

1st Reading
Isaiah 63: 16-17; 64:1. 3-8
May the Lord come when we are
doing good.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19 R.v.4 (R.) Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

2nd Reading
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
The Lord will strengthen us to the
end.

Gospel Acclamation

Psalm 84:8 Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 13"33-37 We know not the hour the Lord will come.

VOICE FROM

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

God calls each of us to a close, intimate relationship. Toddlers and teens, grownups and elders are all invited to share in God's love. The invitation is extended in all sorts of ways: through Scripture and study; through friends, relatives and acquaintances; in quiet spaces and noisy places.

But God especially counts on parents to issue the invitation to children, to introduce them to a loving God and to nurture their relationship with Jesus Christ. Our church baptizes infants because we trust that children will be nourished by their parents' faith until they are old enough to claim their own.

Like John the Baptist, parents are expected to prepare the way so their children will be open to accepting God's personal invitation.

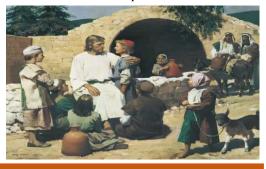
This can be done in subtle ways, such as creating a Christian environment at home with crucifixes and Bibles or beginning family rituals, such as nightly prayer or seasonal devotions (such as praying together around an Advent wreath).

"BE WATCHFUL!
BE ALERT! YOU
DO NOT KNOW
WHEN THE TIME
WILL COME."
— MK 13:33

1 ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

But the most effective way for children to know who God is and what God asks of them is by listening to and watching the people who are most important to them. If God is going to be a reality in their lives, children must see in actions and hear in words that God is a reality in the lives of their mothers and fathers. For children, God's invitation to a forever relationship is best delivered personally through the words and example of their parents.

FAMILY RESPONSE: Ask each family member to find something in the house that makes him or her think about God or faith. Talk about what each person finds.



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.

FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS @2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. @LPI



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:

Fe Uy, Joseph Valladores, Dot & Joe Gray, Ken Allen, Virginia Peloe, Miguel Alvarez, Arthur Alvarez, Adam Martin February, Sheila Glennon, Taylor Turczak, Brendan Sammut, Yvonne Funnell, Linda Allen, Andrew Boulos, Emilia Rose Moya, Giulia & Joseph Caruana, Joel Dizon, Angela Cook, Bella Tassone, Ramon Rivera, Bill Lynch, Brian Barnes, Steven Johns, Alice Grech, Arcadio Villote, Rosie Casha, John Warne, Zephyr Morales, Anne Fidler, Salvador Espadilla, Bernadette Stevens.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Ligorio Lattao, Norberto Joson, Paul Agius, Jaime Hernando, Efren Pattugalan, Tony Murphy, Dorothy Hansen.

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:

Merilyn Scobie, Marina Paz, Jeanette Paz, Leo & Teresa Pereira, Giancarlo Gargan, Carmel Facciol, George & Riccardo Herft, Feliciano Fernandes.

Names submitted to Parish for the sick list will show for 4 weeks at a time.

Please let us know if any of the circumstances in the names above has changed or need corrections specially in the sick list.

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.



(Son of Joshua and Chloe)

WEEKLY JUSTICE CHALLENGES

The first reading for this Sunday is one with which we are familiar. It is the passage from the Book of Isaiah (2:1-5) describing what the world will be like when the Messiah comes. The image of people beating swords into plowshares taking instruments used to kill people and changing them into instruments which help grow food to feed people—is a powerful one. Your challenge in this first week of Advent is to spend some time reflecting on how you are peacemakers (as a family and as individuals). Do you bring people together by your words and actions or do you create conflict? Then decide on one action you can take to make the world a more peace-filled place. Do you want to pray for peace in our world, our country, and our families? Do you want to write to government leaders to advocate for a more peaceful approach to a particular issue? Do you want to take a stand for more gun control? How do you want to bring peace? © Center for Ministry Development. Published by the Pastoral Center / PastoralCenter.com. All rights reserved.

THE SEASON OF ADVENT
MEANS THERE IS SOMETHING
ON THE HORIZON
THE LIKES OF WHICH WE HAVE
NEVER SEEN BEFORE.
— JAN RICHARDSON

THE SUNDAY FLOCK







Jean Denton flock.pastoralcenter.com

"It is the hour now for you to awake from sleep. For our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed."

Sheepish Question:

What holiday preparations are taking my attention away from the coming of the Lord?

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

An Invitation to all Volunteers

VOLUNTEERS DAY 2023

Saturday, 16th December

10am - 1pm

Talk, Mass and Fellowship

Please write your name in the sign-on sheet at the foyer for catering purposes.



GETTING STARTED WITH AN ADVENT WREATH

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!

catholic care

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CHILDREN'S PARTICIPATION AT CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY MASS

Children are kindly being welcomed and encouraged to dress up as angels and shepherds and participate in our annual Christmas Liturgy. Children are being asked to attend the rehearsals to prepare for the liturgy. The rehearsals will be held at the parish on **Thurs 14 and Wed 20 December from 5pm to 6pm**. If your child is interested, please complete a permission form available in the foyer and bring it to the first rehearsal.



Saturday 16 December, 4.30 to 5.45 pm

Advent is a wonderful time to celebrate the reconciling love and the healing graces our Lord offers us. Like all religious experiences, it takes preparation. Reconciliation is what God does. Receiving it and celebrating it is what we do. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a most natural way to celebrate God's forgiveness and love.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

BAPTISM PREPARATION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Every Second Tuesday of the month from 7pm-8pm, parish volunteers prepare families whose children are to be baptised in our parish. We need more volunteers to facilitate these sessions and training will be provided. Volunteers will only get an average of 3 sessions a year to facilitate. This is a great way to know and welcome young families in our parish. If interested to know more, please contact Germaine Gil on Mob: 0451279934 or email her to sacraments@holyspiritstclair.com.au



Wedding Anniversary Mass 17 December 2023, 9.30AM MASS

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

MESSAGE FROM ALLELUIA CHOIR

Join the Alleluia Choir for: Christmas Eve, Sun 24th Dec 2023 At 8.30pm for Carols and At 9.00pm for Christmas Mass

We will meet for practices at Holy Spirit Parish from 7pm to 8.45pm on the following days:

December:

- Tuesday 5th, Thursday 7th & 14th
- Tuesday 19th, Thursday 21st, and Saturday 23rd at 4pm to 5.45pm

For more information please ring *Joy Rulewski* on 0425 264 642

ST AUGUSTINE AND ST JOSEPH CHOIRS

Invites you to join the choir for Christmas Eve Sunday 24th December for:

CAROLS AT 11:30PM & CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT MASS

Practices will be in the Pioneers Room at Holy Spirit Parish Tuesday 12th and 19th December from 7:30pm to 9:00pm

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The New
CLEANER'S ROSTER
FOR YEAR 2024
Is Up in
The Cleaners/Flowers
Room for You to Check It Up





CHRISTMAS MASSES:

SUN 24 DEC

6PM (Family Mass) 8.30PM (Carols) 9.00PM (Mass) 11.30PM (Carols)

MON 25 DEC

12 Midnight 8.00AM 9.30AM

No 6PM Mass on 25 Dec

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



"In order to discover the character of people we have only to observe what they love."

Augustine of Hippo

JUNIOR WORDSEARCH Stay awake!

S	T	K	С	F	J	X	A	F	Z	I	M	G	В
E	N	Q	E	Z	G	U	A	R	D	В	U	F	T
R	V	S	M	A	S	T	E	R	R	X	I	S	I
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W	W	T	В	I	J	T	G	С	M	С	R	0	W
T	Q	I	D	Α	W	N	S	L	Е	Е	P	R	W

Try to find these words:

dawn
everything
guard
house
know
master
midnight
ready
servants
sleep
time
watchmen

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CREATION CARE TIPS

"But a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom." —Isaiah 11:1

As Pope Francis urged in Laudato Si', one thing we can do as we work to care for creation is to see the beauty already present around us. How often do we see stumps instead of sprouts or seemingly lifeless roots instead of buds? Yes, there are many sobering signs of how our earth is hurting, many "stumps" we can focus our attention on, but this week pray to keep your eyes open for where sprouts and buds are present in the world. As we go into the winter season in the northern hemisphere, chances are we won't see actual plant sprouts or buds coming up but pay attention to the news for signs of life and regeneration in the fight against climate change.



WHY DO WE DO THAT?

Catholic Life Explained:

Question:

When we say the Penitential Act at Mass, why do we strike our chest three times?

Answer:

The tradition of Christian's striking the breast (above the heart) is rooted in the image of Sacred Scripture, especially texts like Psalm 51 which speak of a "humbled contrite heart" or how God heals broken hearts, binding up our wounds (see Psalm 147:3). Early Christian writers like Saint Augustine of Hippo and Saint Jerome also refer to this custom in their writings.

Ultimately, this practice is an expression of our sorrow for those times when we have been guilty of faults and a sign that we are willing to take responsibility for our sins and failings. That we all perform this gesture together is also an act of solidarity, recognizing that none of us, regardless of where we are on our journey of faith, is without fault and the need for grace and forgiveness.

©LP



NEXT WEEKEND 10th DECEMBER): 2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT, Yr B

1st ReadingIsaiah 40:1-5. 9-11
In the desert make ready the way of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 84:9-14. R.v.8 (R.) Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

2nd Reading 2 Peter 3:8-14 The Lord shows great patience.

Gospel Acclamation
Luke 3:4. 6
Alleluia, alleluia!
Prepare the way of the Lord,

make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.

of God. Alleluia!

Gospel Mark 1:1-8

John the Baptist proclaims the coming of the Messiah

CLEANERS: Group 3 **BANNERS:** Green

9 DEC, 6PM

Minister at the Altar

Peter Moriarty

Eucharistic Ministers

Dita Sy Moira Rebello Janice Salmon

Reader 1Corinne Cerdor

Reader 2 Florence Pusey

Commentator
Dudley Littlewood
Music

Victor Brangwin *Powerpoint*Nanette I.

Junior Servers
Volunteer Needed

Welcomers
Terry Serrao
Olga Esguerra
Volunteer Needed

10 DEC, 8AM

Minister at the Altar Hieu Le

Eucharistic Ministers
Belen Leynes
Dawn Timmins
Margaret Portelli

Reader 1Dawn Timmins

Reader 2 Manuel Fidow

Commentator
Sally Banguis
Music

Pierre D'Cunha **Powerpoint**Christine Younes

Junior Servers
Volunteer Needed

Welcomers
Sarah Damole
Jun Damole
Espy Sarno

10 DEC, 9.30AM

Minister at the Altar Anthony Bertumen

Eucharistic Ministers

Volunteer Needed Cathy Allen Jenny Kyd

Reader 1Bianca Dowsett

Reader 2 Ray Zafra

Commentator Uinise Blake

*Music*Mary Immaculate Choir

PowerpointBoy Sanosa

Junior Servers Volunteer Needed

Welcomers
Sue Oram
Jenny Kyd
Volunteer Needed

10 DEC, 6PM

Minister at the Altar Edward De Leon

Eucharistic Ministers

Kate Blasco Esther Rose Angela Pecnik

Reader 1Candice Salmon

Reader 2Marty Facciol

Commentator Kate Blasco

Music Alleluia Choir

PowerpointThomas Deepu

Junior Servers
Volunteer Needed

Welcomers
Esther Rose
Eleanor Stuart
Volunteer Needed

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF 3rd DECEMBER:

Mon 4 Dec: Saint John Damascene, Priest And Doctor Of The Church

Tue 5 Dec: Tuesday Of The First Week Of Advent

Wed 6 Dec: Saint Nicholas, Bishop

Thu 7 Dec: Saint Ambrose, Bishop And Doctor Of The Church **Fri 8 Dec:** The Immaculate Conception Of The Blessed Virgin Mary

Sat 9 Dec: Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin

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

office nours 9.00am to spin (worlday to Friday) Emergency after hours only Wi 0403 390 209

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.



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

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.

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Cathy Mob:0418664861

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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

Bank: CBA BSB: 067 950 Account Number: 000

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

