



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. 9 / 1st 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

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
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ray@holyfamily.org.au

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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 (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 Cao for the

Second Sunday of Lent in Year A

Today's Gospel is the transfiguration of the Lord, the main theme of the second week of Lent because Lent is about transfiguration, or change! It is not just our Lord Jesus who becomes transfigured. Rather, all of us can be transfigured if we follow the path that He has shone by His life, death and Resurrection.

Lent is a time to change, a time of renewing personal encounter with Jesus like Saints Peter, John and James. This is the favourable time, a time of salvation, a graced time to be open to God (2Cor 6:2). St Paul in the second reading tells us that grace sustains us to respond fully to our call and helps us to: "bear the hardship for the sake of the good news." Grace existed "before the beginning of time and creation." Grace was revealed by the appearance of Jesus Christ (2Tim 1:8b-10). So, we must look up to this grace, Jesus Christ, who has guaranteed our future glory through his death and resurrection.

We are called to follow Jesus Christ to the best of our ability as Abram did in today's first reading. We must leave behind the past, attachments and bad habits and courageously go forward to the unknown future with deep faith in God. This is what God is asking of you and me today and during this Lent: leave on an inner journey, go with God, do God's will no matter how uneasy it is.

The secret of any spiritual life is to seek God's will and then to try to do that will with as much faithfulness as possible. We are weak human beings and most of us are not saints, but we can keep on trying to do the will of God. Lent is a time to strengthen our resolve by becoming more aware of God's love for us.

With the transfiguration of Jesus, no one is really sure what happened to our Lord. It is as though the divine nature of our Lord cannot be contained and begins to break through. Later in Christian spirituality, it is recognized that this divine nature is also ours by adoption and it can also begin to manifest itself in us if we strive to be faithful.

Lent is the time of transfiguration for us! We plead with the Lord in this time of Lent to transform us, to transfigure us, to help do His will with joy. At times, we rebel against the Lord and then we plead for His mercy, always trusting completely in His love and in His will to save us and transform us. Lord, have mercy on us! We are sinners and we trust in you! May your love transform us.



SCRIPTURE READINGS - YEAR A

Second Sunday of Lent

LET US HEAR AND RECEIVE THE WORD OF GOD



Collect:

O God, who have commanded us to listen to your beloved Son, be pleased, we pray, to nourish us inwardly by your word, that, with spiritual sight made pure, we may rejoice to behold your glory. 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: Genesis 12: 1-4

The Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." So Abram went, as the Lord had told him.

Responsorial Psalm - Ps 32 (33): 4-5, 18-20, 22

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

The word of the Lord is upright,
and all his work is done in faithfulness.
He loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord. R.

Truly the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him,
on those who hope in his steadfast love,
to deliver their soul from death,
and to keep them alive in famine. R.

Our soul waits for the Lord;
he is our help and shield.
Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us,
even as we hope in you. 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, 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: Raymond Leslie, Neville Jones, Luke Callope

RECENTLY DECEASED:



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.

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1: 8-10

Brothers and sisters: Join with me in suffering for the Gospel, relying on the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Saviour Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel.

Gospel Acclamation:

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
*From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.*
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel: Matthew 17: 1-9

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, 'Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his Angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" Then the devil left him, and suddenly Angels came and waited on him. Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

Prayer After Communion:

As we receive these glorious mysteries, we make thanksgiving to you, O Lord, for allowing us while still on earth to be partakers even now of the things of heaven. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Readings for Sunday 8th March 2026: Third Sunday of Lent in Year A

\\ 1st Reading: Exodus 17: 3 - 7 // \\ 2nd Reading: Romans 5: 1 - 2, 5 - 8 // \\ Gospel: John 4: 5 - 42 //

Parish Collection for the weekend of the 21st/22nd February:

1st Collection (for the priests of the diocese) \$ 727.00
 2nd Collection (for parish expenses) \$ 1,981.50

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 - Weekend of 28 Feb & 1 Mar

We invite all parishioners to take part in our parish survey at all Masses this weekend of 28 February & 1 March.



Your feedback is important in helping us plan and grow our parish community.

HOLY FAMILY PRIMARY EMERTON

OPEN DAY 3 March 9:30am

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

Enquire, enrol or take a tour

ENROLLING NOW FOR 2027!

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

Special Screening - "Guadalupe: Mother of Humanity" Friday 20 March, 7:00pm - Cloister Hall, St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta

Discover the miraculous story of Our Lady of Guadalupe and the enduring mystery of the tilma of Juan Diego. Tickets \$10 (payable on the night). Popcorn and snacks available. Recommended PG 13+.

Stations of the Cross at 6:00pm prior to the screening.

Seat reservations appreciated but not required.

Scan QR code to reserve seat(s).

**WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:****Sunday March 1**

- St Ignatius Tongan Sunday School, 12pm-3pm (SSR)
- Samoan Divine Mercy, 3pm-5pm (MMR)
- Jesus the True Vine, 3.30pm-6.40pm (SSR)

Monday March 2

- Young Adults Sacramental Prep, 4.30pm-5.45pm (SICR)
- RCIA Process, 6.15pm (SICR)
- AA mtg, 7pm (MMR)

Tuesday March 3

- Staff Meeting, 3pm-5pm (SICR)
- Mt Druitt & District Reconciliation Group, 5.30pm-8pm (Dining/ Kitchen)
- NA mtg, 6.30pm-8pm (MMR)
- Liturgy Group mtg, 6.45pm-8pm (SICR)
- HF Young Adults Choir prac, 7pm-8pm (SSR)
- HF Young Adults Lenten Program, 8pm-9pm (SSR)

Wednesday March 4 (Note: Parish Office Closed)

- Free Community Podiatry, 10am-3pm (SSR)
- Christian Meditation, 6.30pm-7.30pm (MMR)
- Parish Retreat: Lenten Journey, 6.45pm-8.30pm (Church)

Thursday March 5

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

Friday March 6

- Stations of the Cross (English), 5.15pm (Church)
- Stations of the Cross (Tongan), 7pm (Church)
- AA mtg, 6.30pm - 8.30pm (MMR)
- Samoan Divine Mercy First Friday Adoration, 8pm - 12 Midnight (Chapel)

Saturday March 7

- 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



Mass for Seniors and Anointing of the Sick.

Tuesday 10th March, 2026
11.30am in the church.

For catering purposes, please RSVP to the Parish Office by Thursday 5th March, 2026

CYP Lifted Launch at Holy Family

On Thursday 26th February, Holy Family was blessed to host the Catholic Youth Parramatta (CYP) Lifted Launch in our parish primary school hall. It was a wonderful night with a strong presence of young people from across the Diocese.

We are especially proud that our own Young Adult leaders served as MCs, Fololina and Burt, for the evening. The program included testimonies, praise and worship, fun ice-breakers, and the sharing of CYP's vision for 2026.

It was inspiring to witness the energy, faith and leadership of young people from around the Diocese, and hopeful to reflect on what this could continue to look like within our own parish community.

Let us continue to pray for our young people and their leadership within the Church.

LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES – PRAY, FAST, GIVE

As we enter Lent, there are many ways for parishioners to grow in faith, reflection, and service:

Pray

• **Lenten Groups:**

- Young Adults - Tuesdays 7pm in the Holy Family Centre |
- Tregear Residence – Thursdays 3pm |
- Dharruk Residence – Fridays 10.10am

If you would like to join a group, please contact the parish office for details.

• **Meditation on the Stations of the Cross:**

- Fridays 5.15pm in English
- Fridays 7pm in Tongan

• **Parish Lenten Retreat – Lenten Journey:** Wednesday evenings, 4 Mar at 6.45pm – an inspiring opportunity to deepen your prayer life and prepare your heart for Easter

• **Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

- Saturdays from 9.30am-10am
- **Second Rite** - Wednesday 11th March, 6.45pm

• An **additional Mass** offered on Friday at 6pm.

Fast

Take time this Lent for personal reflection and spiritual growth

Give

- Support Project Compassion (boxes available in the church)
- Give your time to help those less fortunate in our community
- Volunteer in areas of need within the parish

May this Lent be a time of prayer, fasting, and generous giving for all.



Second Sunday of Lent - 28 February / 1 March 2026

Sisilia is a 13-year-old girl living in remote Tanzania, who had to walk long distances to collect water every day. Thanks to Project Compassion, Sisilia's school and village now have safe clean water close by and she can spend more time studying so she can fulfil her dream of one day becoming a pilot.

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
Or by calling: 1800 024 413

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

PARISH RETREAT - LENTEN JOURNEY

Last Wednesday, we gathered for the first session of our Parish Retreat – Lenten Journey 🙏

A heartfelt thank you to Merylyn Hancock, from the Diocesan MET, for so beautifully guiding us through the first four Sunday Gospels of Lent. Together we reflected on the deeper themes within each reading and, more importantly, how the Gospel speaks to us personally today – what it means for our lives right now.

We journeyed through:

- The temptation of Jesus in the desert
- The Transfiguration
- The woman at the well
- The healing of the blind man

Each story invited us to compare the times of Scripture with our own lived experiences – our temptations, our mountain-top encounters with God, our thirst for living water, and our longing for healing and clarity.

Through personal reflections and images from the Holy Land, the Gospel truly came alive – from Scripture to reality. The evening also allowed time for quiet personal reflection and meaningful sharing.

We warmly invite all parishioners to join us next Wednesday, 4 March at 6.45pm.

We will explore the Gospel of the raising of Lazarus from the dead, followed by the Stations of the Cross. Come and continue the journey with us this Lent. ✝

Diocesan Lenten Scripture Night | 3 March

Are you looking to read the Bible during Lent but don't know where to start?

Guided by Scripture scholar, Dr Michele Connolly RSJ the Diocesan Lenten Scripture Night is an experiential, reflective evening, where participants are guided by an expert in Scripture to integrate life and faith practice, particularly within the context of Lent.

Join us on Tuesday 3 March from 7pm at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Greystanes.



Lenten Journey: Weekly Challenges

This week, focus not on how long you pray, but on how you pray. Spend time with Jesus as you would with a close friend - unhurried, honest, and open-hearted. Let the quality of that time reflect your desire to be among his closest friends.

Prayer: Lord, let your compassion give us light. Amen.

Week 2: Practice active listening. When someone speaks, give them your full attention without interrupting or judging.