



# 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. 11 / 15<sup>th</sup> March 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](http://www.holyfamily.org.au)

## PARISH TEAM

**Parish Priest:** Fr Nguyen Van Cao SJ  
[cao@holyfamily.org.au](mailto:cao@holyfamily.org.au)

**Assistant Priest:** Fr Renato Zecchin SJ  
[renato@holyfamily.org.au](mailto:renato@holyfamily.org.au)

**Pastoral Associate:** Sr Carlene Allen  
[carlene@holyfamily.org.au](mailto:carlene@holyfamily.org.au)

**Site Manager:** Ray Donaldson  
[ray@holyfamily.org.au](mailto:ray@holyfamily.org.au)

**Parish Secretary:** Malia Lolesio  
[enquiry@holyfamily.org.au](mailto:enquiry@holyfamily.org.au)

**Book-Keeper:** Malinda Toms  
[accounts@holyfamily.org.au](mailto:accounts@holyfamily.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 (During Lent)

### WEEKDAY:

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

### Fourth Sunday of Lent in Year A

**"Open the eyes of my soul, Lord."**

In our Gospel from John, Jesus teaches us the necessity of being willing to have our eyes opened by Faith, and warns us that those who assume they see the truth are often blind, while those who acknowledge their blindness are given clear vision. In the reading, the most unlikely person, namely the beggar born blind, and considered a sinner receives the light of Faith in Jesus, while the religion-oriented, law-educated authorities remain spiritually blind.

To live as a Christian is to see and to grow continually, gaining clearer vision about God, about ourselves and about others. Our Lenten prayers and sacrifices should help to heal our spiritual and cultural blindness so that we can look at others, see them as children of God, and love them as our own brothers and sisters, saved by the death and Resurrection of Jesus. *"We've all got both light and dark inside us. What matters is the part we choose to act on. That's who we really are."* ~ J. K. Rowling

We need to allow Jesus to heal our spiritual blindness. We all have blind-spots *"Every person must decide whether they will walk in the light of creative altruism or in the darkness of destructive selfishness."* ~ Martin Luther King, Jr.— in our marriages, our parenting, our work habits, and our personalities. We are often blind to the presence of the Triune God dwelling within us and fail to appreciate His presence in others. Even practicing Christians can be blind to the poverty, injustice, and pain around them. Let us remember, however, that Jesus wants to heal our blindness.

We need to ask him to remove from us the root causes of our blindness: self-centeredness, greed, anger, hatred, prejudice, jealousy, addiction to evil habits, hardness of heart, and the like. Let us pray with the Scottish Bible scholar William Barclay, "God our Father, help us see Christ more clearly, love him more dearly and follow him more nearly" day by day.

We need to get rid of cultural blindness. Our culture also has blind-spots. Often it is blind to things like selfless love, happiness, fidelity with true, committed sexual love in marriage, and the value of human life from birth to natural death. Our culture has become anesthetized to the violence, the sexual innuendo, and the enormous suffering in the world around us.

Let us counteract this cultural blindness as, with His grace, we experience Jesus dwelling within us and within others, through personal prayer, meditative reading of the Bible, and a genuine Sacramental life and by making Jesus Kingdom values one's own. *"Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness."* ~ Desmond Tut



## POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR MARCH For disarmament and peace.

*Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence. Amen.*



## SCRIPTURE READINGS - YEAR A

# Fourth Sunday of Lent

LET US HEAR AND RECEIVE THE WORD OF GOD

**Collect:**

O God, who through your Word reconcile the human race to yourself in a wonderful way, grant, we pray, that with prompt devotion and eager faith the Christian people may hasten toward the solemn celebrations to come. 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: 1 Samuel 16: 1, 6-7, 10-13**

The Lord said to Samuel, "Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." When the sons of Jesse came, Samuel looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as the human sees; the human looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." Jesse sent and brought David in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward.

**Responsorial Psalm - Ps 22**

**R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures;  
he leads me beside still waters;  
he restores my soul. R.

He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.  
Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me. R.

You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows. R.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord  
my whole life long. R.

**Second Reading: Ephesians 5: 8-14**

Brothers and sisters: Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light- for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it is said, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!  
*I am the light of the world, says the Lord;  
whoever follows me will have the light of life.*  
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

**Gospel: John 9: 1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38 (shorter version)**

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. He spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then the man who was blind went and washed, and came back able to see. The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a Prophet." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out. Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshipped him.

**Prayer After Communion:**

O God, who enlighten everyone who comes into this world, illuminate our hearts, we pray, with the splendour of your grace, that we may always ponder what is worthy and pleasing to your majesty and love you in all sincerity. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS****BAPTISMS:**

**LIST OF THE SICK:** Pierre Pepin, Reg Murray, 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, 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:** Randy Sing, Hazel Hodges, Cherie Bloomfield, Luke Callope, Denise Pepin

**RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Readings for Sunday 22nd March 2026: Fifth Sunday of Lent in Year A

\\ 1st Reading: Ezekiel 37: 12-14 // \\ 2nd Reading: Romans 8: 8-11 // \\ Gospel: John 11: 1-45 //



**Parish Collection for the weekend of the 7 / 8 March:**

1st Collection (for the priests of the diocese) \$ 750.25  
 2nd Collection (for parish expenses) \$ 2,352.20

**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 Survey – Last Chance (15<sup>th</sup> March 2026)**

If you haven't had a chance to complete the survey yet, Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> of March is the cut-off date for submissions.

- Paper copies are available at the back of the church. Please return completed forms to one of the priests, Sr Carlene, or the parish office.
- Alternatively, you may complete the survey online.



Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts and support our parish community.

**HOLY FAMILY PRIMARY EMERTON**

**You're invited to**  
**join our community!**

**Enquire, enrol or take a tour**  
**ENROLLING NOW FOR 2027!**



Scan QR code to register your interest

11 Emert Parade, Emerton T: 8869 7200 W: hfemerton.catholic.edu.au

**RCIA – SECOND SCRUTINY**

This weekend at the 5.30pm Vigil Mass, we celebrate the Second Scrutiny with our Elect who is preparing to be received into the Church at Easter.

The Scrutinies are special moments of prayer during Lent, asking God to strengthen them, open their hearts more deeply to Christ, and help them turn away from all that separates them from God.

Please keep our Elect in your prayers as they continue their journey towards the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil. May the Lord guide them and fill them with the light of faith.

**WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:****Sunday March 15**

- Baptism, 11.30am (Church)
- St Ignatius Tongan Sunday School, 12pm-3pm (SSR)
- Samoan Divine Mercy, 3pm-5pm (MMR)

**Monday March 16**

- RCIA Process, 6.15pm (SICR)
- AA mtg, 7pm (MMR)

**Tuesday March 17**

- Staff Meeting, 3pm-5pm (SICR)
- NA mtg, 6.30pm-8pm (MMR)
- Risk Management Committee Mtg, 6.45pm-8pm (SICR)
- HF Young Adults Choir prac, 7pm-8pm (SSR)
- HF Young Adults Lenten Program, 8pm-9pm (SSR)

**Wednesday March 18**

- Free Community Podiatry, 10am-3pm (SSR)
- Christian Meditation, 6.30pm-7.30pm (MMR)
- Second Rite of Reconciliation, 6.45pm (Church)

**Thursday March 19**

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

**Friday March 20**

- Funeral Service for the late CHRISTINE LEONARD, 11am (Church)
- Stations of the Cross (English), 5.15pm (Church)
- Stations of the Cross (Tongan), 7pm (Church)
- AA mtg, 6.30pm - 8.30pm (MMR)

**Saturday March 21**

- Samoan choir, 4pm-5pm (Church)
- AA mtg, 6.30-7.30pm (MMR)

**Meeting Rooms:**

**SSR** - Schoenstatt Sisters Room;  
**SICR** - St Ignatius Conference Room;  
**MMR** - Mary Mackillop Meeting Room,  
**HFC** - Holy Family Centre

**Autumn Family Holiday Program**

Join us these school holidays for two fun community days out for families and children.

Come along to connect with other families, enjoy the outdoors and have fun together.

- Games and activities will be organised for children

**Picnic Day at Nurraging Reserve**

**Friday 10 April, 10am-3pm**

**Grevillea Picnic Area – Nurraging Reserve**

- Gold coin donation
- Families make their own way to the park
- Light refreshments provided
- Bring picnic rug, hat and water bottle
- Families welcome to bring food to share

- Scavenger hunt and fun group challenges for kids

**Picnic Day at Fairfield Adventure Park**

**Wednesday 15 April, 9.30am-3pm**

**Fairfield Adventure Park**

**• \$5 per person**

- Includes bus transport + light refreshments
- Games and activities for children

• Bus transport provided.

Bus schedule: Street pick-up 9.00am; final pick-up & departure from HFC 9.30am

Leave Fairfield Adventure Park 3.00pm

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

- ✓ Bookings open Monday 23 March
- ✓ Bookings must be made at the Parish Office
- ✓ Payments by cash only
- ✓ Bookings are essential for both activities
- ✓ Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian
- ✓ Participant details will be collected at the time of booking
- ✓ Bus transport for the Fairfield Adventure Park outing will be provided by Cumberland Coachlines

For more information, please contact Malia on (02) 9628 7272

## HOLY WEEK MASS SCHEDULE



### Palm Sunday - 28/29 March

5.30PM Vigil (Saturday)  
7.30AM (Willmot) / 9.00AM & 10.30AM



### Holy Monday - 30 March

9.00AM Mass



### Holy Tuesday - 31 March

6.00PM Mass



### Holy Wednesday - 1 April

5.30PM (Eucharistic Adoration)  
6.00PM Mass



### Holy Thursday - 2 April

6.00PM - 7.00PM (Confession)  
7.30PM Mass of the Lord's Supper  
10.00PM - 7.00AM (overnight) Adoration



### Good Friday - 3 April

10.00AM (Stations of the Cross)  
11.00AM - 12.00PM (Confession)  
3.00PM (The Lord's Passion)  
4.30PM - 5.30PM (Confession)



### Holy Saturday - 4 April

9.30AM - 10.00AM (Confession)  
7.30PM - (Easter Vigil)



### Easter Sunday - 5 April

7.30AM Mass (Willmot)  
9.00AM & 10.30AM Mass

## **DONATIONS OF PALMS & GREENERY NEEDED**

As we prepare for Palm Sunday, we invite parishioners who have palm branches or suitable greenery to consider donating them to help decorate the church.

If you are able to assist, please contact the parish office or drop off palms/greenery at the church by Friday 27 March 2026.

Thank you for your support. 🌿✝️

## **HOLY THURSDAY - EUCHARISTIC ADORATION ROSTER**

Following the Mass of the Lord's Supper, the Blessed Sacrament will be transferred to the Altar of Repose in the Primary School Hall. Adoration will continue overnight until 7:00am on Good Friday.

If you are able to commit to spend time with our Lord, please add your name to the roster at the back of the church. ✝️



# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**MARSHALS  
REGISTRATION SUPPORT  
BUS DRIVERS**

## GOOD FRIDAY NIGHT WALK FRIDAY 3 APRIL 2026

Email: [Sebastian.Duhau@parracatholic.org](mailto:Sebastian.Duhau@parracatholic.org)



**Caritas**  
AUSTRALIA

**PROJECT  
COMPASSION**

**Fourth Sunday of Lent - 14th / 15th March 2026**

Life was hard for Manaini and her children living in rural Fiji. With the support from Caritas Australia's partner, FRIEND, she learnt food processing and gardening skills, improving nutrition and creating new income opportunities to support her children's education.

**Please donate today.**

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.



Or online at: [www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate](http://www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate)  
Or by calling: 1800 024 413

**Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty* this Lent.**

## **Lenten Journey: Weekly Challenges**

*Take time this week to look intentionally at those around you - with the eyes of Christ. In prayer, ask Jesus to reveal one person or situation where he is inviting you to respond with compassion rather than indifference. Let your worship flow into action by making your seeing a form of love.*

**Prayer: Lord, open our eyes with your compassion.  
Amen.**

*Week 4: Perform a small act of peace or service each day - write a note of thanks, help someone in need, or simply offer a smile.*