

**1st Reading** Ezekiel 33:7-9 Ezekiel is to be the watchman for Israel.

**Responsorial Psalm** Psalm 94:1-2.6-9. R.v.8 O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.

> **2nd Reading** Romans 13:8-10 *Love your neighbour.*

Gospel Acclamation 2 Corinthians 5:19 Alleluia, alleluia! God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 16:21-27 Find ways to win others over; prayer shall be answered.

### 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

> **Divine Mercy Devotion** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sun of the Month

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



# 23<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother." - Mt 18:15

### FROM Fr Dave Austin OSA

### SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY 2023 - Where We Start Matters!

This Sunday, the Australian Church marks Safeguarding Sunday at the conclusion of National Child Protection Week, first held in 1990 as a way of addressing issues of abuse and offering support to victims. This has affected many institutions in society, and in the late 1990s, the Church began work on formal, professional standards guidelines that reflect the Gospel values of justice, love and common sense in everyday ministry and work.

At this time, we recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings and we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We acknowledge the immense damage caused by the sexual abuse of children and adults at risk, and we renew our commitment to practices and protocols that create and maintain safe environments for all. We pray for those harmed by abuse directly and indirectly.

In our parishes and schools, staff and volunteers undergo regular training and, in many cases, require certification of their fitness to work with children, such as the WWCC (Working With Children Check). Many of you will be aware of the Augustinians' Commitment to Safeguarding displayed in the foyer of our Church and in every Province ministry. All Catholic bodies follow the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards as they build child-safe cultures and advance the safety of children and vulnerable adults across Australia. The NCSS are framed within the guidelines promulgated by the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

In 2022, members of the Church's Plenary Council expressed 'profound sorrow that children and young people and vulnerable adults have been abused by clergy, religious and lay workers of the Catholic Church, and that religious leaders have failed to act sufficiently to prevent or respond to abuse.'

Every child has the right to feel safe and to grow into a mature adult without the scars of abuse or violence. The primacy of mutual love is stressed in this Sunday's readings, particularly in Paul's letter to the Romans. In the Gospel, Jesus reminds us of our need of 'mutual correction' when we fail.

Jesus often uses the familiar image of 'being at home' with him and with his Father. The very least any of us can expect is to be able to find a safe home in Christ's Church and the healing we may need – certainly an ongoing and delicate challenge today.

You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at:

www.catholic.au/s/article/safeguardingsunday2023

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:

Michael Hay, Joe Overlunde, Sendhil Kumar, Dot Gray, Joe Gray, Ronald Pangilinan, Harry Young, Tony Bernard, Michelle Pecnik, Josip Pecnik, Dedrie Dimech, Mike Cimerman, Ramia Jajo, Butch Rivera, Michelle Edwards, Stephan Marcel, Yvonne Funnell, Linda Allen, Andrew Boulos, Emilia Rose Moya, Giulia & Joseph Caruana, Joel Dizon, Angela Cook, Bells Tassone, Ramon Rivera, Brian Barnes, Steven Johns, Alice Grech, Bill Lynch, Glen Root, Rosie Casha, Zephyr Morales, Anne Fidler, Hanna Rose Stewart, John Warne, Salvador Espadilla, Epifanio Harina, Kyla Aggar.

### **RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Marilou Peña Ramirez, Severino Sosa, John Hawley, Bruce Creenaune, Nayie Kodssi, Mane Smith, Eras Castro, Mary Borg, Peter Paul Sultana, Margaret Clifford.

### **DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:**

Jeanette Paz, George Paz, Donna Bouche, Doris Correa, Movin Stuart, Rita Walters, Manuel de Jesus, Doreen D'Rozario, Carmelo and Mary Anne Avellino, Ester Ferrer, Josefine Cortis, Mervyn Walters, Lino Diamante, Baby Mara Adriana Decena, Nina Monica Rebello, Cajetan Gonsalves, Jacob & Mary Gonsalves. Max Gonsalves, Pamela Gonsalves, Yozkovic Manda, Yozkovic Toma, Dunstan Herft.

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



"Stand up straight and don't slouch!" Many a child has heard these words bellowed from their mother's lips. We need the perspective of others to help us understand when we are not walking as straight as we could be. God sends us the Holy Spirit to correct and guide us so that our paths through life can be straight. Without this assistance, how we see and understand ourselves and the world around us is incomplete. We will also lack the virtue of fortitude. It takes courage to listen to the Holy Spirit and devote ourselves to the task of discipleship. We have to put aside things that the world says are necessary and follow a path placed before us by Jesus Christ. Jesus is asking us to follow him. We must consider what we have to do to be free enough to do so. God needs us to show the world a complete picture of what life is meant to be, correct its vision and tell it to stand up straight!

### **QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK**

**First Reading:** Our Jewish sage teaches us that the mystery of God can only be understood through wisdom provided by the "Holy Spirit." When do you pray for the gift of wisdom?

**Second Reading:** Paul urges his partner Philemon to see Onesimus no longer as a slave but as a "brother" now that Onesimus is a believer in Christ. When has your faith provoked an examination of conscience? **Gospel Reading:** Jesus teaches the crowds that true discipleship demands one to "renounce all (your) possessions." In other words, one's ultimate concern should be solely the possession of the gift of salvation. Why do you think this is not self-evident to many?



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. ADELINE BELLA BURN (Daughter of Trwstn & Aubrey) CJ METEKA (Son of Clarke & Alanna)

VALERIE NADIA DARE (Daughter of Geoffrey & Jennifer)

ADRIANA ALMAET (Daughter of Odeh & Milena)

LE<mark>O BLAKE BAXTER</mark> (Son of Alex & Amber)

GRACIE GRAYSON (Daughter of Benjamin & Nicola)

EVIE & DELILAH FRANCIS (Children of Wayne & Tahlia)

# WEEKLY JUSTICE CHALLENGES

Sunday's first reading from Ezekiel has the prophet challenging us to confront those who do wrong. Jesus follows in the Gospel with a similar message. Often when we hear or see racism, greed, or other actions which deny people their human dignity, we remain silent. We don't want to rock the boat or draw attention to ourselves. Your challenge this week is to be prophetic. When you hear someone putting down a person, a cultural or ethnic community, or whomever, speak the Gospel truth and challenge the offender to remember Jesus' example of treating everyone with dignity because we are all created in God's own image and likeness.

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"Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant, as I had pity on you?"

## Sheepish Question:

Who have I failed to forgive? Why? Who has surprised me with mercy?

# PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



# HELP CHILDREN IN SRI LANKA

Sri Lanka is in crisis. Soaring prices are making essential supplies beyond reach for many families. Help disadvantaged families provide school

supplies for their children.

We are accepting **ONLY NEW SCHOOL SUPPLIES** donations:

- Exercise books min page is 96 A4 or 120 pages
- ➤ Lead pencils with rubber HB
- Blue and black ball point pens
- Colour pencils (standard full-length size 12 or 18 pack)
- Ruler small Eraser
- Pencil cases

Drop your donations at the box provided in the foyer.





Tickets sold after Weekend Mass For more info, call us (02) 9670 8222



# Wedding Anniversary Mass Sunday 24 Sept 2024, 9.30AM MASS

Couples celebrating their Wedding Anniversary in the month of September are most welcome to join us. (NO MORNING TEA) The Ordination to Priesthood of Ignatius Hoang Huy Nguyen, OSA By Vincent Long Van Nguyen, OFM Conv. Bishop of Parramatta



Saturday 9.30am 16<sup>th</sup> September 2023 Followed by refreshments

Mass of Thanksgiving of Fr Ignatius Hoang Huy Nguyen, OSA and Multicultural Mass

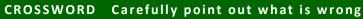
Sun 9.30am 17<sup>th</sup> September 2023 Followed by Morning Tea. Please bring a plate.

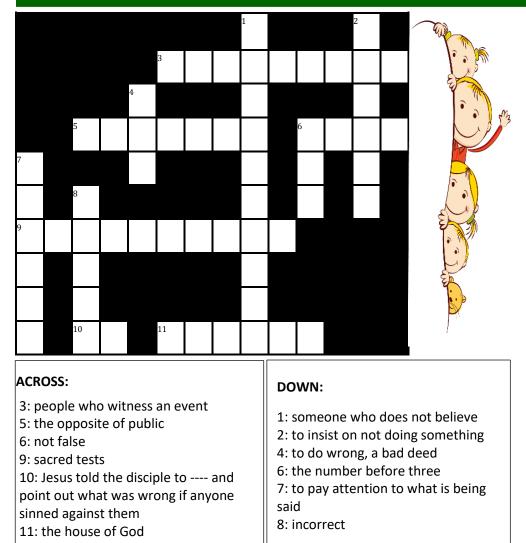


# AUGUSTINIAN SPIRITUALITY



"The earth is not eternal; the earth, as well as time, has both a beginning and an end. Man, on the other hand, was brought into existence to endure eternally". St Augustine of Hippo





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# CREATION CARE TIPS

# *"Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law." — Romans 13:10*

Out of sight, out of mind. It can be so easy to trash something or pour something down the drain that will hurt someone or something else "downstream" because we forget that everyone downstream is a neighbor too. What items do you use or improperly dispose of that cause harm after they've left your sight? This week, look up your local hazardous waste organization to determine how to safely dispose of paint, batteries, e-waste, motor oil, medicines, etc.



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

### **Question:**

I have been going to Mass for years and have always wondered: why do we make the three signs of the cross before the Gospel?

### Answer:

Certainly, many people go to Mass or other devotions, doing and saying things out of habit or reverence and not really understanding the reasons behind some of these things. But everything we do has a meaning or purpose that helps us to worship better, proclaim our beliefs, or focus the attention of the people on something that has a greater importance or significance. A review of the meaning of various gestures and practices can help us have a deeper appreciation for what we do.

There is a little prayer that goes with the three crosses before the Gospel: "May the words of the Holy Gospel be on my mind, on my lips and in my heart." In standing to hear the Gospel, we acknowledge that lesus is present, and the words of the Gospel are addressed to us. All of the gestures and special postures we adopt before the Gospel are intended to help us prepare for hearing the Word as well as act on it. The incense, the Alleluia, the deacon or priest, and special dialogue the and announcement that introduces the Gospel help us focus our attention on the Good News we are about to hear. The three signs of the cross show our desire and good intention to hear and live the Gospel.

### NEXT WEEKEND (17<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER): 24<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, Yr A

**1st Reading** Sirach 27:30 - 28:7 Hate and anger lead to death; love and forgiveness to the kingdom.

**Responsorial Psalm** Psalm 102:1-4. 9-12. R.v.8 The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

**2nd Reading** Romans 14:7-9 Christ is Lord of the living and the dead.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

John 13:34 Alleluia, alleluia! I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 18:21-35 Parable of the official who, receiving mercy, does not show it to others.

CLEANERS: Group 1 BANNERS: Green 16 SEPT, 6PM

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

**Reader 1** Fe Uy

**Reader 2** Marinella Licuanan **Commentator** 

Madeline Mostert *Music* St Joseph's Choir

> **Powerpoint** Nanette I.

Junior Servers Volunteers Needed Welcomers

Selwyn Oliveira Sonia Oliveira Corinne Cerdor

#### **17 SEPT AUG, 8AM**

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

Elsa Roberto **Reader 1** Sarah Damole

**Reader 2** Shirley Croning

Commentator Carol Vella Music

Peter Mercia *Powerpoint* 

Louise Bucholtz *Junior Servers* 

Volunteers Needed Welcomers

Sarah Damole Jun Damole Remia Morada

#### 17 AUG, 9.30AM

*Minister at the Altar* Fred Harris

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

> **Reader 1** Joanne Staunton

**Reader 2** Nida Hawley

*Commentator* Volunteers Needed

*Music* Augustinian Choir *Powerpoint* 

Ivan Fernandes

*Junior Servers* Volunteers Needed

Welcomers Joe Duval Sue Oram Volunteers Needed 17 AUG, 6PM

Minister at the Altar Peter Smith

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

> **Reader 1** Sheila Francis

**Reader 2** Joseph Valladores

*Commentator* Corinne Brooker

*Music* Esther Rose Choir

*Powerpoint* Volunteers Needed

Junior Servers Volunteers Needed

*Welcomers* Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed

### OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF 10 SEPTEMBER:

Mon 11 Sept:Monday Of The Twenty-Third Week In Ordinary Time YearTue 12 Sept:The Most Holy Name Of MaryWed 13 Sept:Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop And Doctor Of The ChurchThu 14 Sept:The Exaltation Of The Holy CrossFri 15 Sept:Our Lady Of SorrowsSaints Cornelius, Pope, And Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs

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

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	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 <b>M</b> 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 MoriartyP0296708222Escraments@holyspiritstclair.com.auSacramental Coordinator: Germaine GilM0451279934Esacraments@holyspiritstclair.com.auSafeguarding Parish Support Officer:Elsa RobertoP0296708222Esafeguarding@holyspiritstclair.com.auParish Youth Contact:Eleanor StuartM0431639895Eeleanor.stuart97@gmail.com
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>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>

### 10 SEPTEMBER 2023

