



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

24-25 June 2023

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Year A



Holy Spirit Amaroo

Monday

No Mass
Office closed

Tuesday

9:15am Mass

Wednesday

9:15am Mass
6:00pm Holy Hour and
Reconciliation

Thursday

9:15am Mass

Friday

7:00am Mass
7:30am Morning Beans
11:50am Mass

Saturday

4:15pm Reconciliation
5:00pm Mass

Sunday

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

Whispered Words

(Matthew 10: 26 - 33)

Jesus says to fear no one; but I run out of fingers counting the people and situations that cause fear and anxiety in my life. I want to believe with the certainty of Paul, but often I find myself keeping company with Jeremiah, worried to a frazzle. Is it that I doubt God is going to get me out of the latest scrape I'm in (Yes.) Is it that God has given me reason to doubt that I will be rescued? (No.) So what's the problem?



The problem is me, not God. God keeps track of the hairs on my head and the fate of every sparrow, but I'm keeping the log of everything that can and does go wrong with frail mortality. People go broke. People get sick. People die. These things are often more compelling to me than God's domination over creation. Jesus reminds us that the body is not as important as the soul, but I have grown very fond of the body and have spent a lifetime preserving it. Still, I crawl up on the rooftop of hope every once in a while and warble faintly about what I've heard and believe, despite all uncertainty, to be true. When I speak this truth, its certainty grows in me. When I act on this truth, I'm brought into the light.

Pray

Patient God, it's true: we don't want you to disrupt our peace. Too often, we don't let you interrupt our comfort and complacency. We like things the way they are. We like living based on the economy of *this* world, rather than your economy of love. Too often we choose the easy road. We wonder: What are you seeking to teach us? What are we to learn from you? Too much of our lives is spent doubting you, instead of living into your beautiful reminder that we are heard, known, and loved. For this, we say sorry, forgive. Amen.

Ponder

Describe the last occasion you had to speak or act in faith. How did this witness make your faith stronger? Pray this week like Jeremiah, bringing the lovely and unlovely parts of your heart to God.

Kids' Corner

When you hear the word "*champion*," what do you think of? Probably someone who is the best at something, right? But "*champion*" has another meaning too. To be another person's "*champion*" means you support them. You stand up for them, no matter what. Our mightiest champion is God. Whether we win or lose or make a big mistake, God is there, behind and beside us. Even when it seems like the rest of the world has forgotten or dismissed us, God stays close, reminding us that we are God's prized children.

Thanks for being our champion, God!

- www.gpbs.com.au



St Francis Xavier Hall

Sunday Mass

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

This Weekend's Readings: Jeremiah 20:10-13, Romans 5:12-15, Matthew 10:26-33

Upcoming Events

- * **Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 June** – after all Masses. Ideas on ways to contribute to a sustainable Lifestyle.
- * **Tuesday 27 June 2023 - 5:30pm-7:00pm | Adult Faith Formation**
Topic for this week: The Paschal Mystery: Jesus' Death & Resurrection
- * **Friday 29 June 2023 - 7:30am-9:00am | Morning Beans for Young Adults (18-30)** Blossoms Café Ngunnawal—spill in at anytime!
- * **Friday 30 June 2023 6pm to Saturday 1 July 4:00pm | Vocations Discernment Day Galong** For young men wishing to discern a call to the priesthood; with good food, and insightful presentations at the peaceful rural St Clement's retreat center. For flyer contact vocations director Fr Emil 0414523036 or emil.milat@cg.org.au. Cost \$50. RSVP by 11am Monday 26 June.
- * **Sunday 2 July 3.30-4.45pm | True Life in God (TLIG) Prayer Meeting** (Prayer & Fellowship). Bring your rosary beads. For further information on the True Life of God Messages visit the Parish website. Contact: Tom Kalliath: 0434 689 957 or Tony Cassar: 0497 804 676

Don't Let Fear Threaten Your Character

I remember being afraid in high school. I remember fearing the bullies. I remember fearing rejection as I looked for friends. I remember fearing humiliation when I asked girls for a date. Sadly, I did some stupid things out of fear, some things that hurt my character.

Fear is real, but it doesn't have to control us because God cares enough to stand by us through it all. That's the good news from this week's Gospel.

Early Christians also struggled with fear. Remember, they were Jewish and saw Jesus as the fulfilment of all Jewish hopes. That belief put them in conflict with other Jews, who eventually kicked those early Christians out of their communities. Read the Acts of the Apostles or Paul's letters. You'll find some hair-raising stories about the persecutions they faced.

Nonetheless, they persevered. They believed that Jesus' teachings helped them grow closer to God. So they developed strong worship lives that soothed and strengthened their souls. They devoted themselves to helping one another. All this, they found, brought them God's strength – strength that helped them face rejection and brutality.

That strength can be yours. Call upon it. It's scary to risk your popularity, to challenge bullies, to stand against bigotry and dishonesty, and to stand up for the little ones and those who live on the margins. You are likely to face rejection and maybe even physical attack. But you build so much character when you take those risks. Those risks strengthen your character.

Follow the example of those early Christians. Make Mass and acts of justice and service important in your life. They will protect your soul and calm your fears. You will find, as Jesus says, that God watches you closely, always looking for ways to help you out.

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



For those who are sick

Jim Banks
Dorrell Hogan
Alan Demascus
Kathy Morris
Elisabeth Faith O'Connell
Caitlin Wigglesworth
Kwang Hui Lim
Grant
Maria Therese Cummins
Gail
Peter Knight
Elizabeth
Adriano Cesar Junior
Maria Teresa Meireles
Theresa and Joseph Tan
Cyril Jolicoeur
Richard Smart
Sean Burke
Jan Morris
Bill Honess

Recently Deceased

Rhonda Lipton
Witold (Victor) Sulkowski

Anniversaries

Vittoria Teuma
Elizabeth Pulle

We include those who are members of our Parish or relatives. Please email the parish office or [click here](#) to request prayers.

[Prayer Requests](#)

"Even when alone,
be cheerful,
remembering always
that you are in the
sight of angels."

-St. Therese of Lisieux

First Holy Communion and Reconciliation 2023

If you missed the Information Sessions to join this year's program, please contact:

- ◆ Theivani (for students in non-Catholic Schools) - theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au
- ◆ Mel Unwin (for students in parish Catholic Schools) - mel.unwin@cg.catholic.edu.au



Family Centered, Parish Based, School/Catechist Supported Sacramental Programs

(From the Archdiocese of Sale)

A balanced approach to growth in faith is achieved when family, parish and school each recognise and carry out their particular role. In all of this we recognise that it is the child who is the focus.

What FAMILIES do to help their children grow in faith

Education in the faith already happens when family members help one another to grow in faith by the witness of a Christian life in keeping with the Gospel.

In families, children:

- ◆ Learn who they are and that they are loved
- ◆ First experience celebration and forgiveness in family life
- ◆ Share meals and talk together about happenings in their lives
- ◆ Learn to celebrate achievements and to support each other in difficult times
- ◆ Are introduced to: the parish community who gather for Sunday Eucharist Scripture stories about Jesus through prayers in the home.

The focus for parents and family members is to show children, in practical ways, how to live good lives.

What PARISHES do to help children grow in faith

All the sacraments are sacred links uniting the faithful with one another. Through on-going experiences in parish life children:

- ◆ Experience a sense of belonging to the local parish and to the wider community of believers
- ◆ Experience a sense of the sacred and a sense of the wonder of God
- ◆ Are challenged to hear the Word of God, celebrate it and live it as Christians in the world
- ◆ Meet people who are enabled to live out the Gospel in a variety of pastoral ministries

The focus for the parish community is to invite all to share in the life of the community, and recognise there are times when a unique response is called for to support a child in their faith journey.

What SCHOOLS and CATECHISTS do to help children grow in faith

The Catholic school is a community of faith sustained by the word of God, a meeting place with Christ and communion with all. The focus for the school is not merely to provide a formal education in faith but nurture young people in an environment that leads them to develop their personal relationship with God.

The focus for catechist groups is to support children and families in the parish sacrament process and provide Religious Education to young people not attending Catholic schools.

During this time of preparation we pray for the families and teachers guiding the children on this sacramental journey.

1st Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood

24 June 2023

Congratulations Fr Eden!

Lord, we pray for Fr Eden as he celebrates the first anniversary of his ordination, cementing his devotion to you, the church community and all those he meets. May he be guided by your love and protection.

As he continues his priestly journey with us and his future parishioners, may his work inspire all to be awakened by the Holy Spirit, lighting a fire of commitment to you.



Vinnies Pantry Donations

We are still in need of food so please continue to donate wherever possible. When donating, please take note of the size of food items. Small bags of rice and noodles are more manageable for our needy families than large bulk bags. Cans of soup, 2 minute noodles and packet soups are all great items to donate during winter. We are always in need of 1 litre long life milk.

If you are stuck on ideas, please contact the parish office and we can help. Or look on our website for a [full list of items](#). **Donations can be brought to:** Weekend Masses, the parish office or [Stonehouse Amaroo](#).



Every donation makes a difference!

How you can contribute to a sustainable lifestyle in our Parish

This weekend 24/25 June, the Parish Social Justice Group will be **holding "market stalls" after every Mass** that will offer some practical examples of how we can all contribute to a better environment and more sustainable living in our parish.

Stalls will include information about:

- The parish community garden and composting
- What a carbon footprint is
- A range of options for recycling items that you don't need anymore
- Best practice for using our kerbside bins
- How to avoid using plastics that often end up in our waterways and oceans
- And more.

So why not **spend 10 minutes after Mass to visit the market stalls**.

You may have some other good ideas that you can pass on to our Social Justice Group.



World Refugee Day – Finding Freedom



Tuesday, 20 June 2023 was World Refugee Day and I was fortunate to attend the Canberra Refugee Support presentation of Education Awards. The Award Ceremony was held at Cook Community Hall and about 30 refugees were presented with education awards. Recipients had been nominated by a range of institutions and the guest speaker, Mr Nai Jit Lam, Deputy Regional Representative UNHCR spoke of the plight of refugees and asylum seekers throughout the world.

I had been invited because two of Estellinee's (a parishioner) eight children, had been nominated for an education award. The two children arrived with their elder brother last April from Tanzania where they had spent seven years in a refugee camp as

unaccompanied minors. Their mother was Estellinee's deceased sister and Estellinee had assured her while she was alive, that if anything happened to her sister, she would look after her children. Sadly their mother was killed in Burundi and Estellinee fulfilled her promise.

In announcing each Award, the representative from the nominating organisation said where the person was from, told a little about their story and why the person had been nominated. It was extremely moving as we learnt of the hardship that many children, women, men and families face when leaving their country of origin and how they are settling in Australia.

To read more about National Refugee Week please go to [National Refugee Week - Office for Social Justice \(catholic.org.au\)](https://www.catholic.org.au/national-refugee-week)

To learn more about Canberra Refugee Support go to their website [Home - Canberra Refugee Support](https://www.actrefugee.org.au) . Canberra Refugee Support is run by volunteers and appreciate donations to assist them in their work.

Maureen Hilton

Social Justice Group member



Nicodeme, Estellinee, Sofia and me. Neither children had received formal education.

Adult Faith Formation

Tuesday 27 June at 5:30pm

Parish Office – all are welcome

Topic:
The Holy Spirit
and The life of Grace



Holy Spirit Catholic Parish, Gungahlin

Movie Suggestion

The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry, a heart warming (and at times harrowing) story of a man who goes to the post office one morning to post a letter and ends up walking from one end of England to the other. Though Harold's pilgrimage is motivated by his desire to save a dying friend, the journey ends up being about so much more.

Humanity has been venturing out on pilgrimage for thousands of years and reaping the many blessings and benefits. Why not see this movie and decide to step out in faith upon a pilgrimage that might just change your life.



Planned Giving Update

Thank you for your support and participation in making our Parish a beacon of the Holy Spirit. For those new to the Parish or not participating in the Planned Giving program please consider participating in the program by

picking up a GREEN Planned Giving Pledge form from the Church foyer and returning it to the Parish office.

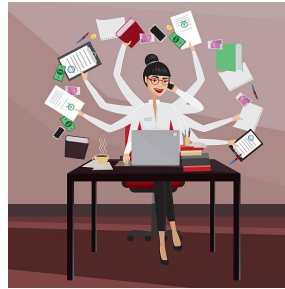
Many thanks to those who have updated their contribution to the parish.

For those who contribute by weekly envelopes your envelopes for 2023-24 are available for collection in the Church Foyer.

A reminder that **Tax receipts** are **no longer issued**, as the parish no longer contributes to the Canberra Catholic Schools Building Fund.

Position Vacant—Part Time Parish Secretary

People are invited to apply for the position Parish Secretary for St. Matthew and St. Vincent's Parish. This is a permanent part time position working from the Parish Office in Aranda. This position is for 22hrs per week, current days are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.



Employment conditions are subject to Clerks Award. Please phone 6254 1827 for a copy of the duty statement.

Applications addressing the Essential Requirements, with a current resume may be addressed to Parish Priest

Fr. Simon Falk at southbelconnen@cg.org.au and should be received by 30th June, Interviews will be held on Wednesday 5th July.

WE NEED YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

First Collection (Supporting all priests of the Archdiocese)

1. BSB: 062 786 Acc Number: 00029248 Acc Name: Central Presbytery Fund Ref: Gungahlin and Surname
2. Tap and Go machines or Qkr!

Second Collection (For the upkeep of our parish, staff salaries, parish loans, liturgical needs etc)

1. Click on <https://www.holyspiritgungahlin.org.au/donations-payments/secure-online-payments/>
2. Direct Credit: BSB: 062 786 Acc Number: 00010701 Acc Name: Holy Spirit Parish
3. Tap and Go machines or Qkr!



CONNECT WITH US

Parish Priest: Fr Troy Bobbin

Assistant Priest: Fr Eden Langlands

Parish Office and Presbytery

93 Burdekin Ave, Amaroo Ph: 6242 9622

Website: www.holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Parish Manager: Theivani Evers

E: theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

P: 0472 921 518

Parish Secretary: Magda Baraniecki

E: office@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Office Support: Anne Smart

E: officesupport@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Finance Officer/ Planned Giving: Tony Rose

E: gungahlin.finance@cg.org.au

Parish Pastoral Council (PPC): Steve Seesink

E: stephen.seesink@gmail.com

Parish Groups

Craft Group | Beth Forshaw
Mondays 1:00pm Parish Office

St Vincent de Paul | Drazen Roginic President
P: 0401 669 301
E: Drazen.Roginic@vinnies.org.au

Call to Connect | Anne Smart
M: 0415 175 802

Holy Spirit Prayer Group | Kathy Torcasio 0401 920 028
Wednesdays at 7:30pm in the church

Social Justice Group | Peter Petersen
E: socialjustice.hsp@gmail.com

Legion of Mary | Grace Magbutay
E: office@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Youth Ministry |
E: youth@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Young Adult Ministry | Fr Eden Langlands
E: office@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Care Group | Sonja Vocisano
P: 0438 699 591

Community Garden Group | Parish Office
E: theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Download our parish app: [Pocket Parish from App Store](#) or [Google Play](#).