

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

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

Under the Pastoral Care of the Augustinians

Catholic Diocese of Parramatta

5th SUNDAY of EASTER, Year C

18th May, 2025

EASTER FAITH – ‘Bishop and Christian – Pope Leo XIV!’

Dear Friends,

As a child growing up, one of the anchors that offered stability and certainty in life was that the teaching of the Church does not change. Popes wrote beautiful encyclicals to assist us appreciate the richness of our Faith, some of them beyond the understanding of the ordinary person. Yet classic teaching like Rerum Novarum (Rights and Duties of Capital and Labor) by Pope Leo XIII in 1891 is a foundational text in Catholic Social Teaching. Pacem in Terris (Peace on Earth) by John XXIII in 1963 emphasized human dignity and equality and the need for world peace.

Our recent Popes have continued to ‘break open’ Church teaching so that it touches the daily lives of people like us and we have come to expect this ‘official nourishment’ of our spirit. Pope Francis was quite unique in this regard, particularly in Evangelii Gaudium (The Joy of the Gospel) in 2013 and Amoris Laetitia (The Joy of Love – Love in the Family) in 2016 which expanded our understanding of our Faith and the Church.

Already Pope Leo XIV has embraced this vision of the Joy of the Gospel, by which we can encourage each other to hear the voice of the Lord and to follow it in the service of the Church as we live out our various vocations. He encourages us: ‘All of us must search together.... We have to know how to listen - not to judge, not to shut doors as if we hold all the truth and no one else has anything to offer.’

In his opening address to those gathered in St Peter’s Square, his Augustinian background was manifest as he quoted St Augustine in Sermon 340: ‘For you I am a bishop, with you I am a Christian!’ – a classic statement that expresses his readiness to serve in his role of bishop as well as his belonging to God’s people and his preparedness to walk with us as members of the Body of Christ - especially true of an Augustinian committed to community, friendship and humility.

Pope Leo has visited Australia on several occasions – in 2002 when he attended the Provincial Chapter in Brisbane, in 2005 when he visited all the Province ministries, including St Clair, and in 2008 for World Youth Day and the Augustinian Youth Encounter at Collaroy where he presided at Eucharist on the beach (see photo below).

How blessed we are in our new Holy Father and our experience of his humility, humour, Gospel joy and compassionate listening.

Fr. Dave



1st Reading

Acts 14:21-27

They assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 144:8-13: R 1

*R I will praise your name for ever,
my king and my God.*

2nd Reading

Revelation 21:1-5

*He will wipe away all the tears
from their eyes.*

Gospel Acclamation

John 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

*I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.
Alleluia!*

Gospel

John 13:31-35

*Jesus issues a new commandment,
love one another.*

MASS & LITURGY TIMES

MASS

Mon & Wed - 7 am

Tues, Thu & Frid - 9:05 am

Sat (Vigil) - 6 pm

Sunday - 8 am, 9.30 am & 6 pm

Public Holiday - 9:05 am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday, 5.00 to 5.45pm

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

1st & 3rd 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*

Holy Spirit Parish pays respect to the Darug People, the traditional custodians of the land on which we gather to celebrate our faith in God.

Welcome

Want to receive the bulletin via e-mail?

Email admin@holyspiritstclair.com.au

We are a welcoming parish. No matter your current status in the Catholic Church, family or marital situation, past or present religious affiliation, personal history, age, background, race, color, or sexual orientation—regardless of 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 our community, we encourage you to explore what we have to offer. We serve the community through outreach, education, social activities, sacramental preparation, and providing comfort to the sick and those in mourning. In addition to our spiritual and outreach organizations, you may be interested in joining one of our many liturgical ministries, such as Minister of Holy Communion, Lector, Welcomer, or Choir.

To formally register, please fill out a form that will be entered into our parish data system (all information provided will remain confidential). These forms are available at the parish office or in the church foyer.

To learn more about parish life, you can pick up a copy of our Welcome Newsletter available in the foyer or visit 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 are grateful to those who continue to financially support our Parish.

God bless you!

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, Judy Younes Scott, Robert Bucholtz, Yael De Leon, Ida Martinez, John Cassar, Michael Hay, Monica Conroy, Anthony Grech, Harley Conroy, Ray Weeden, Maribeth Felipe, Daniel Guiraud, Marie, Dwight Quiaoit, Reynalda, Mary Victoria Cemon, Gary Connors, Maribeth Felipe, Jesus Felix Gonong,

RECENTLY DECEASED

Vincent Donnelly, Edward Afeaki, Peter Sebastian, Joyce Verri, Rudy & Bernard Rulach, Grant Kopua, Maran Dhanaraj, Viviane Kaikati, Michael Sabanal, Josefina Marayag, Robie Jayawardena, Jamie Dowsett, Erlinda Lamoridan, Robie Jayawardena,

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

Francisco Cabi-less, Michelle Thomas, Jack Maloney, Betty Gonsalvez, Kenneth D'Cruz, Enid D'Cruz, Mena Valladures, Marjjanovic Malo Anka, Federica Alcantara & Ma. Criselda Franco, Beni Apikatoa, John Hawley, Annette Brackett

Names submitted to Parish for the sick list will show for 4 weeks at a time. Please contact admin if you have an ongoing illness and wish to remain on the sick list for longer than 4 weeks.

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)

"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

GOSPEL: JOHN 13:31-35

When Judas had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. 32 If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. 33 Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' 34 I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

According to the song, "the greatest thing you'll ever learn is to love and be loved in return." In our better moments, we all know this to be the truth about our human being. For believers, it is no surprise that the very thing we need most stands at the centre of the Christian faith: God is love. The match between our need and God's disclosure is perfect. If we took that really to heart, many things would change: our practice of prayer, our relationships, our joy in believing, our way of sharing our faith, our living of discipleship. All we need is love. The astonishing servant love of God in Jesus is exactly we most need.

PRAYER

You are love itself and yet we hesitate. Open our inner selves to your gracious loving, that we may ourselves as beloved and being loved we may learn to love in return. Amen.

POINTERS FOR PRAYER

1. Judas leaves and Jesus announces that the moment has come for God's power to be made manifest. This is unexpected at a moment of imminent betrayal. Have there been times for you when the power of God was made manifest in strange circumstances?
1. 'I shall not be with you much longer.' Jesus announces a parting of the ways. There are places we have to go in life where others cannot come with us. There are places others have to go and we cannot accompany them. When have you experienced this going on alone as necessary for a fuller life for yourself, or for someone else?
2. Jesus proclaims love as the distinguishing characteristic of his followers. Have there been times when reaching out to others has heightened your sense of walking in the footsteps of Jesus?
3. Who are the individuals or communities whose love for one another and for others has been a witness to you?

PRAYER

We behold your glory, in the love shown by your Son, lifted up on the cross and exalted on high. Increase our love for one another, that both in name and in truth we may be disciples of the risen Lord Jesus and so reflect in our lives the glory that is yours. We ask this through Christ, the firstborn from the dead, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

Wedding Anniversary Mass 25 May 2025, 9.30AM MASS

Couples celebrating their Wedding Anniversary in the month of May are most welcome to attend and receive a special blessing. Morning Tea available after Mass. All is welcome to bring a plate to share.

We're ENROLLING NOW for 2026!

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JOIN OUR COMMUNITY!**
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your interest

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Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv DD STL

Bishop of Parramatta

Bethany Centre, 470 Church St, Parramatta NSW 2150, Australia

PO Box 3066, North Parramatta, NSW 1750

☎ 02 9838 3400 📠 02 9630 4813

✉ bishop@parracatholic.org

🌐 parracatholic.org

Dear Sisters and Brothers of the Diocese of Parramatta,

14 May 2025

I am writing to you all to let you know that I have convened a conference to be held for all our clergy (both priests and deacons) on the Central Coast commencing on the evening of Tuesday 20 May 2025 and concluding on Friday 23 May 2025 in the morning.

The last time that the clergy of the Diocese held a residential conference was in May 2016 before I was installed as the 4th Bishop of Parramatta. Thus, it has almost been ten years since the clergy have had an opportunity to be together for any meaningful time.

Much has happened since I came to the Diocese, not least being our Diocesan Synod and our new Pastoral Plan that emerged from the Synod. The clergy of the Diocese need time to be together to assist the building up of their fraternal relationships, and for some much-needed input on topics that are very relevant to parish clergy ministering in the context of our current world.

That means that for three days the normal liturgical schedules in our parishes will be disrupted. However, with the assistance of some retired priests and some priests from religious congregations Mass will be available at six major churches in the Diocese for those who wish to attend daily Mass from Wed 21 May – 23 May 2025.

- St Nicholas of Myra Penrith on Wednesday 21 May to Friday 23 May at 9:30am.
- St Patrick's Blacktown on Wednesday 21 May to Friday 23 May at 9:00am.
- Our Lady Queen of Peace Greystanes on Wednesday 21 May to Friday 23 May at 9:15am.
- St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta on Wednesday 21 May to Friday 23 May at 12:30pm.
- St Michael's Baulkham Hills on Wednesday 21 May to Friday 23 May at 9:15am.
- St Thomas Aquinas Springwood on Wednesday 21 May to Friday 23 May at 9:30am.

I would encourage those who normally attend daily Mass and cannot access one of the proposed centres where Mass will be celebrated to still gather in the parish church and pray especially for the clergy of the Diocese during their time away.

Yours Sincerely in Christ

Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv STL DD
Bishop of Parramatta

COMMUNION SERVICE IN THE PARISH ON 21-23 MAY

In reference to Bishop Vincent's letter, our parish will hold a **Communion Service** in place of the daily Mass from Wednesday to Friday next week. The schedule is as follows:
Wednesday, May 21 @ 7:00 AM Thursday, May 22 @ 9:05 AM ; and Friday, May 23 @ 9:05 AM

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Parish Pilgrimage to Mount Schoenstatt

Join us on our Parish Pilgrimage
31st May 2025

Itinerary for the day:

- 9:00 am Assembly in Holy Spirit Church for the Pilgrimage Opening Prayer
- 9:15 am Departure from Holy Spirit Church 10:15 Assembly in the Pilgrim Centre at Mount Schoenstatt
- 10:45 Jubilee Prayers in the Shrine
- 11 am Holy Mass in the Shrine
- Fellowship following mass. Please bring finger foods.

Kindly register your name on the registration sheet located in the foyer.

Address: 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa

If you can take someone with you in your car to the Shrine, please contact Ivan: 0410 865 170 or Savio: 0437 279 548

PARISH FEAST DAY



Pentecost Sunday

8th June 2025

Join us for a celebration
after the **9:30 am Mass.**

Share the Spirit. Wear something Red

We also encourage everyone
to wear a nametag on the day.

*You may donate towards the sausage
sizzle and drinks, or bring a dish
to share on the day.*



Contact Trina 0411344613



*Celebrating
the wonderful life of
Jamie Christopher
Dowsett
28 Oct '89—9 May '25*

Monday, 19th May 2025

11:00 am Viewing

11.30 am Mass of Thanksgiving

1:00 pm Rite of Burial

Pinegrove Memorial Park
Minchinbury (Olive Grove Garden)

2:00 pm Lunch—Holy Spirit Parish St Clair

PENTECOST CELEBRATION Dancing in the SPIRIT

We are inviting Primary School Kids to join us
in a liturgical dance to celebrate Pentecost

Practice Details

When – Thursday 29th May and 5th June

Where - Holy Spirit Parish

Time - 4:30 – 5:15pm

Dance Details

Outfit Theme: Red

Mass Time: June 8th 9:30am

Contact Details

Karen: 0423974801 or Trina 0411344613

Combined Gathering for Ministers of the Altar and Eucharistic Ministers // Tuesday, 27th May @ 7 PM



"Christ rose again in the flesh and Peter rose in the spirit because, when Christ died in his passion, Peter died by his denial. Christ the Lord was raised from the dead and out of his love he raised Peter. He questioned him about the love he was confessing and entrusted him with his sheep. After all, what benefit could Peter confer on Christ by the mere fact of his loving Christ? If Christ loves you, it is to your advantage, not Christ's. And if you love Christ, it is to your advantage, not Christ's."

St. Augustine Sermon 229n

NEXT WEEKEND: SIXTH SUNDAY of EASTER, YEAR C

Ministries	24 May, 6 PM	25 May, 8 AM	25 May, 9.30 AM	25 May, 6 PM
Ministry of the Altar	Hieu Le	Carol Vella	Alice Zafra	Hieu Le
Eucharistic Ministers	Lea Jadraque Margaret Portelli Volunteer Needed	Gloria Slade Fiona Ferreira Christine Younes	Nilo Gajo Marthese Grima Anabel Jader	Lumen Decena Peter Smith Robert Lees
Reader 1	Madeline Mostert	Louise Bucholtz	Tina Fernandes	Candice Salmon
Reader 2	Romeo Prieto	Millie Perez	Michael Paulo	Marty Facciol
Commentator	Marinella Licuanan	Volunteer Needed	Carmen Marcelo	Robert Lees
Music	Couples for Christ	Fides et Spes Choir	Daily Bread Choir	BASIC GIFT
PowerPoint	Volunteer Needed	Manuel fidow	Volunteer Needed	BASIC GIFT
Junior Servers				
Welcomers	Terry Serrao Sarah Damole Jun Damole	Espy Sarno Remy Morada Dorotea Seed	Zenith Bulaong Maria Bulaong Volunteer Needed	Marthese Grima Corinne Cerdow Esther Rose Eleanor Stuart

Vinnies Winter Appeal 2025 :Support Our Community 24-25 May 2025



Each night, over 100,000 Australians experience homelessness. As the winter chill sets in, warm donations can make a meaningful difference in the lives of those doing it tough. Items like beanies, scarves, gloves, and blankets can help keep individuals and families warm and cared for this winter.

Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal 24-25 May 2025



Funds raised through this Appeal will help support our Holy Spirit seminarians as they prepare for their calling to the priesthood.



Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



**NEXT WEEKEND: SIXTH
SUNDAY of EASTER, YEAR C**

1st Reading

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29

It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and ourselves not to burden you beyond what is essential.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 66.2-3, 5-6: R 8

R O God, let all the nations praise you!

2nd Reading

Rev 21:10-14, 22-23

He showed me the holy city coming down out of heaven.

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 14:23-29

The Holy Spirit will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you.

Cleaners: Group 4
Banners: WHITE

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF THE 18TH OF MAY

Mon 19th May:	Monday of the 5th week of Easter
Tues 20th May:	Tuesday of the 5th week of Easter St Bernardine of Siena, priest
Wed 21st May:	Wednesday of the 5th week of Easter St Christopher Magallanes, priest, and companions, martyrs
Thu 22nd May:	Thursday of the 5th week of Easter; St Rita of Cascia, religious
Fri 22nd May:	Friday of the 5th week of Easter
Sat 17th May:	Saturday of the 5th week of Easter; Our Lady Help of Christians

SAFEGUARDING is everyone's responsibility

**Commitment to the Safety
of Children and Young People**



Holy Spirit Parish, St Clair

is committed to celebrating and safeguarding the involvement of young people in our communities. We believe that young individuals are valuable members of our church family, and their voices, ideas, and contributions are essential.

**PARKING CONCERNS
FROM NEIGHBOURS**

Please be considerate of our neighbours when parking during church events, including Mass. Make sure to avoid parking across their driveways.

BAPTISM



BAPTISM PREPARATION MEETING

Parents wishing to have their child baptised are asked to contact the Parish Office prior to attending a preparation evening. Next Baptism Preparation session is on **June 10th at 7.00pm**.
Presenter is Seaview Kama.

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 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 Severe, 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
Admin Assistant: Joyce McMann (Tuesday, Wednesday) **P** 02 9670 8222 **E** admin@holyspiritstclair.com.au
Admin Assistant: Sonia Sultana (Thursday, Friday) **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:** Seaview Kama • **Vice Chair:** Peter Moriarty • **Secretary:** Dominic Dimech
Members: Michael Paulo, Andrea Bouche, Trina Esguerra Cruz, Corinne Brooker, Deepu Thomas, Aaron Smith, Fr Percival Severe 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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"I am a son of Saint Augustine, an Augustinian, who said, 'For you I am a bishop, with you, I am a Christian.' In this sense we can all walk together toward that homeland that God has prepared."

**Our parish is grateful for your continued support.
Please consider Online Giving**

Support the Parish by signing up for online donations. Setting up a one-time or recurring contribution is quick and easy at <https://holyspiritstclair.com.au/donations/>. You can also donate via bank transfer:

Account Name:

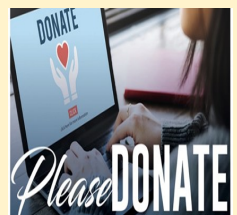
Holy Spirit Parish St Clair

Bank: CBA

BSB: 067 950

Account Number: 000 005 78

70% of the collection covers parish running costs, while 30% supports our priests and the Augustinians' ministry. For assistance, email Mila @ accounts@holyspiritstclair.com.au.
Thank you for your support!



Under the Pastoral Care of the Augustinians since 1995