



HOLY FAMILY PARISH, MT DRUITT

Under the care of the Australian Jesuit Province

252 -254 Luxford Road, Emerton NSW 2770

PARISH VISION: *Holy Family Mt Druitt is a welcoming community: on a journey towards a personal encounter with Jesus; called to unity and celebrating our diversity; living and sharing the joy of the Gospel.*

We acknowledge the Darug people, the traditional custodians on whose land this Church was built.



2026/ Issue No. 5 / 1st February 2026

Parish Office:

Located in the Holy Family Centre
(via 11 Emert Pde, Emerton NSW 2770)
Postal Address:
PO Box 86, Mt Druitt NSW 2770
Ph: (02) 9628 7272 OR 0497 966 277

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 9.00am - 4.30pm
Friday: 9.00am - 3.30pm

Find us on 

Holy Family Parish, Mt Druitt
<https://fb.me/HFPMtDruitt>

Or visit our website:

www.holyfamily.org.au

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest: Fr Nguyen Van Cao SJ
cao@holyfamily.org.au

Assistant Priest: Fr Renato Zecchin SJ
renato@holyfamily.org.au

Pastoral Associate: Sr Carlene Allen
carlene@holyfamily.org.au

Site Manager: Ray Donaldson
ray@holyfamily.org.au

Parish Secretary: Malia Lolesio
enquiry@holyfamily.org.au

Book-Keeper: Malinda Toms
accounts@holyfamily.org.au

Music Director: Etuate 'Eddie' Paunga
kosilio_lole@hotmail.com

**Parish Pastoral Council
Chairperson & Children's Liturgy**

Coordinator: Marissa Logronio
logroniom23@gmail.com

Sacramental Coordinator:
Lorraine Gordon

SRE Co-ordinators:
Maureen Freeburn & Lorraine Gordon

Finance Committee Chairperson:
Kevin Johnson

Holy Family Young Adult Leaders:
Monica Vave, Fololina Mafi, Burt Tukala
hfytmtdruitt@gmail.com

Mass Times at Holy Family, Emerton

WEEKDAY:

Monday, Friday & Saturday
9.00am
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday:
6.00pm

WEEKEND:

Saturday Vigil: 5.30pm
Sunday: 9.00am & 10.30am

Mass at Willmot: Sunday 7.30am

Mass and Anointing

2nd Saturday of every month:
9.00am

Holy Hour - Emerton

Wednesday: 5.30pm - 6.00pm
Saturdays from 9.30am - 10.30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays: 9.30am - 10.00am
OR by appointment.

Reflection from Fr Renato for the

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time in Year A

"Happy the poor in spirit. Theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven."

Today we begin the Sermon on the Mount. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus is presented as the new Moses. It is a collection of sayings and teachings focusing on the personal qualities expected of a disciple of Jesus — us, me. Jesus is the perfect embodiment of the Beatitude qualities. Jesus stands for the values of the Gospel, the Beatitudes, the Sermon on the Mount. He embodies them. He is them. He calls us to simplicity, poverty of spirit, selflessness, compassion, cooperation, concern for others, community, inclusion, and solidarity with the poor.

Jesus teaches on a mountain. Mountains are traditionally seen as holy places where God is specially present. Jesus sat down — a position of authority. For example, when the Pope speaks officially, he does so ex cathedra, sitting on his chair or throne. His audience consists of the Twelve, his other disciples, and all those who wish to hear what he says.

Just as the Ten Commandments are the core of the Jewish way of life and a law to follow, so the Beatitudes are the core of the Christian way of life. Yet they are often not understood as such. In many ways, they are largely ignored as guides to Christian living, and many Christians still regard the Ten Commandments as their primary life guide. We need to ask ourselves: what have I chosen as my life guide — the Ten Commandments, or the personal qualities of Jesus? His Beatitudes — nine blessings for those who live righteously — begin with "Blessed are the poor in spirit," and include the meek, the merciful, those who mourn, the pure in heart, and peacemakers, culminating in blessings for those persecuted for righteousness, promising them the Kingdom of Heaven and a great reward in heaven.

Strictly speaking, the Beatitudes are not commandments. They are not so much things to be done or rules to be kept, as deep-down attitudes of the mind. In fact, their observance is only possible with a deep love of God and of other people. What we need to understand is this: everything is a gift from God. This is the fundamental truth of our existence. All created things are "presented to us so that we can know God more easily and make a return of love more readily." The Beatitudes are created things. They can never be kept fully — they are goals that are always calling us further. They are a choice. We choose to be meek (gentle and kindly), merciful, pure in heart (the person who sees things with a totally unprejudiced eye, with no distortion whatever), peacemakers (those who are active agents of unity and reconciliation wherever they are).

Each Beatitude begins with the word "Blessed." "Blessed" is a translation of the Greek makarios and the Latin felix.

The meaning of these words is a combination of happiness and good fortune. So we could translate either as "Happy are those..." or "Fortunate are those...". "Blessed," used in that sense, is also a good rendering.

The Beatitudes must be understood in the context of the Kingdom. The Kingdom is not a place. It is that complex of relationships that exists between God and those who have totally accepted him as the Lord and guide of their lives, and who share God's vision of what life is about.

So, in the Kingdom, it is not the rich, the successful, and the powerful who are really happy and fortunate, but the meek and the lowly. Clearly, that is not the conventional way of thinking for many in our world. That is why entry into the Kingdom requires metanoia — a radical change in the way we see life and its values. This point is made forcefully by Paul in today's Second Reading:

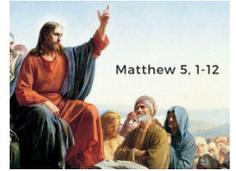
*God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise;
God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong;
God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not,
to reduce to nothing things that are,
so that no one might boast in the presence of God.
Amen.*

SCRIPTURE READINGS - YEAR A

utter mercy children come
 kindness prophets people evil persecuted
 mousness called himse comforted mock
 m
 day mouth taught scene persecute disciples falsely accuse
 merciful

Blessed 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

LET US HEAR AND RECEIVE THE WORD OF GOD

**Collect:**

Grant us, Lord our God, that we may honour you with all our mind, and love everyone in truth of heart. 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.

First Reading: Zephaniah 2: 3; 3: 12-13

Seek the Lord, all you humble of the land, who do his commands; seek righteousness, seek humility; perhaps you may be hidden on the day of the Lord's wrath.

For I will leave in the midst of you a people humble and lowly. They shall seek refuge in the name of the Lord- the remnant of Israel; they shall do no wrong and utter no lies, nor shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouths. Then they will pasture and lie down, and no one shall make them afraid.

Responsorial Psalm - Ps 145 (146): 7-10

R. Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

It is the Lord who keeps faith forever,
 who executes justice for the oppressed;
 who gives food to the hungry.
 The Lord sets the prisoners free. R.

The Lord opens the eyes of the blind
 and lifts up those who are bowed down;
 the Lord loves the righteous
 and watches over the strangers. R.

The Lord upholds the orphan and the widow,
 but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.
 The Lord will reign forever,
 your God, O Zion, for all generations. R.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1: 26-31

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the Gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom so that the Cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. For the message about the Cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad; your reward will be great in heaven.
 Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 5: 1-12

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. God is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Prayer After Communion:

Nourished by these redeeming gifts, we pray, O Lord, that through this help to eternal salvation true faith may ever increase. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord keeps faith forever,
 secures justice for the oppressed,
 gives food to the hungry.

PSALM 146:6-7



young-catholics.com

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY 2026

For children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope. Amen.

**WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS**

LIST OF THE SICK: Richard Ward, Marie Purcell, Soane Quensell, Pam Picart-Manalac, Katea Vave, Vivian Masters, Makasini Vave, Fifita Sitani, Loretta Josephine Seupule, Leue Dunlop, Lino Dunlop, Cheryl Barrell, Lisimoa Hufanga, Jenny Gillman, Chris Wilson, Norah Gibson, Sabrina Ellingsworth, Jean Mari Frederic, Brian Russel, Toss Van den Berg, Pat Phelan, John Murray, Lemisio Fa'ulua, Lourdes Bustamante, Pippa O'Neal, Mathew Sieders, Jose Manalo, Fely Dela Paz Manalo, Maria Barbara, Sylvia Greene, Mayda Attachian, Faye Iffland, Tim Meagher, Emma Lawrence, Maria Llave, Maria Belisario, Fara Vargas, Fe Llave, Stella Edwards, Boyet Llave.

RECENT ANNIVERSARIES: Maria Exposto.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Readings for Sunday 8th February 2026: 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Year A

\\ 1st Reading: Isaiah 58: 7-10 // \\ 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 2: 1-5 // \\ Gospel: Matthew 5: 13-16 //

Ash
 Wednesday

Wednesday 18th February

Mass Times:

8.00am & 6.00pm



DIRECT PARISH DONATIONS

Online contributions for the **Priests of the Diocese**
(1st collection)

Acc Name: Parramatta Diocesan Clergy

BSB: 067 950 Acc No: 004265

Make sure to Reference: 6024 and Your Name

Online contributions for **Parish Expenses** (2nd collection)

Acc Name: Mount Druitt Catholic Church

BSB: 067 950 Acc No: 0000 0446

**Reference: Your 'Planned Giving Number' OR Your Full Name
OR**

For over the counter deposits:

**Acc Name: Diocesan Development Fund Mt Druitt Catholic
Church**

BSB: 062 315 Acc No: 0090 1486 Agent No: 935

Reference: Your Name + Appeal

If you would like a tax deductible receipt for your Planned Giving envelopes OR specific donation, please contact the parish office.

PARISH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our parish is seeking volunteers to assist in the following ministries:

- **Sacramental Team** - supporting children and families preparing for the Sacraments
- **Parish Office (Administration)** - assisting with reception, filing, and general admin tasks
- **St Vincent de Paul - Emerton Conference** - serving those in need within our local community
- **SRE Catechists** - sharing faith with children in local public schools
- **Church Cleaning** - helping care for our worship space
- **Liturgical Ministers** - particularly AV operators, assisting with screens and sound during Mass Whether you can offer time weekly, monthly, or occasionally, your help makes a meaningful difference in the life of our parish.

Training and support are provided where required. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the parish office.

*"Each of you has been blessed with one of God's many wonderful gifts—use it in the service of others."
(1 Peter 4:10)*

Invitation to Serve at the Altar

We warmly invite young people aged 8 years and over to consider serving God and our community as altar servers.

This is a beautiful opportunity to grow in faith, confidence and participation in the life of the Church.

If you or your child are interested, please speak with Fr Renato or contact the parish office for further information.



WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

Sunday February 1

Monday February 2

- AA mtg, 7pm (MMR)

Tuesday February 3

- Staff Meeting, 3pm-5pm (SICR)
- NA mtg, 6.30pm-8pm (MMR)

Wednesday February 4

- Christian Meditation, 6.30pm-7.30pm (MMR)

Thursday February 5

- Parish Choir, 7pm-9pm (Church)

Friday February 6

- Christmas Hamper Evaluation mtg, 3.30pm (SICR)
- AA mtg, 7pm (MMR)

Saturday February 7

- AA mtg, 7pm (MMR)

Meeting Rooms:

SSR - Schoenstatt Sisters Room;

SICR - St Ignatius Conference Room;

MMR - Mary Mackillop Meeting Room,

HFC - Holy Family Centre

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **Annual Commemoration of the 2008 Apology to the Stolen Generation - Friday 13th February, 5.30pm-8pm (HFC)**
- **Ash Wednesday - 18th February.** Mass at 8am & 6pm
- **Mass for Seniors: - Tuesdays 10th March, 4th August, 10th November, at 11.30am**
- **Lenten Reflection - Wednesday 25th February, 4th March, 6.45pm (chapel)**
- **Lenten Second Rite of Reconciliation - Wednesday 11th March, 6.45pm**
- **Easter Sunday - 5th April**
- **Virtual Marian Pilgrimage - Saturday 2nd May**
- **Reconciliation Walk, Saturday 23rd May**
- **Sacrament of Confirmation, Wednesday 3rd June, 7pm**
- **Matthew Pinson's First Mass Celebration** after Ordination to the Priesthood, **Sunday 9th August 10.30am**
- **Parish Working Bee - Saturday 17th October**
- **Memorial Mass for All Souls' - Saturday 7th November, 3pm at Nth Chapel, Pinegrove Cemetery**
- **Advent Second Rite of Reconciliation - Wednesday 9th December, 6.45pm**
- **Christmas Carols - Saturday 5th December, 7pm-10pm**

Lenten Resources Available

During Lent, we will have resources available to support group/family prayer and reflection as well as individual prayer.

If you are interested, please express your interest at the parish office.

Lenten Reflection Nights

As we journey through Lent, parishioners are warmly invited to gather for evenings of prayer, reflection and quiet sharing. These reflection nights offer an opportunity to deepen our relationship with God and prepare our hearts for Easter.

Wednesday 25 February and Wednesday 4 March, 6:45 pm, in the Chapel, following the 6:00 pm Mass.

ANNUAL COMMEMORATION OF THE
2008
APOLOGY
 TO THE STOLEN GENERATIONS

HOSTED BY
 MOUNT DRUITT AND DISTRICT RECONCILIATION GROUP

Remembering the Stolen Generations as we come together to reflect on our past, honour the voices and experiences of survivors, and consider how truth, understanding, and healing can guide our future.



FREE
COMMUNITY EVENT
 FRIDAY 13TH FEB 2026
 HOLY FAMILY CENTRE
 EMERT PDE, EMERTON
 5:30PM- 8PM



NATIONAL APOLOGY DAY



Diocese of Parramatta Notices

Annual Diocesan Red Mass: 3 February

Fr Robert Riedling, Dean of St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta, cordially invites members of the judiciary and legal community, public service officials, law students and their families to the annual Red Mass. Join us on Tuesday 3 February at 7pm, refreshments will be served following the Mass. Please RSVP by Friday 30 January to enquiry@stpatscathedral.com.au or call (02) 8839 8400.

Rosary Making Workshop: 9 February

Come along for a fun evening of community and crafting rosary beads that will then be donated to the sick and dying in hospitals across our Diocese. The craft evening will be held on Monday 9 February at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. Costs are \$5 per person - payable on arrival (includes all materials).

To register and for more information, please visit parracatholic.org/rosary-workshops

Diocesan World Day of the Sick: 11 February

A Mass for the World Day of the Sick, including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, will be held at 11am on 11 February 2026 at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. All are welcome, including those who may be sick, and those who care for the sick and dying and health care professionals.

To register, please visit parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-world-day-of-the-sick-mass/

OR scan QR code.



Prayer for the New School Year



Loving God,
 as students and teachers return to school this week,
 we place this new year in Your hands.
 Bless our students with curious minds,
 open hearts, and a love of learning.
 Give them courage when lessons are difficult,
 friendship when they feel unsure,
 and joy in discovering their gifts.
 Bless our teachers and school staff.
 Grant them patience, wisdom, and strength,
 that they may teach with compassion,
 guide with integrity,
 and see Christ in every child entrusted to their care.
 May our schools be places of safety, respect, and hope,
 where knowledge grows, faith is nurtured,
 and each person is encouraged to reach their full potential.
 We ask this through Christ our Lord.
 Amen.

**St Josephine Bakhita
 Memorial Mass
 & Community Celebration**

8 FEBRUARY 2026, 12:30 FOR 1PM START

St Patrick's Church, 51-59 Allawah St &
 All Saints of Africa Centre, 63 Allawah St
 Blacktown

Celebrant:
 Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv

DIOCESE of PARRAMATTA

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord - 2 February



On 2 February, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, when Mary and Joseph present the infant Jesus in the Temple. This feast reminds us of Christ as the Light of the Nations and invites us to renew our own offering of faith and service to God. Parishioners are warmly invited to mark this beautiful feast as we continue our journey in Ordinary Time.