



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

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
accountse@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
hfytdruitt@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 / 25th 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.

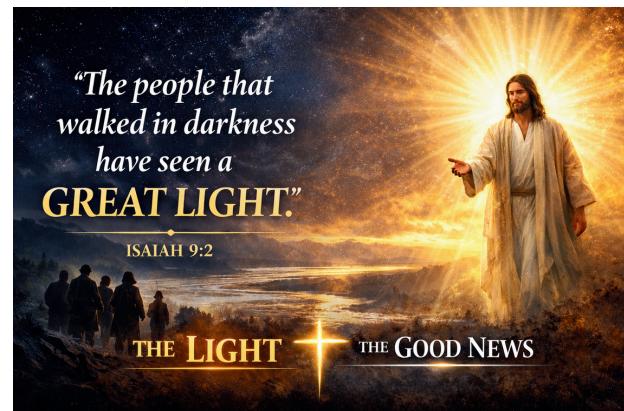
Almost straight away, Jesus invited others to join him in spreading the message. His invitation was more than a call to metanoia: it was a call to consecrate their lives to making the reign of God known and real in their time and world. They responded without hesitation and became disciples of Jesus.

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, Ketea 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: Selermana Fatai

RECENTLY DECEASED: Kim Ahmad



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 13th February, 5.30pm-8pm (HFC)**
- **Ash Wednesday - 18th February.**
 Mass time: 8.00am & 6.00pm
- **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**
- **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**

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

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

