



HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

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

29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

22nd OCTOBER 2023

1st Reading

Isaiah 45: 1.4-6

I am the Lord, there is no other.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 95:1. 3-5. 7-10. R. v.7

(R.) Give the Lord glory and honour.

2nd Reading

Thessalonians 1:1-5

Paul greets the Thessalonians.

Gospel Acclamation

Philippians 2:15. 16

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.
Alleluia!*

Gospel

Matthew 22:15-21

Render to Caesar what is Caesar's



FIESTA 2023 – Celebrating Our Lady's YES!

In a recent homily on the Feast of the Assumption, Pope Francis reflects on Mary's own family life, particularly her dialogue with her cousin Elizabeth: 'When Mary enters the house and greets Elizabeth, the latter says: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb" (Lk 1:42). These words, full of faith and joy and wonder, have become part of the "Hail Mary". Every time we say this prayer, so beautiful and familiar, we do as Elizabeth did: we greet Mary, and we bless her, because she brings Jesus to us.

'Mary accepts Elizabeth's blessing and replies with the canticle, a gift for us, for all history: the Magnificat. It is a song of praise we can define as the "canticle of hope". It is a hymn of praise and exultation for the great things that the Lord has accomplished in her, but Mary goes further: she contemplates the work of God in the entire history of his people. She says, for example, that the Lord "has put down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of low degree; he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent empty away"

(Lk 1:52-53). As we listen to these words, we might ask ourselves: is the Virgin not exaggerating a little, perhaps, describing a world that does not exist? Indeed, what she says does not seem to correspond to reality; while she speaks, the powerful of the time have not been brought down.... And the poor and hungry remain so, while the rich continue to prosper.

'What does that canticle of Mary mean? Our Lady... announces a radical change, an overturning of values. While she speaks with Elizabeth, carrying Jesus in her womb, she anticipates what her Son will say, when he will proclaim blessed the poor and humble, and warn the rich and those who base themselves on their own self-sufficiency. The Virgin, then, prophesies with this canticle, with this prayer: she prophesies that it will not be power, success and money to prevail, but rather that service, humility and love will prevail. And as we look at her, in glory, we understand that true power is service — let us not forget this: true power is service — and to reign means to love. And that this is the road to Heaven.'

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

Divine Mercy Devotion

2nd Friday of the Month
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

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.



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:

Alicia Tabaranza, Michael I., Jose Antonio Clemente, Aaron Kelly, Marietta Ceballos, Nimfa Decena, Sheila Glennon, Patricia Hogg, Elaine Pereira, Monnette Baccay, Debbie Fanning, Parithep Dengmanara, Joe & Dot Gray, Yvonne Funnell, Linda Allen, Andrew Boulos, Emilia Rose Moya, Giulia & Joseph Caruana, Joel Dizon, Angela Cook, Bella Tassone, Remon Rivera, Brian Barnes, Steven Johns, Alice Grech, Bill Lynch, Michael Hay, Rosie Casha, Zephyr Morales, Anne Fidler, John Warne, Salvador Espadilla, Kantaimathi.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Robert Muir, Jennifer Sek (Nee: Orsini), Elmer William Lohmann, Mariano Abbariao, Fita Arcenas, Carmen Fajardo, Amancio Mopal, Pauline Attard, Marlene Nicholas.

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:

Esme Grace McDonald, Mary Bog (Nee: Orsini), Malcolm Howse, Victor Sultana, Patricio Ceballos Sr, Glenn Bouche, Barbara Middleton, Elaine Bosen, Terence & Olga Littlewood, Belen Sakdalan Valladores, George & Teresa Pinto, Emily Paz Moritz, Henry & Margaret Emmanuel, Clement Cole, Patricia Smith, Sheila Tham, Jan Van Kamperdijk, R Dhanaraj, Mary Anne & Carmelo Avellino, Wayne Rose, Pearl Vincent.

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



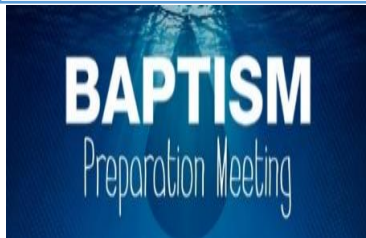
In the time of Jesus, a Roman coin bore the image of Caesar and it was precisely this coin that was returned to the emperor in the form of tax. What bears God's image? Scripture tells us that human beings are made in the likeness and image of God. In truth, however, all of creation, even the entire universe, is fashioned in the image of God! Everything radiates Divine Presence and the spark and essence of God's very life exists in all things. God breathes the life of Himself into all things. If we have to give back to civil authorities what speaks to them, then what do we give back to God? While the answer is simple, the implications are profound. We are asked to give back to God our very selves! Ultimately, all creation is in the process of returning to God and is on a journey of finding its final truth and essence in Him. As we continue that journey, all we have, all we are, all we see, and all we are responsible for must be offered back to Him. God is the beginning and the end of all things. Do our lives reflect this Divine allegiance?

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

First Reading: Cyrus was king of the mighty Persian Empire (559-529 BC) while Israel was exiled in Babylon. The prophet Isaiah revealed God would use Cyrus to free Israel from captivity. What lesson do you think Israel was supposed to learn from this revelation?

Second Reading: In his opening remarks in First Thessalonians, Paul speaks of the power and conviction with which he preached the gospel to them. How do you show the conviction of your faith?

Gospel Reading: The religious leaders in Jerusalem were unable to trap Jesus with a seemingly trick question. How do you respond to non-believers who try to challenge or trick you in matters of your beliefs?



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 Nov 7.00pm. Presenter will be Joyce McMahon.

EZEKIEL SHAMIM ZABI YAZDANI

(Son of Shamim and Yvette)

HOPE JUDY LAMB

(Daughter of Brett and Helen)

ROWAN MATTHEW PODESTA

(Son of Troy and Kaylen)

LILIANA JEAN ROBINSON

(Daughter of Daniel and Conchetta)

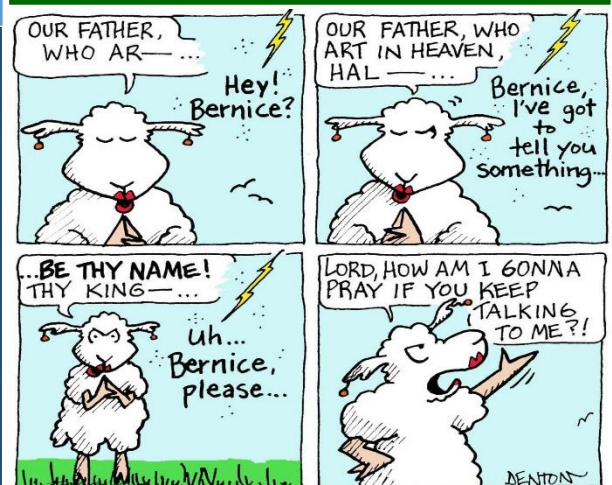
WEEKLY JUSTICE CHALLENGES

This Sunday's Gospel has Jesus reminding us to give to God what is God's. As Catholics, we are called to practice stewardship—to use our time, our resources, and our gifts and talents to build God's kingdom here on earth. Your challenge this week is to examine your efforts to tithe financially. How much of your money goes toward those most in need? In addition to your support of the local parish and the universal Church, to which charities do you contribute? If you don't have a favorite charity, consider making a Catholic organization your charity of choice. Catholic Relief Services, Catholic Charities, St. Vincent de Paul, and the Catholic Campaign for Human Development are a few of the many great Catholic organizations which exist to serve the most vulnerable in our world. Make them part of your practice of stewardship and give to God what is God's.

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THE SUNDAY FLOCK



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"I have called you by your name...I am the Lord and there is no other."

Sheepish Question:
What am I missing in my prayer?

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY TO THE AUGUSTINIAN FORMATION APPEAL

FORMING THE NEXT GENERATION OF Augustinians

Support the young men of the Australian Province in Augustinian formation houses in Sydney, Vietnam, Philippines, and Italy who are listening to and discerning God's call to the religious life. This is only possible with your prayers, encouragement and financial support.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION: ACCOUNTS@OSA.ORG.AU | +61 2 9938 0200 | WWW.OSA.ORG.AU



Anniversaries


Wedding Anniversary Mass
29 October 2023, 9.30AM MASS
 Couples celebrating their Wedding Anniversary in the month of OCTOBER are most welcome to join us.
 Morning Tea after Mass - BRING A PLATE TO SHARE



BINGO Night

Sat 25 Nov, 7.30pm
Holy Spirit School MPA

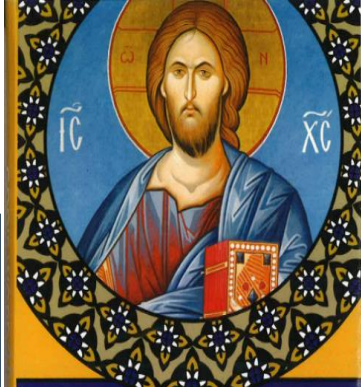
Sausage Sizzle & Soft Drinks on Sale
 Free tea, coffee & biscuits
 Donations for prizes are welcome.



MY HEART IS LISTENING. LORD.
 ST. AUGUSTINE

AUGUSTINIAN NEWS:

Fr Jepsen is currently away from the parish on personal retreat from 15 October to 2 November. For important parish matters please contact the Holy Spirit Parish Office at 02 9670 8222 or email Fr. Dave Austin at daustin@holyspiritstclair.com.au



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.

GOD'S WORD DAILY REFLECTIONS 2024

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

DELICIOUS FOOD
FRIENDSHIP
SOLIDARITY
CELEBRATION

PARRAMATTA STREET FEAST

SATURDAY 11 NOVEMBER 10:30AM
CLOISTER HALL - ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL, 1 MARIST PLACE, PARRAMATTA

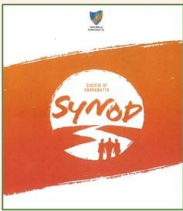
HAPPY FIESTA!!!

May God bless us all on this day as we continue to build bridges that unite us all to Christ.

Happy Feast Day to all Parishioners and friends.

We wish to give thanks to all the dedicated parishioners who made this year's Fiesta Celebration such a success. To our Fiesta Committee who worked diligently to bring you the Marian Talk, Novena, Raffle Prizes, Fiesta Mass, and the Dinner, we thank you for your commitment and tireless effort. To our hosts, the Pasifika Communities - thank you for highlighting the beauty of this culture in our parish. Finally, to all our volunteer parishioners who brought in donations of gifts or food, assisted with the Liturgy, helped to set up, clean up, led Novenas and assisted the committee in any way, we could not celebrate in this way without you. Once again, THANK YOU!

Diocesan Synod – Thank you, Parish Representatives!



The Parramatta Diocesan Synod last weekend was very challenging in its agenda and discernment process but the outcome was well worthwhile for the 190 members. The discernment process prior to the Synod provided data on a broad range of important issues and the planning team summarized the submissions around 6 themes that focused on the kind of Church that the Holy Spirit is calling us to be. Delegates voted on 25 proposed resolutions and submitted comments and suggestions on how the proposals might best be implemented. This information will be recorded and the outcomes of the Synod shared at a later time.

We again thank parishioners who participated in this exhausting but very satisfying weekend - Dominic Dimech, Dalton Gonsalvez, Lorensz Herft, Roslyn Moran, Peter Moriarty and Edwin Aguirre (Couples for Christ). In addition, Rachael Kama, Synod Operations Team Member and Liturgy Music Lead, and Deacon Rod Pirotta, Pastoral Director of Sacred Heart Parish, South Mt Druitt, took part, along with Fr Dave Austin as priest representative. Thank you too to family members for their sacrifice in enabling these parishioners to attend.

Remembering Our
BELOVED DEAD

<https://holyspiritclair.com.au/mass-prayer-requests/>

During November we offer Masses for the dead. If you would like to enrol a loved one on the Parish November Mass list, they will have Mass offered for them. They will be included in the Masses for the Holy Souls, and they be prayed for (collectively) during the intercessions each day in November. November Mass Offering envelopes are also available in the church foyer.

ALL SAINTS DAY & ALL SOULS DAY

MASS TIMES:
Wed 1 NOV:
7 am and 7pm
Thu 2 NOV:
9.05am and 7pm

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



"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."



WHY DO WE DO THAT?

Catholic Life Explained:

Question:

Why Does the Church Have Different Liturgical Cycles?

Answer:

While most Catholics know that the Church Year is divided into various seasons (e.g. Advent, Christmas, Ordinary Time, etc.), many are unaware that the one Church Year is not like the one that follows. While the main seasons and feasts are the same from year to year, the 3-year cycle for Sundays and the 2-year cycle for weekdays means that, as a general rule, the readings in the Lectionary that we hear at Mass will change from year to year, helping us to have a richer encounter with Sacred Scripture. Each new cycle begins with the beginning of the liturgical year, the First Sunday of Advent. The reasoning behind this innovation is outlined in Sacrosanctum Concilium, the "Dogmatic Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy" of the Second Vatican Council: "The treasures of the bible are to be opened up more lavishly, so that richer fare may be provided for the faithful at the table of God's word. In this way a more representative portion of the holy scriptures will be read to the people in the course of a prescribed number of years" (no. 51). This was fully achieved in 1969 when the new cycles of readings were approved by Pope Saint Paul VI.

©LPI

WORDSEARCH Give to God what belongs to God

W	R	G	S	P	H	A	R	I	S	E	E	S	U	T
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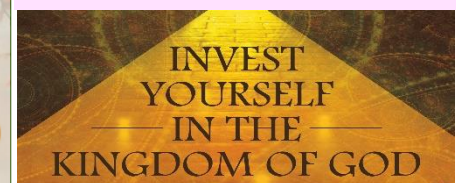
- belongs
- coins
- Emperor
- honest
- Pharisees
- respect
- silver
- taxes
- teacher
- test
- trick
- truth



CREATION CARE TIPS

As the leaves fall this autumn, rake them and add them to your compost pile rather than stuff them into plastic bags which will end up in the landfill. Don't have a compost bin? Rake them into a pile in the corner of the yard or over a garden plot to decompose back into the soil. As a last resort, ask if any of your neighbors will accept them for their gardens.

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NEXT WEEKEND (29th OCTOBER): 30th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, Yr A

<p>1st Reading Exodus 22:20-26 <i>Treat all people with generosity.</i></p> <p>Responsorial Psalm Psalm 1:2-4. 47. 51. R. v.2 <i>(R.) I love you, Lord, my strength.</i></p> <p>2nd Reading Thessalonians 1:5-10 <i>The Thessalonians have become a model for others.</i></p> <p>Gospel Acclamation John 14:23 <i>Alleluia, alleluia!</i> <i>All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!</i></p> <p>Gospel Matthew 22:34-40 <i>Jesus is asked to name the greatest commandment of the Law.</i></p>	<p>28 OCT, 6PM Minister at the Altar Gloria Slade Eucharistic Ministers Dalton Gonsalvez Mary Fonseca Jacob Fonseca Reader 1 Sheila Francis Reader 2 Madeline Mostert Commentator Michael Farrugia Music Anglo Indian Choir Powerpoint Volunteer Needed Junior Servers Volunteer Needed Welcomers Selwyn Oliveira Sonia Oliveira Volunteer Needed</p>	<p>29 OCT, 8AM Minister at the Altar Carol Vella Eucharistic Ministers Faye Aboghazaleh Ron Brackett Lisa Brackett Reader 1 Faye Aboghazaleh Reader 2 Belen Leynes Commentator Sonia Sultana Music Pierre D'Cunha Powerpoint Christine Younes Junior Servers Volunteer Needed Welcomers Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed</p>	<p>29 OCT, 9.30AM Minister at the Altar Anthony Bertumen Eucharistic Ministers Lou de Guia Louise Bucholtz Lorraine Robertson Reader 1 Vasco Gil Reader 2 Nilo Gajo Commentator Sue Oram Music Pedro Calungsod Choir Powerpoint Boy Sanosa Junior Servers Volunteer Needed Welcomers Joe Duval Volunteer Needed Volunteers Needed</p>	<p>29 OCT, 6PM Minister at the Altar Edward De Leon Eucharistic Ministers Robert Lees Peter Smith Roslyn Smith Reader 1 Corrine Brooker Reader 2 Jodie Donlan Commentator Romeo Prieto Music Esther R & James W Powerpoint Volunteer Needed Junior Servers Volunteer Needed Welcomers Eleanor Stuart Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed</p>
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CLEANERS: Group 1
BANNERS: Green

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF 22nd OCTOBER:

Mon 23 Oct: Saint John Of Capistrano, Priest
Tue 24 Oct: Saint Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop
Wed 25 Oct: Wednesday Of The Twenty-Ninth Week In Ordinary Time Year 1
Thu 26 Oct: Thursday Of The Twenty-Ninth Week In Ordinary Time Year 1
Fri 27 Oct: Friday Of The Twenty-Ninth Week In Ordinary Time Year 1
Sat 28 Oct: Saints Simon And Jude, Apostles

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
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

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 —
Pre-Planning & Pre-Paid Funerals

P: 02 9623 6656 M: 0418 250 242
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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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. 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 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!