



HOLY FAMILY COMMUNITY



UNDER THE CARE OF THE AUSTRALIAN JESUIT PROVINCE

254 Luxford Road, Emerton, N.S.W. 2770
2020/Issue 10

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15th March 2020

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

Parish Priest
Assistant Priest
Novice Master
Pastoral Associate
Site Manager
Secretary
Music Director

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Fr Patrick Mullins, SJ
Fr Brendan Kelly, SJ
Sr Carlene Allen RSM
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MASS TIMES - HOLY FAMILY CHURCH - EMERTON

Saturday Vigil Mass : 5.30 pm

Sunday: 9.00 am and 10.30 am

JOHN TERRY CHAPEL (DAY CHAPEL)

Monday 8.30am Mass
Tuesday 6.00pm Mass
Wednesday 6.00pm Mass
Thursday 8.30am Mass
Friday 9.00am & 6.00pm Mass
Saturday 9.00am Mass

RECONCILIATION AND HOLY HOUR—EMERTON

Saturday from 9.30 am to 10.30 am

BIDWILL

Sunday 7.30am - 1st and 3rd Sunday each Month
Uniting Church, Carlisle Ave, in Shopping Centre

WILLMOT

Sunday 7.30am - 2nd, 4th and 5th Sunday each Month
Cnr Pelsart & Carteret Ave

REFLECTION FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

Third Sunday of Lent

The beautiful story of the Samaritan woman at the well in today's Gospel symbolises the extraordinary relationship that each one of us has with our heavenly Father. Her physical thirst for water represents, not only for her, but also for us, our search, our thirst for meaning and purpose in our lives. And, it is this journey of discovery for meaning and purpose in our lives that is the journey of Lent.

Though she had had five husbands, it is only when she met Jesus that she finally realizes that he, alone, could fill her deepest longings. Hence, Jesus tells her that the water he shall give will well-up to eternal life within her – his grace has drawn her to himself. In her excitement and joy to tell others about Jesus, she leaves behind her water jar – the earthly symbol of her many experiences that she chased after to quench the longing in her heart in the hope of finding happiness and peace in her life. She no longer needs it, because she has discovered that Jesus is the true Jar who, alone can quench the deep longing in her heart and give her true peace and joy.



An essential part of Lent is that we, too, must look into our heart and soul and ask what are the "water jars" that we have chased after to satisfy the longings of our hearts in the hope of finding happiness and peace in our lives? Perhaps it is wealth or material possessions, success or reputation, power or glory, physical or fleshly pleasures, popularity or status, or maybe something that I don't want to admit – even to myself? Like the Samaritan woman, however, have we also discovered that all these *things* only satisfy us fleetingly and imperfectly? And, all too quickly, we have to keep filling our 'water jar' again and again with other new and novel things.

Fr Christopher Sarkis
Lenten Program 2020: "Grace"
Diocese of Wollongong

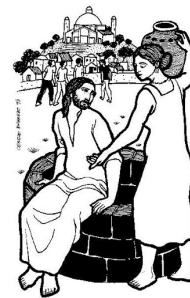


SCRIPTURE READINGS YEAR A

Third Sunday of Lent

LET US HEAR AND RECEIVE THE WORD OF GOD

For the deaf and hearing impaired, Holy Family Church is equipped with a loop system. Those with hearing aids should turn on their "T switch".



FIRST READING: Exodus 17: 3-7

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of salvation! Let us come into his presence with songs of praise. R.

O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, the sheep of his hand. R.

O that today you would listen to his voice! Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as on the day at Massah in the wilderness, when your ancestors tested me, and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work. R.

SECOND READING: Romans 5: 1-2, 5-8

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world;

give me living water, that I may never thirst again.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!



GOSPEL: John 4: 5-42 (shorter version)

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his children and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but the one who drinks of the water that I will give will never be thirsty. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

"I see that you are a Prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem."

Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know the Messiah is coming" (who is called the Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you." Many Samaritans from that city believed in Jesus. So when they (the Samaritans) came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world."

The Gospel of the Lord

READINGS FOR SUNDAY 22nd MARCH 2020 – FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR A

First Reading: Isaiah 16: 1, 6-7, 10-13

Second Reading: Ephesians 5: 8-14

Gospel: John 9: 1-41

[7.30AM MASS WILL BE AT WILLMOT CHURCH—8 CARTERAT AVENUE (CNR PELSART AVE) WILLMOT NSW 2770]

NOTE: Due to the COVID-19 (earlier referred to as Coronavirus), the following directions have been given by the Diocese of Parramatta with regards to our Eucharistic celebrations:

- The Precious Blood will not be distributed
- Holy Communion is to be received in the hand
- Holy Water fonts will be emptied
- Shaking of hands during the Greeting of Peace will not be encouraged.

Thank you for your understanding and patience.

WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS

BAPTISMS: We welcomed into our community Hezekiah Vaisima who was baptised on Sunday 8th March, 2020.

LIST OF THE SICK: Mary Facer, Margaret Palmby, Antonia Beemster, Lopisoni Makario, Faith Nimmo, Janette Queensell, Barry Barrakett, Shirley Chapman, Kenny Clements, Paul Cusack, Maria Hannelas, Ian Watts, Corina Valentine, Jeffrey Bonnici, Jose Lay, Fay Iffland, Mayda Attachian, Tim Meagher, Ray Fenech, Maria Llave, Maria Belisario, Fe Llave, Fara Vargas, Stella Edwards, Boyet Llave.

ANNIVERSARIES: Andrew Farrugia, Ioane Niumata, Jose Baldonado, Nellie Lincoln, Fr John Reilly SJ, Janice Barr, Fred Allen, Norbert Carlon, Maria Farrugia, William Murray, Selvina Cieppara Jannette Gohari, Emanuel and Rose Bugeja, Tuamasaga Peaga Ale, Bernard Gibbons, Noni Franklin, Wendy Paterson, John Rassaci, Dallan Jack McMillen, Baby Ayden Weippeartt, Collin Russell, Marlene Backett, Chuck Davey, Daphne Stevens, Chad Brown, Monsignor Alexander "Lex" Johnson, Lourdes Aquino, Kenneth Tobin.



LENT

LENTEN PRAYER GROUPS:

- ★ **Wednesdays:** From 6.30pm in the Parish Centre:
St Ignatius Conference Room.
Dinner included. Contact Fr Greg for more
information: gregory@holyfamily.org.au
- ★ **Thursdays:** 3.00pm at Tregear residence. Please contact
Gordon for more information: (02) 9832 0275.
- ★ **Fridays:** 7.30pm at the Marist Community residence:
12 Varian Street, Mt Druitt NSW 2770.
Contact Br Lawrie for more info: 0400 116 832.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

Meditate on the Way of the Cross on Friday
nights in the church:

5.00pm—in English
7.00pm—in Tongan
8.00pm—in Tongan



PERSONAL REFLECTION for the WEEK AHEAD

- * Over the course of the next week, be attentive to the things that distract you, particularly in times of quiet and prayer, and consciously offer them to Jesus.
- * You might pray a prayer like: "Lord Jesus, [this memory, guilt, anxiety, fear, etc] keeps coming to mind. I know only you can satisfy the longings in my heart, and so I choose to give this to you in exchange for living water. Thank you for your free gifts of grace, love and mercy. Amen."

Source: Grace 2020 Lenten Program, Diocese of Wollongong



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Father of four, Barry, embodies resilience and strength. Growing up in a tough environment, he had to look inside himself to make the right choices for himself and his family. Barry, and others like him, were able to take part in a cultural healing program called Red Dust Healing. This program encourages participants to examine their own personal hurt and allows them to heal from within, addressing family and personal relationships and what may be been life-long patterns of violence, abuse and neglect. Today, thanks to the Caritas support, he's an inspirational father to his four girls and a leader in his community.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 and help vulnerable people like Barry, so that they are empowered to assist members of their communities in Australia.

Let's Go Further, Together.



You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.



NOT HAVING A GOOD LENT SO FAR? TRY THIS.

So we're almost halfway through Lent...

How's it been going so far? Have you been keeping strong with your daily penances and acts of self-denial? What about prayer and almsgiving, are you doing lots more of that, too? Have you made it to confession yet?

If you're like me, you started off strong and are now down to a fizzle. You may even keep forgetting that it's still Lent!

Your Lent doesn't have to end on a crash and burn. There is still time to finish it well. Thankfully, Lent is long enough (six weeks!) so that we have time to pick up and start again when we drop off through our own weaknesses, forgetfulness, or carelessness.

If you struggle to make big heroic sacrifices, here are simple things that you can do each day of the week to help prepare your soul for Easter. Making different kinds of sacrifices each day, rather than a single 40-day long sacrifice, may be a better way for you to progress through Lent faithfully.

The helpful ideas listed below are adapted from Fr Peter John Cameron OP, editor of the *Magnificat*.

ROTATE YOUR DAILY PENANCES THROUGH LENT

On Sundays—*Lectio Divina*

Devote a half hour or so each Sunday to *Lectio Divina*, which is simply reading Sacred Scripture in a slow, prayerful, reflective manner. You can use a Catholic Bible or the daily readings from the Roman Missal.

On Mondays—*Meditate Prayer*

Set aside a small amount of time, anywhere from fifteen to thirty minutes, to pray by yourself and in silence. Use a Catholic meditation book to start off your time of prayer if needed.

On Tuesdays—*Fasting*

Choose *one* day of the week to fast. Offer your sacrifice for specific intentions every time you dent your urge for food.

On Wednesdays—*Charitable Works of Mercy*

Use this day to go out of your way to care for the poor, the needy, and the lonely—even if it is something very small.

On Thursdays—*Eucharistic Adoration*

Bring all your prayer requests and the needs of your family and friends to the Adoration chapel.

On Fridays—*Study the Faith*

Start with those areas of doctrine which you need to understand better. Use the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

On Saturdays—*Confession & Penance*

Let Lent be marked by frequent confession, and practise additional penances on the day you go to confession.

Of course, any of these days can be switched around to make your schedule. The idea is to do one small thing each day as a reminder that this is still the penitential season of Lent, and that we should be doing things differently than we normally would.

Is this list helpful? What else would you recommend?

—Grechen Filz

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PARISH COLLECTIONS

8th March 2020

1st Collection: (for the Diocese of Parramatta)

\$ 747.20

2nd Collection (for parish expenses)

\$ 2,105.90

Caritas

\$ 92.60

BISHOP'S GOOD SAMARITAN APPEAL 21st/ 22nd March 2020

Help CatholicCare chaplains bring comfort, faith and hope to the sick and isolated. Your compassionate gifts and prayers will help CatholicCare chaplains provide spiritual, sacramental and emotional support in the footsteps of the Good Samaritan. Please give generously to the Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal at all Masses next weekend: 21st/22nd March:

yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal.

Thank you for accompanying them on their journey.



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Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv.

Please give generously to the Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal
yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal

PARRAMATTA
CATHOLIC FOUNDATION
Your Faith. Your Foundation.

- MASS for SENIORS -

❖ Many of our Senior Parishioners have expressed their appreciation for the Mass and Anointing of the Sick celebrated last Thursday in our School Hall. They really look forward to joining us, meeting up with friends, and interacting with the children and teachers from Holy Family Primary School.

❖ Thanks to Holy Family Parish Staff, Parishioners, and Teachers who so generously helped in preparation, setting up, and cleaning up— "many hands make light work!" The team work was wonderful!



Remember that
nothing is small in the eyes of God. Do all that you do with love.

Therese of Lisieux



Check out the itinerary for the Pilgrimage of St Therese and her parents via:
www.catholicmission.org.au



Saint Joseph

Feast Day: Thursday 19th March

A carpenter, though born of the royal house of David, Joseph was an upright man who, as husband of the Virgin Mary, cared for Mary and the child Jesus. Venerated in the east after the fourth century, following the development of medieval plays, the Christmas crib, and increased devotion to Mary.

SUNDAY 15th MARCH
2.00PM IN THE
SCHOOL HALL
JACKPOT \$1,200.00 IN
50 CALLS

Bring your family and friends! Lucky door prizes available.
WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

NO HEALING MASS at ROPES CROSSING

Due to the COVID-19, the Healing Mass at Ropes Crossing for the month of March has been **CANCELLED!**

BAPTISM PREPARATION

- ★ Parents/ Carers whose infants are booked for **Baptism during April or early May** are invited to attend a **Preparation Session** on **Tuesday, 7th April at 7.30pm**, in the John Therry Chapel, Holy Family Church.
- ★ For further information, please contact Sr Carlene, Ph: 02 9628 7272.



Day of the Unborn Child Sunday 29th March, 2020

Time: 10.30am Mass

Location: St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney

12 Noon Angelus. Followed by a prayerful street procession led by Archbishop Fisher, Bishop Umbers and Bishop Antoine-Charbel Tarabay. Including an address by Parliament House by Rebecca Gosper.

1.30pm Benediction. At St Mary's Cathedral.

The Feast of the Annunciation is internationally recognised as the **Day of the Unborn Child**. It marks the day Our Lord Jesus Christ became a tiny unborn child in His mother's womb. It is a day of celebration and remembrance of the dignity of the unborn. It is also a day to remember the millions of unborn children whose lives have been ended by the violence of abortion.

For more information contact **Life & Family Institute:**

Ph: 02 9002 0354

Website: lifeandfamily.com.au

Email: info@lifeandfamily.com.au

