

1st ReadingDaniel 7:9-10. 13-14
The ancient one takes his throne.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 96:1-2. 5-6. 9. R.w.1. 9. The Lord is king, the most high over all the earth.

2nd Reading 2 Peter 1:16-19 Peter tells of the glory of Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! This is my Son, my beloved, in whom is all my delight: listen to him (Matthew 17:5). Alleluia!

GospelMatthew 17:1-9
The Transfiguration.

LITURGY TIMES

Saturday

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

Sunday

Mass, 8am, 9.30am and 6pm Youth Mass, 2^{nd} & 4^{th} 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



FR DAVE WRITES....

'MARY MACKILLOP - MODEL OF VOCATION!'

Dear Friends,

National Vocations Awareness Week is always held around the Feast of Australia's first Saint Mary MacKillop on 8 August. Mary's journey to religious life has become familiar to us along with the people and places where she established Catholic schools, including at St Marys and Penrith.

Mary's life is a reminder that God is at work everywhere, even in the outback! While at her uncle's property at Penola, she became firm friends with Parish Priest Fr Julian Tenison Woods. They shared a dream of setting up a school in Penola to cater for all Catholic children, including the poor. The school eventually became a reality and Mary began wearing a plain black dress and bonnet. When Bishop Sheil visited Penola, he addressed her as 'Sister Mary' and her great story continued from there. Mary would later establish the Sisters of St Joseph.

Each of has or dreams but how often does it occur to us that our dream and God's dream might be the same? As we embrace our personal vocation, invariably our vocation is about the convergence of these dreams. Every Christian is called and commissioned to be a bearer of God's grace to others. This is what every parent does, what spouses, family and friends do for each

other. When the dream 'fits', we are responding to God's call.

Vocations do not come out of thin air but are usually the fruit of Christian family life where parents engage with their children and form them in the Christian way. You and I have faith because at some stage, significant people were bearers of God's grace to us — our parents, a family member or friend, perhaps a religious brother or sister, deacon or priest.

A vocation is rarely discerned in isolation but is often nurtured and called forth by others. A religious calling, though deeply personal, is never private. God's love is always for sharing, exemplified in the generous way Jesus offered himself for us.

Even where religious live an enclosed life, their prayers are for those in need. Over the years I have requested prayers for children in desperate situations from the Benedictine Sisters at Jamberoo. I recall one message from a Sister who had joined the community later in life as a widow: 'Fr Dave, our community will pray for this child. As a mother and grandmother myself, my heart goes out to her parents'. Now there's a miracle of grace!

Religious vocations are lived out in selfless service of the community and we need to pray for the grace to love the Church in troubled times and support those called in these ways. As Mary MacKillop would say, 'Do not let your troubles disturb your trust in God!'

∑ Fr Dave



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, Steven Johns, Alice Grech, Bill Lynch, Glen Root, Rosie Casha, Zephyr Morales, Anne Fidler, Hanna Rose Stewart, John Warne, Michael Hay, Luz Molina, Dolie C Molina, Aaron Kelly, Anne Kirby, Teresita de Jesus, Michael Galea, Chuck Mario Clarito Manuyag, Peter Ramos Leano.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Thomas Funnell, Ivan Cukman, Nenita Tobias-Nool, Marion Cassar.

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:

Michael Sammut, Edgar Warne, Rey Reyes, Stella Maloney, Mena Paz, Doreen Herft, Carmen Felsinger, Denham De Silva, Tonny Cincotta, Christino Giordmaina, Mary and Archie Lanagan, Lilly Farrugia, Pearl Francis.

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



What do you really hope and hunger for? We are most familiar with our physical hungers and cravings as they are quite obvious. What we don't always realize is that we also have emotional and spiritual hungers. Many are starving for acceptance and love. Many others hunger for a sense of purpose, more focused direction, and deeper connection and meaning.

Our hungers can easily get confused. We think we are in need of one thing but are actually being driven by another. We need to recognize and pursue our spiritual hungers. If we do not do so, we will attempt to fill these needs with lesser, and not always healthier, things. God, ultimately through the Eucharist, is the only One who can quench our more profound thirsts. Have we discovered this yet?

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

First Reading: Near the end of Israel's captivity in Babylon (597-538 BC), the prophet Isaiah spoke of the Lord's desire to be unimaginably generous and life-giving to his people. How has the Lord been generous in gifts to you and your family?

Second Reading: In his letter to the Christians in Rome, Paul speaks of God's inseparable bond of love for us through Jesus Christ. In what ways does this sense of God's love for us help you in times of stress and anxiety?

Gospel Reading: In the immediate aftermath of the news of the death of John the Baptist, Matthew reports that Jesus, "moved with pity," cured those who were sick in the crowds and fed the entire crowd of 5,000. How do you react toward others for whom you feel "pity"?

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 8th August 7.00pm. Presenter Seaview Kama.



WEEKLY JUSTICE CHALLENGES

On August 7 and 9, we mark the bombings of Nagasaki and Hiroshima during World War II. Today we have nuclear weapons which are much more devastating than the atomic bombs dropped on Japan almost 70 years ago. Our U.S. Bishops have written courageously about nuclear war. Applying the Catholic Church's teaching about just war, which has evolved over the past two thousand years, the bishops have concluded that they cannot justify the use of nuclear weapons. Your challenge this week is to look at how you can contribute to a peaceful world so that the threat of nuclear war is made remote and unimaginable. How are you a peacemaker in your home? At school or at work? In your community? In how you engage in civic life? What is one thing you can do this week to make our world safer for everyone?

©Center for Ministry Development. Published by the Pastoral Center.



THE SUNDAY FLOCK





© Jean Denton, flock pastoralcenter co

"Come, receive grain and eat; Come, without paying and without cost."

Sheepish Question:

Wow—and why such measly gratitude?

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023

Best wishes to Eleanor Stuart and Aaron Smith, Parish representatives at World Youth Day in Lisbon. In the photo they are in Portugal - Fatima on their way to Lisbon.

Please keep our pilgrims in your prayers.

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 25th August 23, I will be joining

the Vinnies winter sleepout at Western Sydney University Campus and am raising funds as part of this.

EEPOUT

Western Sydney

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

https://mv.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

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Fr Jepser, Our Parish Priest, will be on holidays from 17th July to be back on 9th Aug.

For important Parish matters please contact Fr Dave or our office.

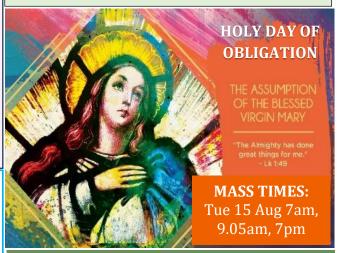
Check Parish Bulletin page 7 for contact details.

VOICE – Information Session

Chris Bowen, MP for McMahon invites you to a Voice forum event for the Yes campaign on Saturday August 12th at 4pm. The event is being hosted by OLQP Parish Social Justice Group at Greystanes. Those interested can ask questions and raise queries in relation to the Indigenous Voice to Parliament and the forthcoming Referendum.

Constitutional Lawyer, Shireen Morris and Lib MP and former Shadow Minister for Indigenous Australians, Mr Julian Lesser MP, will be attending.

Venue: The Holroyd Centre, 11-17 Miller St., Merrylands. If you wish to attend please RSVP at http://www.chrisbowen.net/issues/voice-forum-yes or call Chris Bowen's office - 9604 0710.





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

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.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



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

SYNOD 2023 - Thank you!

Thank you to parishioners who expressed their willingness to participate in the Synod on 13-15 October and submitted applications this past week. The Diocese will now review applications and decide on participants, taking account to ensure equitable distribution of invitations across all parishes and ministries in the diocese. Thank you again to all who took part in the Parish and Deanery Discernment Sessions and to all who forwarded submissions for consideration during the planning phase of the Synod Program.

Synod Prayer - All are invited to pray the Synod Prayer during the days and weeks leading up to the gathering. Copies are available in the church fover.

From Fr Dave.



WINTER 2023

OMELESS VEEK 2023

It's time to end homelessness





Justice

Home is more than four walls and a roof. Home is a place where people can feel safe and secure. A safe home is powerful and can transform lives. It allows people to live with dignity, grow their families and gain independence. Without a safe place to call home, people can struggle to maintain employment, access education or find help through challenging times.

National Homelessness Week (7-13 August) raises awareness of homelessness in Australia here are some ways you can get involved this year.

FUNERALS THIS WEEK:



Tuesday 8th Aug 10:30am: **Raymond Davis**

From: Parish Secretary

Working to provide shelter, safety and opportunity for refugees and people seeking asylum:

95 people housed per night, across Sydney.

Our Welcome Start Transitional Housing Program provides critical shelter to families and individuals across the city.

5405 food parcels and financial distributions to people in need.

Food insecurity and lack of direct financial assistance are two of the steepest challenges facing our vulnerable clients.

440 individuals supported with intensive casework support.

Co-designed casework plans are crucial to supporting our clients into further stability and settlement. driven by their immediate needs.

9400 satisfied catering customers.

The people seeking asylum in our catering kitchen have produced culturally-informed food for thousands across Sydney.

Fr John's Zhang Thanksgiving Mass

Sunday 13th August 9.30am



Please bring a plate to share for Morning Tea

AUGUSTINIAN SPIRITUALITY



"Don't hold yourselves cheap, seeing that the creator of all things and of you estimates your value so high, so dear, that he pours out for you every day the most precious blood of his only-begotten Son".

St Augustine of Hippo

MOVIE NIGHT

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

FRIDAY

25 AUGUST 2023, 6.30PM (SEATING FROM 6PM)

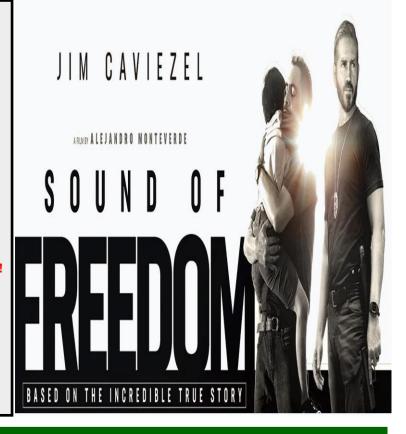
HOYTS PENRITH, CINEMA 1

\$20 EACH TICKET

LIMITED SEATS ONLY!!!

TICKETS WILL BE ON SALE AFTER EVERY MASS

FROM
5TH AUGUST



CREATION CARE TIPS

Feast of the Transfiguration:

On this feast day, when we remember how Jesus' seemingly normal human body was transfigured into dazzling white, honor it by transforming what some might see as trash or waste into something life-giving. Repurpose something you normally throw away into something useful in your home. Or start a compost bin, letting your fruit and vegetable scraps decompose into soil-building organic material. Search online for "how to start a compost bin" for hundreds of ideas of what can work for your home.

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



WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained

Question:

Why do the Gospels differ in their details? I was surprised to learn that not all of the Gospels tell the same stories, for example, the Nativity. Doesn't this take away from their credibility?

Answer:

Take any event that happens, from family trips to national politics and ask two or three different people to explain what happened. You will get a different version of the same story. People tend to tell the story from their perspective, and past experience shades what we recall and how we recall it. Our choice of words and what details we leave in or out is also influenced by the audience who is listening to our tales. The Gospel writers are no different. Each one tells the story of Jesus from their own perspective. Versions differ in some details, not because one is true and the other is not, but because each Gospel writer, or Evangelist, has a different theological point to communicate as well as a different audience for whom he is writing. He picks and chooses the details of his Gospel based on what message he is preaching, what his audience may already know, and what message they need to hear. The various details of the Gospels point more to their authenticity as a record of the church's experience and understanding of Jesus. In a good study Bible, the background notes for each Gospel contain a lot of information that helps us better understand Evangelist and his message.

©*LPi*

NEXT WEEKEND (13 AUGUST): 19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, Yr A

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 ReadingRomans 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.

CLEANERS: Group 1
BANNERS: White

12 AUGUST, 6PM

Minister at the Altar
Peter Moriarty

Eucharistic Ministers
Dita Sy
Moira Rebello
Janice Salmon

Moira Rebello
Janice Salmon

Reader 1

Dudley Littlewood

Reader 2

Corinne Cerdor

Commentator

Florence Pusey

Music

Victor Brangwin

Powerpoint
Nanette I.

Junior Servers

Volunteers Needed
Welcomers
Terry Serrao
Olga Esguerra
Volunteer Needed

13 AUGUST, 8AM

Minister at the Altar Carol Vella

Eucharistic Ministers
Belen Leynes
Dawn Timmins
Margaret Portelli

Reader 1
Sally Banguis

Reader 2Dawn Timmins **Commentator**

Manuel Fidow *Music* Pierre D'Cunha

Powerpoint Christine Younes

Junior ServersVolunteers Needed

Welcomers
Sarah Damole
Jun Damole
Espy Sarno

13 AUGUST, 9.30AM

Minister at the Altar Anthony Bertumen

Eucharistic Ministers

Ken Allen Cathy Allen Jenny Kyd

Reader 1
Uinise Blake

Reader 2Bianca Dowsett

Commentator Ray Zafra

Music
Mary Immaculate Choir
Powerpoint

Boy Sanosa

Junior Servers

Volunteers Needed

Welcomers
Jenny Kyd
Sue Oram
Volunteer Needed

13 AUGUST, 6PM

Minister at the Altar Edward De Leon

Eucharistic Ministers

Kate Blasco Esther Rose Angela Pecnik

Reader 1 Kate Blasco

Reader 2Candice Salmon

Commentator
Romana Cunanan

Music Alleluia Choir

PowerpointVolunteers Needed

Junior Servers
Volunteers Needed

Welcomers
Esther Rose
Eleanor Stuart
Volunteers Needed

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF 6 AUGUST:

Mon 7 August: Saint Sixtus Ii, Pope, And Companions, Martyrs, Saint Cajetan, Priest

Tue 8 August: Saint Mary Of The Cross (Mary Mackillop), Virgin **Wed 9 August:** Teresa Benedicta Of The Cross, Virgin And Martyr

Thu 10 August: Saint Lawrence, Deacon And Martyr

Fri 11 August: Saint Clare, Virgin

Sat 12 August: Saint Jane Frances De Chantal, Religious, 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 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

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, 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
Parish Council 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

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

LICENSED PLUMBER

DRAINER

GASFITTER



HOT WATER HEATERS LEAKING TOILETS GAS LEAKS **BURST PIPES** GUTTERING ROOF VENTILATION

E. MAGRI PLUMBING SERVICES PA

STEPHEN MAGRI Mobile: 0412 926 185 Licence No L 11703 ABN 83 111 970 024

e.magriplumbing@bigpond.com Ph/Fax:(02) 9625 3353

WATER SAVING DEVICES



Bateman Battersby

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

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

Ph: 02 4731 5899

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







Flowers Birth <> Earth tening - Wedding - Funerals

Contact: Email: Ken_pix@outlook.com M: 0451 271127 [Order Code: K10BB]

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

BSB: 067 950 Bank: CBA 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!

