

Gospel Acclamation Ephesians 1:17-18 Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 16:21-27 Jesus reveals his future death, rebukes Peter.

CLEANERS: Group 4 BANNERS: Green

2 SEPT, 6PM

Minister at the Altar Lorensz Herft Eucharistic Ministers Hazel Littlewood Sylvia Herft

> Jeanne Appleton **Reader 1** Sheila Francis

Reader 2 Moira Rebello *Commentator*

Sylvia Herft *Music* AMEN Choir

Powerpoint Volunteers Needed

Junior Servers Volunteers Needed Welcomers

Sonia Oliveira Selwyn Oliveira <mark>Volunteers Needed</mark> **3 SEPT AUGUST, 8AM**

Minister at the Altar Gloria Slade Eucharistic Ministers

> Louise Bucholtz Ron Brackett Lisa Brackett **Reader 1**

Faye Aboghazaleh Reader 2

Christine Younes

Sonia Sultana *Music*

Manuel Fidow **Powerpoint** Carol Vella

Junior Servers Volunteers Needed

Welcomers Angela Pecnik Remia Morada Volunteer Needed 3 SEPT, 9.30AM

Minister at the Altar Nono Gacis

Eucharistic Ministers Sina Carvalho Tina Fernandes Seaview Kama

> **Reader 1** Cathy Allen

Reader 2 Tess Barnes

Commentator Joy Rulewski

Music Luchie's Choir

Powerpoint Ivan Fernandes

Junior Servers Volunteers Needed

Welcomers Volunteers Needed Jenny Kyd Volunteers Needed 3 SEPT, 6PM

Minister at the Altar Tony Cleary

Eucharistic Ministers Esther Rose Lumen Decena

Sue Oram *Reader 1* Charlotte Smith

Reader 2 Robert Lees

Commentator Romana Cunanan

Music El Shaddai SG Choir

Powerpoint El Shaddai SG Choir

Junior Servers Volunteers Needed

Welcomers Esther Rose Eleanor Stuart Volunteers Needed

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF 27 AUGUST:

Mon 28 August: Saint Augustine, Bishop And Doctor Of The Church
Tue 29 August: Passion Of Saint John The Baptist
Wed 30 August: Wednesday Of The Twenty-First Week In Ordinary Time Year 1
Thu 31 August: Thursday Of The Twenty-First Week In Ordinary Time Year 1
Fri 1 September: Friday Of The Twenty-First Week In Ordinary Time Year 1
Sat 2 September: 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
Office Hours	9.00am to 5pm (Monday to Friday) Emergency after hours only M 0403 390 269
Priory	3 Peter Pan Glen, St Clair
Parish Staff	Parish Moderator: Fr Jepser Bermudez, OSAP0296708222Epp@holyspiritstclair.com.auAsst Pastor: Fr Dave Austin, OSAP0296708222Edaustin@holyspiritstclair.com.auAsst Pastor: Fr Peter Tangey, OSAP0296708222Eptangey@holyspiritstclair.com.auAugustinian Brother: Rev. Hoang Huy NguyenP0296708222Eix.hoanghuy@holyspiritstclair.com.auParish Secretary: Elisa ReynoldsP0296708222Eadmin@holyspiritstclair.com.auParish Bookkeeper: Mila LlamasP0296708222Eaccounts@holyspiritstclair.com.auSRE Coordinator (Catechists): Peter MoriartyP0296708222Esre@holyspiritstclair.com.auSacramental Coordinator: Germaine GilM0451279934Esacraments@holyspiritstclair.com.auSafeguarding Parish Support Officer:Elsa RobertoP0296708222Esafeguarding@holyspiritstclair.com.auParish Youth Contact:Eleanor StuartM0431639895Eeleanor.stuart97@gmail.com
	 Chair: Ana Gregoriou • Asst Chair: Dominic Dimech • Secretary: Paola Dicenso 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 ge 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

27 AUGUST 2023

