



HOLY FAMILY PARISH, MT DRUITT

Under the care of the Australian Jesuit Province

252 -254 Luxford Road, Emerton NSW 2770

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



2024/ Issue No. 12 // Sunday 24th March, 2024

Parish Office:

Located in the Holy Family Centre
(via 11 Emert Pde, Emerton NSW 2770)

Phone: 02 9628 7272

Mobile: 0497 966 277 OR

0434 931 270 (during office and after hours)

Office Hours:

Monday -Thursday: 9.00am-4.30pm

Friday: 9.00am - 3.30pm

Closed on weekends & public holidays.

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 Van Cao Nguyen SJ

caoholyfam@gmail.com

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

Music Director:

Etuate 'Eddie' Paunga

kosilio_lole@hotmail.com

Parish Pastoral Council

Chairperson

Marissa Logronio

logroniom23@gmail.com

Holy Week Schedule at Holy Family, Emerton

Please refer to page 4 for more
details.

Mass at Willmot

Sunday: 7.30am

(8 Carteret Ave, Willmot NSW 2770)

Mass and Anointing

2nd Saturday of every month:

9.00am

Holy Hour - Emerton

Wednesdays from 5.00pm

Saturdays from 9.30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays: 9.30am - 10.00am OR

by appointment.

Reflection from the Parish Priest for Palm Sunday

Christ has arrived and entered Jerusalem, and 'his hour' has begun. Palms are waved in triumph, then they wither. The cross is forever, for all time. The cross is his love, and as we follow in this procession we show our willingness to console him in love to the end. As Christians, we are sharers in this event.

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of a week with Christ that leads to next Sunday.

It recalls all the points in the gospels (e.g. Mk 10:32-3) about the journey that the Lord must make to Jerusalem to carry out his great work, his mission.

Our church building is a symbol of the city of Jerusalem, hence we begin our procession outside. The final days - Monday to Wednesday follow. Then comes the final meal and the commissioning of the disciples on Thursday, the time in the garden and the Passion - Thursday night to 3pm Friday - the exaltation on the Cross (recalled by the church as a victory celebration); the tomb on Saturday and the resurrection. This is a symbolic week; we participate in the liturgy not just as on-lookers engaged in a pageant, but we unite ourselves with Christ now in his Great Work. Everything that is said or done in today's liturgy must convey this sense of participation and continue throughout the week.

In today's Gospel, Jesus is alone, abandoned by his closest friends and perhaps even by God. He dies on the cross with a loud cry on his lips. Darkness covers the whole earth. At that precise moment the Roman centurion guarding him, sees how Jesus died, and he makes the great confession of faith: "Truly this man was God's Son." Throughout his ministry Jesus tried to teach his followers that the way of the kingdom is the way of self emptying love. They had to become servants, slaves to one another and forget about greatness as the world understands it. Repeatedly they fail to understand him and eventually they run away. So we are left with this foreign outsider telling us the meaning of Calvary. Through his faithfulness to the kingdom, Jesus finally tears away the veil that separates God and suffering humanity. By his prayer of abandonment, Jesus has shown us that far from abandoning us, God has identified totally with our struggle.

Fr Donald Neary SJ reflects on this Palm Sunday:

"Suffering is part and parcel of being human and while we must readily acknowledge this fact, it is also true that we usually do all in our power to avoid it. The readings for today are an invitation to reflect on how it is that passion of Jesus can change our outlook on suffering. Our Saviour may be seen in these texts as a model of patient endurance and of faithfulness. We are not asked to believe that suffering is good in itself, but to see that good can come of it, and to recognise in Jesus, God's solidarity with all those who endure suffering for doing what is right."

Lord, you often make a place of death the source of new life:

- we were abandoned by our friends, but learned how deep our inner resources were;

- a parent died and the family came together as never before.

You teach us that you always bring life, and this is why your Son Jesus was not afraid when they brought him to a place called Golgotha, which means the place of the skull.

Fr Nguyen Van Cao SJ



SCRIPTURE READINGS - YEAR B

Palm Sunday

LET US HEAR AND RECEIVE THE WORD OF GOD

**First Form: Procession - Gospel: Mark 11:1-10**

When they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, and said to them, 'Go into the village opposite you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, "Why are you doing this?" say, "The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately"'. And they went away, and found a colt tied at the door out in the open street; and they untied it. And those who stood there said to them, 'What are you doing, untying the colt?' And they told them what Jesus had said; and they let them go. And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their garments on it; and he sat upon it. And many spread their garments on the road, and others spread leafy branches which they had cut from the fields. And those who went before and those who followed cried out, 'Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is coming! Hosanna in the highest!'

Collect:

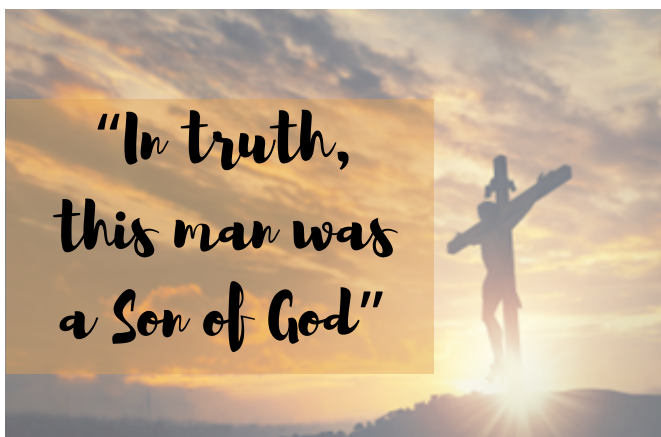
Almighty ever-living God, who as an example of humility for the human race to follow caused our Saviour to take flesh and submit to the Cross, graciously grant that we may heed his lesson, of patient suffering and so merit a share in his Resurrection, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 50: 4-7

The servant of the Lord said: "The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens - wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward.

"I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

"The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall be put to shame."

**Responsorial psalm : Ps 21: 8-9, 17-20, 23-24****R: My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**

All who see me mock at me;
they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;
"Commit your cause to the Lord; let him deliver;
let him rescue the one in whom he delights!" R.

For dogs are all around me;
a company of evildoers encircles me.
My hands and feet have shrivelled;
I can count all my bones. R.

They divide my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots.
But you, O Lord, do not be far away!
O my help, come quickly to my aid! R.

I will of your name to my brothers and sisters;
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:
You who fear the Lord, praise him!
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel! R.

**Second Reading: Philippians 2: 6-11**

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death - even death on a cross.

Therefore God highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation:**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!**

Christ became obedient for us even to death, dying on the cross. Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!**Gospel: Mark 14: 1 - 15: 47**

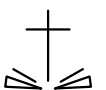
The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

Prayer after Communion:

Nourished with these sacred gifts, we humbly beseech you, O Lord, that, just as through the death of your Son, you have brought us to hope for what we believe, so by his Resurrection you may lead us to where you call. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Readings for Sunday 31st March, 2024: Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

1st Reading: Acts 10: 34, 37-43 / 2nd Reading Colossians 2: 1-4 / Gospel John 20: 1-9



Parish Collection for the weekend of 16th/17th March 2024:

1st Collection: (for the priests of the diocese) \$ 726.20
 2nd Collection: (for parish expenses) \$ 1,948.70

DIRECT PARISH DONATIONS

Online contributions for the Diocesan Priests (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

If you would like a tax deductible receipt for your donation, please send your contact information to the Parish Office.

**Welcome Fr Quyen Vu!**

We welcome to Holy Family: Fr Quyen Vu, Provincial of the Australian Jesuits, who is here to visit the Jesuit Community and Parish. (21-24 March)

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:**Sunday 24 March:**

- Stations of the Cross rehearsal, after the 10.30am Mass.
- Holy Family Tongan Community, 12pm-3pm (MMR)
- Samoan Divine Mercy, 3pm-5pm (MMR)
- St Ignatius Tongan Sunday School, 12pm-3pm (SSR)

Monday 25 March:**Tuesday 26 March:**

- Staff Prayer & meeting, 9.15am-11.15am (SICR)
- Mass and Anointing of the Sick, 11.30am, at Rochford Place, Ropes Crossing. ALL ARE WELCOME!
- St Vincent De Paul Emerton Conference, 7pm-8.30pm (SSR)

Wednesday 27 March:

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

Holy Thursday 28 March:**Good Friday 29 March:****Holy Saturday 30 March:**

- Holy Family Tongan choir prac, 2pm-5pm (SSR)

Meeting Rooms: SSR - Schoenstatt Sisters Room; SICR St Ignatius Conference Room; MMR Mary Mackillop Meeting Room,

**GOOD FRIDAY NIGHT WALK**

29th March 2024

St Patrick's Church, Blacktown

Doors open 9.00pm

Walk over 20km to remember the passion of Jesus Christ, in prayer and reflection.

Register via

www.parracatholic.org/gfnw

St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta

**FASTING and FEASTING during LENT**

- | | |
|------------|---------------------------------------|
| Sun | 24/3 - Feast on nature. |
| Mon | 25/3 - Fast from sadness. |
| Tue | 26/3 - Feast on justice. |
| Wed | 27/3 - Fast from using hurtful words. |
| Thu | 28/3 - Feast on listening to others. |
| Fri | 29/3 - Fast from selfishness. |
| Sat | 30/3 - Feast on service to others. |

**HELP NEEDED:**

- **Become a Catechist, A Special Religious Education teacher!**
 - **We need Professional Advice to assist the Parish with:**
 1. Improving ventilation in the church
 2. Finding sustainable, cost-saving options to reduce the parish's power bills.
 - **Reception/ Administration Support (Volunteer)**
Days desired in the office: Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.
 - **Volunteer at the Parish's Piety Store (weekends only)**
We need volunteers to assist with sales at the Piety Store, before and after our weekend Masses.
 - **Advertise your Business in the Bulletin**
We are welcoming small businesses to advertise in the parish bulletin, and published on website/ Facebook page.
- If you are interested, or have any questions or concerns with any of the above, please contact the Parish Office.**

DIOCESAN NEWS:

- **Synod 2023 Update: Decree issued and Development of Diocesan Plan Begins**

The Diocesan Plan for a Synodal Church will launch at the Diocesan Gathering on Saturday 10 August. Learn more at parracatholic.org/synod

- **Easter/ Autumn 2024 Catholic Outlook Magazine Out Now**

Grab your copy of the Easter/ Autumn 2024 edition of the Catholic Outlook Magazine! This edition invites us to practise silence, deepen our interior lives and pray for a Gospel change of heart, how our communities celebrate Easter, seminarians preparing to 'go out into the deep', a handy Holy Week Mass Times guide, plus so much more. Also available online via catholicoutlook.org/magazine

- **Free Online Formation on Synodal Spirituality**

Dive into 'Synodal Spirituality' with this FREE online short formation course, taught by Sr Patty Andrew OSU. Part of the FaithLIFE series hosted by the Mission Enhancement Team, the course offers an exploration of communal discernment, active engagement, and creative faith responses to challenges in the mission of the Church today. Enrol now and take part in Pope Francis's vision for a synodal Church: <https://pfparra.thinkific.com/courses/synodal-spirituality>

- **MET FaithLIFE Theology Short Course: from 16 April**

Considering learning about theology? Wanting to expand your language for expressing your faith? Seeking ways to deepen the way you put your faith into practice? Sign up now for the 3-session FaithLIFE Theology short course with Dr John Collins on Tuesdays 16 + 23 + 30 April! Registration and more dates and details via met@parracatholic.org



Please donate to Project Compassion.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **for all future generations.**

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

Please return Project Compassion boxes/ envelopes as from Holy Thursday, to the church or parish office.

HOLY FAMILY PARISH, MT DRUITT

Autumn Family Holiday Program

IT'S TIME TO TURN OFF YOUR SCREENS, AND THOSE GADGETS, AND SIMPLY EMBRACE THE OUTDOORS GIVING BACK TO AND BUILDING COMMUNITY.

FRIDAY 19TH APRIL 2024 - COMMUNITY WORKING BEE
10.00AM - 2.00PM
HOLY FAMILY CENTRE, 11 EMERT PDE EMERTON

ARRIVE 9.30AM FOR REGISTRATION
LUNCH & GARDENING TOOLS PROVIDED.
BYO HAT + WEAR CLOSED COMFORTABLE SHOES.

WEDNESDAY 24TH APRIL 2024 - PICNIC DAY
10.00AM - 2.00PM
NURRAGINGY RESERVE, DOONSIDE

EXACT LOCATION TO BE ADVISED CLOSER TO THE DATE.
WHAT TO EXPECT: FUN / FOOD / FELLOWSHIP

GOLD COIN DONATION

TO REGISTER, PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE
0497 966 277 OR EMAIL ENQUIRY@HOLYFAMILY.ORG.AU



Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for March —'For the new martyrs'

"We pray for those around the world who risk their lives for the Gospel, to inspire the Church with their courage and missionary zeal."

'WATCH and PRAY'



We will have the opportunity to adore the Blessed Sacrament after the Mass of the Lord's Supper, on Holy Thursday evening, in the Primary School Hall until 7.00am on Good Friday morning. We invite you to take up this opportunity to spend some time in silence and prayer, before Our Lord.

WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS

BAPTISMS: We welcomed into the church, Tualau Vave and Dontae Pangiakaetau, who were baptised last Sunday 17th March, 2024.

LIST OF THE SICK: Pippa O'Neal, Finau Kautai, Maureen Clements, Kevin Smith, Mathew Sieders, Emma Datoc, Val Polkamp, Jose Manalo, Fely Dela Paz Manalo, Maria Barbara, Sylvia Greene, Tualau Vave, Mayda Attachian, Faye Iffland, Tim Meagher, Cristina Frugone, Zarouf Mallouk, George Mallouk, Gloria Cutcliffe, Janice Angela Lawrence, Emma Lawrence, Maria Llave, Maria Belisario, Fara Vargas, Fe Llave, Stella Edwards, Boyet Llave.

RECENT ANNIVERSARIES: Lew Leerson.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY

23rd March 2024 - 5.30pm Vigil Mass

of the PASSION of the LORD

24th March 2024 - 7.30am Mass (Willmot), 9.00am & 10.30am.

MONDAY

25th March 2024 - 8.30am Mass

TUESDAY

26th March 2024 - 6.00pm Mass

WEDNESDAY

27th March 2024 - 6.00pm Mass

HOLY THURSDAY

28th March 2024 - 7.00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

The Blessed Sacrament is transferred to the Altar of Repose (in the school hall), for an overnight Vigil, until 7.00am on Good Friday morning.

- 8.30pm - 9.30pm - Sacrament of Reconciliation

GOOD FRIDAY

29th March 2024 - 9.00am - 10.00am - Sacrament of Reconciliation

- 10.00am - Stations of the Cross

- 3.00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion (Veneration of the Cross)

- 4.00pm - 6.00pm - Sacrament of Reconciliation

HOLY SATURDAY

- 30th March 2024 - 9.30am - 10.30am Sacrament of Reconciliation

- 7.30pm Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY

- 31st March 2024 - 7.30am Mass (Willmot),

9.00am & 10.30am (Emerton)

