



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. 6 / 8th February 2026

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@holyfamily.org.au

Assistant Priest: Fr Renato Zecchin SJ
renato@holyfamily.org.au

Pastoral Associate: Sr Carlene Allen
carlene@holyfamily.org.au

Site Manager: Ray Donaldson
ray@holyfamily.org.au

Parish Secretary: Malia Lolesio
enquiry@holyfamily.org.au

Book-Keeper: Malinda Toms
accounts@holyfamily.org.au

Music Director: Etuate 'Eddie' Paunga
kosilio_lole@hotmail.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
hfymtdruitt@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.

Reflection from Fr Cao for the

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time in Year A

You are the salt of the earth ... You are the light of the world ...

In today's Gospel, we are called to live out our true identity as Christians, to be "salt of the earth" and "light of the world". That is, we must live far beyond the material and common qualities of salt and light through an active, influential faith that preserves goodness, adds flavour to life, and reflects God's presence and actions.

Fr. Roger J. Landry in Manhattan, USA, shares:

"In the ancient world, salt had three purposes. The first was as a preservative. There was no refrigeration in ancient Palestine and so to preserve meat or fish from corruption, they covered it with salt. This points to how Christ came into our world in order to prevent our corruption and has sent us out to help others from going bad."

"The second purpose was as a fire starter. There was no lighter fluid or starter wood for fires in the ancient world. What they'd do is take dung and mix it with salt and set these salted dung pellets on fire. Alone, dung wouldn't ignite, but the salt would get the whole thing started and once the dung was lit, it could burn hot for a long time. Now-a-day, in some poorer regions of the world, dung remains used as fuel. In a similar way, Christ has come into the world in order to light a fire on earth and longs for it to be enkindled in us so that he can send us out to light the world on fire. Christians are supposed to be fire starters."

"The third function was to give flavour. A little bit of salt can make a big difference between tasty or bland food. In a similar way, Christ came to give meaning to all experiences, no matter how bland or bitter, giving us his life to the full and instilling in us his joy. Christians, marked in this way by Christ's mercy, are meant to bring this flavour, personality, joy and life to the environments we inhabit."

In order to live this way, we need faith in Christ to conform our identity to being salt and light. Today we see examples of salt and light like properties of faith and charity in the encounter between Elijah and the widow of Zarephath in today's first reading.

We can be "salt of the earth" and "light of the world" in many little and simple ways as Mother Teresa suggested:

"Every time you smile at someone, it is an action of love, a gift to that person, a beautiful thing."

"Let us always meet each other with smile, for the smile is the beginning of love."

"Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless."

"If you want a love message to be heard, it has got to be sent out. To keep a lamp burning, we have to keep putting oil in it."

Another way to be "salt of the earth" and "light of the world" is to live out the **Beatitudes** which are statements of blessedness, characteristics and qualities that God is producing in us. When we are poor in spirit, pure in heart, when we hunger and thirst for righteousness and seek to be peacemakers and show mercy, when we, in other words, follow the way of Jesus we are both blessed and "salt of the earth" and "light of the world".

**May God illumine our minds with his word
and fire our hearts with graces so that we live out our true Christian identity
to be "salt of the earth" and "light of the world". Amen.**



SCRIPTURE READINGS - YEAR A

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

LET US HEAR AND RECEIVE THE WORD OF GOD



You are the salt of the earth

Collect:

Keep your family safe, O Lord, with unfailing care, that, relying solely on the hope of heavenly grace, they may be defended always by your protection. 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: Isaiah 58: 7-10

Thus says the Lord: Is this not the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.

Responsorial Psalm - Ps 111: 4-9

R. A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

Light rises in the darkness for the upright:
gracious, merciful and righteous.
It is well with the person who deals generously and lends,
who conducts their affairs with justice. R.

For the righteous person will never be moved;
they will be remembered forever.
Unafraid of evil tidings;
their heart is firm, secure in the Lord. R.

That person's heart is steady and will not be afraid.
One who has distributed freely, who has given to the poor,
their righteousness endures forever:
their name is exalted in honour. R.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2: 1-5

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but the power of God.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
*I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.*
Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 5: 13-16

Jesus said to his disciples: "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before human beings, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."

Prayer After Communion:

O God, who have willed that we be partakers in the one Bread and the one Chalice, grant us, we pray, so to live that, made one in Christ, we may joyfully bear fruit for the salvation of the world. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION
FOR FEBRUARY 2026****For children with incurable diseases.**

Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope. Amen.

WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS

BAPTISMS: We welcomed to the community, Cooper Murray and Eli Latu, who were baptised last Sunday 1st February 2026.

LIST OF THE SICK: Richard Ward, Marie Purcell, Soane Quensell, Pam Picart-Manalac, 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, Mathew Sieders, 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: Visessio Eli

RECENTLY DECEASED: Sr Elaine McTiernan, Fr Lutoviko Manu SM



✠
Ash
Wednesday

Wednesday 18th February

Mass Times:

8.00am & 6.00pm

Readings for Sunday 15th February 2026: 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Year A

\\ 1st Reading: Sirach 15: 15-20 // \\ 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 2: 6-10 // \\ Gospel: Matthew 5: 17-37 //



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 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are seeking volunteers to assist in the following ministries:

- **Sacramental Team** - supporting children and families preparing for the Sacraments
- **Parish Office (Administration)** - assisting with reception, filing, and general admin tasks
- **St Vincent de Paul - Emerton Conference** - serving those in need within our local community
- **SRE Catechists** - sharing faith with children in local public schools
- **Church Cleaning** - helping care for our worship space
- **Liturgical Ministers** - particularly AV operators, assisting with screens and sound during Mass Whether you can offer time weekly, monthly, or occasionally, your help makes a meaningful difference in the life of our parish.
- **Altar Servers** - young people aged 8 years and over are invited to consider serving God and our community as altar servers.

Training and support are provided where required. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the parish office.

*"Each of you has been blessed with one of God's many wonderful gifts—use it in the service of others."
(1 Peter 4:10)*

BE THE WITNESS - Musical Auditions

Be The Witness, a production by Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown, is holding open auditions:

- Monday 16th February - 6:30pm-8:30pm OR
- Monday 23rd February - 6:30pm-8:30pm
- Location: Parish Office, St Patrick's Church, Blacktown
- Register: music@bethewitness.com.au

Volunteers are welcome to help in production, event management, communications, finance, fundraising, or prayer. Musicians, dancers, a director, and choreographer are also needed.

Scan the QR codes to register your interest.

Come, Be the Experience!



WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

Sunday February 8

Monday February 9

- HF Primary Rehearsal, 2pm (Church)
- AA mtg, 7pm (MMR)

Tuesday February 10

- Holy Family Primary Opening School Mass, 9.15am (Church)
- Mt Druitt & District Reconciliation Group, 1pm (Dining/Kitchen)
- Staff Meeting, 3pm-5pm (SICR)
- NA mtg, 6.30pm-8pm (MMR)

Wednesday February 11

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

Thursday February 12

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

Friday February 13

- Commemoration of the National Apology to the Stolen Generations, 5.30pm - 8pm (HFC)
- AA mtg, 7pm (MMR)

Saturday February 14

- Samoan choir, 4pm-5pm (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

Lenten Resources Available

During Lent, we will have resources available to support group/family prayer and reflection as well as individual prayer.

If you are interested, please express your interest at the parish office.

Lenten Reflection Nights

As we journey through Lent, parishioners are warmly invited to gather for evenings of prayer, reflection and quiet sharing. These reflection nights offer an opportunity to deepen our relationship with God and prepare our hearts for Easter.

Wednesday 25 February and Wednesday 4 March, 6:45 pm, in the Chapel, following the 6:00 pm Mass.

Franciscan Jubilee Year - 800th Anniversary of St Francis

This year marks the 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis. Pope Leo XIV has proclaimed a Special Year in his honour, inviting the faithful to imitate his virtues of poverty, humility, compassion, and service to the poor.

A plenary indulgence can be obtained (until 10 January 2027) under the usual conditions - sacramental confession, Communion, and prayer for the Pope's intentions - by visiting any Franciscan church or place of worship dedicated to St Francis. In our Diocese, these include:

- Good Shepherd Church, Plumpton
- St Bernadette's Church, Dundas Valley
- Our Lady of the Rosary Church, Kellyville
- Franciscan Shrine of Holy Innocents, Kellyville
- Poor Clares Monastery, North Richmond
- Our Lady of Consolation Chapel, Rooty Hill

The elderly, sick, or those unable to travel may participate spiritually by offering prayers, sufferings, or intentions to God.

Let us use this Franciscan Jubilee Year to foster spiritual renewal, peace, and reconciliation in our lives and communities.

- Very Rev Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv,
Bishop of Parramatta Diocese.

ANNUAL COMMEMORATION OF THE

2008 APOLOGY

TO THE STOLEN GENERATIONS

HOSTED BY
MOUNT DRUITT AND DISTRICT RECONCILIATION GROUP

Remembering the Stolen Generations as we come together to reflect on our past, honour the voices and experiences of survivors, and consider how truth, understanding, and healing can guide our future.



**FREE
COMMUNITY EVENT**
FRIDAY 13TH FEB 2026
HOLY FAMILY CENTRE
EMERT PDE, EMERTON
5:30PM- 8PM



NATIONAL APOLOGY DAY



Diocese of Parramatta Notices

FaithLIFE Scripture Short Course: Begins 10 February

FaithLIFE Scripture offers a 3-session Catholic Bible study and faith formation short course on how to engage with the Bible through the Catholic tradition during turbulent times.

The program will run on Tuesday 10, 17 and 24 February at Our Lady, Queen of Peace Parish, Greystanes, from 7pm to 9pm.

The program is facilitated by Scripture scholar Dr Michele Connolly RSJ and is open to adults of all ages and supports ongoing adult faith formation. To register, visit <https://parracatholic.org/events/faithlife-scripture-session-1/>

Diocesan World Day of the Sick: 11 February

A Mass for the World Day of the Sick, including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, will be held at 11am on 11 February 2026 at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. All are welcome, including those who may be sick, and those who care for the sick and dying and health care professionals.

To register, please visit parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-world-day-of-the-sick-mass/ OR scan QR code.



Catholic Charismatic Renewal Holy Spirit Mission Retreat: 21 February

The **Catholic Charismatic Renewal Parramatta** community is hosting their annual Holy Spirit Mission event on **Saturday 21 February from 12pm to 5pm** at **Our Lady, Queen of Peace Parish, Greystanes**.

Join us for prayer and praise, testimonies, talks and prayer ministry as you seek a deeper understanding and connection with the Holy Spirit.

Register for this free event via <https://www.trybooking.com/DIENC> or the QR code.



We're visiting your community

Do you need help with Medicare, Centrelink and Child Support?

Come and speak with our staff.

We're visiting on Wednesday 18th February 2026

You can find us at:

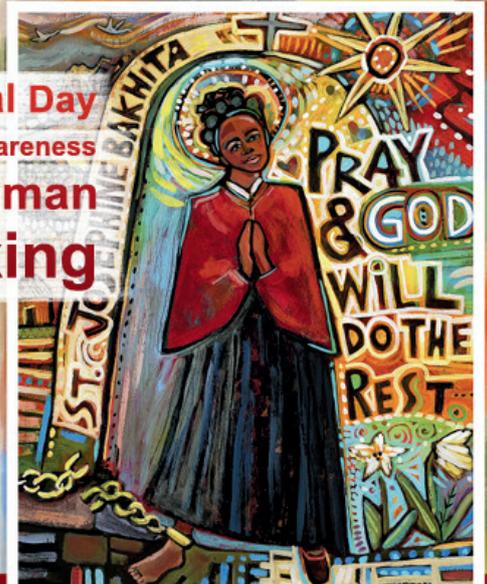
Aboriginal Catholic Care - From: 10am to 12pm

11 Emert Parade, Emerton NSW 2770

servicesaustralia.gov.au

International Day of Prayer and Awareness Against Human Trafficking

Peace Begins
with Dignity:
A Global Call
to End Human
Trafficking



Pope Francis designated 8th February, the feast of St Josephine Bakhita, as the International Day of Prayer and Awareness Against Human Trafficking following a request from Talitha Kum, the worldwide Network of Consecrated Life Against Human Trafficking.

Born in 1869 in Sudan, Josephine knew the pain and sorrow of losing her freedom, when at 7 years of age she was taken by slave traders. She was bought and sold many times in the following decade. Taken to Italy by a family, who 'owned' her, she met the Canossian Daughters of Charity, became a Catholic and joined the Canossian congregation. She died in 1947 and was canonized in 2000.

ACT NOW



FAIRTRADE

1. Learn about human trafficking and tell three others. <https://acrath.org.au/the-issue/what-is-human-trafficking/>
2. Pray for the victim/survivors of human trafficking. See Prayer vigil via the QR Code.
3. Purchase goods that have not been tainted by slavery within the supply chain. Look for the logos:
4. Join the live-streamed online Marathon of Prayer Friday 6th February. See details here: <https://acrath.org.au/take-action/world-day-of-prayer/>



For all resources see:
<https://acrath.org.au/take-action/world-day-of-prayer/>
or scan the QR code



www.acrath.org.au
People are NOT for sale

