



# HOLY FAMILY COMMUNITY



UNDER THE CARE OF THE AUSTRALIAN JESUIT PROVINCE

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2023/Issue 11 HOLY FAMILY PARISH WEBSITE: [www.holyfamily.org.au](http://www.holyfamily.org.au) 12th March 2023

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

**Parish Priest**  
**Assistant Priest**  
**Pastoral Associate**  
**Site Manager**  
**Secretary**  
**Music Director**  
**Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson**

Fr Gregory Jacobs SJ  
Fr Patrick Mullins, SJ  
Sr Carlene Allen RSM  
Ray Donaldson  
Malia Lolesio  
Eddie Paunga Lolesio  
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## MASS TIMES - HOLY FAMILY CHURCH - EMERTON

Saturday Vigil : 5.30 pm Sunday: 9.00 am and 10.30 am

### JOHN TERRY CHAPEL (DAY CHAPEL)

Monday 8.30am & 6.00pm Mass  
Tuesday 8.30am & 6.00pm Mass  
Wednesday 8.30am & 6.00pm Mass  
Thursday 8.30am & 6.00pm Mass  
Friday 9.00am & 6.00pm Mass  
Saturday 9.00am Mass



### MASS AT WILLMOT CHURCH

Sunday 7.30am  
Cnr Pelsart & Carteret Ave Willmot

### RECONCILIATION AND HOLY HOUR—EMERTON

Saturday from 9.30 am to 10.00 am

## REFLECTION FROM THE PARISH PRIEST FOR THE Third Sunday of Lent

Over the next three Sundays our Gospel readings give us long dramatic episodes to reflect on. Historically this sequence of readings culminates the instruction for catechumens (those preparing for baptism at Easter).

Look for the following pattern in the coming weeks: the interaction begins with a human need for something (today it is water); Jesus overcomes this need miraculously – or at least, as here, implies that he can do so (getting water from the well without a bucket); the gift so provided functions as a symbol of a much more profound gift tied to the person of Jesus (he is the living water).

I have also been captured by the story of this woman: she is an outcast (having to come to collect water in the middle of the day rather than in the early morning with the rest of the women), she is a woman, and also a Samaritan – on all three counts Jesus should have nothing to do with her! Yet he ignores each of these barriers. She goes through a laborious process of having her faith challenged by Jesus from a literal to a symbolic and deeper faith. The effect of this encounter though transforms her: she goes back into the town and speaks openly with everyone about this man whom she has encountered – and this has been a real encounter! – and help bring them to Jesus for their own encounter.



This is one of the best examples of discipleship in Scriptures: she encounters Christ, allows her faith to be challenged and deepened, calls others to experience what she experienced, and helps them to find their own encounter themselves. If only there were more disciples like this in our Church.

Fr Gregory



## SCRIPTURE READINGS—YEAR A

### THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

LET US HEAR AND RECEIVE THE WORD OF GOD



#### **FIRST READING:** Exodus 17: 3-7

In the wilderness the people thirsted for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me."

The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel.

He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the children of Israel quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

#### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM :** Ps 94: 1-2, 6-9.

**R: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

Ø come, let us sing to the Lord;

let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Let us come into his presence with thanks-giving;

let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! R.

Ø come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture,  
and the sheep of his hand. R.

Ø that today you would listen to his voice!

Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah,

as on the day at Massah in the wilderness,

when your ancestors tested me,

and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work. R.

#### **SECOND READING:** Romans 5: 1-2, 5-8

Brothers and sisters: Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

**Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

From the shining of the cloud the Father's voice is heard:  
this is my beloved Son, hear him.

**Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

#### **GOSPEL:** John 4: 5-42 (shorter version)

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman said to him, "How is that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews did not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."

The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his children and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but the one who drinks of the water that I will give will never be thirsty. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.

"I see that you are a Prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem."

Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."

The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called the Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

Many Samaritans from the city believed in Jesus.

So when they came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world."

The Gospel of the Lord.

#### READINGS FOR SUNDAY 19th MARCH 2023 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT IN YEAR A

**1st Reading:** 1 Samuel 16: 1, 6-7, 10-13

**2nd Reading:** Ephesians 5: 8-14

**Gospel:** John 9: 1-41



#### **WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS**

**LIST OF THE SICK:** Emma Datoc, Ramil Suarez, Val Polkamp, Leota Sefo, Imaculata Leota, Malia Leota, Margaret Kearney, Paul Peters, Maria Barbara, Sylvia Greene, Baby Gabriella Mafi, Nanding Flores, Jose Manalo, Fely Dela Paz Manalo, Kilisimasi Lolesio, Faith Nimmo, Vaha Vave, Tualau Vave, Mayda Attachian, Faye Iffland, Tim Meagher, Cristina Frugone, Jose Lay, Zarouf Mallouk, George Mallouk, Gloria Cutcliffe, Maria Llave, Maria Belisario, Boyet Llave, Fe Llave, Edwards, Fara Vargas.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Eric Dawson, Marie Hannelas, Fr Mick O'Callaghan Anthony Lythgoe, Andrew Farrugia, Ioane Niumata, Jose Baldonado, Nellie Lincoln, Fr John Reilly SJ, Janice Barr, Fred Allen, Norbert Carlon, Maria Farrugia, William Murray, Selvina Cieppara Jannette Gohari, Emanuel and Rose Bugeja, Tuamasaga Peaga Ale, Bernard Gibbons, Noni Franklin, Wendy Paterson, John Rassaci, Dallan Jack McMillen, Baby Ayden Weippeartt, Collin Russell, Marlene Backett, Chuck Davey, Daphne Stevens, Chad Brown, Monsignor Alexander "Lex" Johnson, Lourdes Aquino, Kenneth Tobin.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Jackie Deveril, Pat Doepel, Terry Perry.



## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Thursday: 9.00am–4.30pm  
Friday: 9.00am–3.30pm

**CLOSED ON WEEKENDS**

Note: Staff meetings held on Tuesdays 9.15am–10.00am

## SUPPORT US ONLINE

For contributions towards the 1st Collection, for the clergy of the Diocese of Parramatta, please use the following details:

**Acc Name: Diocesan Clergy**

BSB: 067 950

Acc No: 0000 4265

Reference: 6024 (followed by your name).

For contributions towards the 2nd Collection, for our parish expenses, please use the following details:

**Acc Name: Mount Druitt Catholic Church**

BSB: 067 950

Acc No: 0000 0446

Reference: Envelope No OR Your full name).

### PARISH COLLECTIONS:

for the weekend of the 4th/5th March 2023

1st collection (for the clergy of the Diocese):	\$ 923.55
2nd collection (for parish expenses):	\$2,277.20

# PARISH WORKING BEE

Saturday 1st April  
10.00am - 3.00pm



Bring your cleaning gear, and come and help us clean our church - just in time for our Holy Week and Easter celebrations.

## PALMS/ GREENERY for *Palm Sunday*

We celebrate Palm Sunday on the weekend of the 1st/2nd of April. Thus, we are asking for PALMS, OLIVE BRANCHES, or any SUITABLE GREENERY which we can use in our celebrations.

If you can oblige, we would to receive the greenery on the 30th of March OR bring it to the working bee on Saturday 1st April, to prepare for our weekend Masses.

Furthermore, if you can help us with some of the preparation, please contact the Parish Office:

02 9628 7272.

Thank you in anticipation.

## Building Safe Parishes Together in 2023: Mandatory Safeguarding Training

Face-to-Face Training at Holy Family  
Saturday 20th May 2023

10am–3pm in the School Hall

(11 Emert Pde Emerton NSW 2770)

*RSVP Wednesday 17th May to the Parish Office*  
(02) 9628 7272; [enquiry@holyfamily.org.au](mailto:enquiry@holyfamily.org.au)

If you would like to complete the Safeguarding Training independently online, you can start these modules at any time and complete them at your own pace. Sign up onto the platform by using the QR code OR follow this link:

<https://learning.safeguarding.org.au>



If you have any questions about the Safeguarding Training, please email Maria Kervin, Community Engagement and Education Officer at: [maria.kervin@parracatholic.org](mailto:maria.kervin@parracatholic.org).

## HOLY FAMILY PARISH MT DRUITT AUTUMN HOLIDAY PROGRAM 2023

### #1 - Reddal Reserve, Illawarra - Wed 12/04/23

Reddal Reserve is situated in Lake Illawarra, and is said to be a perfect picnic spot for families. It has plenty of picnic & BBQ facilities, fish cleaning station, fitness equipment, shelter, and has a fun and safe playground for families.

You can also walk or cycle the 3km Lake Illawarra Art trail to explore local history, Aboriginal heritage, flora and fauna. The artworks along this trail were created by local artists in collaboration with the community. [www.visitshellharbour.com.au](http://www.visitshellharbour.com.au)

### #2 - Collaroy Beach - Fri 21/04/23

Collaroy Beach is an oceanside community known for its namesake stretch of sandy beach, as well as for being a popular destination for windsurfers and beginner surfers. Businesses, stores and surf shops are primarily set along Pittwater Road, along with laid-back bars and restaurants. The area has bird-watching, and seasonal whale and dolphin watching opportunities. The beach itself has picnic and BBQ areas. - Google

**TICKETS GO ON SALE WEDNESDAY 8th MARCH!**

**\$5.00 PER PERSON (Children aged 0-2 FREE)**

**PAYMENTS TO BE MADE BY CASH ONLY!!**

Tickets can only be purchased from the Holy Family Centre, via 11 Emert Pde Emerton NSW 2770.

### BUS SCHEDULE

\*Pick-Up from surrounding suburbs: **8.00am**  
Final Pick-Up & Departure from HFC: **8.30am**  
Leave Destination: **3.00pm**

(\* Pick-up & drop-off is available from the local 2770 suburban schools and shops: Mt Druitt station, Hebersham, Bidwill, Blackett, Emerton, Tregear, Lethbridge Park, Shalvey, Dharruk).

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- There are NO booking reservations or refunds. Tickets are transferrable.
- The following details will be collected upon purchasing tickets: Contact person & details, residing suburb, pick-up location, and age of children. (0-18years).
- Priority for purchase is given to individuals/ families residing in the 2770 suburban areas, and/or Blacktown LGA.
- Food + drink is not included in ticket.
- Buses transport participants to and from each destination. Participants are responsible for creating their own itinerary at the destination. Participants will be advised when to meet back at pick-up location for departure.



## HOLY FAMILY 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.



### Third Sunday of Lent 11th/12th March



Priscilla lives in the Hwange district in Zimbabwe with her husband, Charles, and their two grandsons. Climate change continues to bring unprecedented challenges for people living in the most vulnerable and remote communities in Zimbabwe.

With the support of Caritas Hwange, Priscilla learnt conservation farming skills to grow drought-resistant crops to support her family during the current food crisis. Priscilla was able to produce a bumper harvest in her first year of practising conservation farming. Priscilla used the funds from her harvest to start poultry farming, which enabled her to sell eggs to pay for her grandchildren's school fees, books and stationery. The poultry farming provides a safety net for Priscilla and her family during times of hardship, like the current drought.

While the situation in Zimbabwe and across eastern Africa remains dire, the work of Caritas Hwange means that Priscilla can learn the skills she needs to build resilience and support her family during this current food crisis.

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#### Please donate to Project Compassion 2023.



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](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion), or by calling 1800 024 413.



Photo: Richard Wainwright/Caritas Australia

## PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES DURING LENT AT HOLY FAMILY, MT DRUITT

### WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:

Monday - Thursday: 8.30am & 6.00pm

Friday: 9.00am & 6.00pm

Saturday: 9.00am

### SUNDAY MASS TIMES:

Saturday: 5.30pm Vigil

Sunday: 7.30am (Willmot)

9.00am & 10.30am (Emerton)

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays: 5.00pm (in English)

7.00pm (in Tongan)

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:

Wednesdays: From 5.30pm-6.30pm

Saturdays: From 8.30am-10.00am

### LENTEN PRAYER GROUP:

If you would like to join a group, please contact the Parish Office.

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturdays at 9.30am OR by appointment.

### PERSONAL REFLECTION for the WEEK AHEAD

- ◆ This week, be attentive to situations where God might be trying to encounter you through prayer, others, or nature. Consider writing these down, so in times of difficulty or feelings of isolation, you can reflect on them. Continue to increase your daily time of silence and prayer by a few minutes each day.

#### Prayer:

Eternal Father, your Son has promised that you would grant all the graces we ask of you in his name. Trusting in this promise, and in the name of Jesus Christ, we ask of you the following graces:

- ◇ We ask for *wisdom* to know ourselves more deeply, follow you more closely and love you more truly.  
**Lord, grace us with your wisdom.**
- ◇ We ask for your divine *light*, which will enable us to see the vanity of all the things of this earth, and see also your infinite greatness and goodness.  
**Lord, grace us with your light.**
- ◇ We ask for a share in your *love*, so that we can detach ourselves from all creatures, especially ourselves, and love only your holy will.  
**Lord, grace us with your love.**
- ◇ Grant us the grace to have *confidence in the merits* of Jesus Christ and in the intercession of his most holy mother, Mary.  
**Lord, grace us with confidence in your merits.**
- ◇ We ask for the grace of *perseverance*, knowing that whenever we call on you for assistance, you will answer our calls and come to our aid.  
**Lord, grace us with perseverance.**
- ◇ Finally, grant us the grace to pray always, O Eternal Father, in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

## An Old Irish Blessing for St. Patrick's Day

May your days be many and your troubles be few.  
May all God's blessings descend upon you.

May peace be within you,  
may your heart be strong.

May you find what you're seeking  
wherever you roam.

May the strength of God pilot us,  
may the wisdom of God instruct us.

May the hand of God protect us,

may the word of God direct us.

May thy Salvation, O Lord,  
be always ours this day and  
for evermore.

Amen.



Feast Day: Friday 17th March