



HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

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

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, Yr B

5 MAY 2024

1st Reading

Acts of the Apostles 10:25-26. 34-35. 44-48

The Holy Spirit descends on Jews and Gentiles alike.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 97:1-4. R. v.2

(R.) The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

2nd Reading

1 John 4:7-10

One without love does not know God.

Gospel Acclamation

John 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

Gospel

John 15:9-17

Live on in Christ.



“LOVE ONE ANOTHER.”
—JN 15:17

6TH SUNDAY OF
EASTER

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

Easter Gift – ‘Learning to be Friends!’

Dear Friends,

Each time I read St Peter’s speech in Acts, I recall choosing it for my Dad’s funeral in 1972. Peter’s words go to the heart of the Easter reality: ‘The truth I have now come to realise is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.’ Dad was baptized Anglican and was on the verge of becoming a Catholic when his health failed just prior to his death.

Peter’s inclusiveness was prophetic in reminding us of the expansiveness of God’s love, the focus of our reading from 1 John and Jesus’ teaching in the Gospel this weekend. God’s love is the unifier of people who are diverse in beliefs and cultures – the very way we know God.

Love is the key to friendship and Jesus addresses his followers as ‘friends’, no longer servants. A significant challenge of family life is to be ‘inclusive’, a trigger word in so many areas of our living in society

today. Family consists of people of diverse ages, gifts and personalities... to quote one writer on family life, ‘In a family, you get to know people whom you otherwise might not even want to talk to!’ This is the miracle of family that it works because it has to!

John the Evangelist records Jesus’ discourses and he also writes ‘love letters to the Church’, stressing the universality of love as God’s unique gift. The very experience of love opens up the possibility of knowing God and recognizing God’s affirmation of our humanness in sending his Son Jesus to define what it really means to be a man or a woman.

Our celebration of Jesus Risen at Easter reminds us that love is what Jesus does best and that love is the best reason for doing the things we need and want to do for the people we love most. In my experience, Christian friendship opens us up to the riches of family life and relationships beyond!

In Love

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
1st & 3rd Sun of the month
(during school term)

**Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals,
Anointing of the Sick**

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:

Andrew Boulos, Jacinta Luisa Ortiz, Fe Uy, Dot & Joe Gray, Linda Allen, Emilia Rose Moya, Giulia & Joseph Caruana, Joel Dizon, Angela Cook, Bella Tassone, Ramon Rivera, Steven Johns, Alice Grech, Bill Lynch, John Warne, Joseph Valladores, Zephyr Morales, Salvador Espadilla, Leitu Saena, John Slater, Ashley Johnson, Jess P, Havana Conroy, Danny Estralia.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Manuel Gil, Bernadette Stevens, Nilda Manio de Leon, Christopher R Utleg, Antonette Villafior, Doris Muscat, Maribel Harina, Ernesto Cunanan Sr, Prema Cooray.

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:

Fernando G. Molina, Rebecca Lim, Christian David Enriquez, Jack Richard Gore, Ester and Isidro Ferra, Kyros Macalalad, Dynthia D'Costa, Michael Rodrigues, Audrey Atrisonn,

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 of the Week



God is love. These three simple words deserve a great deal of attention. They have the power to transform our relationship with God from something that is static and distant to one that is personal and real. We all know the power of love and how important it is to completing all of the human and divine circuits of our lives. But we do not often consider the awesome fact that it is given to us as a gift and is not simply part and parcel of the human package. God is the author of love and love itself. When we truly love another human being, it is really God being God in and through us. The love to which we are called and the love of which the Gospel speaks is a selfless love that seeks the wellbeing of not only our significant others but of all of our brothers and sisters. This love, which is of God, is a love that will endure all things and bring immeasurable joy when experienced. It is the most sincere form of friendship.

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK:

First Reading:

In the home of the Gentile-believer, Cornelius, Peter revealed one of the most significant insights from the early Church: "In truth, I see that God shows no partiality." Where do you see this message of unity needed today?

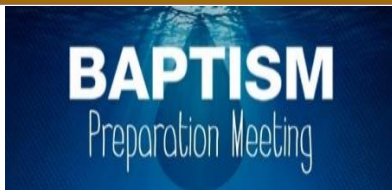
Second Reading:

John saw love at the very core of God's divine identity. In fact, for John, "God is love." For this reason, believers are called to love one another. How do you keep this virtue paramount in your life?

Gospel Reading:

During his farewell discourse, Jesus refers to his disciples as his "friends." How often do you think of Jesus as your "friend?"

BAPTISMS



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 14th May 7.00pm**. Presenter will be Seaview Kama.



ARTURO TOMAS DABU-IBARRA
(Son of Wayne and Charmaine)

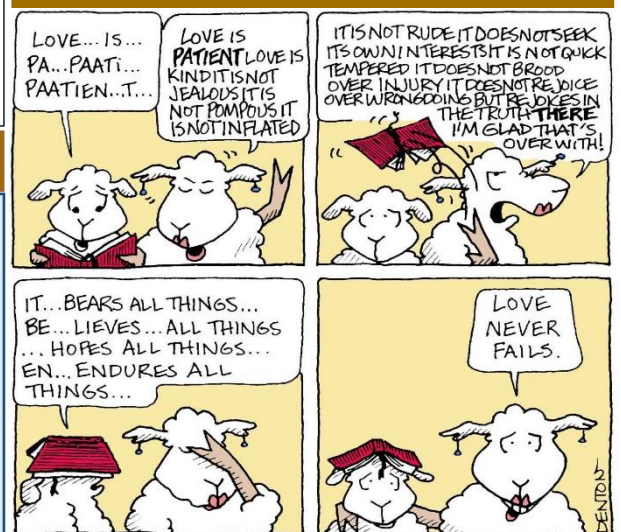
WEEKLY JUSTICE CHALLENGES

Damien was canonized a saint because of his dedication and service to the lepers on the island of Molokai in Hawaii. Lepers were considered pariahs who were a threat to healthy people because of their contagious illness. Many of them were torn from their families when they were diagnosed with leprosy. They were taken to Molokai and never saw their loved ones again. (Lepers at the time of Jesus faced a similar alienation. They were often forced to wear a bell around their necks so that people could run from them when they heard the bell.) Damien ministered to the physical and emotional needs of the lepers on Molokai. He followed Jesus' example of reaching out to these rejected human beings, offering them the human contact—the simple touch—which they were denied. Your challenge this week is to look for a leper in your life, but not necessarily in the literal sense of a person with a skin disease. Rather, look for someone who craves human contact and human touch but is denied it. It might be someone who is lonely or angry, smelly or dirty, mentally ill or imprisoned in some way. Whatever the person's reality, reach out in love and compassion. Offer the human touch which every person on earth needs to survive and thrive.

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THE SUNDAY FLOCK



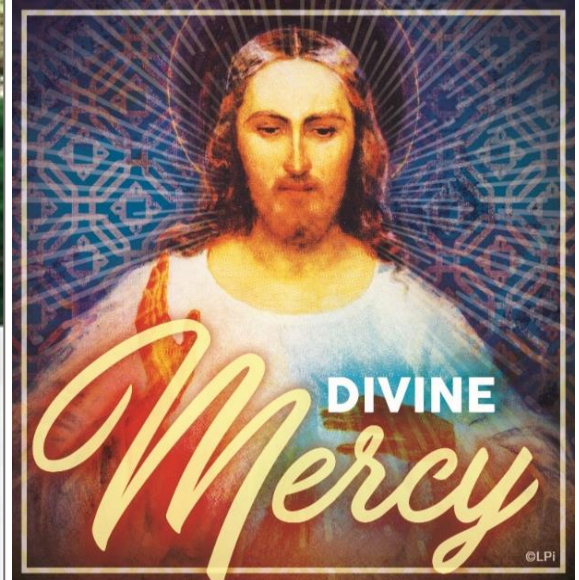
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"This I command you: love one another."

Sheepish Question:

When, lately, have I acted on God's love for me?

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



AUGUSTINIANS

We are called to witness the "warm, living, visible, contagious charity of the Church, through a community life that clearly manifests the presence of the Risen One and His Spirit."

Excerpt of the Address of his Holiness Pope Francis to the Participants in the General Chapter of the Order of St Augustine (Augustinians) Clementine Hall, 13 September 2019

Friday 10th May 7.30pm

Join us as we celebrate our being Church

PENTECOST

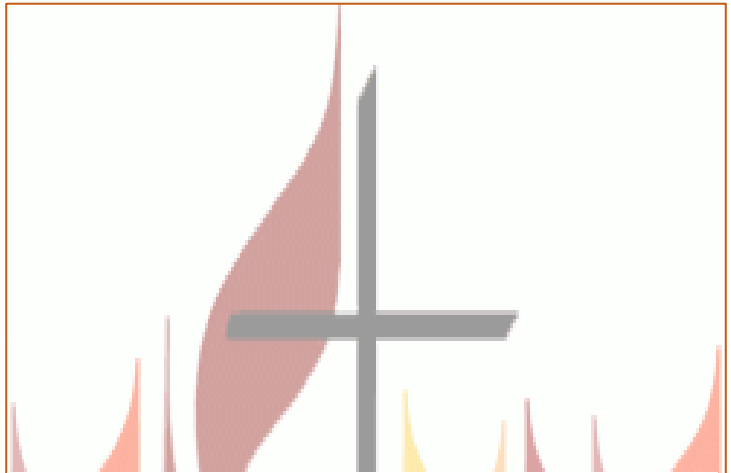
Sunday 19th May

Please bring a plate to share for our Celebration after the 9:30am Mass at the Holy Spirit School Grounds & wear something red!

Fun for all ages!

- Jumping Castle
- Slushies & Popcorn
- Face Painting & Balloons
- Lolly guessing competition
- Soccer game
- Performances
- Sausage Sizzle

If you would like to volunteer to help with the celebration or if you would like to perform by yourself or in a group, please contact Parish Office on 9670 8222 or admin@holyspiritstclair.com.au



'PENTECOST TRIDUUM'

All are invited to come together in prayer

As we prepare to commemorate our

Parish Feast of Pentecost

DATES: Wednesday to Friday

15-17 May - TIME: 7.30pm

MORE DETAILS NEXT WEEK

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH FIESTA 2024

- **FIESTA** – Saturday 19th October
- **OPENING TALK** – Wednesday 9th October
- **NOVENA** – Thursday 10th Oct to Friday 18th October

MORE DETAILS LATER

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH
invites you to a night of fun with family and friends



1st June 2024 at 7.30pm

at Holy Spirit School Hall

Sausage Sizzle & Soft Drinks on Sale
Free tea, coffee & biscuits

Donations welcome

Organised by the Community and Cultural Commission

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH
2024 Sacramental Preparation

Bookings can be made online thru the Parish Website
www.holyspiritstclair.com.au

CONFIRMATION (Year 5)

- Bookings available from 2 April 2024
- Parent Information & Catechesis - Tuesday 7 May 5pm or Wednesday 8 May 6pm

FIRST COMMUNION (Year 4)

- Bookings available from 1 July 2024

NOTE: Children with special needs are most welcome to join the preparation.

For all enquiries contact the Parish Office:

W: www.holyspiritstclair.com.au • E: sacraments@holyspiritstclair.com.au
P: 02 9670 8222 or 0451 279 934 • A: 5 Todd Row, St Clair 2759 NSW



Invites you to

Christian Life Program

A proclamation of the basic message of Christianity through various topics that will draw couples and individuals into a renewed commitment to the Lord

Pioneer Room, Holy Spirit Parish

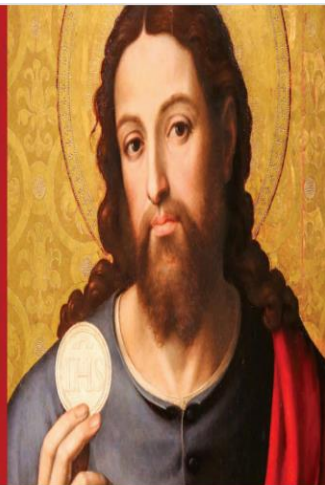
Starting **Sunday 26th May**
@1pm



No cost. Free childminding. Refreshments provided.

Ivan - 0413 117 134 Julius - 0401 680 995 Gliz - 0430 045 234

A BIBLICAL
WALK
THROUGH THE
MASS



Continuing: June 5th **Time:** 7pm **Location:** Holy Spirit Parish
Discover the heart of the Mass, deepen your faith, and connect with fellow parishioners.

Sessions held on the **First Wednesday** of each month until **September**.

All are welcome! - Let's journey together in faith. See you there!

Hosted by the Men's Business Men's Ministry

FUNERALS THIS WEEK:

- **7 May 10.30am: Doris Muscat**

AUGUSTINIAN SPIRITUALITY



For if both proclaim the same truth, then faith cannot contradict reason, for truth cannot contradict truth only falsity can.

Augustine of Hippo



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

Question:

What is the difference between a “Saint” and a “Blessed”?

Answer:

The process of proclaiming someone as a saint in the Catholic Church has evolved over the course of many centuries. In the beginning, those honored as saints were almost exclusively biblical figures or martyrs. However, after the legalization of Christianity in the fourth century, new holy women and men came to be honored as saints, and this was often done by popular acclaim or by the local bishop or abbot.

It was Pope Gregory IX (who was pope from 1227 to 1241) who officially proclaimed that only the pope had the authority to add someone to the official list (the “canon”) of saints. This is the meaning of the word “canonization.”

Today, the saint-making process includes several steps, including detailed studies of the person’s life and a recognition that they died as a martyr or lived a life of “heroic virtue.” Once someone is recognized as a martyr or if a miracle is attributed to their intercession, they will be beatified and honored as “Blessed.” This means that they can be celebrated by Catholics in a particular country or region or by the members of certain religious community. If another miracle occurs and is approved, then the “Blessed” is canonized and honored with the title “Saint,” meaning that they are now officially recognized as a universal model of holiness and an intercessor.

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JUNIOR WORDSEARCH Love one another as I have loved you

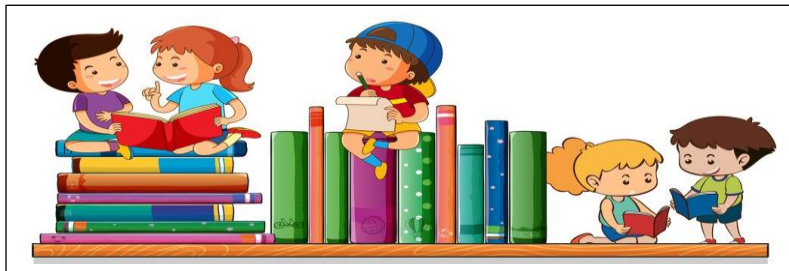
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TRY TO FIND THESE WORDS:

- complete
- disciples
- Father
- friends
- greatest
- happy
- keep
- love
- obey
- other
- show
- sure



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CREATION CARE TIPS

“Creation can only be understood as a gift from the outstretched hand of the Father of all, and as a reality illuminated by the love which calls us together into universal communion.” –Laudato Si’, 76. How can we work together as one people to glorify and care for the gift of creation? This week, invite neighbors or friends to look at communal ways to reduce your impact on the planet. Look into carpooling to work, school, or church. Consider planning a neighborhood clean-up, a tool lending library, or starting a community garden.



NEXT WEEKEND (12th MAY) THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD, Yr B

<p>1st Reading Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11 <i>Jesus is taken up into heaven</i></p> <p>Responsorial Psalm Psalm 46:2-3. 6-9. R. v.6 (R.) <i>God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.</i></p> <p>2nd Reading Ephesians 1:17-23 <i>Live a life worthy of your calling.</i></p> <p>Gospel Acclamation Matthew 28:19. 20 <i>Alleluia, alleluia!</i> <i>Go and teach all people my gospel.</i> <i>I am with you always, until the end of the world.</i> <i>Alleluia!</i></p> <p>Gospel Mark 16:15-20 <i>Jesus commissions the eleven, ascends to heaven.</i></p>	<p>11 MAY, 6PM Minister at the Altar Peter Moriarty Eucharistic Ministers Dita Sy Moira Rebello Janice Salmon Reader 1 Dudley Littlewood Reader 2 Stephen Middleton Commentator Florence Pusey Music Victor Brangwin Powerpoint Nanette I. Junior Servers Volunteer Needed Welcomers Terry Serrao Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed</p>	<p>12 MAY, 8AM Minister at the Altar Gloria Slade Eucharistic Ministers Belen Leynes Dawn Timmins Margaret Portelli Reader 1 Sally Banguis Reader 2 Dawn Timmins Commentator Manuel Fidow Music Pierre D’Cunha Powerpoint Christine Younes Junior Servers Volunteer Needed Welcomers Sara Damole Jun Damole Espy Sarno</p>	<p>12 MAY, 9.30AM Minister at the Altar Anthony Bertumen Eucharistic Ministers Ken Allen Cathy Allen Jenny Kyd Reader 1 Eileen Baana Reader 2 Ray Zafra Commentator Uinise Blake Music Mary Immaculate Choir Powerpoint Boy Sanosa Junior Servers Volunteer Needed Welcomers Jenny Kyd Sue Oram Volunteer Needed</p>	<p>12 MAY, 6PM Minister at the Altar Edward De Leon Eucharistic Ministers Kate Blasco Esther Rose Angela Pecnik Reader 1 Kate Blasco Reader 2 Candice Salmon Commentator Marty Faccioli Music Alleluia Choir Powerpoint Thomas Deepu Junior Servers Volunteer Needed Welcomers Esther Rose Eleanor Stuart Volunteer Needed</p>
	<p>OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF 5 MAY</p>			
	<p>Mon 6 May: Monday Of The Sixth Week Of Easter</p>			
	<p>Tue 7 May: Tuesday Of The Sixth Week Of Easter</p>			
	<p>Wed 8 May: Wednesday Of The Sixth Week Of Easter</p>			
<p>Thu 9 May: Thursday Of The Sixth Week Of Easter</p>				
<p>Fri 10 May: Friday Of The Sixth Week Of Easter; John De Avila</p>				
<p>Sat 11 May: Saturday Of The Sixth Week Of Easter</p>				

CLEANERS: Group 5
BANNERS: White

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** 0404 938 696 (NEW NUMBER)

Priory 3 Peter Pan Glen, St Clair

Parish Staff
Administrator: Fr Dave Austin, OSA **P** 02 9670 8222
E pp@holyspiritstclair.com.au - **E** daustin@holyspiritstclair.com.au
Asst Pastor: Fr Peter Tangey, OSA **P** 02 9670 8222 **E** ptangey@holyspiritstclair.com.au
Asst Pastor: Fr Joseph Aresseril Jacob “Saju” **P** 02 9670 8222 **E** saju@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: Jamie Dowsett, Gus Morgan, Michael Paulo, Carol Vella, Andrea Bouche, Seaview Kama, Eleanor Stuart (BASIC GIFT Youth Representative)
Fr Dave Austin OSA, Fr Peter Tangey OSA, Fr Saju 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
Celebrate a loved one's life

**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

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LAWYERS

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

- Property Law Family Law Business Law
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Our parish is grateful for your continued support. Thank you!

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. 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. Thank you so much for your support of our parish!