



# 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.



## 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](http://www.holyfamily.org.au)

## PARISH TEAM

**Parish Priest:** Fr Nguyen Van Cao SJ

[cao@hollyfamily.org.au](mailto:cao@hollyfamily.org.au)

**Assistant Priest:** Fr Renato Zecchin SJ

[renato@hollyfamily.org.au](mailto:renato@hollyfamily.org.au)

**Pastoral Associate:** Sr Carlene Allen

[carlene@hollyfamily.org.au](mailto:carlene@hollyfamily.org.au)

**Site Manager:** Ray Donaldson

[ray@hollyfamily.org.au](mailto:ray@hollyfamily.org.au)

**Parish Secretary:** Malia Lolesio

[enquiry@hollyfamily.org.au](mailto:enquiry@hollyfamily.org.au)

**Book-Keeper:** Malinda Toms

[accounts@hollyfamily.org.au](mailto:accounts@hollyfamily.org.au)

**Music Director:** Etuate 'Eddie' Paunga

[kosilio\\_lole@hotmail.com](mailto:kosilio_lole@hotmail.com)

**Parish Pastoral Council**

**Chairperson & Children's Liturgy**

**Coordinator:** Marissa Logronio

[logroniom23@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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.

2026/ Issue No. 4 / 25<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Reflection from Sr Carlene for the

*3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time in Year A*

## THE LIGHT and THE GOOD NEWS

*"The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light." (Isaiah 9:1)*

Perhaps you remember having this prophetic text at Midnight Mass, Christmas Eve? Today we have these same words in our First Reading (Isaiah 8:23-9:3) and our Gospel (Matthew 4:12-23). These words of Isaiah sum up the whole mission of Christ, and Matthew quotes them to serve that purpose.

Matthew tells us Jesus heard new of John the Baptizer's arrest and Jesus withdrew to Galilee, a place of mixed race (Gentiles and Jews). There Jesus began his public ministry preaching a simple message:

*"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand." (Matt 4: 16)*

Like John, Jesus preached metanoia (repentance, conversion) though He did it in a different way. Jesus' message that the reign of God has come near involved profound belief and courageous action, a change of heart and a change of lifestyle.

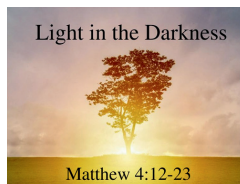
Almost straight away, Jesus invited others to join him in spreading the message. His invitation was more than a call to metanoia: it was a call to consecrate their lives to making the reign of God known and real in their time and world. They responded without hesitation and became disciples of Jesus.

Hence Isaiah's prophecy and Matthew's pericope remind us today that we, too, are offered the light and the Good News. We are called to work together as a community and share the task of evangelisation.

At our Baptism we received "the light of Christ". We were exhorted "to walk always as children of the light" and "keep the flame of faith alive in our hearts". We were commissioned to "receive his word" with our ears, and "proclaim his faith" with our mouth. (Ephphetha prayer: RITE OF BAPTISM).

May we continue  
"to live in the house of the Lord  
all the days" of our lives!  
(Ps 26).

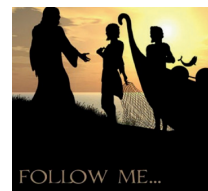




## SCRIPTURE READINGS - YEAR A

## 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

LET US HEAR AND RECEIVE THE WORD OF GOD

**Collect:**

Almighty ever-living God, direct our actions according to your good pleasure, that in the name of your beloved Son we may abound in good works. 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: Isaiah 8: 23 - 9: 3**

There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time the Lord brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shone. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

**Responsorial Psalm - Ps 26: 1, 4, 13-14**

**R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.**

The Lord is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life;  
of whom shall I be afraid? R.

One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after:  
to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,  
to behold the beauty of the Lord,  
and to inquire in his temple. R.

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord  
in the land of the living.  
Wait for the Lord; be strong,  
and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord! R.

**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:** Selemata Fatai

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Kim Ahmad

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1: 10-13, 17**

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!

*Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.*

Alleluia!

**Gospel: Matthew 4: 12-23**

When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the Prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles— the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, "Come, follow me, and I will make you fishers of people." Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him. Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

**Prayer After Communion:**

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that, receiving the grace by which you bring us to new life, we may always glory in your gift. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY 2026****For prayer with the Word of God**

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives  
and a source of hope in our communities,  
helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.  
Amen.

Readings for Sunday 1st February 2026: 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Year A

\\ 1st Reading: Zephaniah 2: 3; 3: 12-13 // \\ 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1: 26-31 // \\ Gospel: Matthew 5: 1-12 //



**Parish Collection for the weekend of the 17th / 18th January:**

1st Collection (for the priests of the diocese) \$ 637.70  
 2nd Collection (for parish expenses) \$ 1,507.75

**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)*

**PRAYER FOR AUSTRALIA**

God of all peoples,  
 we thank You for the gift of Australia—  
 for its land, its peoples, and its rich diversity.

Guide us to walk together in justice, compassion, and peace.

Help us care for creation and one another,  
 and build a nation shaped by Gospel values.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

**WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:**

**Sunday January 25**

**Monday January 26**

- Australia Day Public Holiday (Office Closed)
- AA mtg, 7pm (MMR)

**Tuesday January 27**

- NA mtg, 6.30pm-8pm (MMR)

**Wednesday January 28**

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

**Thursday January 29**

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

**Friday January 30**

- AA mtg, 7pm (MMR)

**Saturday January 31**

- AA mtg, 7pm (MMR)

**Meeting Rooms:**

**SSR** - Schoenstatt Sisters Room;

**SICR** - St Ignatius Conference Room;

**MMR** - Mary Mackillop Meeting Room,

**HFC** - Holy Family Centre

**Parish Office Notice**

The office will be closed / unattended from Monday 26 January to Friday 30 January.

We apologise for any inconvenience and thank you for your understanding.

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS - ROSTER AVAILABILITY**

To assist with preparing the roster for our weekend Masses, all liturgical ministers are asked to please submit their availability.

Kindly scan the QR code and complete the form by 31st January 2026.



Thank you for your ongoing service and support of our parish liturgy.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

- **Annual Commemoration of the 2008 Apology to the Stolen Generation - Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February, 5.30pm-8pm (HFC)**
- **Ash Wednesday - 18<sup>th</sup> February.**  
 Mass time: 8.00am & 6.00pm
- **Mass for Seniors: - Tuesdays 10<sup>th</sup> March, 4<sup>th</sup> August, 10<sup>th</sup> November, at 11.30am**
- **Lenten Reflection - Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February, 4<sup>th</sup> March, 6.45pm (chapel)**
- **Lenten Second Rite of Reconciliation - Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March, 6.45pm**
- **Easter Sunday - 5<sup>th</sup> April**
- **Virtual Marian Pilgrimage - Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May**
- **Reconciliation Walk, Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May**
- **Sacrament of Confirmation, Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 7pm**
- **Matthew Pinson's First Mass Celebration after Ordination to the Priesthood, Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August**
- **Parish Working Bee - Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October**
- **Memorial Mass for All Souls' - Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November, 3pm at Nth Chapel, Pinegrove Cemetery**
- **Advent Second Rite of Reconciliation - Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December, 6.45pm**
- **Christmas Carols - Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December, 7pm-10pm**



## Safeguarding Training for Parishes of the Blacktown Deanery:

**All Clergy, employees and volunteers in Ministry at Parishes in the Blacktown Deanery are now due to update their Safeguarding Training Modules.**

If you are new to Ministry and have not begun any Safeguarding Training? Complete Introductory Modules 1-3 (Cycle 1).

**Face- to-Face Cycle 1** opportunities are available on:

- Wednesday 11th February at Bishop Bede Heather Centre Blacktown (9.30am-2.30pm)

Did you complete Cycle 1 Modules two years ago? Complete Renewal Modules 4 and 5 (Cycle 2).

**Face- to-Face Cycle 2** opportunities are available on:

- Mondays evenings 16th (Mod 4) and 23rd February (Mod 5) at St Andrew's Marayong (7.00pm-8.30pm)
- Monday 23rd February at St Andrew's Marayong (10.00am-1.30pm)
- Wednesday 11th March at Bishop Bede Heather Centre Blacktown (9.30am-1.00pm)

Did you renew your Cycle 2 Modules 4 & 5 two years ago? Complete Refresher Module 6 (Cycle 3)

**Face- to-Face Cycle 3** opportunity is available on:

- Monday 10th February at St Andrew's Marayong (10.00am-12.00noon)

Safeguarding Training Modules can always be completed independently online at:  
<https://learning.safeguarding.org.au/>

You can register for the Face to Face Training opportunities at:

<https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>

For further inquiries please contact your Parish Office or email the Office for Safeguarding at:  
[safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org)

## Update: Front Pavement Works – Church Access

The front pavement works have now been completed and the area is open for use. The total cost of these works was \$30,668.00.

There is further maintenance required across the parish site. Our ongoing fundraising efforts throughout the year will help support these essential works and ensure our facilities remain safe and welcoming for all.

Thank you for your patience, generosity, and continued support of our parish.



## CHRISTMAS HAMPER APPEAL 2025 – IMPACT SUMMARY

Thanks be to God for the generosity of our parish community, and the dedication of our committee, volunteers, and students! The Christmas Hamper Appeal 2025, a collaboration between Holy Family Parish, Vinnies, and local primary schools, was a wonderful success in supporting families in our area.

Impact from Holy Family site:

- Initial food boxes prepared: 750
- Food boxes distributed: 600
- Households helped: 267
- Unlisted/ Walk-ins: 150
- Total people helped: 1,102
- Children helped: 631
- Retail value of food: \$45,100 approx
- Presents for children (estimated \$20 each): \$12,700



In addition to this effort, many families and individuals were supported through CatholicCare, The Shed, and Baabayn, highlighting the ongoing outreach of our parish community.

This incredible effort shows the amazing generosity and care of our parish community.

Praise God for the hands and hearts that came together to serve others, and thank you to everyone who contributed, sorted, packed, and distributed hampers—your service has made a real difference this Christmas.



## Special Thanks to Our Generous Donors & Supporters

- Holy Family Parish, Mt Druitt - Giving Tree
- CathWest College Staff & Students, Mt Druitt & Emu Plains
- St Mary's Nth Sydney Parish and Primary School
- Corpus Christi Parish, St Ives
- Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish and Primary School, Greystanes
- St Pauls' Catholic College, Greystanes
- Loreto College, Kirribilli
- St Aloysius College, Sydney
- St Vincent De Paul Baulkham Hills Conference
- Holy Name Parish, Wahroonga
- Rochford Place Village, Ropes Crossing
- Chisholm Primary School, Bligh Park
- Visy

