



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.



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@hollyfamily.org.au

Assistant Priest: Fr Renato Zecchin SJ

renato@hollyfamily.org.au

Pastoral Associate: Sr Carlene Allen

carlene@hollyfamily.org.au

Site Manager: Ray Donaldson

ray@hollyfamily.org.au

Parish Secretary: Malia Lolesio

enquiry@hollyfamily.org.au

Book-Keeper: Malinda Toms

accounts@hollyfamily.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

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 at 7.30am

8 Carteret Ave, Willmot NSW 2770

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.



2025/ Issue No. 31// 24th August, 2025



Reflection from Fr Renato for the 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time in Year C

"Enter by the narrow door" – "Those last will be first, those first will be last."

One of the most important and deep-seated questions humans ask is: "Will I be saved?" Or, after death: "Will I go to heaven? How will I enter it?" In fact, almost all religions speak of offering salvation.

While Jesus was ministering to people in towns and villages on His way to Jerusalem, He was asked: "Sir, will only a few be saved?" How does He respond? "Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed." Jesus tells us that the way to salvation is by choosing the narrow door.

So, what is Jesus saying to us? He did not say to enter through a wide door, a front door, a side door, or a back door. He does not answer the question directly about how many will be saved. Instead, He emphasizes the narrow door—the way. The narrow door symbolizes the path to eternal life. Jesus is the Redeemer and Savior—the way to eternal life for us. Entry into the Kingdom is not based on being part of a chosen people or a particular denomination. Being a Jew, a child of Abraham, a Catholic, a Seventh-Day Adventist, a Presbyterian, or a member of the First Nations Church is no guarantee of salvation.

The way to salvation is through an authentic response to Jesus' teaching—striving through both faith and love from the heart. True discipleship requires effort, dedication, and commitment to living out our faith in Jesus Christ, practicing His way of loving and serving. It involves a call to repentance that leads to conversion and transformation of attitudes and behavior—making Jesus' convictions our convictions, His virtues our virtues, and His sacrificial love our way of life.

We must be spiritually connected and animated by the three persons of the Trinity: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Being fully alive, spiritually alive, means having gone through the "narrow door" that Jesus speaks of.

Jesus reminds us that the places at the banquet—the feast in the Kingdom of God—will include persons from the east and west, from the north and south. The Lord's salvation is universal.

"Those last will be first, and those first will be last."

What Jesus is teaching in Matthew 19:30 is this: there will be many surprises in heaven. Heaven's value system is far different from earth's. Those who are esteemed and respected in this world (like the rich young ruler) may be frowned upon by God. The opposite is also true: those who are despised and rejected in this world (like the disciples) may, in fact, be rewarded by God.

Don't get caught up in the world's way of ranking things—power, wealth, status, and privilege. It is far too prone to error. Those who are "first" in the opinion of others (or in their own opinion!) may be surprised to learn, on Judgment Day, that they are last in God's opinion.

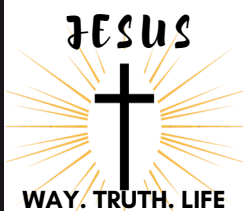
Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough.

Luke 13:24



POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR: AUGUST 2025 For mutual coexistence.

Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious or ideological reasons.
Amen.



SCRIPTURE READINGS - YEAR C

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

LET US HEAR AND RECEIVE THE WORD OF GOD

**Collect:**

O God, who cause the minds of the faithful to unite in a single purpose, grant your people to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, amid the uncertainties of this world, our hearts may be fixed on that place where true gladness is found. 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 66: 18-21

Thus says the Lord: "For I know their works and their thoughts, and I am coming to gather all nations and tongues; and they shall come and shall see my glory, and I will set a sign among them. From them I will send survivors to the nations, to Tarshish, Put, and Lud—which draw the bow—to Tubal and Javan, to the coastlands far away that have not heard of my fame or seen my glory; and they shall declare my glory among the nations. They shall bring all your kindred from all the nations as an offering to the Lord, on horses, and in chariots, and in litters, and on mules, and on dromedaries, to my holy mountain Jerusalem," says the Lord, "just as the children of Israel bring a grain offering in a clean vessel to the house of the Lord. And I will also take some of them as priests and as Levites," says the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm - Ps 116

R: Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.

Praise the Lord, all you nations!
Extol him, all you peoples! R.

For great is his steadfast love toward us,
and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. R.

Second Reading: Hebrews 12: 5-7, 11-13

You have forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as children— "My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, or lose heart when you are punished by him; for the Lord disciplines the one whom he loves, and chastises every son whom he accepts." Endure trials for the sake of discipline. God is treating you as sons; for what son is there whom a father does not discipline? Now, discipline always seems painful rather than pleasant at the time, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint, but rather be healed.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

*I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord;
no one comes to the Father, except through me.*

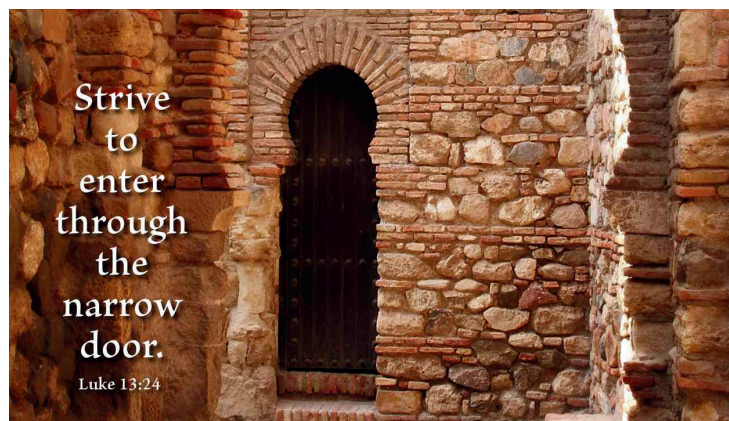
Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 13: 22-30

Jesus went through one town and village after another, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem. Someone asked him, "Lord, will only a few be saved?" Jesus said to them, "Strive to enter through the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able. When once the owner of the house has got up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, open to us,' then in reply he will say to you, 'I do not know where you come from.' Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.' But the Lord will say, 'I do not know where you come from; go away from me, all you evildoers!' There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the Prophets in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrown out. Then people will come from east and west, from north and south, and will eat in the kingdom of God. Indeed, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."

Prayer After Communion:

Complete within us, O Lord, we pray, the healing work of your mercy and graciously perfect and sustain us, so that in all things we may please you. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS**

LIST OF THE SICK: 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, Gloria Cutcliffe, Emma Lawrence, Maria Llave, Maria Belisario, Fara Vargas, Fe Llave, Stella Edwards, Boyet Llave.

RECENT ANNIVERSARIES:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Paulo Mau'u, Ika Heleta

Readings for Sunday 31st August, 2025: Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time in Year C

\\ 1st Reading: Sirach 3: 17-20, 28-29 // \\ 2nd Reading: Hebrews 12: 18-19, 22-24 // \\ Gospel: Luke 14: 1, 7-14 //



Parish Collection for the weekend of the 16th / 17th August 2025:

1st Collection (for the priests of the diocese) \$ 702.15
 2nd Collection (for parish expenses) \$ 2,126.55

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.

 Father's Day Raffle

Celebrate Dad and support a great cause, with amazing prizes to be won.

 **Tickets: \$5 each**

 **Draw Date: Father's Day – Sunday, 7th September**
 **After the 10:30am Mass**

 Prizes:

 **1st Prize: Round-trip travel voucher to Fiji for 1**

 **2nd Prize: 2 Tickets to the NRL Grand Final**

 **3rd Prize: Dinner for 4 + Premium Family Hamper – the perfect family treat!**

 Proceeds will go toward improving drainage and creating safe pavements for our parish and community. Help us make our grounds safer for everyone! Tickets available after all weekend Masses.

 If you can assist with selling tickets to help raise funds for the parish, please see Judy or contact the parish office.

Thank you for your support!

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS ROSTER
for next week: 30/31 August 2025**

5.30pm Vigil Mass

Minister at the Altar: P. Morrell
 Minister of the Word: G. Bruton / F. Hinder
 Eucharistic Minister: M. Freeburn
 AV Operator: P. Gillman

9am Sunday Mass

Minister at the Altar: S. Watt
 Minister of the Word: M. Clements / L. Gordon
 Eucharistic Minister: M. Mealamu
 AV Operator: -

10.30am Sunday Mass

Minister at the Altar: L. Tuuhetoka / K. Kiteau
 Minister of the Word: P. Mafi / P. Tatuila
 Eucharistic Minister: -
 AV Operator: V. Setefano

If you would like to be a part of the roster, please see Sr Carlene OR contact the Parish Office.

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

- Baptism, 11.45am (Church)
- St Ignatius Tongan Sunday School, 12pm-3pm (HFC)
- HF Tongan Catholic Communion, 12pm-3pm (MMR)
- Samoan Divine Mercy, 3.30pm-6.30pm (MMR)

Monday August 25

- Prep for Sacraments - Adults, 4pm (SICR)
- AA mtg, 7pm (MMR)

Tuesday August 26

- Mass and Anointing, 11.30am (Ropes Crossing)
- Staff Meeting, 3pm-5pm (SICR)
- NA mtg, 6.30pm-8pm (MMR)
- St VdP Emerton Conference, 7pm-8.30pm (SSR)

Wednesday August 27

- Free Community Podiatry, 10am-3pm (SSR)
- Christian Meditation, 6.30pm-7.30pm (MMR)
- First Holy Communion Preparation Session, 7pm (Church)
- HF Young Adults 'Living with Bible' Session, 7pm-9pm (HFC)

Thursday August 28

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

Friday August 29

- AA mtg, 6.30pm-8pm (MMR)

Saturday August 30

- HF Tongan Choir prac, 2pm-4.30pm (SSR)
- Shalom Media Presentation, during 5.30pm Vigil Mass
- AA mtg, 7pm (MMR)

Meeting Rooms:

SSR - Schoenstatt Sisters Room;

SICR - St Ignatius Conference Room;

MMR - Mary Mackillop Meeting Room,

HFC - Holy Family Centre

UPCOMING EVENTS:

DATE	DETAILS
Fri 29 th August	St Vincent De Paul - Greater Western Sydney Community Sleepout (Parra) To register, scan QR code: 
Sun 7 th September	FATHER'S DAY Father's Day Raffle to be drawn
13 th /14 th September	• First Holy Communion at all Masses • Melbourne Cup Trifecta Tickets go on sale!
14 th September	HF Young Adults ACYF Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser
Tue 14 th October	Mass for Seniors at 11.30am Followed by light lunch in the church.
Thur 16 th October	Liturgy Committee Meeting 6.45pm
20 th - 22 nd October	Jesuit Parishes Conference (Melbourne)
Wed 22 nd October	First Reconciliation Information Session for Parents/ Carers, 7pm
Tue 4 th November	Melbourne Cup Day
Sat 8 th November	TBC - Parish Pilgrimage to the Holy Doors at Mt Schoenstatt, Mulgoa
Sun 9 th November	Mass for All Souls, 3pm (Pinegrove Cemetery)
Sat 15 th November	Parish Working Bee
Fri 28 th November	Thanksgiving Dinner for Parish Volunteers
30 th Nov - 2 nd Dec	Australian Catholic Youth Festival (Melbourne)
Sun 30 th November	Parish Choir singing at Nth Sydney Parish Mass
Sat 6 th Dec	Parish Christmas Carols, 7pm-10pm (School Grounds)
Wed 10 th Dec	Second Rite of Reconciliation, 6.45pm (Chapel)
Tuesday 16 th Dec	Mass and Anointing, 11.30am (Ropes Crossing) Rochford Place, 12 Avoca St Ropes Crossing 2760



Share the Faith – Become a Catholic SRE Volunteer!

God is calling ordinary people to do something extraordinary: share His love with children in our local schools. As a Special Religious Education (SRE) teacher, you'll help young hearts encounter Jesus and grow in the Catholic faith.

No teaching experience? No problem! Full training and resources are provided. All you need is a love for Christ and a willingness to serve.

Be the face of Christ to the next generation. Say "yes" today!

To learn more or sign up, see Maureen Freeburn OR Lorraine Gordon, or contact the Parish Office

Young Adults – Praying with the Bible

Are you a young adult looking to deepen your faith and connect with Scripture in a meaningful way?

Join us for "Praying with the Bible" – a space to reflect, pray, and share together through the Word of God.

Next session: Wednesday 27th August at 7.30pm

Where: Parish Centre

What to bring: A Bible (if you have one), a journal, and a pen

Come along and be part of a welcoming and faith-filled group. No prior experience needed – just an open heart. All young adults are welcome!

Contact us: @hfya_mtd

Sacramental Program – Enrolments Now Open

Parents wishing to enrol their child/ren in the Parish Sacramental Program are invited to do so now until the end of September 2025.

This program will prepare children to receive the sacraments over the coming years:

First Reconciliation – November 2025

First Holy Communion – 2026

Confirmation – 2027

To be eligible for enrolment, children must:

- ✓ Be baptised
- ✓ Be at least 8 years of age

Enrolment forms and further information are available from the Parish Office.

We look forward to supporting your family on this important journey of faith.



Social Justice Sunday – Next Sunday, 31 August 2025

Next Sunday we observe Social Justice Sunday, a time to reflect on how the Gospel calls us to act justly and compassionately in a world marked by inequality and hardship.

This year's Social Justice Statement, titled **"Signs of Hope on the Edge: Serving People Living in Homelessness and Mental Ill-Health,"** highlights the growing crisis of homelessness and mental illness in Australia.

Over 273,000 people seek support from homelessness services every year, many also experiencing poor mental health.

Practical Response – Vinnies Community Sleepout

You're invited to take action by joining the **Vinnies Community Sleepout on Friday 29 August** at Western Sydney University, Parramatta Campus.

This event raises awareness and vital funds to support those experiencing homelessness in our community.

Scan QR Code to read the Social Justice Statement online.



Scan QR Code to register online for the Vinnies Sleepout



Support Denise & Patrick's Jubilee Pilgrimage

In just 2 weeks, Denise and Patrick will depart Australia for their Jubilee Year of Hope Pilgrimage to Greece, Turkey & Rome.



Support their journey through a donation or sponsorship.

As a parish family, let's come together in prayer and generosity to lift them up and walk beside them in spirit.

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

Sponsor or Donate:

PayID: 0418 767 025 OR

Transfer to Acc Name:

Mount Druitt Catholic Church

BSB: 067 950 Acc No: 0000 0446

Ref: Walkathon Fundraiser



Keep them in your prayers



Coming to Our Parish Next Weekend!

Shalom Media will be sharing a special presentation at all Masses on the weekend of 30–31 August.

Discover their range of free, faith-filled Catholic resources for the whole family:

24-hour Commercial-Free Catholic Family Channel

Visit: www.shalomworld.org



SW Prayer – A new channel dedicated entirely to prayer

Your spiritual companion: www.swprayer.org



SW Pals – Animated Bible stories and faith content for children. Fun and meaningful: www.swpals.org

Shalom World News – Your source for Christian news from around the world.

Stay informed: www.shalomworld.org/news



Shalom Tidings Magazine – Free, bi-monthly publication filled with hope, encouragement, and Good News

Subscribe at: www.shalomtidings.org



Don't miss this opportunity to learn more about these inspiring Catholic resources!

FaithLIFE Spirituality Short Course w/Donnie Velasco:

Searching for a deeper understanding of spirituality?

Hoping to find renewed ways of expressing your faith?

Wanting to further discern God's call in your life? Sign up now for the 3-session FaithLIFE Spirituality short course with Donnie Velasco on Wednesday 27 AUG + 3 SEP!

Registration and more dates and details via

<https://tr.ee/OkHbjm0Fq1> or get in touch with the team via met@parracatholic.org

Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities: 1-3 September

The next sessions of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Training will be held on the following days at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre:

- **Monday 1 September for Initial training (Modules 1-3) from 9.30am to 2.30pm**
- **Tuesday 2 September for Renewal training (Modules 4 and 5) from 10am to 1.39pm**
- **Wednesday 3 September for Refresher training (Module 6) from 10am to 12noon.**

Please register directly for this training or for other convenient dates and locations by clicking on the training event at: <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>. For more information,

please email: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org