



# 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.



2025/ Issue No. 2// Sunday 12th January 2025

Reflection from Fr Cao for the Feast of the

## Baptism of the Lord

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord ends the Christmas season and marks the beginning of Jesus' ministry. The Baptism revealed Jesus' identity to people. "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." This mysterious utterance reveals Jesus as the Son of God, the One sent from the Father to accomplish the salvation of the human race.

As we reflect on Christ's baptism, we are reminded of our own baptism. Pope Francis says that Christ's baptism not only reveals to us that Jesus is the Son of God, but also speaks to us of our Baptism, which has made us children of God.

Through Baptism God comes into us, purifies, heals our heart, makes us forever his children, his people, his family, heirs to Paradise (cf. Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1279). God becomes intimate to us and he does not leave us anymore.

Pope Benedict XVI, reflecting on the Baptism of the Lord remarks: Baptism is "communion with the One who conquered death and holds in his hand the keys of life. Belonging to this circle, to God's family, means being in communion with Christ, who is life and gives eternal love beyond death. Thanks be to God, who has redeemed us from our sins and given us eternal life through Jesus Christ."

What Jesus' Baptism teaches us is that God's plan of salvation is God's plan, not ours. By being baptized, Jesus would show his submission to the Father, identify with the sinners that he came to save, and be initiated into his ministry that began shortly afterwards. He did so in order that righteousness might be fulfilled, so you and I must remember that we are saved according to God's plan.

When we were baptized, we entered into a covenant with God. We promised to take upon ourselves the name of Jesus Christ, always remember Him, keep His commandments, and serve Him to the end. Our Heavenly Father promised us a remission of sins and, through the Sacrament of Confirmation, the gift of the Holy Spirit.

All of us, by virtue of our own Baptisms, have also been marked as God's beloved sons and daughters, and our identity and mission is the same as Christ's. The way in which the mission is carried out in our modern world will, of course, be very different from the way Christ carried it out over two thousand years ago but the mission itself has not changed. We are called, like Jesus, to bring about God's kingdom of justice, love, healing, liberation and peace through whatever ways and means are possible.

### Parish Office Closing Dates:

The Parish Office will be closed on the following dates:

- Tuesday 14th January - Holiday Program
- Wednesday 22nd January - Holiday Program
- Monday 27th January - Observed Australia Day P/H
- Wednesday 29th January - Holiday Program

NOTE: All tickets are now sold out!



*- Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for January -  
- For the Right to an Education*

*Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.*

### Mandatory Safeguarding Training:

As part of our commitment to ensuring all children and adults at risk are safe, respected, protected and supported in our care, all staff and volunteers in our parish, chaplaincies, agencies, ministries and councils are required to complete Mandatory Safeguarding.

**CYCLE 1 TRAINING - FOR ALL NEW STAFF & VOLUNTEERS**  
Saturday 22nd February, 10am-3pm in the school hall

**CYCLE 2 RENEWAL TRAINING** - For those who completed the training in 2023.

Saturday 3rd May, 10am-1.30pm in the school hall

### 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\\_loleehotmail.com](mailto:kosilio_loleehotmail.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

Monday - Saturday  
9.00am only

Saturday: Vigil 5.30pm

Sunday: 9.00am & 10.30am

### Mass at Willmot

There is no 7.30am Mass at Willmot. Masses will continue from Sunday 26th January 2025.

### Mass and Anointing

2nd Saturday of every month:  
9.00am

### Holy Hour - Emerton

Saturdays from 9.30am

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays: 9.30am - 10.00am OR  
by appointment.



## SCRIPTURE READINGS - YEAR C

# The Baptism of the Lord

LET US HEAR AND RECEIVE THE WORD OF GOD



### Collect:

Almighty ever-living God, who, when Christ had been baptized in the River Jordan and as the Holy Spirit descended upon him, solemnly declared him your beloved Son, grant that your children by adoption, reborn of water and the Holy Spirit, may always be well pleasing to you. 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 40: 1-5, 9-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings; lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!"

See the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

### Responsorial Psalm 103 (104): 1-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-30 R: Oh, bless the Lord, my soul!

O Lord my God, you are very great.  
You are clothed with honour and majesty,  
wrapped in light as with a garment.  
You stretch out the heavens like a tent. R.

You set the beams of your dwelling place on the waters,  
you make the clouds your chariot,  
you ride on the wings of the wind,  
you make the winds your messengers,  
fire and flame your ministers. R.

O Lord, how manifold are your works!  
In wisdom you have made them all;  
the earth is full of your creatures.  
Yonder is the sea, great and wide,  
creeping things innumerable are there,  
living things both small and great. R.

Living things all look to you  
to give them their food in due season;  
when you give to them, they gather it up;  
when you open your hand, they are filled with good things R.

When you take away their breath,  
they die and return to their dust.  
When you send forth your spirit, they are created;  
and you renew the face of the earth. R.

### Second Reading: Titus 2: 11-14, 3: 4-7

Beloved: The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds. For when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

### Gospel Acclamation:

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

John said: One more powerful than I is coming;  
he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

**Alleluia!**

### Gospel: Luke: 3: 15-16, 21-22

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptise you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

Now when all the people were baptised, and when Jesus also had been baptised and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

### Prayer After Communion:

Nourished with these sacred gifts, we humbly entreat your mercy, O Lord, that, faithfully listening to your Only Begotten Son, we may be your children in name and in truth. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS

**LIST OF THE SICK:** John Murray, Lemisio Fa'ulua, Lourdes Bustamante, Antony Pepin, Pippa O'Neal, Maureen Clements, Mathew Sieders, Jose Manalo, Fely Dela Paz Manalo, Maria Barbara, Sylvia Greene, Mayda Attachian, Faye Iffland, Tim Meagher, Zarouf Mallouk, Gloria Cutcliffe, Emma Lawrence, Maria Llave, Maria Belisario, Fara Vargas, Fe Llave, Stella Edwards, Boyet Llave.

#### RECENT ANNIVERSARIES:

**RECENT DEATHS:** Tualau Vave, Kerrie Donaldson, Fr Peter Unwin.

Readings for Sunday 19th January, 2025:  
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time in Year C

\\ 1st Reading: Isaiah 62: 1-5 //

\\ 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 12: 4-11 //

\\ Gospel: Matthew 2: 1-11 //

