

1st Reading

Proverbs 31:10-13. 19-20. 30-31 *A worthy wife is invaluable.*

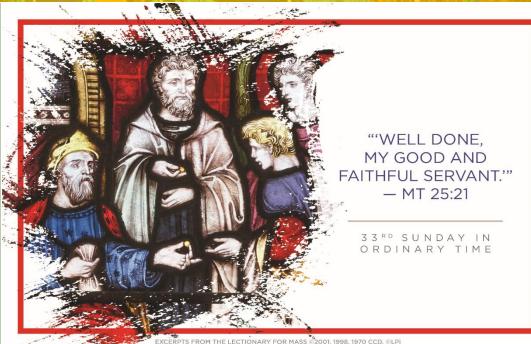
Responsorial Psalm Psalm 127:1-5. R.v.1 (R.) Happy are those who fear the Lord.

2nd Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6 You are children of the light.

Gospel Acclamation
John 15:4. 5
Alleluia, alleluia!
Live in me and let me live in you,
says the Lord;
my branches bear much fruit.

Alleluia!
Gospel

Matthew 25:14-30 The rich man, his servants and the talents.



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

VOICE FROM THE PHEWS

Well done, good and trustworthy servant. Aren't those the words we would all like to hear when we face the Lord for our final judgment? I have my own theory about what we have to do to hear those words. I don't think God is going to judge us on what we have done, but on who we have become.

We were each created to be absolutely unique. No two people are made the same. God created each of us with our own set of talents, abilities, and limitations. I think when we face God on the last day, God will say to us, "Have you become the person I created you to be?" When you become the person God created you to be, you are at your best. You become the best parent you can be, the best friend, the best teacher, lawyer, doctor, scientist, writer, designer, assistant, firefighter, or painter.

Think of the world as a giant jigsaw puzzle. Each person represents one piece of the puzzle, and when all the pieces are put together you find the Kingdom of God. But suppose a few pieces decided they didn't like their particular shape and wanted to

look like the shapes next to them. Or what if some puzzle pieces decided they wouldn't show up because they weren't sure where they would fit in? It would be forever before you would get to see the Kingdom of God.

In the parable of the talents, the servant buries the treasure because he is afraid of losing it. He gives into his fear and it ends up costing him everything. Fear that is rooted in an uncertainty of our own worth can be like that. Fear of failure or rejection, or even the fear of being laughed at, can paralyze a person. Don't let that happen to you.

Discover who God created you to be and be that person. Develop your gifts and when it comes time to face your creator you are bound to hear, "Well done."

FAMILY RESPONSE: Ask each person to answer the question, "What do I think God wants from me?"

PERSONAL RESPONSE: What are some of your particular talents, gifts, and limitations? What do you want to remember from last week? What are you looking forward to next week? What are your concerns?

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: https://holyspiritstclair.com.au/mass-prayer-requests/
We ask you to please submit your prayer intentions a few days before preferred Mass.

SICK:

Taylor Turczak, Brendan Sammut, Arcadio Villote, Adam Martin February, Michelle Edwards, Lee Healey, Rene Aguirre, Virginia Peloe, Miguel Alvarez, Arthur Alvarez, Miguel Arenas, 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, Rosie Casha, Zephyr Morales, Anne Fidler, John Warne, Salvador Espadilla, Tessie Scicluna, Joseph Valladores.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Eddie Ramoneda Santillan, Amancio Mopal, Lourdes Marino, Benita Decena Bunagan, Shyama Lohani, Marie Rodenas, Brian Yardly, Peter Nally, Raphael, Evita & Philomena Smith, Mary Emily Mercado Salas, Juliana Robielos, Paola Aquilina.

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:

Manuel De Jesus Sr, Emilio Paz, Thresiama Jacob, Basil Middleton, Malcolm Howse, Lyndsey Cotte, Sofia Bermudez, Mary Mascarenhas, Doreen Herft, Colleen Green, Joseph Rebello, Manuel Gauci, Tapu Apikatoa, Restituto Pascual, Tony Ghahoud, Jeanne Marie Blake, Ada Salmon, Merilow Peña Ramirez.

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.



VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2023

This year our conference has assisted our friends in need in St Clair, Erskine Park and Colyton.

It's that time of year again when we launch our **Annual Christmas Appeal for food and gifts.**

2023 has been an extremely difficult year for many and we have seen an increase in those seeking assistance - any donations are greatly welcomed.

Storing and distributing increased numbers of hampers has become a challenge for us. If you can find it in your heart to donate a gift card or cash rather than an actual gift, it would be beneficial to our mission. It would eliminate handling/wrapping and storage. Gift cards are easy to pop into a Christmas card, and our friends can choose something they would like, suggestions could be Visa, Hoyts, Kmart or Big W vouchers. This way each child in the family can choose an age-appropriate gift of equal value.

In previous years you have also generously supported with donations of food items. We will accept and distribute these food items but again we would prefer if you could assist with a food voucher instead (Coles, ALDI or Woolworths card), of any denomination. How nice would it be for our friends to receive a voucher to enable them to purchase fresh meat and vegetables for Christmas?

Please return all gift cards or donations to the parish office addressed in an envelope marked St Vincent De Paul St Clair Conference **by Monday 11th December**. Or drop them in the Vinnies Christmas box at the back of the church.

Remember if you choose to donate food and gifts they are stored before distribution so please consider the heat and don't include things such as chocolates or sweets which may melt.

Thank you so very much for your continued support of our parish conference. We wish you and your families many blessings at this very special time of year.







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 Dec** 7.00pm. Presenter will be Joyce McMahon.



CALLUM PETER JONES

(Son of Gareth and Khristine)

CHARLIE ELIZABETH PETERS

(Daughter of William and Elizabeth)

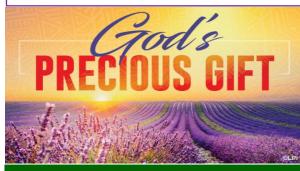
BILLIE ROSE BUSUTTIL

(Daughter of Dylan and Jessica)

WEEKLY JUSTICE CHALLENGES

The Sunday gospel focuses on the gifts which God gives to each one of us. We are called to use our talents and gifts, not hide or neglect them. And God always wants us to share what He has given to us with the most vulnerable. Your challenge this week is to share one of your special talents with someone in need. If you have the gift of speaking, perhaps you could make a call to your legislators, asking them to support bills which ensure food security for all. If you have a gift for music, consider visiting a homeless shelter or nursing home and brightening residents' day with song. If you are talented in sports, call a family shelter and offer to organize a game for the children. If finances are your field of expertise, offer your services to a service organization which is doing fund-raising. Share your God-given gifts with others so your light can shine for all to see!

©Center for Ministry Development. Published by the Pastoral Center / PastoralCenter.com. All rights reserved.



THE SUNDAY FLOCK





"Since you were faithful in small matters, I will

give you great responsibilities."

Sheepish Question:

How can I take more responsibility for Jesus' call to grow his kingdom?

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



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

Walking Together on our Advent Journey

Friends of St Augustine invite all parishioners to our Advent Retreat:

Date: Saturday 2nd December 2023.

Time: 9am to 4pm.

Guest Speaker: Fr Peter Jones OSA

Prior Provincial Order of Saint Augustine

Province of Australasia

Venue: Holy Spirit Parish, 5 Todd Row, St Clair.



thankyou

TO ALL OUR 2023 PARISH FIESTA SPONSORS & DONORS

Foodworks Woolworths, St Clair Michel's Coffee Blue Cattle Dog St Mary's Pharmacy Leaf Café. St Clair Sargent Pies MediAdvise Pharmacy, Melville **Heavenly Celebration** Kama Family 'Alua' Apikotoa Uini Blake Hazel Littlewood Lorna Varausi Marthese Grima Peter Moriarty Viola Na'ati Yasmin O'Connell

We appreciate all the support extended to the Holy Spirit Parish Fiesta by the above businesses and families. We encourage you to support them.

A big THANK YOU to the Fiesta Committee and the generous volunteers and families of the parish who have contributed in any way to the success of our celebration.

GETTING STARTED WITH AN ADVENT WREAT

On 3 December we begin with the new Liturgical Year – Year B. As we enter the Season of Advent, we encourage you to re/introduce this wonderful tradition of preparing your own Advent Wreath.

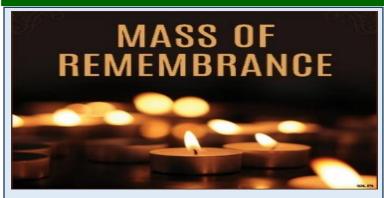
Take home with you a tri-fold brochure available in the foyer that explains how to prepare it.



Getting Started with an Advent Wreath

This is a wonderful tradition to begin now. Your little one will be taken in by the smells and mesmerized by the candle flames. A wreath really makes this season of preparation special in your home!

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



Wednesday 22 November at 7:00pm

Holy Spirit Parish welcomes you for a special 'Mass of Remembrance' to commemorate the life of your dearly departed loved ones (in the past 2 years).

Before the Mass, we invite you to light a candle in memory of your loved one and bring along a framed photograph to be placed on the table near the altar.

(Please remember to collect your photograph after the Mass).

Please contact the parish office with the names of your deceased loved ones to be included in the Mass.

Kindly join us for supper after the Mass. You are welcome to bring a plate to share.

An initiative of the Spirituality Commission



During November we offer Masses for the dead. If you would like to enrol (our website available) 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. And November Book of the Dead is located in the church near presider's chair for you to write the names of your departed family and friends.



Wedding Anniversary Mass 26 November 2023, 9.30AM MASS

Couples celebrating their Wedding Anniversary in the month of NOVEMBER are most welcome to join us.



Please give generously to the Bishop's Christmas Appeal yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal





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



Kindness makes you the most beautiful person in the world, no matter what you look like.

Augustine of Hippo

WORDSEARCH The day of the Lord is coming

G	L	1	J	U	С	F	N	D	F	Υ	J	L	Ε
Χ	U	Н	С	С	Q	R	W	0	М	Α	Ν	I	Z
Υ	Т	F	1	V	Ε	N	Z	М	J	0	Υ	F	С
Α	Α	Ε	F	Т	Z	М	0	Ν	Ε	Υ	D	0	С
Υ	С	Т	Α	W	Α	Υ	S	Н	Α	R	Ε	Р	Q
М	V	Н	W	S	L	U	Υ	Т	D	W	В	ı	D
K	L	0	Р	С	F	Α	ı	Т	Н	F	U	L	Z
В	L	U	Q	Т	Α	0	U	В	В	٧	F	Χ	Р
K	Q	S	R	S	F	N	K	S	F	L	L	D	L
Т	Χ	Α	J	Χ	W	R	ı	Т	Ε	Υ	Т	Α	Q
0	F	N	N	J	F	R	ı	Ε	N	D	S	W	N
М	Z	D	N	В	Υ	S	S	R	М	М	L	Α	٧
Χ	R	Q	В	Т	Ε	S	С	Α	Р	Ε	С	K	Q
S	Н	1	0	Υ	F	Z	Z	S	1	U	Т	Ε	Υ
Н	J	Z	L	G	S	Z	N	В	Т	Н	ı	Ε	F

Try to find these words:

awake
away
escape
faithful
five
friends
money
share
thief
thousand
woman
write

© 2004 Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd





CREATION CARE TIPS

With Thanksgiving this week, your thoughts might be turning to the holiday season.

Take the opportunity to begin a conversation with friends and family about gift-giving expectations this year. What might you do differently to cut down on the unsustainable practice of buying and consuming so much for a holiday that marks the birth of a poor child in Bethlehem? Check out AdventConspiracy.org for great ideas you can broach at the Thanksgiving table this year.



WHY DO WE DO THAT?

Catholic Life Explained:

Question:

The Bible says that Jesus condemned gambling, but I notice that so many parishes have them at festivals and other events. What's correct?

Answer:

Although Jesus speaks of our relationship with material wealth and the very human struggle with greed, the gospels do not include any specific instructions related to gambling. At the same time, the Church is very sensitive to the needs of those who might struggle with an addiction to gambling, and pastoral care should always be offered to those who struggle with this reality in their life.

While it is true that many parish or school communities include gambling or games of festivals chance in fundraisers (e.g. bingo, roulette, ring tossing, dunking booths, etc.), there is nothing inherently wrong these sorts of events, given they are played fairly and within the limits of reason are not morally objectionable. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church reminds us: "Games of chance (card games, etc.) or wagers are not in themselves contrary to justice. become They morally unacceptable when they deprive someone of what is necessary to provide for his needs and those of others" (no. 2413).

As in all things, moderation and a sense of healthy limits should be applied to gambling and games of chance. For those who find themselves living with addiction to gambling, help is available in various 12-step and addiction recovery programs.

© LPi

NEXT WEEKEND 26th NOVEMBER): 34th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, Yr A

1st Reading Ezekiel 34:11-12. 15-17 The Lord will rescue his sheep.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 22:1-3, 5-6, R. see v.1 (R.) The Lord is my shepherd; There is nothing I shall want.

2nd Reading

1 Corinthians 15:20-26. 28 When all has been subjected to Christ, all will be one in Him.

Gospel Acclamation Mark 11:9-10 Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David! Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 25:31-46 Whenever you serve the least of people, you serve Christ.

CLEANERS: Group 1 **BANNERS:**

Green

25 NOV, 6PM Minister at the Altar

Madeline Mostert

Eucharistic Ministers Lea Jadraque

Fe Uy Aruna Heslop

Reader 1 Janice Salmon

Reader 2 Romeo Prieto

Commentator Lea Jadraque

Music Couples for Christ

> **Powerpoint** Nanette I.

Junior Servers Volunteer Needed

Welcomers Terry Serrao Olga Esguerra Volunteer Needed 26 NOV, 8AM

Minister at the Altar Victor Brangwin

Eucharistic Ministers Gloria Slade Fiona Ferreira

Chris Younes Reader 1

Louise Bucholtz

Reader 2 Millie Perez Commentator

Espy Sarno Music

Volunteer Needed **Powerpoint**

Manuel Fidow Junior Servers Volunteer Needed

Welcomers Espy Sarno Angela Pecnik Volunteer Needed 26 NOV, 9.30AM

Minister at the Altar Alice Zafra

Eucharistic Ministers

Nilo Gajo Marthese Grima Anabel Jader

Reader 1 Tina Fernandes

Reader 2 Michael Paulo

Commentator Carmen Marcelo

Music Children's Choir

Powerpoint Jamie Bertumen Junior Servers

Volunteer Needed Welcomers Joe Duval Volunteer Needed

Volunteer Needed

26 NOV, 6PM

Minister at the Altar Victor Brangwin

Eucharistic Ministers

Lumen Decena Peter Smith **Robert Lees**

Reader 1 Genevieve Luangratt

> Reader 2 Jodie Donlan

Commentator Robert Lees

> Music **BASIC GIFT**

Powerpoint BASIC GIFT

Junior Servers Volunteer Needed

Welcomers **Eleanor Stuart** Esther Rose Volunteer Needed

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF 19th NOVEMBER:

Mon 20 Nov: Monday Of The Thirty-Third Week In Ordinary Time Year 1

Tue 21 Nov: The Presentation Of The Blessed Virgin Mary

Wed 22 Nov: Saint Cecilia, Virgin And Martyr

Thu 23 Nov: Saint Clement I, Pope And Martyr; Saint Columban, Abbot Fri 24 Nov: Saint Andrew Düng-Lac, Priest, And Companions, Martyrs

Sat 25 Nov: Saint Catherine Of Alexandria, Virgin And Martyr; 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 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

Pls support the advertisers that support us.

SUPPORT OUR LOCAL ADVERTISERS - Please show your support for your parish by also supporting our advertisers. We wouldn't be able to bring our bulletin every week without them, and they need your help too. Please encourage and remind others to show their support and shop local during these hard times!





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





Flowers Birth > Earth Christening - Wedding - Funerals

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

www.flowerspot.com.au Unit 10,10 Brumby Street Seven Hills NSW 2147 02 9629 2756

Bateman Battersby

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

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

Ph: 02 4731 5899

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







Cathy Mob:0418664861

Pick up Address 26 Caley St Ropes Crossing



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

Account Number: 000 Bank: CBA BSB: 067 950

The 70% of the collection is for the regular running o 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!

