



# HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

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

25<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

24 SEPTEMBER 2023

### 1st Reading

Isaiah 55:6-9

*Seek the Lord.*

### Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 144:2-3, 8-9, 17-18. R.v.18

*The Lord is near to all who call him.*

### 2nd Reading

Philippians 1:20-24,27

*Both in life and death, Paul finds joy.*

### Gospel Acclamation

Acts of the Apostles 16:14

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son*

*Alleluia!*

### Gospel

Matthew 20:1-16

*Parable of the workers in the vineyard.*



## 25<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last.” - Mt 20:16

FROM ELEANOR STUART

## 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> Friday of the Month

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*

### To The community of Holy Spirit Parish



I would like to thank every single person for their ongoing support over the last few months as I prepared for the world youth day pilgrimage.

Thankyou for the donations especially at a time when I know finances can be hard for everyone.

I was blessed to visit some beautiful places including the St Vincent de Paul chapel, The grotto in Lourdes with Pilgrims around the world, Loyola, Avilla, Assisi and Fatima. All with Magnificent Basilicas, Cathedrals and churches where we celebrated mass daily with Bishop Vincent.

To be apart of the World Youth Day week experience which included mass and stations

of the cross with pope Francis was a once in a lifetime experience. To have all the pilgrims around the world in one city flooding metros and the town square after events and with all the flags from around the world was something I will always hold close to my heart. When asked what my favourite part is I always go back to Lourdes, the scenery alone is beautiful. The Mass in the Grotto with our Priests and our Bishop with the priests and Bishops from around the world it made me emotional.

Even though it was hot at that moment you don't think about it. Having the mountains and River flowing as we walked back to our accommodation makes you want to stop and take out all in.

In our small group we were able to do the bath together (Covid restrictions.) St Bernadette was also the first saint whose footsteps we walked in. For some reason I have always felt a connection to her. I remembered my parish throughout the whole pilgrime and prayed daily in thanksgiving for you all.

I return filled with the Holy Spirit hoping to make a difference in my life and in the lives of others.

*Eleanor Stuart*

*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/wp-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](mailto: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:**

Michael Hay, Ronald Pangilinan, Michelle Pecnik, Josip Pecnik, Dot Gray, Joe Gray, Joe Overlunde, Sendhil Kumar, Harry Young, Kyla Aggar, Robert Lees, Joel Dizon, Yvonne Funnell, Linda Allen, Andrew Boulos, Emilia Rose Moya, Giulia & Joseph Caruana, Angela Cook, Bella Tassone, Ramon Rivera, Brian Barnes, Steven Johns, Alice Grech, Bill Lynch, Rosie Casha, Zephyr Morales, Anne Fidler, Hanna Rose Stewart, John Warner, Salvador Espadilla.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Glenn Root, Mike Cimerman, Epifanio Harina, Elinor Campos Ortiz, Rosario Ribay Hutchings, Margaret Herbert, Margaret Clifford.

**DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:**

Jean and Arthur Austin, Norbert Mascarenhas, Silvestre Decena, Erwin Dabu, John Sequeira, Sherwin Gonsalvez, Wenceslao Viajar, Elisa and Lydia Viajar, Danny Barnes, Rosalia Berin, Edwin Molina, David Smith, Glen Cole, Dorothy Thomas, Florence Kearney.

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](mailto: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](http://www.holyspiritstclair.com.au/donations)



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



**109TH WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES - "Free to choose whether to migrate or to stay"**

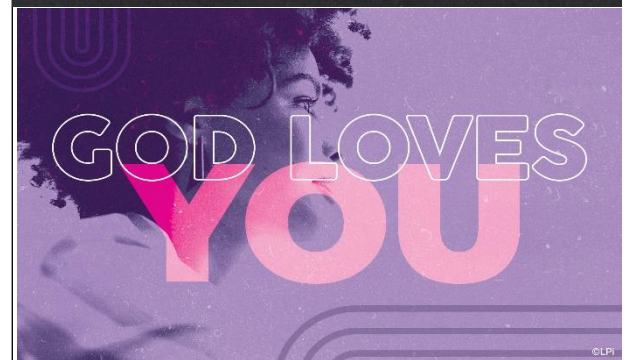
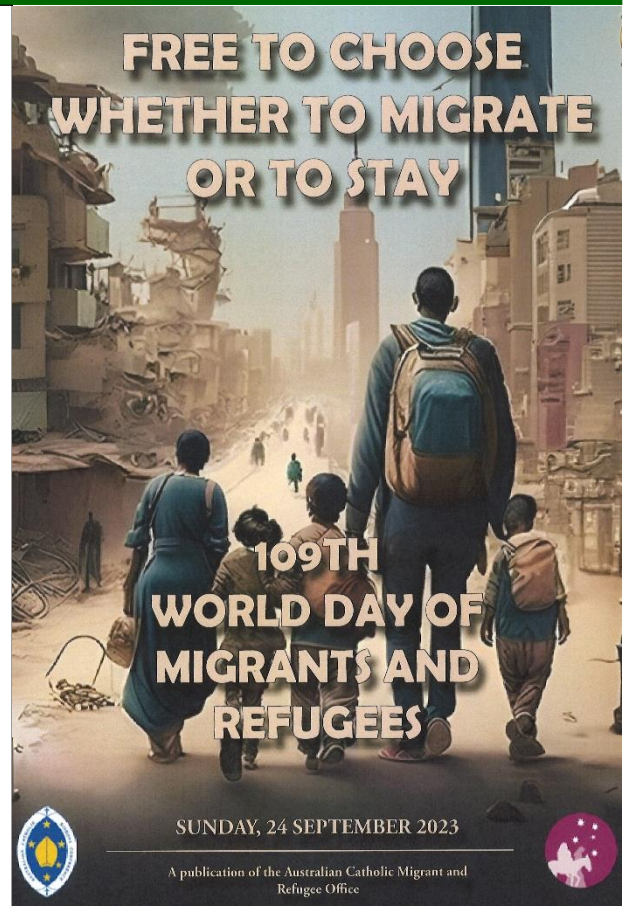
Commenting on the Pope’s World Day of Migrants and Refugees Message, Archbishop Christopher Prowse (Chairman Bishops Commission for Evangelisation, Laity and Ministry) mentioned the theme, ‘Free to choose whether to migrate or to stay’ and the need for a healthy society to preserve ‘the freedom that should always mark the decision to leave one’s native land.’ As Church, we acknowledge the reality that migration movements throughout the world continue unabated and the need for a pastoral response.

The Bible contains many examples of refugees. We think first of all of the experiences of the Holy Family - Jesus, Mary and Joseph – whose flight into Egypt was not the result of a free decision. Many migrants today do not decide to migrate freely but feel obliged to do so when they are unable to live in peace and dignity in their own country. Then there is Jacob and his offspring who fled the grave famine in their land of origin and settled in Egypt (Gen 46:6).

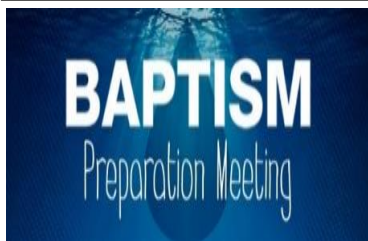
The Pope makes the very important point that the country of origin must make a commitment which ‘begins with asking what we can do, but also what we need to stop doing. He cites the example of the arms race, economic colonialism, the plundering of other people’s resources and the devastation of our common home... efforts must be made to ensure for everyone an equal share in the common good, respect for his or her fundamental rights, and access to an integral human development.’

Ideally, we must foster the right not to be forced to immigrate by offering ‘the chance to live in peace and with dignity in one’s own country.’ The Pope concludes his reflection by reminding us again that ‘the migrant is not simply a brother or sister in difficulty, but Christ himself, who knocks at our door.’ We are to construct ‘bridges and not walls, expanding channels for a safe and regular migration.’

Read the Pope’s full statement online – *Refugee and Migrant Sunday 2023.*



**THE SUNDAY FLOCK**



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 10<sup>th</sup> Oct 7.00pm. Presenter will be Michael Zammit.

*We welcome our newly baptized:*

**EMILIO MARRONE**  
(Son of Andrew and Gabriella)

**LUMINOSA LEVESON**  
(Daughter of Peter and April)

**ELVETINA GARCIA**  
(Daughter of Michael and Nerfedor)

**SADIE PFAHL**  
(Daughter of Robert and Amy)

**HUDSON AVERY ANDREW**  
(Son of Brent and Sarsha)

**TAKENA LOS'E**  
(Daughter of Peter-James and Sabrina)



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“So high are my ways above your ways and my thoughts above your thoughts.”

**Sheepish Question:**  
It's not in my bag, so where can I look to deepen my relationship with God?

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

# 2023 MARIAN FIESTA



**OCT** 11 MARIAN TALK  
12 NOVENA BEGINS  
21 FIESTA



**Hosted by  
the Pasifika  
Community**

# 2023 MARIAN FIESTA

**1st Prize \$500**  
**2nd Prize \$300, 3rd Prize \$200**

*Raffle*

**1 Ticket = \$2**  
**3 Tickets = \$5**



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

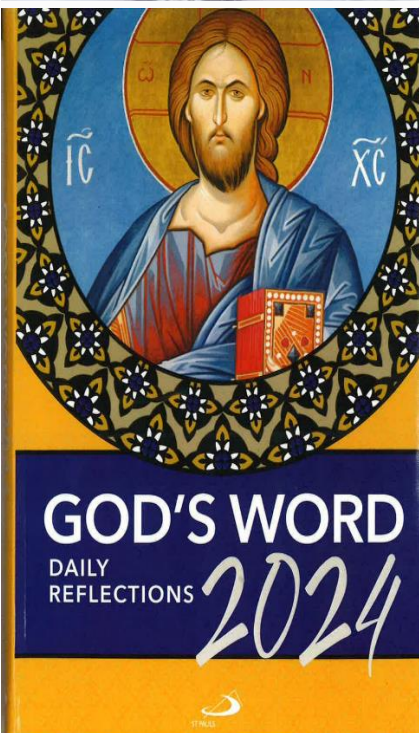
# ANOINTING



**Friday 6 Oct, 9.05am**  
Reconciliation available  
before Mass from 8.30-9am

# ADORATION OF THE EUCHARIST

**FRI 6 OCT • 7.30-8.30PM**



## God's Word 2024: Daily Reflections

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

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each.**

**URGENT!**

WE NEED CLEANERS  
TO KEEP OUR PARISH  
NICE AND BEAUTIFUL  
TO ADORE  
THE NAME OF OUR LORD

**PLEASE CONTACT LORRAINE  
ON PH: 98341893**

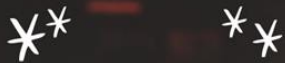
**OR VISIT THE PARISH OFFICE  
FOR INFORMATION**

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



**PRIESTHOOD ORDINATION OF FATHER HUY NGUYEN, OSA – Sat 16<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

**First Sunday in November**



PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY TO THE AUGUSTINIAN FORMATION APPEAL

*Forming the Next Generation of Augustinians*



Donations can be made directly to THE AUGUSTINIANS, and please consider remembering this important cause in your will. PO Box 7278 Warringah Mall, Brookvale NSW 2100

For more information, contact Nicole at [accounts@osa.org.au](mailto:accounts@osa.org.au)

**FILIPINO CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION (FCA)**

Invites you to Filipino Mass

Sunday, 1 October 2023 at 11.30am.

(Every first Sunday of the month, except in January)

If you need more information, please feel free to call

**Olga Esquerro** (Mob: 0412086148)

or **Sarah Damole** (Mob: 0405 756 752).

**Listen,  
Learn, Love**

A New Engagement with  
Aboriginal and Torres Strait  
Islander Peoples



**FUNERALS THIS WEEK:**

*Funeral Mass this Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> Sept at  
9.30am for Antonio De Castro*

The Social Justice Commission invites all for a yarn to help understand what the Uluru Statement from the Heart is from a Catholic Social Teaching perspective.

**Tuesday, September 26, 7pm - 8.30pm**

**AUGUSTINIAN SPIRITUALITY**



*"Do you wish to rise? Begin by descending.  
You plan a tower that will pierce the clouds?  
Lay first the foundation of humility".*

St Augustine of Hippo



**Catholic Life Explained:**

**Question:**

If God is good, why is there evil in the world?

**Answer:**

The problem of evil is perplexing. If God is all-powerful and all-good, why doesn't He stop bad things for happening? He must either not be all-powerful, or perhaps He's not very good after all. Human beings have faced the possibility of evil since the very beginning of our existence. In granting us free will, God gives us the ability to make free choices. God does not force us into moral perfection. We are not forced to love Him or to love our neighbor. We must make the decision ourselves. This means, of course, that we have the ability to choose against love.

One small decision of selfishness, jealousy, or pride may not seem so bad. But every decision — good or bad — is like a stone dropped into a still pond. The ripples extend much farther than the original stone.

When decisions against love begin to compound, they affect neighborhoods, families, and nations.

This is all the more reason for Christians to be faithful to our baptismal call to love one another as Christ has loved us!

**CROSSWORD The first will be last**

Q N I E Z Y I E U X Y X F V K  
 T J I M Y P C T M Y H K I H I  
 V Q S Q G P X X N M X V R E D  
 F K I N E Y J Z J A B A S L C  
 S Q B J N B Z R E R Y P T K T  
 G E R K E G D S O K M O N E Y  
 L A S T R M U U P E T H R E E  
 V G I I O A T N P T Z O G X W  
 Q T Z Q U T W O R K E R S O H  
 N R O W S Z K H B S N P A Y J  
 J E A L O U S H O U R B P S B  
 C B S D E W O Q B B F C K A Y  
 J C S V M E D F G Q L I I O G  
 Q R Q V I N E Y A R D E Y X T

**Try to find these words:**

- First
- Generous
- Hour
- Jealous
- Last
- Market
- Money
- Pay
- Sun
- Three
- Vineyard workers

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**CREATION CARE TIPS**

Most of us are conscious of our use of paper and try to recycle it. What about other paper products, though, like paper towels and tissues? How can you reduce your use of those? Swap out paper towels with dishcloths or rags this week, and consider switching to handkerchiefs instead of using tissues to blow your nose.



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**NEXT WEEKEND (1<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER): 26<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, Yr A**

<p><b>1st Reading</b> Ezekiel 18:25-28 <i>Those who turn away from sin shall live.</i></p> <p><b>Responsorial Psalm</b> Psalm 24:4-9. R.v.6 <i>Remember your mercies, O Lord.</i></p> <p><b>2nd Reading</b> Philippians 2:1-11 <i>Jesus humbled himself to the point of death.</i></p> <p><b>Gospel Acclamation</b> <i>John 10:27</i> <i>Alleluia, alleluia!</i> <i>My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.</i> <i>Alleluia!</i></p> <p><b>Gospel</b> Matthew 22:28-32 <i>The man with two sons.</i></p>	<p><b>30 SEPT, 6PM</b> <b>Minister at the Altar</b> Lorenz Herft <b>Eucharistic Ministers</b> Hazel Littlewood Sylvia Herft Jeanne Appleton <b>Reader 1</b> Moira Rebello <b>Reader 2</b> Sylvia Herft <b>Commentator</b> Sheila Francis <b>Music</b> AMEN Choir <b>Powerpoint</b> <b>Volunteers Needed</b> <b>Junior Servers</b> <b>Volunteers Needed</b> <b>Welcomers</b> Sonia OLiveira Olga Esguerra <b>Volunteers Needed</b></p>	<p><b>1 OCT, 8AM</b> <b>Minister at the Altar</b> Gloria Slade <b>Eucharistic Ministers</b> Louise Bucholtz Ron Brackett Lisa Brackett <b>Reader 1</b> Christine Younes <b>Reader 2</b> Sonia Sultana <b>Commentator</b> Faye Aboghazaleh <b>Music</b> Manuel Fidow <b>Powerpoint</b> Carol Vella <b>Junior Servers</b> <b>Volunteers Needed</b> <b>Welcomers</b> Remia Morada Angela Pecnik <b>Volunteers Needed</b></p>	<p><b>1 OCT, 9.30AM</b> <b>Minister at the Altar</b> Nono Gacis <b>Eucharistic Ministers</b> Sina Carvalho Tina Fernandes Seaview Kama <b>Reader 1</b> Tess Barnes <b>Reader 2</b> Joy Rulewski <b>Commentator</b> Cathy Allen <b>Music</b> Children's Choir <b>Powerpoint</b> Ivan Fernandes <b>Junior Servers</b> <b>Volunteers Needed</b> <b>Welcomers</b> Jenny Kyd <b>Volunteers Needed</b> <b>Volunteers Needed</b></p>	<p><b>1 OCT, 6PM</b> <b>Minister at the Altar</b> Tony Cleary <b>Eucharistic Ministers</b> Esther Rose Lumen Decena Sue Oram <b>Reader 1</b> Sue Oram <b>Reader 2</b> Romana Cunanan <b>Commentator</b> Charlotte Smith <b>Music</b> El Shaddai Syd Gosp <b>Powerpoint</b> El Shaddai Syd Gosp <b>Junior Servers</b> <b>Volunteers Needed</b> <b>Welcomers</b> Eleanor Stuart <b>Volunteers Needed</b> <b>Volunteers Needed</b></p>
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**CLEANERS:** Group 3  
**BANNERS:** Green

**OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF 24<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER:**  
**Mon 25 Sept:** Monday Of The Twenty-Fifth Week In Ordinary Time Year 1  
**Tue 26 Sept:** Saints Cosmas And Damian, Martyrs  
**Wed 27 Sept:** Saint Vincent De Paul, Priest,  
**Thu 28 Sept:** Saint Wenceslaus, Martyr, Saint Lawrence Ruiz And Companions, Martyrs  
**Fri 29 Sept:** Saints Michael, Gabriel And Raphael, Archangels  
**Sat 30 Sept:** Saint Jerome, Priest And Doctor Of The Church

**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 Father:** Fr Hoang Huy Nguyen, OSA    **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

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*Thank you.*



**Heavenly Celebrations**  
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— Contact Michelle for —  
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E: michelle@heavenlycelebrations.com.au  
186 Queen Street (Star Arcade), St Marys NSW 2760

**Picaluna**  
Beautiful Funerals


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.

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**Please DONATE**

Support the Parish by signing up to contribute online. Setting up a one-time or recurring donation/Planned Giving is quick and easy. Visit: [www.holyspiritstclair.com.au/donations](http://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](mailto:accounts@holyspiritstclair.com.au). Thank you so much for your support of our parish!

