



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@holyfamily.org.au

Assistant Priest: Fr Renato Zecchin SJ

renato@holyfamily.org.au

Pastoral Associate: Sr Carlene Allen

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Site Manager: Ray Donaldson

ray@holyfamily.org.au

Parish Secretary: Malia Lolesio

enquiry@holyfamily.org.au

Book-Keeper: Malinda Toms

accounts@holyfamily.org.au

Music Director: Etuate 'Eddie' Paunga

kosilio_loleehotmail.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 from the 21st -26th April

WEEKDAY:

Monday - Saturday: 9.00am

WEEKEND:

Saturday Vigil: 5.30pm

Sunday: 9.00am & 10.30am

Mass at Willmot

Easter 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. 16// Sunday 20th April, 2025

Reflection from Fr Renato for

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

HAPPY EASTER- "HE IS ALIVE."

"Our old history ends with the Cross; our new history begins with the resurrection." (Watchman Nee)

We have been shown the way to the Father. He is alive. We are invited to continue to walk in that way.

Mary Magdalene finds the empty tomb and runs to the apostles to tell them her astonishing news. St John's is the only account where the apostles are directly involved in finding that the tomb was empty, and where neither Jesus nor angels were there to give any guidance about the meaning of it. The Beloved Disciple was present with Peter to see the discarded burial-cloths within the tomb, and he at once realised what this meant: that Jesus was risen from the dead!

On Easter morning, the stone was rolled away from the mouth of the tomb. Could I think of my heart as a tomb awaiting a resurrection? Can I identify anything akin to a stone that is holding me back from enjoying the fullness of life? It could be an addiction, a compulsion or some hidden and dark secret that I have never shared with anyone. We can be as sick as our secrets. But as pope Francis declares, "We are called to be people of joyful hope, not doomsday prophets!" Because of the resurrection of Jesus, we can all have hopeful joy, and go out to share it with the world.

Our celebration of Easter reminds us that the darkness of evil and hatred will never have the last say. For the resurrection of Jesus proclaims the ultimate triumph of light over darkness and goodness over evil, both in us and in our world.

If we want to meet the risen Christ, full of life and creative energy, we need to seek him, not in a dead religion, one that is reduced to fulfilling and observing external laws and norms, but there where people live according to Jesus' Spirit, where people are welcomed with faith, love and responsibility for Jesus' follower.

"And he departed from our sight that we might return to our hearts and find him there. For he left us, and behold, he is here." ~ Saint Augustine



'On the Third Day He will Rise' by Michael Toreval

As we celebrate the victory of Jesus over death, may the undying hope of Easter reach deep into the lives of everyone in our community.

We pray especially for those struggling most to find hope in what seems a hopeless situation.

May the miracle of Easter and God's amazing grace renew your faith and fill your heart with love, hope, and joy.

HAPPY EASTER!



SCRIPTURE READINGS - YEAR C

Easter Sunday



LET US HEAR AND RECEIVE THE WORD OF GOD

Collect:

O God, who on this day, through your Only Begotten Son, have conquered death and unlocked for us the path to eternity, grant, we pray, that we who keep the solemnity of the Lord's Resurrection may, through the renewal brought by your Spirit, rise up in the light of life. 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: Acts 10: 34, 37-43

Peter began to speak: "You know the message that spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear; not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the Prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Responsorial Psalm 118: 1-2, 16-17, 22-23. (R.24)

**R: This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad.**

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever.
Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever." R.

"The right hand of the Lord is exalted;
the right hand of the Lord does valiantly."
I shall not die, but I shall live,
and recount the deeds of the Lord. R.

The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.
This is the Lord's doing;
it is marvellous in our eyes. R.

WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS

LIST OF THE SICK: Pope Francis, Marjorie Ritchie, Pat Phelan, 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:

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4

Brothers and sisters: If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
*Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;
let us feast with joy in the Lord.*
Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 24: 1-12

On the first day of the week, at early dawn, the women who had accompanied Jesus from Galilee came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." Then the women remembered Jesus' words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the Apostles. These words seemed to the Apostles an idle tale, and they did not believe the women. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

Prayer After Communion:

Look upon your Church, O God, with unfailing love and favor, so that, renewed by the paschal mysteries, she may come to the glory of the resurrection. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**- Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for April -
- For the use of new technologies -**



*Let us pray that the use of the new technologies
will not replace human relationships,
will respect the dignity of the person,
and will help us face the crises of our times.*

Parish Collection for the weekend of the 12th/13th April 2025:

1st Collection (for the priests of the diocese)	\$ 1,111.75
2nd Collection (for parish expenses)	\$ 2,454.55
Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal	\$ 150.00

DIRECT PARISH DONATIONSOnline 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.

Planned Giving 2025/2026

If you would like to join the Planned Giving Envelope Contribution Scheme, please fill out the online form (via the QR Code), or complete the form at the back of the church and place it in the collections basket. Alternatively, you can contact the Parish Office.

**Insurance Appeal Donations:**

Envelopes are available for those who wish to contribute to our insurance appeal. The appeal runs until the end of June. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

Our insurance bill for Feb 2025 - March 2026:

\$48,440.29**Calling All Altar Servers!
Boys and girls, we need you!**

If your child has already received their First Holy Communion and attends Sunday Mass regularly, pick up a registration form at the back of the church. This is for children aged 12 years or older.

Parish Jubilee Celebration - Call for Information

Please submit memorabilia to jubilee@holyfamily.org.au by 21st April 2025 to the parish office for inclusion in our Jubilee publication.

Thank you for helping us celebrate our parish history!

CONGRATULATIONS!

to our Elect: Caroline Collier, Mele Vailea, Jeremiah Vailea; our Candidate: Sione Teulaka, and our Newly Baptised: Cindy Vakaahi and Mia Vakaahi this Easter!

**We rejoice with you
as you take this beautiful step in faith.
May the light of Christ
continue to guide you always.**

Welcome to the fullness of life in the Church!**WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:****Easter Sunday April 20**

- Holy Family Tongan Communion Mass, 12pm-1.30pm (Church)
- Samoan Divine Mercy, 3.30pm-5.30pm (MMR)
- Jesus the True Vine, 3.30pm-6.30pm (SSR)

Easter Monday April 21 (Parish Office closed)

- AA mtg, 7pm (MMR)

Easter Tuesday April 22

- Mass and Anointing at Ropes Crossing, Rochford Place, 12 Avoca St, Ropes Crossing NSW 2760. ALL ARE WELCOME.
- Staff Meeting, 3pm-5pm (SICR)
- NA mtg, 6.30pm-8pm (MMR)
- St VdP Emerton Conference, 7pm-8.30pm (SSR)

Easter Wednesday April 23

- NAIDOC Planning mtg, 1pm-2pm (SSR)


Easter Thursday April 24**Easter Friday April 25: ANZAC DAY (Parish Office closed)**

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

Easter Saturday April 26

- HF Tongan Choir prac, 2pm-4.30pm (SSR)
- 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
Saturday 26 th April	Autumn Holiday Program Activity: . Wiggles Bouncing Balls Tour, Sydney Coliseum Theatre, West HQ
Sunday 27 th April	Testimony sharing from Young Adults at all Masses re: Jubilee of Youth Pilgrimage.
Saturday 3 rd May	Cycle 2 Mandatory Safeguarding Training for Volunteers who completed Level 1 Training in 2023. 10am-1.30pm  Register online via QR code:
Sunday 11 th May	MOTHER'S DAY Raffle to be drawn.
Saturday 17 th May	Young Adults Disco Fundraiser for the Jubilee of Youth Pilgrimage Funds raised will support our young adult leaders attending the pilgrimage to Greece and Italy. 6pm - Midnight (School Hall) \$20 entry
Wednesday 14 th May	Parents/Carers Information Session for the Sacrament of Confirmation, 7pm in the church.
Sunday 1 st June	Holy Family Parish 60 Year Anniversary Celebration Mass 10.30am
Wednesday 18 th June	Sacrament of Confirmation 7pm Mass with Bishop Vincent
Saturday 21 st June	Risk & Compliance Workshop 10am-1.30pm (School Hall)

Mother's Day Raffle:

Tickets are available for our Mother's Day Raffle—
\$2 each or 3 for \$5.
Tickets will be sold after Mass until Mother's Day on
May 10th. This is the perfect chance to treat your
mom (or yourself!) to something special.



Easter Sunday 20th April 2025

**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

Happy Easter from all of us here at Caritas Australia! As we celebrate this season of hope and renewal, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your support through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion this Lent. As we reflect on the Easter message of love, compassion, and new beginnings, we are reminded of the incredible impact your contributions make. Together, we are building a world where no one is left behind. Thank you for standing with us, as we Unite Against Poverty through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2025 Lenten appeal.



You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code OR online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion Or by calling: 1800 024 413

EASTER PRAYER HELPS

Easter Prayer - The Resurrection-Hope

a. Let us begin- **we ask for a grace.** " We ask the Lord for the gift of joy and rejoicing knowing through the Resurrection the Lord has conquered, sin, evil death itself and in God's time all will be well.

b. I pray on a **scripture passage**

"The Disciples on the Road to Emmaus"
Gospel of Luke 24:13-35

c. Points for Prayer and Reflection

• Do a **contemplation** on the Emmaus story. Imagine Galilee or Emmaus and enter prayerfully into the Gospel scene, beholding the place and the disciples there.

What do you See? Hear? Smell? Taste?

Spend time going into the details of this part of our Lord's resurrection and slowly, in the end, focus on him and gaze lovingly at his face.

• The **Emmaus story** starts with the two disciples complaining and despairing. However, the entire story ends with these same disciples trusting and hoping in the Lord.

Right now, in what areas of your life do you find yourself continually complaining and despairing? Why these area in particular?

What do you think you need to do for you to shift, from doubt to faith, discouragement to hope, desolation to consolation?

• **Dialogue with the Lord on all these points.**

Thank him for sharing his gifts of presence and mission to you and to the world, as seen in and through the Easter story.

Easter is not magical. It is transcendent. Jesus is not somewhere else. Christ is everywhere—through him all creation holds together. He lives and breathes through his body, the Church. So what does it mean to live as Easter people? It means we live as a people, all parts of Christ's Body working together toward a single purpose: love.

- By Fr Renato

Lenten Prayer Feedback Form



We'd love to hear your thoughts on the weekly Lenten prayers included in the parish bulletins this year. Your feedback helps us plan more meaningful resources for future seasons. Please scan the QR code. Thank you!

Bishop Vincent's Easter Message 2025

Printed copies of Bishop Vincent's Easter Message are now available for you to take home.

In his powerful reflection, Bishop Vincent reminds us that the Resurrection is not just a future hope but a present transformation, lived out through our Baptism and the Eucharist.

As we celebrate Easter and journey through this Jubilee Year of Hope, be encouraged by his call to live as people of hope in a challenging world.

Please pick up a copy at the back of the church.

HAPPINESS IS....

A glad heart makes a cheerful countenance, but by sorrow of heart the spirit is broken. Proverbs 15:13

H - Happiness is holding onto the good moments, knowing they are gifts from God, cherishing the joy they bring.

A- Appreciating the little things as blessings from God, finding beauty in simplicity.

P- Prioritising prayer for guidance and gratitude, acknowledging God's role in our lives.

P- Practicing patience and perseverance in facing life's challenges, trusting in God's plan and timing.

I- Interacting with others with empathy and understanding, finding fulfillment in acts of generosity and compassion.

N- Nurturing our relationships with family and friends, recognising the blessings in life.

E- Embracing positivity as a reflection of God's light, focusing on what uplifts and inspires.

S- Spreading kindness as an expression of God's love, making the world a brighter place.

S - Seeking forgiveness for any wrongs committed, both to others and to oneself, allowing it to mend wounds and restore inner peace.

God, fill my days with joy, my heart with gratitude and my soul with peace. Help me find happiness in Your love, purpose in Your plan and strength in Your presence. Lead me to share kindness, embrace hope and live with faith. Amen."



Source: Happiness and Inspiration - Majellan Media



Hope & Inspiration

Thoughts to inspire