



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@holyfamily.org.au

Assistant Priest: Fr Renato Zecchin SJ
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Pastoral Associate: Sr Carlene Allen
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Site Manager: Ray Donaldson
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Parish Secretary: Malia Lolesio
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Book-Keeper: Malinda Toms
accounts@holyfamily.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
hfymtdruitt@gmail.com

Mass Times (during Lent) at Holy Family, Emerton

Monday, Saturday: 9am
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 6pm
Friday: 9am & 6pm
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. 11// Sunday 16th March 2025

Reflection from Fr Cao for the Second Sunday of Lent

Today's Scriptures call us to change and transform ourselves and our attitudes so that we can see Jesus more clearly and become better "beloved" sons and daughters of God.

In the Gospel, as Peter, James and John saw Jesus' divinity revealed, their attitude to Jesus was transformed. They now knew where they stood before God. We may ask ourselves: where am I before God and each other? How have I been with my family and community?

Abram was transformed by God's call to leave his home and people (Gen 15:18). Although the future was uncertain, he believed and led the Jews for forty years through the desert to the promised land. Abram became the founder of a new nation. This transformation included a change of name (Abraham), a new mission, and a deeper spiritual renewal. We are now called to live according to the New Covenant. We notice that there is no emphasis on land. The emphasis is on "the kingdom of God". In the New Covenant, the land to be inherited is heaven (Heb 11:16).

In the second reading, St Paul declares: "Our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will change our lowly body to conform with his glorified body by the power that enables him also to bring all things into subjection to himself." (Phil 3:20-21)

Because our citizenship is in heaven, we look on the world with eyes of faith. We see that the world does not always reflect God, or our true calling. Sometimes a Christian can feel like he or she is living in exile in his/her own country. That is because we are citizens of heaven. Truly we are "Pilgrims of Hope", trusting that we will join Jesus in heaven where he has prepared a place for each one of us.

St Paul tells us "Jesus will transform our earthly bodies to be like Jesus' glorified body" (Phil 3:21). Therefore, we hope to enjoy the glory that the three apostles experienced when Jesus was transfigured. What we will be in the future is very different to what we are now.

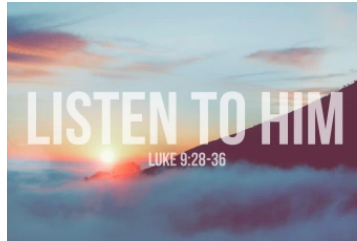
In the Gospel, the Father speaks to the three apostles, Peter, James, and John and says, "This is my chosen Son, listen to him." (Luke 9:35) That is what Lent is about . . . listening to Jesus. Are we giving God sufficient time to speak to us? Is the Lord asking something of us this Lent? Let us heed the Father's advice "This is my chosen Son, listen to him."

Let us try and create a space for prayer somewhere in our lives. Only by prayer can we be transfigured (transformed). By reflecting deep inside ourselves we will transfigure our many and often complicated relationships. Prayer can transfigure our marriages, our homes, our work and our communities.

*- Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for March -
- For families in crisis -*



Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.



SCRIPTURE READINGS - YEAR C

Second Sunday of Lent

LET US HEAR AND RECEIVE THE WORD OF GOD

**Collect:**

O God, who have commanded us to listen to your beloved Son, be pleased, we pray, to nourish us inwardly by your word, that, with spiritual sight made pure, we may rejoice to behold your glory. 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: Genesis 15: 5-12, 17-18

The Lord said to Abram: "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness. Then the Lord said to Abram, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." But Abram said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" The Lord said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." Abram brought the Lord all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

Responsorial Psalm 26: 1, 7-9, 13-14.**R: The Lord is my light and my salvation.**

The Lord is my light and my salvation,
whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid? R.

Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud,
be gracious to me and answer me!
"Come," my heart says, "seek his face!"
Your face, Lord, do I seek. R.

Do not hide your face from me.
Do not turn your servant away anger,
you who have been my help.
Do not cast me off, do not forsake me,
O God of my salvation! R.

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord
in the land of the living.
Wait for the Lord; be strong,
and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord! R.

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:

RECENT DEATHS: Randy Sing, Hazel Hodges, Cherie Bloomfield, Luke Callope

Second Reading: Philippians 3: 17 - 4:1

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the Cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm, my beloved, in the Lord in this way.

Gospel Acclamation:**Glorify and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

From the bright cloud the Father's voice is heard:

This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him.

Glorify and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**Gospel: Luke 9: 28-36**

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to Jesus. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his exodus, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah," but Peter did not know what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud.

Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And the disciples kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

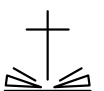
Prayer After Communion:

Renewed now with heavenly bread, by which faith is nourished, hope increased, and charity strengthened, we pray, O Lord, that we may learn to hunger for Christ, the true and living Bread, and strive to live by every word which proceeds from your mouth. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Readings for Sunday 23rd March, 2025: Third Sunday of Lent in Year C

\\ 1st Reading: Exodus 3: 1-8, 13-15 // \\ 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 10: 1-6, 10-12 // \\ Gospel: Luke 13: 1-9 //



Parish Collection for the weekend of the 8th/9th March 2025:

1st Collection (for the priests of the diocese)	\$ 840.55
2nd Collection (for parish expenses)	\$ 2,049.35
St Ignatius Tongan Community Mass	\$ 87.35

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.

Mass for Seniors and Anointing of the Sick

Join us for a special

**Mass for Seniors and Anointing of the Sick:
Tuesday, 25th March at 11:30am in the church.**

We look forward to sharing this meaningful occasion with you!

Maintenance Report Update

We would like to update you on the ongoing maintenance work at the church:

Roof Maintenance:

- We started repairs on the roof last week, and the work is still ongoing. This includes fixing water leaks and other necessary repairs. The total cost of the work is \$17,000. We are unsure of when the work will be completed, but we will keep you informed.

Concrete Pavement Work:

- We are hoping to start working on the concrete pavement at the front of the site during the July school holidays.

Fans in the Church:

- We've noticed that the fans in the church have started making noises. They will need servicing and cleaning soon.

If you notice anything else that needs attention, please don't hesitate to contact the Parish Office.

Thank you for your understanding and patience as we work to maintain and improve our parish facilities! 🙏

M A N D A T O R Y

Safeguarding Training

Cycle 2 face-to-face Safeguarding training session on Saturday, 3rd May, from 10:00 AM to 1:30 PM in the School Hall.

To register for this session, please use the QR code or contact the parish office.

Additionally, if you prefer, you can complete the training online please contact the parish office.

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:**Sunday March 16**

- Baptism, 11.30am (Church)
- Holy Family Tongan Catholic Communion Blacktown/Mt Druitt, 12pm - 3pm (MMR)
- St Ignatius Tongan Sunday School, 12pm-3pm (HFC)
- Samoan Divine Mercy, 3.30pm-5.30pm (MMR)
- Jesus the True Vine, 3.30pm-6.30pm (SSR)

Monday March 17

- Funeral Service for the late LUKE CALLOPE, 11am (Church)
- High School Children Sacramental Process, 5pm (SICR)
- RCIA Process, 6.45pm (SICR)
- AA mtg, 7pm (MMR)

Tuesday March 18

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

Wednesday March 19

- Funeral Service for the late CHERIE BLOOMFIELD, 1pm (Church)

Thursday March 20

- Lenten Prayer Group, 6pm - 7.30pm (SSR) - *All are welcome and encouraged to participate.*
- Parish Choir, 7.30pm-9pm (Church)

Friday March 21

- Stations of the Cross in English, 5pm (Church)
- Stations of the Cross in Tongan, 7pm (Church)
- AA mtg, 6.30pm-8pm (MMR)
- Parish Young Adults Lenten Program, 7.30pm-9.30pm (SSR)

Saturday March 22

- Holy Family Tongan choir, 2pm-4.30pm (SSR)
- First Holy Communion for High School students, during Vigil Mass (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
Tuesday 25th March	Mass for Seniors, 11.30am. ALL ARE WELCOME. RSVP required by 12/03/2025
Saturday 29th/ Sunday 30th March	Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal (Catholic Foundation Appeal)
Wednesday 2nd April	Second Rite of Reconciliation 6.45pm in the church
Sunday 13th April	PALM SUNDAY - beginning of Holy Week
Thursday 17th April	HOLY THURSDAY, 7.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper
Friday 18th April	Catholic Youth Parramatta Good Friday Night Walk from Blacktown to Parramatta 10pm - 6am
Sunday 20th April	EASTER SUNDAY
Saturday 26th April	Autumn Holiday Program Activity
Saturday 3rd May	Cycle 2 Mandatory Safeguarding Training for Volunteers who completed Level 1 Training in 2023. 10am-1.30pm
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

Second Sunday of Lent

Gospel: Luke 9: 28-36

The Transfiguration

Recall an experience of being deeply loved by your faith family.

Ask yourself: How was God speaking to me through this experience?

DAILY AWARENESS EXAMEN PRAYER

A

This examen prayer is both for an individual or doing it together as a couple or family. It is a time of prayer.

Let God draw you into the prayer that he is praying in you.

1 First try to relax and be at peace. Be aware that you are in the presence of the Lord

2 Thank God for something you are grateful for. Ask God to help you look back over the day.

3 Ask yourself: What are the good things that happened to me today?
What good things did I do today?
I thank God for all these things.

4 Now ask yourself: What was not so good about today: the things that annoyed me, frustrated me, hurt me, made me feel sad?
Ask God to help you with these things.
I also ask myself what things did I do today that were not so good.

5 I tell God that I am sorry for these things. Ask God to help you be a better person tomorrow than today.

6 Finish with the prayer that Jesus taught us: the 'Our Father'.

B

Daily Prayer - Lord you have given all to me, to you, Lord, I return it .

Everything is yours. Do with it what you will.

Give me only your love and your grace, that is enough for me. Amen

By Fr Renato.

Second Sunday of Lent 15th and 16th of March 2025

Toefuata'iga - (Toy-foo-ah-tah-ing-ah) a primary school student from Samoa faced severe water shortages at her school. Thanks to Caritas Australia and the generosity of supporters like you, her primary school now has a 10,000 L water tank. Teachers and students now have access to clean drinking water at their school and are able to focus on education

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code below.

Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion

Or by calling: 1800 024 413



Photo credit: Caritas Australia. Please donate today.



Volunteers Needed for Stations of the Cross on Good Friday!

We are calling for volunteers to be part of this year's Stations of the Cross. We need actors, ushers, and welcomers to help bring this beautiful tradition to life.

First Meeting: Next Sunday, 23rd March, after the 10:30 AM Mass.

This Year's Location:

The Stations of the Cross will be held in the school grounds on Good Friday. Help is needed to set up and assist with the event on the day.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the Parish Office for more details.

Thank you for your participation! 🙏

Planned Giving 2025/2026

We are now ordering envelopes for the next financial year. If you would like to join the Planned Giving program, please complete the form available at the back of the church or fill it out online using the QR code.

If you need to update your details, please contact the parish office.

Thank you for your continued support of our parish!



Care for Creation 2025 Lenten Calendar Pilgrims of Hope

SUSTENANCE SUNDAYS

16th March "May you be praised, my Lord, with all your creatures, especially brother sun through whom you lighten the day for us." Brother sun provides clean renewable energy!.

MEATLESS MONDAYS

17th March work on your "Earthcare" practices Consider using SOLVE Seasonal, Organic, Local, Vegetarian, Ethical food choices.

TALK ENERGY TUESDAYS

18th March Australia has one of the highest per capita emissions of carbon dioxide in the world. Try unplugging your devices and driving less. Don't Buy "Fast Fashion" ...

WISDOM WEDNESDAYS

19th March "...the most comforting speech in the world is the talk that rain makes by itself." Thomas Merton Watch Creation Corner

TURNAROUND THURSDAYS

20th March Turn the tide and switch off from technology and go outside. Find a sit spot and get to know just one metre square, do this daily.

FISH & FOOTPRINT FRIDAYS

21st March Consider composting. If your local council or neighbourhood doesn't have compost/FOGO collection yet, email, call or write a letter to ask "why".

SUSTAINABILITY SATURDAYS

22nd March Take the kids to the library to read an environmentally- themed book. (Celebrate World Water day and Earth Hour today)

