



Holy Spirit Catholic Parish

93 Burdekin Ave, Amaroo ACT and 220 Victoria St, Hall ACT
Supporting and supported by Holy Spirit, Good Shepherd,
Mother Teresa Primary Schools and St John Paul II College

2-3 April 2022

Fifth Sunday of Lent | Year C



Holy Spirit Amaroo

Monday

No Mass
Office closed

Tuesday

9:15am Mass

Wednesday

7:00am Mass

Thursday

9:15am Mass
5:00pm Adoration

Friday

7:00am Mass
6:00pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday

4:30pm Reconciliation
5:00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday

8:00am Mass
9:30am Mass
5:30pm Mass



St Francis Xavier Hall

Sunday Mass

8:30am
2nd and 4th Sunday of
each month

The High Privilege

What really happened to this woman? A group of men, scribes and Pharisees, bring a woman to Jesus. They claim to have caught the woman in the act of committing adultery. The accusation of adultery puts the woman at fault in the relationship –and at risk of being killed as punishment. The scribes and Pharisees push Jesus to agree with them: this woman should be stoned.

But what about the woman's point of view? We do not get the chance to hear the woman's version of what happened. She's gone down in biblical history as "the woman caught in adultery" – but what if another sin took place? What if the woman was actually the survivor of sexual harassment or abuse? What if the sinful actions were not committed by her, but by the other person – the man – caught in the act?

As is often the case in such situations, the public will never know exactly what happened. Most abuse happens behind closed doors. Jesus knows there is more to the story. He does not immediately side with the men in power. Jesus recognises the dignity of this woman and does not condemn her. May we, too, not be so quick to condemn – and instead, be quick to listen.

Think of a person in your acquaintance or in the media whom you've judged harshly. What does your condemnation of that person teach you about the state of your own heart?

Take some time to do a thorough examination of conscience. Make a list of things you want to change about yourself. Spend some time in prayer, thanking God for the call to go higher.

I didn't want some petty, inferior brand of righteousness that comes from keeping a list of rules when I could get the robust kind that comes from trusting Christ – God's righteousness.

www.gpbs.com.au

TODAY'S READINGS

Readings: Isaiah 43:16-21, Philippians 3:8-14, John 8:1-11

Entrance Antiphon: Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord had done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

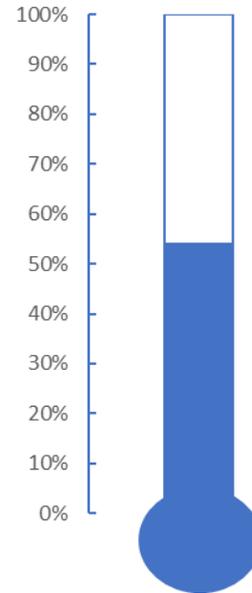
Gospel Acclamation: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! With all your heart turn to me, for I am tender and compassionate. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Communion Antiphon: Has no one condemned you, woman? No one, Lord. Neither shall I condemn you. From now on, sin no more. - *Liturgy Help*

Vinnies Pantry Donations

Thank you for your generous donations—we received 29kgs in donations last week bringing our total to 203kg. Our pantry still requires topping up as we continue to support many families in need. Please consider donating the following high demand items this weekend, keeping mind that the recommended sizes. Adhering to the sizes will help our Vinnies team to prepare balanced packs for

- 500g Dolmino Pasta Sauce
- 1kg Rice
- 1kg Weetbix, 750g Cornflakes, 250g Rolled Oats
- 420g Baked Beans
- 420g Spaghetti
- 425g Soup
- 200g Instant Coffee
- 50bags Black Tea
- 420g Peas
- 420g Peas and Carrots
- 420g Corn Kernels
- 420g tomatoes
- 420g Legumes
- 420g Beetroot
- 425g Tuna
- 410g tinned Fruit
- 1 litre Long Life milk
- Jam and spreads
- 1kg sugar



Vinnies Food Donations

Lent Week 5 Prayer

God, our Father and Mother,
Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain
at the expense of the poor and the earth.
Teach us to discover the worth of each being,
to be filled with awe and contemplation,
to recognize that we are profoundly united
with every creature
as we journey towards your infinite light.
We thank you for being with us each day.
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle
for justice, love and peace. Amen

Source: Laudato Si

WAYS TO GET CLOSER TO GOD

1. Get quiet. Turn off the radio and TV, step away from your computer, put away your phone, and find a quiet spot to simply rest in God's presence.
2. Read your bible. Underline, highlight, or write out passages, verses, phrases or words that speak to you. These are the gifts that keep on giving when you need encouragement down the road.
3. Write out your prayers in a dedicated notebook; these can be for others or yourself. Then spend time in prayer.
4. Go for a walk and talk with God. Share your heart: what is troubling you, what you are thankful for, and your hopes and dreams. He listens.
5. Meditate on Scripture. Choose a verse or short passage, read it several times, and invite the Holy Spirit to speak to you about what you have learned in the context of what's happening in your life right now.

<https://sallymeadows.com/>

Week 5: Shaniella from Solomon Islands



Shaniella 23, grew up in a remote village in the Solomon Islands in a province which has limited educational and job opportunities – and one of the country's highest poverty rates. After leaving school, she decided to move closer to the capital city, Honiara, to study hospitality and tourism. However, her vocational training school was hit by a landslide and cyclone in quick succession, destroying its water supply system and the vegetable garden that it relies on for food. With your generous support, Caritas Australia has helped the school to install water tanks, re-establish its garden and provided training in disaster risk reduction. Shaniella can now

complete her job skills training and the school has enough food and water for its students.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 so this transformational program can continue to empower and strengthen vulnerable communities For All Future Generations.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations.**

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting caritas.org.au or by calling 1800 024 413.

Please keep the following individuals in prayer.....



For those who are sick

- Baby Aarya
- Katie Charlton
- Ronald Robles
- Patricia Lebon
- Glenn Mowbray
- Gabrielle Eagles
- Roland Zocchi
- Graham Seymour
- Mark Williams
- Laurie Hancock
- Jasna Market-Simpson
- Nikola Market
- Kathy Morris
- Fr Paul Uwedimo
- Muhammad Redza
- Charlie Prasad
- Concepcion Libunao
- Lita Libunao
- Silvio Market

Recently Deceased

- Joe Pusciotta

Anniversaries

- Bob Conway
- Bill Sullivan
- Dennis Corrigan
- Caitlin and Alyssa Brice
- Leo Marneros

We include those who are members of our Parish or relatives. Please email contact the parish office or click here to request prayers.



It is God who arms me with strength and keeps my way secure.

Psalm 18:32

God help us
If our world should grow dark;
And there is no way of seeing or knowing,
Grant us courage and trust
To touch and be touched
To find our way onwards
By feeling.

AMEN

-The Prayer Tree-Leunig



Congratulations Joe and Beth Forshaw



Joe and Beth Forshaw are celebrating their 55th wedding anniversary on 1 April. They were married in St Patricks Church Braddon now part of Merici College. Lived in Macquarie, St Vincent's Parish, until 1990 when they had a bush change to Wauchope NSW, in 2002 we returned to Canberra.

May you get many more years of life together to celebrate with your love getting stronger and stronger with time. Happy 55th Anniversary!

Less is More

The church was abuzz. People could not help but see the graffiti that had been sprayed on the beautiful doors of the church, on the stone walls, the footpath and even the presbytery garage overnight. No names or gang symbols. Just one can of red paint sprayed randomly.

I was livid. I mused in my homily that I'd like to meet the person who felt compelled to desecrate our sacred space and ask "Why?" My prayer was answered. One of our young people heard that someone down the street had done it and told him I wanted to talk to him. To my utter amazement the perpetrator appeared at the parish office door and identified himself as the tagger. We sat in the foyer. There was so much I wanted to ask and say to him ... and maybe even, do to him. Instead, I could only sputter "Why?" He informed me it was because he was an atheist. I said I wasn't, but that if I respected his beliefs, I had no right to spray paint his house or garage or car, correct? He agreed. I struggled with what to say or do next. I asked him to promise never to do anything like that again. He agreed to that as well. All I had was his word. I was afraid of what might come out of me next, so I accepted his answer and he left. We were not tagged again. And I realised I had to clean the ugliness that the incident left within me as well as the buildings.

"Let the one who is without sin cast the first stone".

www.gpbs.com.au

Upcoming Events

- * **10 April 2022 9:30am—Youth Mass at Holy Spirit Parish**
Please contact the office if you would like to be involved.
- * **11 April 2022 5:00pm—Chrism Mass**
Join the Archbishop and the Clergy of the Archdiocese on Monday 11 April at 5.00pm in St Christopher's Cathedral, Forrest for this most important Holy Week ceremony. It is this Mass that the **Holy Oils** used in the various Sacramental Rites of the Church are blessed and consecrated. Everyone is most welcome.
- * **14-17 April "Light of the Nations"**
LTTN is an Easter Pilgrimage event held biannually for Catholics (singles and families) aged 16+. Camp under the open skies with up to 1,000+ as we celebrate the Easter Triduum. Held in the grounds of Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville.
Visit www.lttn.org.au for more information

JOIN THE HOLY SPIRIT ALPHA PROGRAM!

THE INVITATION

Come and join the new Alpha Program which will run for 6-8 weeks from 28 April, from 7-9 pm each week.

WHY?

Share a meal and make new friends;
Ask the big questions, including:

- Is there more to life than this?
- Who is Jesus?
- Why did Jesus Die?
- What does the Holy Spirit Do?
- Does God really Care?

Spend sometime on your self and your questions about God, Faith and the Universe.

HOW?

We share a meal together and make new friendships before watching a very professionally prepared video. Then we share our thoughts about it and the questions it raises. There is NO right answer.

SIGN UP?

Email me at: alisonmweeks@bigpond.com and it's done!

I'm looking forward to learning and sharing with you.
See you soon!
Alison Weeks





Social Justice Matters

Palm Sunday Rally— Sunday 10 April Garema Place

The theme for this year's Palm Sunday Rally is *Justice for Refugees: End the Cruelty*. The Canberra Refugee Action Campaign remains focused on the 500 people in detention with no resettlement certainty and the 104 people left in PNG with no resettlement options at all.

As Catholic Christians, Jesus commanded us to look after those in need, the poor, the outcast, the sick. Please join us in person or by prayer on Palm Sunday.

Members from the Parish will meet in Civic at 12.30pm at the **Merry-Go-Round, Petrie Plaza at 12.30pm on Sunday, 10 April.**

You will recognise us because we will have the Parish Banner unfurled! Please join us. For more information please contact Maureen Hilton at maureenhilton@gmail.com. PS Perhaps we could all go to Civic by the light rail? It will be an enjoyable day out with the family.

JUSTICE FOR REFUGEES
END THE CRUELTY

More than forgiveness



This is a powerful story of justice and mercy. Jesus is on the side of the woman who has been accused of sin and crime. It was an unjust accusation, and the people who brought her had little good in mind.

Jesus offers more than forgiveness - he brings mercy. Mercy forgives with compassion and doesn't need lectures. It restores dignity to the victims of injustice like the lady in this story. It is the same in Jesus, for those who do not receive their dignity because of something they are, or something they did and are unjustly treated.

Jesus did not condemn; he turns the tables a bit. He simply says: *Anyone here without sin - take the stone and throw it.* Nobody does. In this atmosphere of darkness we need to hear something of the love and the mercy of God. Would light of mercy come into their darkness of condemnation? Would they leave their darkness into a personal space where they might have a change of heart?

This is also about the challenge to live honestly and without sin; and to be able to take steps like this woman's life, to move on. All hear this word from Jesus - I do not condemn you. This comes to our society and to ourselves. We need to hear this word for ourselves as often we throw stones at ourselves more than at others. What we condemn in others is what sometimes we do not like in ourselves.

*Lord may we enter this world of mercy wherever we need to.
May we hear these words always, 'I do not condemn you'*

<https://www.catholicireland.net/>

HOLY WEEK 2022



PALM SUNDAY 9-10 APRIL

Saturday 5:00pm

Sunday 8:00am and 9:30am (8:30am St. Francis Xavier)

RECONCILIATION SERVICE 12 APRIL

Tuesday 7:00pm

HOLY THURSDAY 14 APRIL

Thursday 7:00pm

GOOD FRIDAY 15 APRIL

Friday 9:00am Walking Stations of the Cross

Friday 11:00am Stations of the Cross

Friday 3:00pm Liturgy of the Passion

(Please bring a flower to lay at the foot of the Cross)

HOLY SATURDAY 16 APRIL

Saturday 7:00pm Easter Vigil Mass

EASTER SUNDAY 17 APRIL

Sunday 8:00am, 9:30am



Holy Spirit Catholic Parish

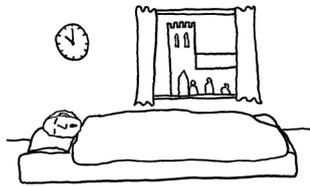
LENT



LENT IS A TIME FOR QUIET REFLECTION AND CONTEMPLATION



IT IS A SEASON OF ABSTINENCE AND FASTING



SOME CHRISTIANS GIVE SOMETHING UP DURING LENT

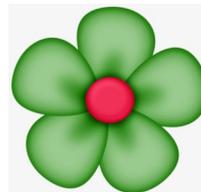


OTHERS CHOOSE TO CARRY OUT ACTS OF PENANCE

CartoonChurch.com

During Difficult Moments

“Whatever you did today is enough. Whatever you felt today is valid. Whatever you thought today isn't to be judged.” Repeat the above each day.”



WE NEED YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Secure Online Payments

Online Mass Contribution (First and Second Collections combined)

We encourage you to continue to support our parish by making contributions to our First and Second Collections online. Follow the steps below to make a secure online donation.

1. Click on <https://www.holyspiritgungahlin.org.au/donations-payments/secure-online-payments/>
2. Select Biller Code 1002872 – Mass Contribution
3. Enter your payment details.

Parish Bank Account Details

BSB: 062 786 Acc Number: 00010701 Acc Name: Holy Spirit Parish

CONNECT WITH US

Parish Priest: Fr Mark Croker

Assistant Priest: Fr Anthony (Fr Thonn) Riosa, SSS.

Parish Office and Presbytery

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Parish Pastoral Council (PPC): Alison Weeks

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Parish App and Parish Facebook Page



Pocket Parish
Holy Spirit Catholic Parish

Holy Spirit is with you where ever you go!

Download now from

