



# HOLY FAMILY PARISH, MT DRUITT

Under the care of the Australian Jesuit Province

252 -254 Luxford Road, Emerton NSW 2770

**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.*

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



2026/ Issue No. 14 / 5<sup>th</sup> April 2026

## Reflection from Fr Renato for the Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord: Year A

**The Joy of Easter  
Christ is risen. He is alive. New life for us.**

*Christ has not only spoken to us by his life but has also spoken for us by his death.  
(Soren Kierkegaard)*

**The empty tomb- Christ is risen.** The empty tomb, and the neatly folded burial cloths, were signs that led the Beloved Disciple to believe that Jesus had risen from the death.

The Crucifixion is a historical event, but the resurrection is a faith event. In the witness of the apostles, and the faithfulness, courage and love of our fellow Christians, we too have powerful signs that Christ is risen and lives among us. Observing them, our faith cries out Alleluia. (God be praised- rejoicing)

**The Butterfly.** Butterflies are symbols of the resurrection of Jesus. Just as butterflies emerge from a chrysalis in which they are hidden away, Jesus emerges from the tomb three days after being laid to rest in it. They also represent the transformation the Christian faith can lead to, through the grace of God.

Easter new life in the risen Christ the light of world -God our Father showed his unconditional love by his faithfulness in raising his son Jesus from death to new life, as the risen Jesus.

Jesus rose from the dead- he suffered experienced pain and shed his blood for us - but God his Father our faithful God fulfilled his promise by raising his son from death. The risen Jesus has overcome the darkness of death and the power of sin. New life new light- - the risen Christ is the way the truth the life. We live in a redeemed world by the faithful self-giving of Jesus dying on the cross and now with us as the risen Jesus. Jesus is the way to eternal life. Our hope and our joy. I believe this as I think of those who have died and now are at peace in a new way. I believe this awaits me and all who live at this time.

Easter however is not only concerned with he recalling the resurrection of Jesus or its impact on the first disciples, but also with meaning of this event for our own lives and faith.

The sign that we are truly sharing in the risen life emphasis is that our lives and our behaviour undergo constant development. We not only believe, we not only proclaim , but we do what we believe and what we proclaim.

Peter in our first reading his experience of knowing with utter conviction that Jesus, who died on the Cross, is now alive, he is filled with the joy of it that he simply must share that joy with others-so that it can be theirs, too.

St Paul who had an encounter with the risen Jesus on his way to Damascus. It changed him from persecuting Christians because he saw in them a dangerous deviation from the Jewish Law and Jewish traditions. For the rest of his life, he used all his energies to help others- Jews and non-Jew alike - to know, love and follow Jesus his Lord.

Easter is a call for a radical conversion, a radical purging on our part to become free from all the corrupting influences in our life- to be people of love integrity and truth.

We like the first disciples are called to witness to the life of the risen Jesus. We have our mission. To attach oneself totally to the Way of Jesus, a way of Truth and Life, is to bring about a deep reconciliation with God and with all our brothers and sisters by responding to the call and cry of mother earth and the call and cry of the poor. It is to bring freedom, justice and peace into our world, and prepare us for the day when we will become one in our Creator God, the father of Truth and Compassionate Love.

**“Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone,  
but in every leaf in springtime “-  
Martin Luther**

**From the Holy Family Parish Team- Easter blessings.**

### 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](http://www.holyfamily.org.au)

### PARISH TEAM

**Parish Priest:** Fr Nguyen Van Cao SJ  
[cao@holyfamily.org.au](mailto:cao@holyfamily.org.au)

**Assistant Priest:** Fr Renato Zecchin SJ  
[renato@holyfamily.org.au](mailto:renato@holyfamily.org.au)

**Pastoral Associate:** Sr Carlene Allen  
[carlene@holyfamily.org.au](mailto:carlene@holyfamily.org.au)

**Site Manager:** Ray Donaldson  
[ray@holyfamily.org.au](mailto:ray@holyfamily.org.au)

**Parish Secretary:** Malia Lolesio  
[enquiry@holyfamily.org.au](mailto:enquiry@holyfamily.org.au)

**Book-Keeper:** Malinda Toms  
[accounts@holyfamily.org.au](mailto:accounts@holyfamily.org.au)

**Music Director:** Etuate 'Eddie' Paunga  
[kosilio\\_lole@hotmail.com](mailto:kosilio_lole@hotmail.com)

**Parish Pastoral Council  
Chairperson & Children's Liturgy**

**Coordinator:** Marissa Logronio  
[logroniom23@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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 7.30am

#### Mass and Anointing

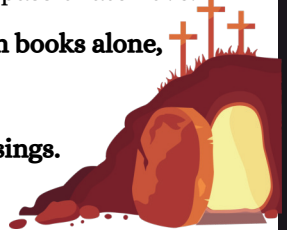
2nd Saturday of every month:  
9.00am

#### Holy Hour - Emerton

Wednesday: 5.30pm - 6.00pm  
Saturdays from 9.30am - 10.30am

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays: 9.30am - 10.00am  
OR by appointment.





## SCRIPTURE READINGS - YEAR A

## 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 - Ps 118: 1-2, 16-17, 22-23**

**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.

**Bishop Vincent's Easter Message 2026***"By His wounds we are healed."*

In a world marked by suffering, the Risen Christ brings healing, hope, and peace. Bishop Vincent invites us this Easter to become peacemakers in our daily lives.

Scan the QR code to watch the full message.



**JESUS  
HAS RISEN**

**Christ is risen—Alleluia!**  
May the joy and hope of  
the Resurrection fill  
your hearts with peace,  
renew your faith, and  
bring new life to you and  
your families this Easter.

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 5:6-8**

Do you not know that a little yeast leavens the whole batch of dough? Clean out the old yeast so that you may be a new batch, as you really are unleavened. For our paschal lamb, Christ, has been sacrificed. Therefore, let us celebrate the festival, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
*Christ, our Paschal Lamb, has been sacrificed;  
let us feast with joy in the Lord.*  
Alleluia!

**Gospel: John 20: 1-9 (shorter version)**

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

**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.

**WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS****BAPTISMS:**

**LIST OF THE SICK:** Pierre Pepin, Reg Murray, Richard Ward, Marie Purcell, Soane Quensell, Katea Vave, Vivian Masters, Makasini Vave, Fifita Sitani, 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, Jose Manalo, Fely Dela Paz Manalo, Maria Barbara, Sylvia Greene, Mayda Attachian, Faye Iffland, Tim Meagher, Emma Lawrence, Maria Llave, Maria Belisario, Fara Vargas, Fe Llave, Stella Edwards, Boyet Llave.

**RECENT ANNIVERSARIES:****RECENTLY DECEASED:****POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR APRIL**  
*For priests in crisis.*

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.  
Amen.

Readings for Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2026 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)

|| 1st Reading: Acts 2: 42–47 || 2nd Reading: 1 Peter 1: 3–9 OR || Gospel: John 20: 19–31 ||

**Parish Collection for the weekend of the 28th/ 29th March:**

1st Collection (for the priests of the diocese)	\$ 1,167.65
2nd Collection (for parish expenses)	\$ 2,464.95
Parish Insurance Appeal	\$ 1,323.70

**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.

**PARISH INSURANCE APPEAL UPDATE**

Thank you to everyone who supported our insurance appeal last weekend. Through the leaving bucket collection, we raised **\$1,323.70**—we are very grateful for your generosity.

We will continue the appeal this weekend as we work towards our \$48,000 insurance premium, due by the end of April 2026.

Our parish insurance covers:

- Property (church buildings and parish assets)
- Public & Products Liability
- Safeguarding (including abuse liability)
- Cyber Liability
- Personal Accident cover (clergy and volunteers)
- Travel insurance

Please note: services and organisations on site manage and cover their own insurance (including contents and public liability).

Thank you for your continued support of our parish community.

**Sacrament of Confirmation - Information Session**

Parents and carers are invited to attend an information session for the Sacrament of Confirmation on

**Wednesday 29 April at 7:00pm in the Church.**

We encourage all families to attend. Thank you.

**Bishop Vincent presents Archbishop Ryan Jimenez | 21 April**

Archbishop Ryan Jimenez, Archbishop of Agaña in Guam and President of the Episcopal Conference of the Pacific is the first guest speaker for this year's Bishop Vincent Presents series. Join us for an evening with Archbishop Jimenez as he reflects on the theme "An Immigrant Bishop for an Immigrant Church."

To register, please scan the QR code:

**WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:****Sunday April 5**

- St Ignatius Tongan Sunday School, 12pm-3pm (HFC)
- Samoan Divine Mercy, 3pm-5pm (MMR)

**Monday April 6 - (Parish Office Closed)**

- AA mtg, 7pm (MMR)

**Tuesday April 7**

- Mt Druitt & District Reconciliation Group, 5.30pm-7pm (Dining/ Kitchen)
- NA mtg, 6.30pm-8pm (MMR)
- HF Young Adults Choir prac, 7pm-8pm (SSR)

**Wednesday April 8**

- Christian Meditation, 6.30pm-7.30pm (MMR)

**Thursday April 9**

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

**Friday April 10 - (Parish Office Closed)**

- Holiday Program: Picnic Day at Nurragingy Reserve (Grevillea Picnic Area), Doonside.
- AA mtg, 6.30pm - 8.30pm (MMR)

**Saturday April 11**

- Anointing, during 9am Mass (Chapel)
- AA mtg, 6.30-7.30pm (MMR)

**Meeting Rooms:**

**SSR** - Schoenstatt Sisters Room;

**SICR** - St Ignatius Conference Room;

**MMR** - Mary Mackillop Meeting Room,

**HFC** - Holy Family Centre (All rooms)

**Autumn Family Holiday Program****Picnic Day at Nurragingy Reserve**

**Friday 10 April, 10am-3pm**

**Grevillea Picnic Area**

- Gold coin donation
  - Families make their own way to the park
  - Light refreshments provided
  - Bring picnic rug, hat and water bottle
  - Families welcome to bring food to share
- Scavenger hunt and fun group challenges for kids

**Picnic Day at Fairfield Adventure Park**

**Wednesday 15 April,**

**9.30am-3pm**

**Fairfield Adventure Park**

**• \$5 per person**

- Includes bus transport + light refreshments
  - Games and activities for children
- Bus transport provided.

**Bus schedule: Street pick-up 9.00am;**

**final pick-up & departure from HFC 9.30am**

**Leave Fairfield Adventure Park 3.00pm**



Join us these school holidays for two fun community days out for families and children.

Come along to connect with other families, enjoy the outdoors and have fun together.

Games and activities will be organised for children

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Bookings still available!

Bookings must be made at the Parish Office

Payments by cash only

Bookings are essential for both activities

Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian

Participant details will be collected at the time of booking

Bus transport for the Fairfield Adventure Park outing will be provided by Cumberland Coachlines

For more information, please contact Malia on (02) 9628 7272 or email enquiry@holyfamily.org.au

**EASTER TRIDUUM**

The three days that conclude Lent invite us to join Jesus in the decisive days of his life. They include his last meal with his disciple and his arrest, the trial and death designed to strip him of humanity and blot him from memory, and his rising from the dead and the start of his community. These days with Jesus also retrace his own path from Jewish preacher to the world's Saviour. And they invite us to intertwine our personal journey with his own.

The rich ceremonies of the last week of Lent were largely shaped by the Christian community in Jerusalem. After The Romans tolerated Christian faith, many Christians came to the city. Their prayer of the final week of the Lenten Fast naturally led them to remember the last days of Jesus in the places where he had been. The liturgy grew more elaborate in Jerusalem and in other Christian centres which pilgrims visited.

The ceremonies the last days of Lent day allow us to retrace the path Jesus took from his entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday to the intimate room where Jesus and his disciples gathered to eat the Passover, to the place in which he was judged to his forced expulsion from the city to Golgotha where he was nailed to a cross, and to the tomb where was laid, and where he appeared to Mary Magdalene triumphant over death. In the Gospel account the path that Jesus took also echoed and brought to a triumphant fulfilment the earlier path of the Jewish people from slavery in Egypt across the Red Sea into freedom in the promised land. These stories were all retold in the liturgy of Easter Sunday

The rich interweaving of all these paths in the Easter Triduum enriched the experience of the new Christians as they prayed during Lent before their baptism. In these final three days they traced their own crossing from sin to new life in the waters of Baptism and into fellowship with Christ when they took part in the Eucharist on Easter Sunday.

This rich journey is described in the words of the Easter Triduum, but even more powerfully in its symbols The Palm Sunday procession with palms, the washing of feet and the abrupt ending of Mass on Holy Thursday, the starkness of the reading of the Passion and veneration of the Cross on Good Friday, the gathering in darkness, the lighting of the Easter candle, and the candlelight hearing of the story of God's journey with us from the creation of the world, the crossing of the Sea into the promised land, the promise of a Saviour and the story of Jesus' rising, all crystalized in the candlelight singing of the Exultet with its linking all the events recalled in this this night, the pouring of water in the Baptism of new Christians, and then the family celebrations of Easter Sunday.

-By Fr Andrew Hamilton SJ

**WORKING BEE – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

**We're calling on all helping hands! Join us for a Working Bee on Saturday 18 April, 8:00am-11:00am.**

Our main focus will be clearing and cleaning the front of the Mary MacKillop Meeting Room and Presbytery—cutting back, collecting, and tidying the area.

We need your help!

- If you're able, please bring:
- Clippers / gardening tools
  - Gloves
  - Chainsaw (if experienced)



Please wear closed footwear, and appropriate PPE (protective gear) is required when using tools.

Tasks will include picking up sticks, cutting timber, piling and grouping materials, and relocating debris. Come along for any time you can give—many hands make light work!

*Young Adults (18-30)*  
**You're Invited!**

Join us for a relaxed gathering on Sunday 19 April, 12-2pm, in the Mary Mackillop Meeting Room (near the Presbytery)

A time to share and listen to what are the needs and interests of our parish youth today and in the future? Input on a Magis group for the parish. Magis meaning 'more or 'greater' reflects the Ignatian call to seek greater love, service and commitment to Christ, others and all creation and WYD Seoul South Korea 25th July to 8 August 2027

Bring a friend — we'd love to see you there!

Scan QR code to RSVP!



**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

**MAGIS 2027 KOREA**  
LIVING HOPE, IGNITING PEACE



Join us for World Youth Day 2027 in Korea for the largest gathering of young people in the world.

In the days leading up to WYD, you will take part in MAGIS, the Jesuit international programme for young adults. Gather with participants from across the globe for an Ignatian experience of service, prayer, and reflection before coming together at World Youth Day.



Date: 25 July - 8 August 2027  
Cost: approx. \$850 (excl. flights)  
Age: 18-30 year olds  
Contact: Fr Ramesh Richards SJ  
ramesh.richards@cardoner.org



**SUBMIT INTEREST BY 10 JUNE 2026**

