

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

8 September 2024

First Reading

Isaiah 35:4-7

God comes with vindication.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 145:7-10. R. v.1

Praise the Lord, my soul!

Second Reading

James 2:1-5

Do not judge by appearance.

Gospel Acclamation

cf Matthew 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom

and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 7:31-37

LITURGY TIMES

Saturday

Reconciliation, 5-5:45pm Vigil Mass, 6pm

Sunday

Mass, 8am, 9.30am and 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)

Filipino Mass

1st Sunday of the month at 11.30 am

Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Anointing of the Sick by appointment Safeguarding for All! - 'Every Conversation Matters!'



Dear Friends,

In a recent conversation with parishioners about St Augustine's view of the Church, we noted around 24 diverse titles for the Church over the years - each reflecting a different knowledge, and build the brains and dimension of the Church. Underpinning them all is the profound reality of young people, according to Safeguardthe Body of Christ, the mystical union between 'head and members', Christ Joseph, Jane Lace who comments: and ourselves - truly part of each other. Reference was made to the way Christ affirms our love of neighbour and identifies with every person, so clear in Matthew 25 - 'As long as you did this to the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me!'

Each of us may have our favourite image of the Church which expresses both the diversity among us and our unity with one another. Together as Church we share the sadness of the scandal of sexual abuse. Since has marked 1990. country our National Child Protection Week as a way of addressing these issues and offering support to victims. Extensive work has been undertaken in society and the Church to develop formal, progoodness. fessional standards protocols that recommon sense in everyday ministry.

Today is *Safeguarding Sunday* in the Church and we pause to reflect delicate challenge today. and pray and support each other,

especially victims. The theme matters' conversation 'Every reminds us that creating space for conversations can help us understand issues, craft solutions, value community social connections of children and ing Coordinator of the Sisters of St

> Conversations between... children and their caregivers matter (from the very earliest days) children and their peers matter families with teachers, doctors, and other professionals matter friends or neighbours matter decision-makers and the communities they serve matter.

Frank conversations often break open difficult and unexpected topics which allow children to speak about their experiences, those that build up and those that confront, including those crucial to their safety and growth towards maturity and

The very least any of us can flect Gospel values of justice, love and expect is to be able to find a home in Christ's Church and the healing we may need – certainly an ongoing and

The Holy Spirit Parish pays respect to the Daruq 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://holvspiritstclair.com.au/mass-prayer-requests/

SICK:

Ray Yates, Louise Bucholtz, Robert Bucholtz, Michael Hay, Joel Dizon, Andrew Boulos, Linda Allen, Fe Uy, Leitu Saena, Giulia & Joseph Caruana, Hayden Young, Dot & Joe Gray, Emilia Rose Moya, Angela Cook, Alice Grech, Bella Tassone, Ramon Rivera, Bill Lynch, John Warne, Salvador Espadilla, Jacinta Luisa Ortiz, Monique Brooker, Jhonny Armas GK Chai, Juileene McNally, Judy Younes Scott, Joseph Valladores, Stephen Johns, David Harding, John Cassar, Monique Brooker, Jhonny Armas

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Alfredo Jariol, Leticia Canlas, Maureen Boyd, Andy Mendez, Rachael Rahera Reti-Tupene, Artemio C. Arugay, Clare Almaida, Joseph Chepot Siazon, Jun Domingo,

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:

Antonia Santiago, Domingo Santiago, Angelito Santiago, Angel Santiago, Jacinta Perez Selvare, Elinor Ortiz, Ernedo Ortiz Sr., Clarefina Necitas Mandar, Matiasa & Gil Cusay, Wilfredo Gapas, Geraldine Jansen, Malcom Howse, Raymond Beed, Angela Kinny, Pat McAuley, Jose Gacis, Sixta Santos, Carmelo & Mary Avellino, Margarita M. Are, Luz Basco Molina, Mara Adriana Decena, Pearl Francis, Evo Rusa & Matchun Marijanovic, Michael Cook, Nicanor Pazcoguin, Jun Marcelo, Max & Pamela Gonsalvez, Joseph Bonanno, Roxanne & Renato Gurcon, Hortense Irene Fernandez, K.J. Thomas, Peter Sultana, Elena Javier, Glenn Root, Manuel De Jesus Sr., Julie Sequeira, Donna Bouche, Paulina Ocampo, Michael Rodrigues, Sebastian Pereira

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



Life can be challenging and frightening. Sometimes, it really hurts to be a human being. We face brokenness of all kinds: physical, emotional, and spiritual. For no apparent reason, life can quickly fall apart. What we knew to be familiar is gone and something we relied upon is taken away. We are left sitting with our incompleteness and swimming in the pools of our sadness. Be strong! Fear not! These admonitions flow from the mouths of prophets and are echoed by Jesus. It is difficult to trust that restoration, healing, and rejuvenation will one day come, and remain steadfast in our faith. But we are here because of a God who loves us, not as the result of a random occurrence. When we reach for that truth about who we are and who God is, life changes for us. We are healed from our old distorted way of seeing things. Our eyes, heart, and soul are opened to the beauty and magnificence of life. The pulse of our loving Creator is felt in all things and we can't wait for God to come and touch us again. God made us, God loves us, and God keeps us. He has done all things well

REFLECT FIRST READING The prophet Isaiah spoke of the importance of being strong of heart when it comes the ways of God. Why do you think this is such an important virtue?

SECOND READING James encouraged believers to view the rich and poor from God's perspective. Why do you think people struggle with this divine point of view?

GOSPEL READING In today's reading, we hear how Jesus healed the deaf man with a speech impediment at the request of the "people" close to this man. Who do you know in your life who needs healing from Jesus?

BAPTISMS BAPTISM Preparation Meeting

Parents wishing to have their child baptized are asked to contact the Parish Office prior to attending a preparation evening. Next Baptism Preparation session is on **Tue 10**th **Sept** 7.00pm. Presenter will be Michael Zammit.



WEEKLY JUSTICE CHALLENGES

On September 8th, we celebrate Grandparents' Day. This is an opportunity to look at how we treat all of the elders in our communities, including but not limited to those in our own families. Your challenge this week is two-fold: do something special for the grandparents in your own family; but also identify an older person or couple in your community who suffer injustice in some way. It might be the injustice of loneliness, in which case a visit and a conversation would be great. It might be poverty; bringing a food basket or household supplies would be appropriate. Once your family identifies the elder in need, brainstorm the best way to help which also gives dignity and honor. No matter what you choose to do, find a way to let the elder share a life story or some wisdom with you from the perspective of many, many years of living. And don't forget to thank them for the gift of their wisdom.

THE SUNDAY FLOCK







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"Say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not! Here is your God... he comes to save you."

Sheepish Question:

What is my part in the work of God's grace?

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



Parish Multicultural Mass

Sunday, 29 September, 9:30 AM, followed by special morning tea

Please bring a plate to share and wear your cultural attire. All are welcome.

At the start of the mass, there will be a procession of National Flags to ensure that every ethnic and cultural group in the parish is acknowledged in the celebration. If you wish your country of origin to be represented in the procession of flags, please sign up on the Registration Sheet located in the foyer, and we will send you the quidelines.

Alternatively, you may contact the parish office on or before 23rd September.

Thank you to Fred and Carol for the new platform / step on the church lectern.



HELP CHILDREN IN SRI LANKA

Sri Lanka is in crisis. Soaring prices are making essential supplies beyond reach for many families. Help disadvantaged families provide school supplies for their children.

WE ARE ACCEPTING ONLY NEW SCHOOL SUPPLIES DONA-TIONS:

Exercise books – min page is 96 pages A4 or 120 page Lead pencils with rubber HB Blue and black ball point pens Colour pencils (standard full-length size 12 or 18 pack) Ruler small Eraser

Drop your donations until Sunday, 15 September 2024.

Available in the foyer CatholicOutlook

The 2024 Season of Creation | Spring 2024
edition of the Catholic Outlook Magazine





Pencil cases

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Holy Spirit Parish 2024 Marian Fiesta

09 October Marian Talk By Fr Percival Sevare OSA 10 October Start of Novena 19 October Fiesta

DINNER AND RAFFLE TICKETS NOW ON SALE

available at the Piety Stall and in the Church Foyer

Dinner Tickets:

- \$10 each for ages
 13 and up (including drinks)
- \$5 each for ages
 6-12 (including drinks)
- Free for ages 0-5

Raffle Tickets:

\$5 for 3 or \$2 each One Book for \$200

Prizes:

First Prize: \$500 Second Prize: \$300 Third Prize: \$200

and lots of consolation prizes!!!

Thank you for your generous support.



Diocesan Season of Creation Gathering: 14 September

You are invited to a Diocesan Season of Creation gathering on Saturday 14 September from 10am to 4om at Winbourne Retreat Centre, Mulgoa. This event is part of Catholic Earthcare's national Season of Creation Convocation from 12-14 September. Cost is \$50 for the Diocesan gathering only, or \$100 for the full Convocation (with days 1 and 2 online). For program details, please visit tinyurl.com/soc-gathering24. Register for the Convocation by 10 September at caritas.org.au/soc-convocation.

MET FaithLIFE Spirituality Short Course: Starting 17 September



Searching for a deeper understanding of spirituality? Hoping to find renewed ways of expressing your faith? Wanting to further discern God's call in your life? Sign up now for the 3-session FaithLIFE Spirituality short course with spiritual director Jeff Hood on Tuesdays 17 SEP + 24 SEP + 1 OCT! Registration and more dates and details via QR or get in touch with the team via met@parracatholic.org

MET Worship Children's Liturgy Workshop: 19 September

Children's liturgy team members are invited to attend a workshop with an outline of the Diocesan Guidelines and a Children's Liturgy Q&A session with the Diocesan Liturgy Educator, Sr Mary-Louise Walsh. This will be held on Thursday 19 September from 7pm – 8:30pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre in Blacktown. To register or for more information, please email Lucy on lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org or use this link:

https://parracatholic.org/events/met-childrens-liturgy-workshop-19-sept/

Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities

The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Training will be held on Saturday 28 September at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, St Marys for Modules 1-3. More training opportunities will be available throughout September and October. Please register directly for this training or for other convenient dates and locations by clicking on the training event at:

https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training.
For more information, please email: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

AUGUSTINIAN SPIRITUALITY



"Take care of your body as if you were going to live forever; and take care of your soul as if you were going to die tomorrow." - St Augustine

JUNIOR WORDSEARCH

Love one another as I have

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TRY TO FIND THESE WORDS: Complete disciples

Father

friends

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CREATION CARE TIPS

Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him?" —James 2:5. Pope Francis points out repeatedly in his encyclical *Laudato Si'* that environmental degradation affects the poor and vulnerable the most. What can you do this week to offer special protection or care to the poor who are suffering from extreme weather events or other environmental impacts (lack of clean drinking water, crowded and unsanitary living conditions, etc.)?





WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

Question:

As we celebrate Labor Day, can you tell me about Catholic teaching regarding labor?

Answer:

One of the most important principles of Catholic social teaching is the dignity of work and the rights of workers. Four encyclicals address this foundational social teaching: Rerum Novarum (1891) by Leo XIII, Quadragesimo Anno (1931) by Pius XI, Laborem Exercens (1981), and Centesimus Annus (1991) by John Paul II. They address both the theology and dignity of work. In Genesis, God takes the initiative in creating the world, calling forth human beings to be faithful stewards of creation. We are thus formed to share in God's continuing creative activity by partnering with God in finishing the world and helping bring it to completion and fulfillment. From this perspective, work can be spiritually understood in terms of sharing in God's ongoing activity to build, create, and transform the world. Human beings are co-creators with God. This vocation demands self-discipline. Besides an exercise in self-discipline, work is also the means by which we develop and fulfill ourselves. In work, we shape the world and our environment. Through work, we also shape ourselves. Pope John Paul II summarized this point in Laborem Exercens #6, "the value of work is not primarily the kind of work being done, but the fact that the one who is doing it is a person." Labor Day offers an excellent opportunity to reflect on how we view work in light of our Catholic social teaching.

NEXT WEEKEND (15th September) Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Yr B

1st Reading

Isaiah 50:5-9

The Lord stands with his prophet during opposition. Responsorial Psalm

Ps 114:1-6. 8-9. R. v.9

(R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord,

2nd Reading

James 2:14-18

Faith without action is useless. Gospel Acclamation

Galatians 6:14

Alleluia, alleluia! My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, Alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 8:27-35

A follower of Christ must take up the cross.

Cleaners: Group 3

Banners: Green

14 SEPT, 6PM

Minister at the Altar **Iacob Fonseca**

Eucharistic Ministers

Ianice Salmon Fiona Ferreira Mary Fonseca

Reader 1

Dudley Littlewood

Reader 2

Marinella Licuanan

Commentator

Madeline Mostert

Music

St Joseph's Choir

PowerPoint

Volunteer Needed

Junior Servers Volunteer Needed

Welcomers

Selwyn Oliveira Sonia Oliveira Corinne Cerdor

15 SEPT, 8AM

Minister at the Altar

Gloria Slade **Eucharistic Ministers**

Pat Dowd

Celeste Lapid Elsa Roberto

Reader 1

Sarah Damole

Reader 2 Shirley Croning

Commentator Carol Vella

Music

Victor Brangwin

PowerPoint

Volunteer Needed

Junior Servers Volunteer Needed

Welcomers Sarah Damole Jun Damole

Ramia Morada

15 SEPT, 9.30AM

Minister at the Altar Alice Zafra

Eucharistic Ministers

Michael Paulo Marie Sanosa Nida Hawley

> Reader 1 Ray Zafra

Reader 2 Cathy Allen

Commentator

Tamara Richards

Music

St Augustine's Choir

PowerPoint Ivan Fernandes

Iunior Servers

Volunteer Needed

Welcomers

Joe Duval Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed

15 SEPT, 6PM

Minister at the Altar

Peter Smith

Eucharistic Ministers

Lena Maclean Robert Lees

Romana Cunanan Reader 1

Sheila Francis

Reader 2 Joseph Valladores

Commentator

Romana Cunanan

Music

Esther Rose Choir

PowerPoint

Volunteer Needed

Junior Servers Volunteer Needed

Welcomers

Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF 8th SEPTEMBER

Mon 9 Sept: Monday of the twenty third week in Ordinary Time Year 2 **Tue 10 Sept:** Tuesday of the twenty third week in Ordinary Time Year 2 Wed 11 Sept: Wednesday of the twenty third week in Ordinary Time Year 2 **Thu 12 Sept:** Thursday of the twenty third week in Ordinary Time Year 2 **Fri 13 Sept:** Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop, doctor of the church Time Year 2 Sat 14 Sept: Exultation of the Holy Cross twenty third week in Ordinary Time Year 2

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

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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 Parish Moderator: Fr Percival Sevare, 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 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 Percival Sevare OSA, 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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encourage and remind others to show their support and shop local during these hard times!

Thank you.



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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 r parish. The remaining 30% is to provide for the expenses of our priests and to support the ministry of the Augustinians.

If you encounter any issues signing up please email Mila, ac counts@holyspiritstclair.com.au. Thank you

