



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

## PARISH TEAM

**Parish Priest:** Fr Nguyen Van Cao SJ

[cao@hollyfamily.org.au](mailto:cao@hollyfamily.org.au)

**Assistant Priest:** Fr Renato Zecchin SJ

[renato@hollyfamily.org.au](mailto:renato@hollyfamily.org.au)

**Pastoral Associate:** Sr Carlene Allen

[carlene@hollyfamily.org.au](mailto:carlene@hollyfamily.org.au)

**Site Manager:** Ray Donaldson

[ray@hollyfamily.org.au](mailto:ray@hollyfamily.org.au)

**Parish Secretary:** Malia Lolesio

[enquiry@hollyfamily.org.au](mailto:enquiry@hollyfamily.org.au)

**Book-Keeper:** Malinda Toms

[accounts@hollyfamily.org.au](mailto:accounts@hollyfamily.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: 6.30pm

Wednesday & Thursday: 6.00pm

### WEEKEND:

Saturday Vigil: 5.30pm

Sunday: 9.00am & 10.30am

### Mass at Willmot

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. 17// Sunday 27th April, 2025

Reflection from Fr Cao for

## Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)

Many years ago, I visited a friend's family. Their little boy played around and from time to time looked at a stove. It's been turned off, but it's still quite hot. His mother repeatedly told him that it's "Hot." I think it didn't mean much to him. It's just a word; a sound his mother makes when she does not want him to touch the oven. Suddenly we heard him cry in distress. We rushed to him and saw he was trying to rub away and shake his hand like throwing away the sharp burning pain. He clearly and unmistakably said, "Hot!"

We knew that for this little boy, the word "Hot" is no longer just a word, but an experience. The warning not to touch the hot stove no longer needed to be verbalized and repeated. It had become internalized and remembered.

That's not just a characteristic of the child, but of most of us. Not many of us accept someone else's reasoning very easily. We are quite capable of doing our own thinking and testing.

Parents are often confounded by this problem, especially with maturing children. The children seem to have this desire to try things for themselves, rather than depend on the word or experience of the parents.

I have always felt close to Thomas in today's Gospel. His fault was what we, who live in a scientific age, would call "virtue." He needed evidence he could test for himself. We see him move impressively from disbelief to belief.

Jesus appeared and offered Thomas the proof he was asking for. "Put your finger in My wounds and your hand in My side." The Gospel does not say Thomas did this. In fact, it is implied that he didn't. Instead, Thomas says, "My Lord and my God." He is the first person who acclaimed Jesus is "Lord" and "God".

Living in this modern age, we do not see the risen Christ face-to-face. We hear and read the word. We also learn from the Church's doctrines and teachings. However, until we have some personal experiences, they are just concepts like the word "hot" to a little child. The Risen Christ is not like the hot stove that we can touch but He is present in the word and in the broken bread. He is present where He promised, where two or three are gathered in His name. If you love Him, He told you that He and His Father will make Their home with you.

Our faith is tested, yet we can still exclaim, "My Lord and my God." It's no wonder Jesus has said, "Blessed are those who have not seen, yet still believe." However, faith alone is not enough. St. James once said, "What does it profit you to say you have faith, but not works? Can faith alone save you?" So, in our First Reading from Acts of the Apostles, many owned lands or houses. They sold them and share the proceeds among the needy. This is indeed a big challenge for us today. That's what Pope Francis has called us to do.

Following the example of the Apostles and early Christians, let us in bear witness in words and actions to the resurrection of Christ. Let us also give thanks to God who considers us worthy of sharing in the power of the risen Lord.



- 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.



## SCRIPTURE READINGS - YEAR C

## 2nd Sunday of Easter

LET US HEAR AND RECEIVE THE WORD OF GOD

**Collect:**

God of everlasting mercy, who in the very recurrence of the paschal feast kindle the faith of the people you have made your own, increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed, that all may grasp and rightly understand in what font they have been washed, by whose Spirit they have been reborn, by whose Blood they have been redeemed. 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 5: 12-16**

They devoted themselves to the Apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the Apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need.

Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread in various houses and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

**Responsorial Psalm 117: 2-4, 22-27**

**R: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.**

"Let Israel say,  
His steadfast love endures forever."  
Let the house of Aaron say,  
"His steadfast love endures forever."  
Let those who fear the Lord say,  
"His steadfast love endures forever." R.

I was pushed hard, so that I was falling,  
but the Lord helped me.  
The Lord is my strength and my might;  
he has become my salvation.  
There are glad songs of victory  
in the tents of the righteous. R.

The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.  
This is the Lord's doing;  
it is marvellous in our eyes.  
This is the day that the Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it. R.

**WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS**

**LIST OF THE SICK:** Brian Russel, Toss Van den Berg, 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:** Tracey Tosatto.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Pope Francis, John Mainwaring, Mary Hopegood, Ruth Deguzman, Heiner Lanzendorfer.

**Second Reading: Revelations 1: 9-13, 17-19**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead: a birth into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith -being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire- be found to result in praise and glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, alleluia!

*You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;  
happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!*  
Alleluia!

**Gospel: John 20: 19-31**

It was evening on the day Jesus rose from the dead, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas, who was called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." After eight days his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

**Prayer After Communion:**

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that our reception of this paschal Sacrament may have a continuing effect. in our minds and hearts. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Readings for Sunday 4th May, 2025: Third Sunday of Easter

\\ 1st Reading: Acts 5: 27-32, 40-41 // \\ 2nd Reading: Revelations 5: 11-14 // Gospel: John 21: 1-19



**Parish Collection for the Holy Week 18th-20th April 2025:**

1st Collection (for the priests of the diocese)	\$ 1,573.95
2nd Collection (for parish expenses)	\$ 3,136.15
Myanmar Appeal	\$ 200.00
Holy Family Tongan Mass 20/04/2025	\$ 240.00
Holy Land Appeal	\$ 667.00

**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.

**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**

We will have a leaving collection to support this appeal.

**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 8 years or older.

**PLEASE RETURN ALL PROJECT COMPASSION****BOXES AND ENVELOPES.****PROJECT  
COMPASSION****Thank you for your  
generosity towards this appeal.****Parking Reminder - Please Be Considerate!!!**

- Only park in disabled spaces if you have a valid permit.
- Do not block gates or entrance areas - these must remain clear for emergency vehicles.
- If disabled parking is full, please use the lower parking area.
- Failure to comply may result in your vehicle being towed at your expense.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in keeping our parish safe and accessible.

**WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:****Sunday April 27**

- Testimony from Young Adult Leader, all Masses.
- Baptism, 11.30am (Church)
- Holy Family Tongan Communion, 12pm-3pm (MMR)
- St Ignatius Tongan Sunday School, 12pm-3pm (SSR)
- Samoan Divine Mercy, 3.30pm-5.30pm (MMR)

**Monday April 28**

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

**Tuesday April 29**

- Staff Meeting, 3pm-5pm (SICR)
- Solemn Mass for Pope Francis, 6.30pm (Chapel)
- NA mtg, 6.30pm-8pm (MMR)

**Wednesday April 30**

- Free Community Podiatry, 10am-3pm (SSR)
- Christian Meditation, 6.30pm-7.30pm (MMR)

**Thursday May 1**

- Parish Choir, 7.30pm-9pm (Church)

**Friday May 2**

- NAIDOC Planning mtg, 11am-12pm (SSR)
- AA mtg, 6.30pm-8pm (MMR)
- Jubilee Year planning mtg, 6.45pm (SICR)
- Samoan First Friday Adoration, 8pm-Midnight (Chapel)

**Saturday May 3**

- Mandatory Safeguarding Training Cycle 2, 10am-1.30pm (Primary School Hall)
- 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
<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Testimony sharing from Young Adults at all Masses re: Jubilee of Youth Pilgrimage.
<b>Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May- Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Visitation of the Jesuit Provincial
<b>Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May</b>	<b>Cycle 2 Mandatory Safeguarding Training</b> for Volunteers who completed Level 1 Training in 2023. 10am-1.30pm Register online via QR code: 
<b>Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>MOTHER'S DAY</b> Raffle to be drawn.
<b>Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Young Adults Disco Fundraiser for the Jubilee of Youth Pilgrimage</b> <u>Funds raised will support our young adult leaders attending the pilgrimage to Greece and Italy.</u> <b>6pm - Midnight (School Hall)</b> <b>\$20 entry</b>
<b>Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Parents/Carers Information Session for the Sacrament of Confirmation, 7pm in the church.</b>
<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June</b>	<b>Holy Family Parish 60 Year Anniversary Celebration Mass 10.30am</b>
<b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Sacrament of Confirmation 7pm Mass with Bishop Vincent</b>
<b>Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June</b>	<b>Risk &amp; Compliance Workshop 10am-1.30pm (School Hall)</b>

**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.



## 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!



**HOLY FAMILY PARISH  
MT DRUITT**

**SOLEMN MASS FOR**

*Pope Francis*

*"Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him"*

JOIN US AS WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAYER  
FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS.

 **TUESDAY 29TH APRIL**  
 **6:30 PM**

 **HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**254 LUXFORD RD EMERTON NSW 2770**

All are welcome to attend this special time of reflection and prayer. You are invited to bring any photos, memorabilia, or personal items to contribute to a memorial space we will create in honour of Pope Francis' life and service.

Let us unite in faith and thanksgiving for his leadership, humility, and unwavering love for the Church.

*"Shepherd of the flock, servant of the servants of God — may he rest in the peace of Christ."*

### Meet Our Parish Photography Team!

We're excited to introduce the Parish Photography Team—**LEALA GILLMAN & THOMAS BARRELL**

...a group of passionate volunteers capturing the life and spirit of our parish through photos. From special events to Sunday Mass, their work helps us preserve and share the joy of our faith community.

You might spot them at parish gatherings—feel free to smile, say hello, or ask about their work! All photos are taken respectfully and used for parish bulletins, social media, and community displays.

### **Interested in joining the team?**

We'd love to have you! Please contact the Parish Office to find out more.

### **FaithLIFE Theology Short Course: Wednesdays in May**

Considering learning about theology? Interested in faith seek understanding? Looking to learn more about the Jubilee Year of Hope? Sign up now for the 3-session FaithLIFE Theology short course with Alison Ryan from MET on Wednesdays 7 + 14 + 21 May: [parracatholic.org/faithlife](http://parracatholic.org/faithlife)

## 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.

# Young Adults Dance Fundraiser

LOCATION :  
HOLY FAMILY PRIMARY SCHOOL HALL ,  
11 EMERT PARADE EMERTON NSW 2770



## SATURDAY 17 MAY

 **6PM - Late**

 **Send Your Donation:**  
**0450301262**

**ENTRY \$20**

**CASH or PAYID**

## Our Mission

We're raising funds to support Monica Vave, one of our Young Adult Leaders, as she joins the Jubilee of Youth Pilgrimage from Greece to Rome (July 19 - August 5, 2025).

She'll walk in the footsteps of St. Paul, grow in faith, and celebrate with young people from around the world in Rome.

## Music Workshop 'Exploring Music for the Solemnities': 8 May

Musicians from the Diocese of Parramatta and beyond are invited to attend this workshop led by MET Music Formation Facilitator Eric Grella. The workshop will outline suggested hymns and explore music new and old for the many Solemnities and Feasts that occur in the period of Eastertide. Bring any music related questions along on Thursday 8 May to the Bishop Bede Heather Centre 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown at 7pm.

Please RSVP by 2 May via [parracatholic.org/events/OFW](http://parracatholic.org/events/OFW). For enquiries, please contact [ofw@parracatholic.org](mailto:ofw@parracatholic.org) or 0488 000 211.

## Children's Liturgy Workshop: 15 May

Are you a part of children's liturgy or looking to get started? Come along to this informative workshop to learn more about the Diocesan guidelines, meet children's liturgy teams from other parishes, and ask any questions you may have about this rewarding ministry. This workshop will be held at Bishop Bede Heather Centre 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown on Thursday 15 May at 7-8:30pm.

Please RSVP via [parracatholic.org/events/OFW](http://parracatholic.org/events/OFW) by 12 May. For enquiries, please contact [ofw@parracatholic.org](mailto:ofw@parracatholic.org) or 0460 037 795.