



HOLY FAMILY COMMUNITY

UNDER THE CARE OF THE AUSTRALIAN JESUIT PROVINCE



254 Luxford Road, Emerton, N.S.W. 2770 / Phone: 02 9628 7272 / Mob: 0497 966 277 OR 0434 931 270 / Email: enquiry@holyfamily.org.au
2024/Issue 7 Parish Website: www.holyfamily.org.au Jesuit Province: www.jesuit.org.au 18th February 2024

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

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest

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caoholyfam@gmail.com

Pastoral Associate

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carlene@holyfamily.org.au

Site Manager

Ray Donaldson
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Parish Secretary

Malia Lolesio
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Music Director

Eddie Paunga Lolesio
kosilio_lole@hotmail.com
Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson

Marissa Logronio
logroniom23@gmail.com

REFLECTION FROM THE PARISH PRIEST FOR THE First Sunday of Lent

We have entered into Lent, since Ash Wednesday, with the message of Jesus: 'Repent and believe in the Good News.' The next few weeks will be a time of refreshment, a time of repentance, and a time for spiritual growth. During the Lenten journey, God reveals himself to us in a new way. We are reminded of our own human weakness and at the same time of the strength as children of God. We know that our lives are and will be on a new way that prepares us for Easter when we will renew our commitment to believing in the Good News of God's love.

In today's Gospel, we follow Jesus into the wilderness and see how he faced and overcame three temptations: hunger - the basic and physical need of humanity, secondly, authority or trust in God, and thirdly, worldly power. Jesus relied on scripture and resolute commitment to His divine mission and set an example of resistance against the temptation of physical appetites, sensationalism, and earthly power.

In life's journey, we all experience these temptations. The challenge, that is put to us not just this week but every time we face temptation, is to put total trust in God. God will reveal himself to us in a new way and help us in our spiritual journey.

God does not ask us to perform heroic deeds of self-sacrifice or to overcome and master our sinfulness. No, we are being challenged to really hear God's voice, to recognise His presence and Power. We are being challenged to believe that through baptism we have become children of God and that God says to each of us: 'You are my beloved.' It is really hard to accept this. There are many voices that try to convince us that this is not the truth. So Lent is a wonderful opportunity to rediscover our worth, as a person and as a beloved child of God. Lent is a time to rediscover the wonder of coming to life in Christ. We need to allow ourselves to believe in this love. Although it's difficult, it helps us to conquer all else in the world. God's love is given in mercy and compassion, particularly through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

God, may my encounter and experience of today remind me of my dependence on You for all the blessings I enjoy. Amen.

Fr Nguyen Van Cao SJ

MASS TIMES HOLY FAMILY CHURCH EMERTON

Monday & Thursday: 8.30am
Tuesday & Wednesday: 6.00pm
Friday: 9.00am & 6.00pm

Saturday: 9.00am & 5.30pm
Sunday: 9.00am & 10.30am

MASS AT WILLMOT
Sunday 7.30am
(8 Carteret Ave Willmot 2770)

MASS of ANOINTING
Second Saturday of every month
at 9.00am

HOLY HOUR—EMERTON
Wednesdays from 5.00pm
Saturdays from 9.30am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Saturdays: 9.30am—10.00am OR
by appointment.



Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for February—'For the terminally ill'

We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

"Life is not a play: Lent invites us to come down from the stage and return to the heart, to the reality of who we are," "Let us not be afraid to strip ourselves of worldly trappings and return to the heart, to what is essential." - Pope Francis

WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS

LIST OF THE SICK: Maureen Clements, Kevin Smith, Mathew Sieders, Emma Datoc, Val Polkamp, Jose Manalo, Fely Dela Paz Manalo, Maria Barbara, Sylvia Greene, Tualau Vave, Mayda Attachian, Faye Iffland, Tim Meagher, Cristina Frugone, Zarouf Mallouk, George Mallouk, Gloria Cutcliffe.

RECENT ANNIVERSARIES: Christine Holt.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Otila Laupola, Raul Llaneta.



SCRIPTURE READINGS—YEAR B FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

LET US HEAR AND RECEIVE THE WORD OF GOD



FIRST READING: Genesis 9: 8-15

I will recall the covenant between myself and you... the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth."

God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 24:4-9

**Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth,
to those who keep your covenant.**

Make me to know your ways, O Lord;
teach me your paths.
Lead me in your truth, and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation. R.

Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord,
and of your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.

According to your steadfast love remember me,
for the sake of your goodness, O Lord! R.

Good and upright is the Lord;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.
He leads the humble in what is right,
and teaches the humble his way. R.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3: 18-22

The water of the flood is a type of the baptism which saves you now.

Beloved: Christ suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison. In former times these did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water.

Baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with Angels, Authorities, and Powers made subject to him.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

No one lives on bread alone,

but on every word that comes from the mouth of God!

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL: Mark 1:12-15

He was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him.

After Jesus was baptised, the Spirit drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the Angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

The Gospel of the Lord.

READINGS FOR SUNDAY 25th FEBRUARY 2024 —

SECOND SUNDAY of LENT in YEAR B

1st Reading: Genesis 22: 1-2, 9-13, 15-18

2nd Reading: Romans 8: 31-34

Gospel: Mark 9: 2-10

MASS and ANOINTING of the SICK at ROPES CROSSING
11.30am on Tuesday 27th of February 2024
ALL ARE WELCOME!

HELP NEEDED:

Issues raised at recent Parish Pastoral Council meeting:

1. Improving lighting and ventilation in the church
2. Sustainable, cost-saving options to reduce the parish's power bills
3. Fresh flowers and greenery in the church for the Easter Vigil, and the following Sundays.
4. Palms and/or greenery for Palm Sunday, on the 24th of March.

If you are able to help in any way by giving us the names of suitably qualified people, for example electricians, we would be most grateful. Perhaps you, yourself, might be able to assist. Please contact the Parish Office (02) 9628 7272, or speak to one of the Parish Council team members.

Meditation on the Stations of the Cross



Fridays, during Lent,
in the church:

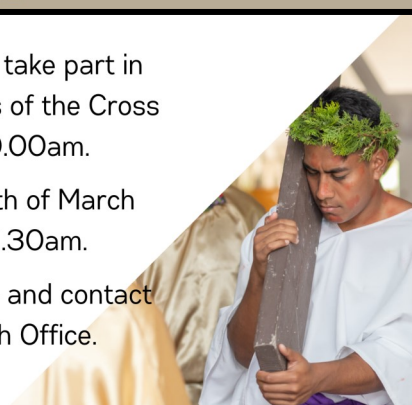
5.15pm in English

7.00pm in Tongan

We need volunteers to take part in
re-enacting the Stations of the Cross
on Good Friday, 10.00am.

Rehearsals: 10th & 24th of March
in the church, at 11.30am.

Please leave your name and contact
details at the Parish Office.



PARISH COLLECTIONS—

for the weekend of the 10th/11th February 2024

1st Collection - for the priests of the Diocese of Parramatta \$ 771.55
2nd Collection—for parish expenses \$ 1,759.90

DIRECT PARISH DONATIONS

- If you would like to make a donation towards the Diocesan Priests' Pastoral Revenue, i.e. **1st Collection**, you can do so via:

Acc Name: Parramatta Diocesan Clergy
BSB: 067 950 Acc No.: 004265
Make sure to Reference: 6024 Donation

- If you would like to make a donation to our parish, **2nd collection**, please make a direct transfer payment to:

Commonwealth Bank
Acc Name: Mount Druitt Catholic Church
BSB: 067 950 Acc No.: 0000446

**Become a Catechist, A Special Religious Education teacher!
What is an SRE or Catechist?**

Special Religious Educators (SREs) also known as Catechists are parish volunteers who:

- Teach and share the Catholic faith with children of their parish who attend government schools.
- Have a passion for sharing the gift of faith with young people.
- Have an hour per week to prepare and share their time and talents with young people.
- Are people who respond to the central mission of the Church to make Jesus known and loved.

In this parish Special Religious Educators, SREs, (previously known as Catechists) go into **12** state primary schools in school hours. New volunteer SREs will be given support, training, authorised teaching materials and will start as a classroom helper.

To register your interest or make further enquiries visit or call the Parish Office on 02 9628 7272



Donations via credit-card/
EFTPOS now available!

Simply 'tap' your card to make a \$10.00 donation

(Note: donations are made in multiples of \$10.00. E.g. if you would like to donate \$30, simply tap your card three times).

**The Chair of St Peter Feast Day—February 22**

The chair (cathedra) of a bishop is a pre-eminent sign of his teaching authority and pastoral oversight of a local Church. This feast, observed in Rome since the fourth century, celebrates Peter, first among the apostles, as founder of the See of Rome and the focus of unity in the communion of one faith.

- Liturgy Brisbane, 2020

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK (WWCC) & SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

A reminder that all parish staff and volunteers, community group leaders and facilitators, and particularly those involved in ministering to children, must have or obtain a NSW Working With Children Check (WWCC) number verified by the Diocese of Parramatta, and complete the modules for Safeguarding Cycle 1, under the Diocese of Parramatta. (NOTE: WWCC numbers are valid for 5 years, and Safeguarding Training is valid for 2 years).

We are currently updating our WWCC and Safeguarding Registers, and will be following up on those individuals and groups who are not yet compliant.

If you need any assistance with applying for OR renewing WWCC, and/or completing the Safeguarding modules, please do not hesitate to see Sr Carlene, or contact the Parish Office.

**FASTING and FEASTING
during LENT 2024**

Sunday 18th February

Fast on talking about yourself.

Monday 19th February

Feast on patience.

Tuesday 20th February

Fast from swearing.

Wednesday 21st February

Feast on being filled with hope.

Thursday 22nd February

Fast from regrets.

Friday 23rd February

Feast on having trust in God.

Saturday 24th February

Fast from consumerism.

**First Sunday of Lent
17 & 18 February**

This year, Project Compassion brings you the stories of three resilient women from three different corners of the world. They are facing vastly different challenges, but are all united by one dream: to create a better tomorrow for all future generations.

Meet Ronita from the Philippines. Ronita is a mother of two young boys living in a slum in Quezon City. She went back to school to finish her education so that she could earn income to support her children.

Meet Leaia from Samoa. Not having access to a reliable source of clean water was very difficult for Leaia and her family. But, with the support of Caritas Australia, a water tank was installed at their home, improving their health and living conditions.

Meet Memory from Malawi. Memory, the eldest daughter from a rural Malawian family, trained to become a carpenter and is now a trailblazer for future generations of women in her village.

Throughout Project Compassion, you will get to know the stories of Ronita, Leaia and Memory. Journey with them as they forge a path to a brighter future for all generations.

Please donate to Project Compassion.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

Photo: Richard Wainwright/Caritas Australia



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.



WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

Sunday Feb 18:

- * Holy Family Tongan community, 12pm-3pm (Mary Mackillop Meeting room)
- * St Ignatius Tongan Sunday School, 12pm-3pm (Schoenstatt Sisters room)
- * Samoan Divine Mercy, 3pm-5pm (MMR)
- * Jesus the True Vine, 3pm-6pm (SSR)

Monday Feb 19:

- * AA meeting, 7pm-8pm (MMR)

Tuesday Feb 20:

- * Parish staff meeting, 9am-10am (St Ignatius Conference Room)
- * Parish Finance Meeting, 5.30pm-7pm (St Ignatius Conference room)
- * Narcotics Anonymous, 6.30pm-8pm (MMR)
- * St Vincent De Paul Emerton Conference, 7pm-8.30pm (SSR)

Wednesday Feb 21:

- * Holy Family Primary School Mass, 9.30am (church)
- * Free Community Podiatry (WSU), 10am-2pm (SSR)
- * Christian Meditation, 6.30pm-7.30pm (MMR)

Thursday Feb 22:

- * OZ Harvest free food distribution from the CatholicCare centre, from 12pm-4.30pm

Friday Feb 23:

- * Stations of the Cross: 5pm in English, 7pm in Tongan (church)
- * AA meeting, 6.30pm-7.30pm (MMR)

Saturday Feb 24:

- * Legion of Mary, 10am-2pm (MMR)
- * Holy Family Tongan choir, 2pm-5pm (SSR)
- * AA meeting, 6.30pm-7.30pm (MMR)

For more information please contact the Parish Office: (02) 9628 7272.

Office Hours:

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

Closed on weekends, and on public holidays.



Enrolling Now for Kindergarten 2025



HOLY FAMILY PRIMARY

OPEN DAYS 4 March 9:30am - 10:30am
 7 August 2:00pm - 3:00pm

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



MT DRUITT SAYS NO! TO ICE & OTHER SUBSTANCES

All parishioners are invited to a free event at Mount DrUITt Pool on Saturday 24 February, from 9 am to 4.30 pm, MOUNT DRUITT SAYS NO TO ICE.

The event is organised by Baabayn Aboriginal Corporation.

There will be free entry to the pool, free entertainment all day, free sausage sizzle and a free raffle with great prizes. In addition, there will be information provided about the drug issue in western Sydney. Many health services and other stalls will be there to provide assistance. It will be a great day and all are welcome.

Please come along and invite your friends.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

- ◆ Mass for Seniors & Anointing of the Sick Tuesday 12th March, 11.30am in the church. For catering purposes, please RSVP to the Parish Office by Friday 8th of March.
- ◆ Communal Reconciliation Service Saturday 16th March, 6.30pm in the church. "Come and receive God's grace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation".
- ◆ Divine Mercy Sunday—7th April, 2pm Reconciliation 3pm Mass.
- ◆ Sacrament of Confirmation Wednesday 5th June, 7.00pm in the church.
- ◆ St Ignatius Feast Day Celebration, and the Installation Mass for Fr Cao. Sunday 28th July, 10.30am in the church.
- ◆ World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly Sunday 28th July.



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY of the PASSION of the LORD

23rd March 2024 - 5.30pm Vigil Mass

24th March 2024 - 7.30am Mass (Willmot), 9.00am & 10.30am.

HOLY THURSDAY of the LORD'S SUPPER

28th March 2024 - 7.00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

The Blessed Sacrament is transferred to the Altar of Repose (in the school hall), for an overnight Vigil, until 7.00am on Good Friday morning.

GOOD FRIDAY

29th March 2024 - 10.00am Stations of the Cross

- 3.00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion (Veneration of the Cross)

HOLY SATURDAY - EASTER VIGIL

30th March 2024 - 7.30pm Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY

31st March 2024 - 7.30am Mass (Willmot), 9.00am & 10.30am