



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_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

hfyntdruitt@gmail.com

Mass Times (during Holy Week) at Holy Family, Emerton

Monday & Wednesday: 9.00am

Tuesday: 6.00pm

Holy Thursday: 7.30pm

Good Friday Service: 3.00pm

Saturday: NO MORNING MASS

Easter Vigil 7pm

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. 15// Sunday 13th April, 2025

Reflection from Sr Carlene for the Solemnity of

Palm Sunday: Year C

~ MOVING FROM PALMS to PASSION, DEATH, and RESURRECTION ~

Today is known to us as Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord. It is the beginning of Holy Week, the most solemn, liturgically charged seven days of the year.

For the past five weeks of Lent we have been preparing for the celebration of our Lord's paschal mystery. Today, united with the entire church, we are invited to commemorate his triumphant entry into Jerusalem [Lk 19: 28-40], and to preview his suffering and death on the cross [Lk 22: 14 - 23: 56]. We are urged to enter more deeply into the very core of our faith with our heads, hearts and feet.

We know that Luke has a special interest in passing on the Jesus story to all people (1:4). Consequently, we have several unique features in his version of the passion. One obvious example is the compassion of Jesus who, in the midst of his own suffering, shows genuine concern and reaches out to others; the women of Jerusalem, his executioners, the repentant criminal.

Another example is the innocence of Jesus. Rather than emphasising physical suffering, Luke places more focus on Jesus' constant awareness of the Father's presence with him, and his free adherence to the Father's will. Jesus seems to be the victim in many events, yet he is the master.

God is in control every step of the way... it is this death and resurrection event that is the moment of salvation.

Thus, as we move from palms to passion, from "Hosanna!" to "Crucify him!", let us place ourselves within the story and ask:

- Were we the disciples? The bystander or crowd? The chief priests?
- What did we see or hear on the road to Jerusalem? At the table in the upper room? In the garden? During the trials in court? On the way to Golgotha, "the place of the skull"? At the foot of the cross?
- Were we accompanying Jesus?
- How do we respond?

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

MONDAY 14 APRIL

9.00am Mass

TUESDAY 15 APRIL

6.00pm Mass

WEDNESDAY 16 APRIL

9.00am Mass (Parish)

7.30pm Chrism Mass

(St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta)

HOLY THURSDAY 17 APRIL

Confession 6.00pm - 7.00pm

Mass of the Lord's Supper:

7.30pm

Following the Mass, the Altar of Repose will be moved to the School Hall, with Adoration continuing through the night until 7:00am on Good Friday.

We encourage all parishioners to spend some time in prayer during these special hours with the Blessed Sacrament.

NOTE: The Parish Office will be closed on Friday 18th, Monday 21st, and Friday 25th of April.

GOOD FRIDAY 18 APRIL

The Way of the Cross: 10.00am

(in the School Grounds - enter via the Pre-School OR Weber Crescent)

Confession 11.00am-12.00pm

Celebration of the Lord's Passion:
3.00pm

HOLY SATURDAY: 19 APRIL

(NOTE: There is NO 9.00AM MASS!

Confession 9.30am-10.30am

Easter Vigil: 7.00pm

Please bring your own candles.

EASTER SUNDAY: 20 APRIL

7.30am (Willmot)

9.00am

10.30am



SCRIPTURE READINGS - YEAR C

Palm Sunday

LET US HEAR AND RECEIVE THE WORD OF GOD

**Collect:**

Almighty and ever-living God, who as an example of humility for the human race to follow caused our Savior to take flesh and submit to the Cross, graciously grant that we may heed his lesson of patient suffering and so merit a share in his Resurrection. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 50: 4-7

The servant of the Lord said: "The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens - wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame."

Responsorial Psalm 21 (22): 8-9, 17-20, 23-24

R: My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

All who see me mock at me;
they make mouths at me, they shake their heads
"Commit your cause to the Lord; let him deliver;
let him rescue the one in whom he delights!" R.

For dogs are all around me;
a company of evildoers encircles me.
My hands and feet have shrivelled;
I can count all my bones. R.

They divide my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots.

But you, O Lord, do not be far away!
O my help, come quickly to my aid! R.

I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters;
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:

You who fear the Lord, praise him!

All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel! R.

Second Reading: Philippians 2: 6-11

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death - even death on a cross. Therefore God highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
Christ became obedient for us even to death, dying on the cross. Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names.

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

Gospel: Luke 22: 14 - 23: 56

*The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ,
according to Luke.*



Follow the Passion Reading, and read aloud the crowd parts that will be projected on the screens.

Prayer After Communion:

Nourished by these sacred gifts, we humbly beseech you, O Lord, that, just as through the death of your Son you have brought us to hope for what we believe, so by his Resurrection you may lead us to where you call. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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: Kevin Smith.



*- 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 5th/6th April 2025:

1st Collection (for the priests of the diocese)	\$ 1,054.25
2nd Collection (for parish expenses)	\$ 2,529.70
Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal	\$ 80.00

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**Special Appeal for Myanmar Earthquake Victims:
Thank You for Your Generosity**

A heartfelt thank you to everyone for your generosity towards the Myanmar Emergency Relief Appeal last week. A total of **\$814.00** was collected, and your kindness is truly appreciated.

If you would still like to contribute, please feel free to give your donation to Fr. Cao or use the available envelope and place it in the collection box.

Thank you again for your support.

GOOD FRIDAY HOLY LAND COLLECTION

This Good Friday, please give generously to the Holy Land Appeal, a collection that supports the Christian communities and the preservation of holy sites in Jerusalem and throughout the region. Your generosity helps maintain vital schools, hospitals, parishes, and charitable institutions that serve those living in the land where our faith was born.

🙏 Your contribution is a gesture of solidarity and a sign of hope to Christians who continue to witness to the Gospel in the land of Christ's birth.

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.

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS HOLY WEEK:**Palm Sunday April 13**

- Stations of the Cross rehearsals, 11.30am (Primary School grounds)
- Holy Family Tongan Catholic Communion Blacktown/Mt Druitt, 12pm - 3pm (MMR)
- Samoan Divine Mercy, 3.30pm-5.30pm (MMR)

Holy Monday April 14

- RCIA Process, 6.45pm (SICR)
- AA mtg, 7pm (MMR)

Holy Tuesday April 15

- Staff Meeting, 3pm-5pm (SICR)
- NA mtg, 6.30pm-8pm (MMR)

Holy Wednesday April 16

- NAIDOC Site Planning Mtg, 9am-10.30am (Whalan Reserve)
- Free Community Podiatry, 10am-3pm (SSR)
- Parish Choir, 7.30pm-9pm (Church)
- Chrism Mass, 7.30pm (St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta)

Holy Thursday April 17

- Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7.30pm (Church)
- Eucharistic Adoration, 9pm - 7am (School Hall)


Good Friday April 18 (Parish Office closed)

- The Way of the Cross, 10am (School Grounds, access via the Pre-School OR Weber Crescent - see map on p3)

Holy Saturday April 19 (Parish Office closed)

- Practice for Easter Vigil, 9am (Church)
- HF Tongan Choir prac, 2pm-4.30pm (SSR)
- Easter Vigil, 7pm (Church)
- 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 26th April	Autumn Holiday Program Activity: . Wiggles Bouncing Balls Tour, Sydney Coliseum Theatre, West HQ
Saturday 3rd May	Cycle 2 Mandatory Safeguarding Training for Volunteers who completed Level 1  Training in 2023. 10am-1.30pm Register online via QR code:
Saturday 17th May	Young Adults Disco Fundraiser for the Jubilee of Youth Pilgrimage Funds raised will support <u>Monica Vave</u> , one of our Parish Young Adult Leaders. 6pm - Midnight (School Hall)
Wednesday 14th May	Parents/Carers Information Session for the Sacrament of Confirmation, 7pm in the church.
Sunday 1st June	Holy Family Parish 60 Year Anniversary Celebration Mass 10.30am

**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.

Eucharistic Adoration after Holy Thursday Mass:

After the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, the Altar of Repose will be moved to the school for Eucharistic Adoration. It will be available until 7 AM on Good Friday. We encourage individuals, families, and groups to commit to a time of prayer. Please sign up on the roster at the back of the church.

Parish Jubilee Celebration – Call for Information

As we prepare for our Parish Jubilee Celebration on 1st June 2025, we're gathering information to help build the history of our parish. If you have:

- Any memorabilia, such as photos, newspaper articles, or other items

Please submit memorabilia to jubilee@hollyfamily.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!



Palm Sunday
12-13th of April 2025

**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

As Project Compassion 2025 draws to a close for another year, we want to extend our heartfelt gratitude for your generous support throughout this Lenten Season. This year, we shared the inspiring stories of 3 individuals whose lives have been transformed through your compassion and generosity. But the work isn't done yet. There is still time to donate! Together, we can Unite Against Poverty and help transform lives this Lent.



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

LENTEN PRAYER HELPS

Holy Week Prayer

Compassion: The Passion and Death of Jesus

Contemplation on the passion of Jesus challenges us to insert ourselves into the salvific plan of Jesus. We are called to be personally integrated into the Paschal Mystery and to accept a more conscious participation in the building up of God's Kingdom. To enter into the dying of Jesus, we must give up attachments that divide our hearts.. We must let go of egoism and individualism, of prejudices and biases, and of insensitivity to the suffering of the world around us. We only begin to understand the cross of Christ when we participate in it in our everyday lives.

St. Ignatius advises us to pray for the grace of compassion—the ability to suffer with Christ—as we encounter the Crucifixion.

"I ask for what I desire. Here is it what is proper for the Passion: sorrow with Christ in sorrow; a broken spirit with Christ so broken; tears; and interior suffering because of the great suffering which Christ endured for me."

Prayer: Read the whole Passion in Luke 22:14-23:56 or Matthew 26:14-27:46 or Mark 14:15:47

In a soft voice, Jesus asks you earnestly:

What is it that you are afraid of? What is it that pains you? What is it that tortures you? Tell me. I am listening. Bring it to me. Leave it here at the foot of my Cross. Let it go. I've got it. Be free. Live!

Ask yourself: Where is Mary when I contemplate the passion? What does Mary say to me when I am with her at the foot of the cross?

– 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!



No Turning Back

Jesus, this week we see in you
your Father's story
of love, of pain, of taking on our sins,
of rescue.

This week we see in you
your human story of faithfulness,
of trusting in light
in the deepest darkness,
of attending to the thief
who hung with you,
of accepting death in your love for us,
of forgiving.

This week help us to follow your way
and find life in you.

Source: Garratt Lenten Program: Year B – Living in Harmony

Office of Tenebrae, St Patrick's Cathedral: 14 April

All are welcome to attend the annual Office of Tenebrae at St Patrick's Cathedral on Monday 14 April at 7:30pm. The Office of Tenebrae is a Holy Week reflection liturgy including Scripture, psalm chanting and motets and will feature the Cathedral Choir. As the Diocese and the global Church prepares for Holy Week, the Tenebrae service is a reminder of the eternal light and hope brought into the world through Christ's Resurrection. Catholics are invited to attend the Office of Tenebrae at least once in their life.

Care for Creation 2025 Lenten Calendar Pilgrims of Hope

SUSTENANCE SUNDAYS

13th April Palm Sunday – "Be praised, my Lord, for Sister Earth, our Mother, who nourishes and sustains us bringing forth diverse fruits & grains & flowers of many colours. Be a 'tree of life'"

MEATLESS MONDAYS

14th April – Adjusting how and what we eat is a big step, but when you're making the commitment as a group, you're more likely to see it through and reap the many health benefits—together.

TALK ENERGY TUESDAYS

15th April Consider divest/invest: Divest your savings and super from fossil fuels (oil & natural gas) and invest in renewable energy projects or companies. Ask your bank or super to check for this. It's a win-win. Market Forces can help.

WISDOM WEDNESDAYS

16th April – "Let us sing as we go. May our struggles and our concern for this planet never take away the joy of our hope." Laudato Si' 244

TURNAROUND THURSDAYS

17th April Holy Thursday – At the Last Supper, Jesus called us to service. Laudato Si' calls us to care for creation & care for the poor. What can I do today or next week to serve the poor?

FISH & FOOTPRINT FRIDAYS

18th April Good Friday – Review your ecological practices of this Lent. What can you continue after Easter? Let's renew our commitment to protect God's creation & join our sacrifices with that of Jesus to bring forth a New Creation!

SUSTAINABILITY SATURDAYS

19th April Holy Saturday – "What kind of world do we want to leave those who come after us, to children who are growing up." Laudato Si'

