



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_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

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 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. 33// 7th September, 2025

Reflection from Sr Carlene for the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time in Year C Cost of Discipleship: Luke 14: 25-33

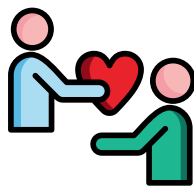
What does it cost us to follow Jesus faithfully throughout life?

This question arises from pondering the implications and lessons gleaned from today's Gospel (Lk 14: 25-33). The evangelist sets the scene: Jesus is "on his way" to Jerusalem and ultimately to crucifixion, accompanied by "great crowds" who have not yet grasped the full meaning of discipleship, Jesus proceeds to enlighten them. Just being acquainted with Him is not equated to following Him totally, wholeheartedly. Hence, Jesus pulls on punches!

Jesus declared that his disciples must "hate" their closest relatives, their own reputations, and their own lives. While the word "hate" seems very harsh, it is an example of Hebrew hyperbole and is more aptly translated as "leave aside". Disciples are expected to give preference to following Jesus and the gospel. They are to "leave aside" whoever and whatever detracts them from their complete allegiance to Him.

The evangelist continues Jesus' teaching by inserting two short parables which emphasise the need to reflect before acting. Would-be disciples are to weigh up the cost and freely choose to follow Jesus though this may incur ridicule or shame, loss of status, and giving up possessions... all of which happened to Jesus Himself.

Likewise, our call to discipleship involves costs and challenges. Amidst the realities of life we face some rough patches that cause us deep personal suffering. Experiencing our own brokenness, we know and feel the pain endured in living a Gospel way of life that respects the rights of all created beings. Therefore, in all our actions, let us keep our eyes on God and pray:



**Lord, teach me to be generous,
to serve you as you deserve,
to give and not to count the cost,
to fight and not to heed the wounds,
to toil and not to seek for rest,
to labour and not to look for any reward,
save that of knowing that I do your holy will.**



A Father's Day Blessing

Heavenly Father,

We thank You for the gift of our fathers and all men who lovingly guide and protect their families.

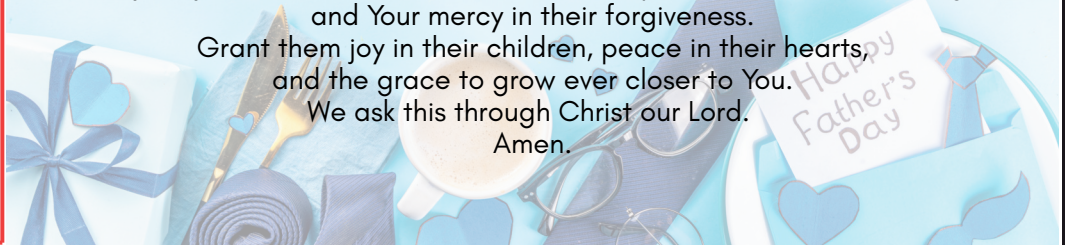
Bless them with strength, wisdom, and courage as they live out their vocation.

May they mirror Your love in their care, Your patience in their teaching, and Your mercy in their forgiveness.

Grant them joy in their children, peace in their hearts, and the grace to grow ever closer to You.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.





SCRIPTURE READINGS - YEAR C

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



LET US HEAR AND RECEIVE THE WORD OF GOD

Collect:

O God, by whom we are redeemed and receive adoption, look graciously upon your sons and daughters, that those who believe in Christ may receive true freedom and an everlasting inheritance. 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: Wisdom 9: 13-18

For who can learn the counsel of God? Or who can discern what the Lord wills? For the reasoning of mortals is worthless, and our designs are likely to fail; for a perishable body weighs down the soul, and this earthly tent burdens the thoughtful mind. We can hardly guess at what is on earth, and what is at hand we find with labour; but who has traced out what is in the heavens? Who has learned your counsel, unless you have given wisdom and sent your holy spirit from on high? And thus the paths of those on earth were set right, and people were taught what pleases you, and were saved by wisdom.

Responsorial Psalm - Ps 89 (90) 3-6, 12-14, 17

R: In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

You turn man back to dust, and say,
"Turn back, you children of Adam."
For a thousand years in your sight
are like yesterday when it is past,
or like a watch in the night. R.

You sweep them away; they are like a dream,
like grass that is renewed in the morning;
in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;
in the evening it fades and withers. R.

So teach us to count our days
that we may gain a wise heart.
Turn, O Lord! How long?
Have compassion on your servants! R.

Satisfy us in the morning with
so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
Let the favour of the Lord our God be upon us,
and prosper for us the work of our hands. R.

**POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR: SEPTEMBER 2025**

For our relationship with all of creation.

*Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis,
we might experience our interdependence
with all creatures who are loved by God
and worthy of love and respect. Amen.*

Second Reading: Philemon 9-10, 12-17

Beloved: I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the Gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother- especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Let your face shine on your servant,
and teach me your laws.*

Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 14: 25-33

Large crowds were travelling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me and does not hate their father and mother, spouse and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even their life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, whoever of you does not give up all their possessions cannot be my disciple."

Prayer After Communion:

Grant that your faithful, O Lord, whom you nourish and endow with life through the food of your Word and heavenly Sacrament, may so benefit from your beloved Son's great gifts that we may merit an eternal share in his life. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS

LIST OF THE SICK: Pam Picart-Manalac, Kim Ahmad, 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, Gloria Cutcliffe, Emma Lawrence, Maria Llave, Maria Belisario, Fara Vargas, Fe Llave, Stella Edwards, Boyet Llave.

RECENT ANNIVERSARIES: Michele Olic, Uncle Wes Marne.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Readings for Sunday 14th September, 2025: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

\\ 1st Reading: Numbers 21: 4-9 // \\ 2nd Reading: Philippians 2: 6-11 // \\ Gospel: John 3: 13-17 //



Parish Collection for the weekend of the 30th/ 31st August 2025:
 1st Collection (for the priests of the diocese) \$ 1,087.90
 2nd Collection (for parish expenses) \$ 1,904.50

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.

Father's Day Appeal - Supporting Those Who Serve

This Father's Day weekend, we invite you to take part in our special Leaving Collection, with proceeds evenly shared between two important causes:

1. Australian Jesuit Foundation Trust

Supporting retired and sick Jesuit Fathers in Australia e.g. Fr Pat Mullins.

2. Clergy Support Foundation (Diocese of Parramatta)

Providing care and support for retired and unwell priests—our spiritual fathers—who have dedicated their lives in service to the Church, e.g. Fr Paul Hanna.

Envelopes for both foundations are available at the back of the church for those wishing to make a tax-deductible donation. Donations over \$2 are tax-deductible.

This Father's Day, let us honour those who have fathered us in faith and served God's people so faithfully. Thank you for your generosity.



Pick up your copy of the Catholic Outlook, available at the back of the church.

You may see some familiar faces from the parish. :)

LITURGICAL MINISTERS ROSTER for next week: 13/14 September 2025

5.30pm Vigil Mass

Minister at the Altar: P. Morrell
 Minister of the Word: G. Bruton/ F. Hinder
 Eucharistic Minister: R. Murray
 AV Operator: P. Gillman

9am Sunday Mass

Minister at the Altar: S. Watt / M. Mealamu
 Minister of the Word: M. Clements / L. Gordon
 Eucharistic Minister: -
 AV Operator: -

10.30am Sunday Mass

Minister at the Altar: L. Tuuhetoka / P. Loloa
 Minister of the Word: P. Mafi / K. Loloa
 Eucharistic Minister: -
 AV Operator: V. Setefano

If you would like to be a part of the roster, please see Sr Carlene OR contact the Parish Office.

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

Sunday September 7

- Raffle Draw + Morning Tea, 11.30am (Church)
- St Ignatius Tongan Sunday School, 12pm-3pm (HFC)
- HF Tongan Catholic Communion, 12pm-3pm (MMR)
- Samoan Divine Mercy, 3.30pm-6.30pm (MMR)
- Jesus the True Vine, 3.30pm-6.30pm (SSR)

Monday September 8

- Prep for Sacraments - Adults, 4pm (SICR)
- AA mtg, 7pm (MMR)

Tuesday September 9

- Staff Meeting, 3pm-5pm (SICR)
- St VdP Emerton Conference, 7pm - 8.30pm (SSR)
- NA mtg, 6.30pm-8pm (MMR)

Wednesday September 10

- Orisient Emergency Alarm Set-up & Trial, 12pm (Site)
- Christian Meditation, 6.30pm-7.30pm (MMR)
- First Holy Communion Preparation Session, 7pm (Church)

Thursday September 11

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

Friday September 12

- AA mtg, 6.30pm-8pm (MMR)
- Samoan Divine Mercy First Friday Devotion, 8pm-Midnight (Chapel)

Saturday September 13

- HF Tongan Choir prac, 2pm-4.30pm (SSR)
- First Holy Communion during Vigil Mass, 5.30pm (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
13 th /14 th September	First Holy Communion at all Masses
14 th September	HF Young Adults ACYF Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser
23 rd September	Mass and Anointing, 11.30am (Ropes Crossing)
Tue 14 th October	Mass for Seniors at 11.30am Followed by light lunch in the church.
Thur 16 th October	Liturgy Committee Meeting 6.45pm
20 th - 22 nd October	Jesuit Parishes Conference (Melbourne)
Wed 22 nd October	First Reconciliation Information Session for Parents/ Carers, 7pm
Tue 28 th October	Mass and Anointing, 11.30am (Ropes Crossing)
Tue 4 th November	Melbourne Cup Day
Sat 8 th November	TBC - Parish Pilgrimage to the Holy Doors at Mt Schoenstatt, Mulgoa
Sun 9 th November	Mass for All Souls, 3pm (Pinegrove Cemetery)
Sat 15 th November	Parish Working Bee
Tue 25 th November	Mass and Anointing, 11.30am (Ropes Crossing)
Fri 28 th November	Thanksgiving Dinner for Parish Volunteers
30 th Nov - 2 nd Dec	Australian Catholic Youth Festival (Melbourne)
Sun 30 th November	Parish Choir singing at Nth Sydney Parish Mass
Sat 6 th Dec	Parish Christmas Carols, 7pm-10pm (School Grounds)
Wed 10 th Dec	Second Rite of Reconciliation, 6.45pm (Chapel)
Tuesday 16 th Dec	Mass and Anointing, 11.30am (Ropes Crossing) Rochford Place, 12 Avoca St Ropes Crossing 2760
Wed 24/Thur 25 December	Christmas Eve/ Day Masses



Share the Faith – Become a Catholic SRE Volunteer!

God is calling ordinary people to do something extraordinary: share His love with children in our local schools.

No teaching experience? No problem! Full training and resources are provided.

**Be the face of Christ to the next generation.
Say "yes" today!**

To learn more or sign up, see Maureen Freeburn OR Lorraine Gordon, or contact the Parish Office

Sacred Conversations

What does it mean "to hope and act with creation"?

Join WATAC in conversation with Sue Martin, Catholic woman, Ignatian educator, agricultural scientist & passionate advocate for ecological spirituality.

This is a unique opportunity to engage with a hopeful, faith-filled response to the 'Season of Creation' through the lens of feminism, ecology, and Catholic spirituality.

When: Tuesday, 9th September, 7.30pm AEST

Where: Online via Zoom

Registrations via the website: www.watac.net.au

Bishop Vincent Presents Cardinal Stephen Chow SJ: 15 September

The second of two Bishop Vincent Presents public lectures in September will feature Cardinal Stephen Chow SJ, Bishop of Hong Kong and one of the most senior Church leaders in Asia.

He will be presenting on Monday 15 September at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, Parramatta on the topic of 'Bridge Building'. With a background in psychology and education, and a deep pastoral heart, Cardinal Chow brings wisdom, courage, and compassion to the challenges facing the Church in our time. Register today by visiting <https://parracatholic.org/cardinalchow/>

Mass for Musicians: 24 September

In this Jubilee Year of Hope, we invite all those involved in Music Ministry across the Diocese to join us for our Mass for Musicians. Join us on **24 September, 7:30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta**. We ask that you arrive at 7pm and are seated by 7:15pm.

To register your attendance and the number of guests you are bringing, please RSVP via our website by Friday 19 September.

If you are unable to register via the form, please contact ofw@parracatholic.org or call 0460 037 795.



And they are off (Sunday 7/9)! ...

We bid farewell and offer our prayers to **Patrick and Denise** as they embark on the Diocesan Jubilee Pilgrimage to Rome and the Holy Land. Their journey is a witness of faith and devotion as they walk in the footsteps of Christ.

May it be a time of spiritual renewal and grace. Go with our love and blessings!

Young Adults - Praying with the Bible

Are you a young adult looking to deepen your faith and connect with Scripture in a meaningful way?

Join us for "Praying with the Bible" - a space to reflect, pray, and share together through the Word of God.

Next session: Wednesday 10th September at 7.30pm

Where: Parish Centre



What to bring: A Bible (if you have one), a journal, and a pen

Come along and be part of a welcoming and faith-filled group. No prior experience needed - just an open heart. All young adults are welcome!

Contact us:  [@hfya_mtd](https://www.instagram.com/hfya_mtd)

Diocesan Season of Creation Mass: 20 September

St Patrick's Cathedral and the Diocesan Laudato Si' Action Team invite you to the annual Season of Creation Mass with Bishop Vincent. The entire universe speaks of God's love (Pope Francis) and all of creation praises our God (Psalm 148).

Let us join in this praise and in Jesus' own mission to care for creation (Pope Leo) on Saturday 20 September 2025, 10:00am, St Patrick's Cathedral, 1 Marist Pl, Parramatta. Morning tea will be served in the Cloister Hall after Mass.

Mary and Synodality Short Course: 3, 10, 17, 24 September

Join us for a 4-week formation series, Mary & Synodality: Perspectives in Marian Theology for our Synodal Church, presented by Qwayne Guevara (MA Theology and Ministry, Grad Dip Theol). Through Scripture, theology, and contemporary thought, we will explore how Mary's witness offers inspiration for servant leadership, Spirit-filled collaboration, compassionate accompaniment, and hope-filled discernment in a synodal Church. Sessions will be held on Wednesdays 3, 10, 17 and 25 September at the Bethany Centre, 470 Church St, North Parramatta. Register today at parracatholic.org/maryandsynodality

CatholicOutlook
MAGAZINE

Christmas Cover

ART COMPETITION

THEME: THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS – JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE

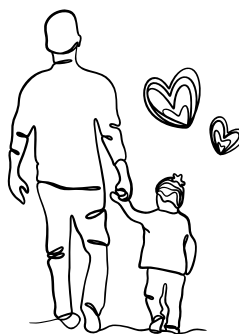
Will you design our Christmas cover?

All ages welcome.

Entries close 7 November 2025

Enter now at parracatholic.org/christmasart

HAPPY
Father's
DAY



Short, Sweet Anecdote - "Just Like Dad"

A little boy was trying to lift a heavy rock, grunting and struggling. His father stood nearby, watching. Finally, the boy gave up and said, "I can't do it."

His dad replied, "Have you used all the strength you have?"

The boy nodded. "Yes!"

His dad smiled and said, "No—you haven't. You haven't asked me to help yet."

Sometimes, the strength of a father isn't in doing it all—but in being there when you're ready to ask.