



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



Catholic Diocese of Parramatta

#### THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B

## 31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

And when Jesus saw that he answered with understanding, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." - Mk 12:34ab

#### Synodal journey ... continuous process of conversion

Dear Friends,

The 16th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod on Synodality concluded last Sunday, October 27, in Rome. This event marked the end of over three years of listening and dialogue with the People of God, aimed at creating a "synodal Church" that embodies "the Gospel not just through words, but through every action and interaction."

Pope Francis emphasized that listening is essential for fostering harmony within the Church, a vision articulated by the Second Vatican Council. He underscored the Church's role as a peacemaker in a fractured world, stating, "In our time marked by wars, we must be witnesses of peace, even by learning how to live out our differences in conviviality." He encouraged everyone to actively promote peace through listening and reconciliation.

The Pope warned against becoming "dispensers of grace" who limit God's mercy. He echoed the words of mystic Madeleine Delbrêl, who encouraged her readers to avoid rigidity and embrace a faith characterized by openness, joy, and trust in God's mercy:

"Let us live our life, not as a game of chess where everything is calculated, not as a game where everything is difficult, not as a theorem that breaks our minds, but like an endless party where your meeting is renewed, like a ball. like a dance, in the arms of your grace, in the music that fills the universe with love."

The Holy Father chose not to write an Apostolic Exhortation but assured that the Synod Document would be accessible to all, providing guidance for the Church's mission.

He reminded participants that the process of synodality is ongoing, rooted in the Spirit, who unites the Church in its diversity. The synodal journey is "not an endpoint but a continuous process of conversion, driven by the Spirit that unifies the Church across all cultures, challenges, and hopes."

The Holy Father encouraged all Synod participants to carry the gifts of the Spirit into the world as a Church that listens, prays, and acts with humility.

Fr Perci OSA

#### **03 NOVEMBER 2024**

#### 1st Reading

Deuteronomy 6:2-6 Love the Lord with all your heart, soul, and strength.

#### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 17:2-4, 47, 51, R.v.2 I love you Lord, my strength.

#### 2nd Reading

Hebrews 7:23-28 The priesthood of Christ lasts forever.

#### **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

Mark 12:28-34 The wise scribe asks Jesus which is the greatest commandment.

#### MASS & LITURGY TIMES

#### **MASS**

Monday & Wednesday - 7 am Tuesday, Thursday & Friday - 9:05 am Saturday (Vigil) - 6 pm Sunday - 8 am, 9.30 am & 6 pm Public Holiday - 9:05 am

#### RECONCILIATION

Saturday, 5.00 to 5.45pm

#### MASS WITH ANOINTING OF THE SICK

First Friday of the month, 9:05 am

#### **EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

First Friday of the month, 7:30 pm

#### **DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION**

Second Friday of the month, 7:30 pm

#### **CHILDREN'S LITURGY**

First & Third Sunday during school term Vigil Mass on Sat @ 6 pm & Sun Mass @ 9:30 am

#### **FILIPINO MASS**

First Sunday of the month, 11:30 am

Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Anointing of the Sick by appointment

# Welcome

Want to receive the bulletin via e-mail? Email admin@holyspiritstclair.com.au

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)

We're grateful to those who continue to financially support our parish.

**GOD BLESS YOU.** 

#### 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,

#### SICK

Andrew Boulos, Linda Allen, Fe Uy, Leitu Saena, Michael Hay, Hayden Young, Dot & Joe Gray, Emilia Rose Moya, Giulia & Joseph Caruana, Joel Dizon, Angela Cook, Bella Tassone, Ramon Rivera, Stephen Johns, Alice Grech, Bill Lynch, John Warne, Salvador Espadilla, Jacinta Luisa Ortiz, Ray Yates, Judy Younes Scott, Robert Bucholtz, Yael De Leon, Jess P., Monique Brooker, Hannah S, Jacqueline Cuschieri, Fr Dave, Teresita Meneses, Bert Galang, Ida Martirez, Anthony Grech, Monica Moana Conroy, Rhodora Balante, John Cassar, Beatrice Gonsalvez, Samara, Nympha Miller, Kim Hak-Doo. Ian Llewelyn

#### **RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Fanaral Man Barbara, Elizabeth Vella, Flory Pinto, Remedios Feliciano Catral, Slaiman Herro, Dean Shahoud, Felicisima Teodoro, Francisco Lozada, Rosita Warwick, Gennaro Marinelli, Frank Aoude, Connie Farrugia, Patrick Nathaniel, Ely Anobling, Zenaida Tuazon, Ed Alejandro and Zenaida G. Rueda

#### **DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:**

Melville Mendes, Winston Newbond, Jose Antonio Clemente, David Lee Wallace, Alicia Sanchez, Carmelo & Mary Anne Avelino, Rexy Baxter, Wenceslao Montaos, Flaviana Silvestre Pascual, Nazario & Leoncia Cesar, Kyrus Donell Macalalad, Maxie & Pamela Gonsalvez, Zac & Diana Fernandes, Sam Farrugia, Denham De Silva, Encarnacion & Casiano Vidal Angchangco, Maria Norma Vidal, Kyrus Donell Macalalad, Maxie & Pamela Gonzalvez, Sanal Kumar, Zac & Diana Fernandes, John Formosa, Rebecca Herf, Rita Borg, Anastacia Pascual Casal, Lilean Farrugia, Ivan Cukman, Malcolm Howse, Marjorie Johnstone, Frank Grima, Charlie Grima, Tessie Saliba, Caitlyn Galea, Fortunata Lim, Bhey Valladores, Pat Agudo, Andeng Sta. Cruz

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

**Donation by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)** 

Account Name: Holy Spirit Parish St Clair

Bank: CBA

**BSB: 067 950** Account Number: 000 005 78

Please enter your Surname and Initial as a reference

## HEARERS OF THE WORD

So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.

Fr. Kieran O'Mahony OSA - www.tarsus.ie

Lord, inspire me to read your Scriptures and to meditate upon them day and night.

I beg you to give me real understanding of what I read, that I in turn may put its precepts into practice.

Yet, I know that understanding and good intentions are worthless, unless rooted in your graceful love.

So I ask that the words of Scripture may also be not just signs on a page. but channels of grace into my heart. Amen. (Origen, AD c.184-c.254)

#### **GOSPEL: MARK 12:28-34**

One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him, 'Which is the first of all the commandments?' Jesus replied, 'This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.' The scribe said to him, 'Well spoken, Master; what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself, this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice.' Jesus, seeing how wisely he had spoken, said, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' And after that no one dared to question him any more.

#### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

There is a story told about an elderly Cistercian, who on being asked what he believed at that point in his life replied, "I believe more and more in less and less"! It is not as paradoxical as it seems. As we go on, the core dimension of the faith should stand out for us. As Erasmus wrote, the essentials are few but essential.

#### **PRAYER**

God, your love is always there ahead of us, even before we are aware of it. Help us, therefore, to love you by letting you love us first. May we love you in our neighbour in need. Amen.

#### **POINTERS FOR PRAYER**

- 1. Today's gospel brings us right to the heart of what a Christian life involves: love of God and of neighbour. Jesus tells us that having life both now and in the future is the fruit of living in a spirit of love. How have you experienced the power of love given, and received, as a source of life and vitality?
- 2. If you were asked what is most important in life, what would your answer be? Recall the experiences and relationships you have had. Which are the ones that you treasure most? What has particularly enriched your life? How would you encourage another person who asked you how s/he could live a full life?
- Jesus praises the questioner as one who had answered wisely. Recall some of the wise people you have known, people who in their words and actions impressed you with their capacity to see and treasure what is important in life.

#### **PRAYER**

Lord our God, you are the one God and there is no other. Give us grace to hear and heed the great commandment of your kingdom, that we may love you with all our heart and our neighbour as ourselves. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen

## TO ALL OUR 2024 PARISH FIESTA SPONSORS & DONORS THANK YOU SO MUCH

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

## We raised just over \$10K

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.



Augustinian Formation Association AFA End of Year Christmas Dinner at Wakehurst Golf Club, Upper Clontarf St, Seaforth NSW 2092 on Saturday, 23 November, 2024.

This is a fundraising dinner to support our Augustinian seminarians.



SAVE THE DATE

7. 12. 2024

THE ORDINATION TO THE SACRED ORDER OF PRIESTHOOD OF

eph Van In Nguyen, osa

St Kieran's Church, Manly Vale

Remembering Our Departed Loved Ones

Loved Offes

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

You can do it online thru our parish website.

https://holyspiritstclair.com.au/holy-souls-the-november-mass-list/ November Mass Offering envelopes are also available in the church foyer.

#### **PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS**



attend a presentation by **Sr Susan Connelly, SOSJ**, who will speak about this year's Social Justice Statement, **TRUTH and PEACE: A Gospel Word in a Violent World.**Time: 7:30pm, Monday, Nov 4th, Pioneers' Room, Holy Spirit Church, cnr Todd Row and Moore St., St Clair.

Time: 7:30pm, Monday, Nov 4th, Pioneers' Room, Holy Spirit Church, cnr Todd Row and Moore St., St Clair. Sr Susan is very active in speaking out on Social Justice issues and has advocated for the people of Timor Leste over many years and is a very engaging speaker. There will be opportunities for sharing and questions. A light supper will be served.

**The Social Justice Commission** members invite you to

**UNCLAIMED FIESTA PRIZE** 

The third prize of the Fiesta raffle is yet to be claimed. Ticket # Black A26. Please contact the parish office to claim your prize.

**DIVINE MERCY**DEVOTION

FRIDAY, 7.30 PM 08 NOV 2024



#### **Mass of Remembrance**

In Holy Spirit Church, on Wednesday 27th November 2024 at 7:30 pm, we will gather for a "Mass of Remembrance" for all who have lost a family member, relative or close friend during the past two years. The purpose of this Mass is to call to mind the memory of these loved ones and to thank God for the gift they have been to us. It will be a time to sit with your memories and feel the support of our praying community. An initiative of the Spirituality Commission.

#### **Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities**

The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Training will be held on Saturday 9 November at St Margaret Mary's Parish, Merrylands for Modules 4-5. 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

#### MET Annual Bishop Vincent Vatican II Lecture: 20 November

You are invited to Bishop Vincent's annual lecture on Vatican II on Wednesday 20 November, 6:30pm – 8:30pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, 1-5 Marion Street Blacktown, cnr Flushcombe Road. Register for limited seating via https://parracatholic.org/events/vatican-ii-lecture/ for more information contact met@parracatholic.org

#### MET Natural Fertility Billings Ovulation Method Instruction Session: 12 November

The next session in our Natural Family Planning series is the Billings Ovulation Method<sup>®</sup>. Following this instruction, you'll be set up to chart immediately to help you reach your family planning goals. The session will be held on Tuesday 12 November from 7.15pm to 8.15pm via Zoom. To book your place or for further information, please contact Catherine on catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org or call 0400 427 605.

#### Catholic Engaged Encounter Weekend: 9-10 November

How prepared are you for marriage? Engaged Encounter provides you with deeper insights into each other and into married life. We give you a chance to spend time together to strengthen and enrich your relationship. The next Engaged Encounter Weekend will be held on 9-11 November, with future dates in February and May 2025. For further information and to register, visit www.engagedencounter.org.au/

#### Parramatta Street Feast: 13 November

The annual Parramatta Street Feast is on again! Come and share a meal, entertainment and company in a spirit of friendship and solidarity with people on the margins: 13 November 2024, 10:30am – 1:00pm, St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, Parramatta. BE A VOLUNTEER: If you would like to volunteer on the day (eg set-up, ushering, serving food), please fill out this registration form: parracatholic.org/streetfeast

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Diocese of Parramatta Notices: Positions Vacant: More details at: parracatholic.org/about/jobs/

⇒Facilitator, Catholic Youth Parramatta (CYP) – Applications close 11 November

⇒Accountant – Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains.

#### **SOCIAL JUSTICE CHALLENGES**

In Sunday's Gospel, we hear Jesus proclaim the greatest commandment of loving God with our whole beings. But then Jesus adds the second greatest: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." Your challenge this week is to think about how



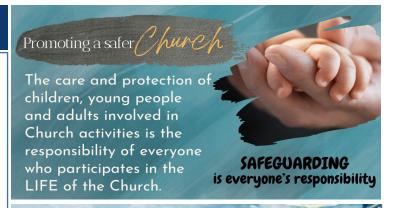
loving God and loving neighbour are inseparable. Then choose one neighbour (near or far) who needs help. It might be spiritual, financial, emotional, physical, or something else. Reach out to this neighbour and offer your assistance. It's a great way to show how much you love God!

#### **CARE FOR CREATION TIPS**

"You shall love your neighbour as yourself." -Mark 12:31

Do you pick up trash around your home? This week, pick up trash and litter whenever you see it around neighbours' homes too—be they near or far neighbours. Maybe some kids littered in your neighbour's front yard and they haven't picked it up yet. Or maybe you're walking on a public beach or riverbank and there's trash washed up from miles away. To be extra saintly, collect neglected dog excrement. Just as you want to live in a clean, sanitary space, help your neighbour to do that too.

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#### **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 12th November** 7.00pm. Presenter will be Germaine Gil.

With joyful hearts, we welcome our newly baptized

Ella Axiak

**Henry Axiak** 



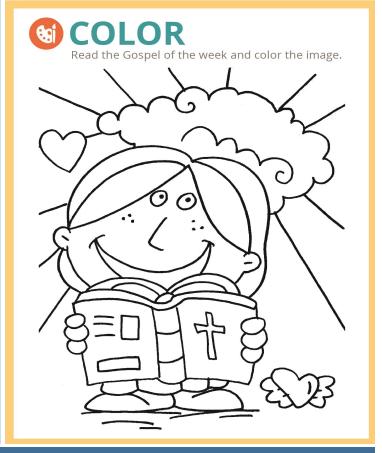
## Catholic Life Explained: WHY DO WE DO THAT? Question:

How can we pray for the dead throughout the year?

#### Answer:

We commemorate the faithful departed on November 2nd each year. However, we can and should continue to pray for the dead. Our growth in Christian perfection takes a long time. At the time of our death, many of us might not be saints yet. But God, in His mercy, allows for those who love Him to experience purification after death. Our word for that state is Purgatory. It's the antechamber of heaven, so to speak. We know we're getting in the house, but we're not quite ready to go all the way in. There's rain to shake off our coats and dirt that's clogging our shoes.

Here on earth, we can pray for the souls in Purgatory. One way is to request that your parish offer a Mass for the intention of a specific loved one. We can also remember the departed in our daily prayers. Just as we have special intentions for family and friends here on earth, we can pray for those who have died. It's also a good act of Christian charity to pray for the forgotten, those who have no one else to pray for them. God knows who they are! ©LPi



#### NEXT WEEKEND (10 November) Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Yr B

1st Reading 1 Kings 17:10-16 Elijah and the widow at Sidon.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 145:7-10. R.v.2 Praise the Lord, my soul!

2nd Reading Hebrews 9:24-28 Christ will appear again to bring salvation.

Gospel Acclamation
Matthew 5:3
Alleluia, alleluia!
Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is
theirs. Alleluia!

Gospel Mark 12:38-44 The widow's mite.

### Cleaners: Group 1

Banners: Green

Ministries	09 Nov, 6 PM	10 Nov, 8 AM	10 Nov, 9.30 AM	10 Nov, 6 PM
Ministry of the Altar	Peter Moriarty	Madeline Mostert	Anthony Bertumen	Edward De Leon
Eucharistic Ministers	Dita Sy Moira Rebello Janice Salmon	Belen Leynes Dawn Timmins Margaret Portelli	Ken Allen Cathy Allen Jenny Kyd	Esther Rose Kate Blasco Robert Lees
Reader 1	Florence Pusey	Sally Banguis	Eileen Baana	Kate Blasco
Reader 2	Hazel Littlewood	Dawn Timmins	Ray Zafra	Candice Salmon
Commentator	Stephen Middleton	Manuel Fidow	Uinise Blake	Marty Facciol
Music	Victor Brangwin	Pierre D'Cunha	Mary Immaculate Choir	Alleluia Choir (Joy Rulewski)
PowerPoint	Volunteer Needed	Christine Younes	Boy Sanosa	Thomas Deepu
Junior Servers	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
Welcomers	Terry Serrao Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed	Sarah Damole Jun Damole Espy Sarno	Sue Oram Jenny Kyd Volunteer Needed	Esther Rose Eleanor Stuart Volunteer Needed

#### **OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF 3 NOVEMBER**

Mon 4 Nov: St Charles Borromeo, bishop

Tue 5 Nov: Bl Mariano de la Mata Aparicio (Augustinian)

Wed 6 Nov: Commemoration

of the Deceased Members of the Augustinian Order

Thu 7 Nov: Bl Gratia of Kotor (Augustinian)

Fri 8 Nov: Bl Avelino Rodriguez Alonso and companions (Augustinians)

Sat 9 Nov: The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

#### 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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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 4pm (Monday to Friday) Emergency after hours only M 0404 938 696 (NEW NUMBER)

Priory 3 Peter Pan Glen, St Clair, NSW, 2759

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", OSA P 02 9670 8222 E saju@holyspiritstclair.com.au

Parish Secretary: P 02 9670 8222 E admin@holyspiritstclair.com.au

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 Council Chair: Dominic Dimech • Secretary: Paola Dicenso

**Members:** Jamie Dowsett, Gus Morgan, Michael Paulo, Carol Vella, Andrea Bouche, Seaview Kama, Eleanor Stuart, 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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WY

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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: 000 005 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!

