



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

17-18 February 2024

First Sunday of Lent | Year B



Holy Spirit Amaroo

Monday

No Mass
Office closed

Tuesday

9:15am Mass

Wednesday

9:15am Mass
6pm Holy Hour and
Reconciliation

Thursday

9:15am Mass

Friday

7:00am Mass
12:00pm Mass
6:00pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday

4:30pm Reconciliation
5:00pm Mass

Sunday

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

Among the Wild Beasts

The story of the temptation is a wonderful portrait of physical and spiritual realities in juxtaposition. On one side is the desert: dry, hot, harsh, and tangible. On the other side is the Spirit, driving Jesus inward to encounter Satan for a contest over authority. In the end, we find Jesus in the company of wild beasts and angels, in perfect harmony, as if heaven and earth were finally made whole. The lion lies down with the lamb, and an angel protects them both.

Jesus struggles over temptations that appeal as much to the body as to the spirit. Both his physical and spiritual natures must be surrendered to God's will, and it is that surrender which marks the beginning and end of his work on earth. "Into your hands I commit my spirit," Jesus whispers from the cross. His body is already committed.

The image of Jesus with beasts and angels reminds us of humanity's ideal: to be at peace with this world and the next. So long as we neglect our responsibilities to one or the other, we won't know lasting peace.

How are your temptations both physical and spiritual?

Pray

We come to you, O God, in this Season of Lent, to reflect again on Jesus' journey to the cross, and beyond that to resurrection. We dare to do that, supported by stories of the many promises and covenant you made to your people throughout history. Come to us in this season, O God, and remind us once again that you're always with us: in death and resurrection, in desert and in flood. Amen.

Ponder

Honour the natural world. Plant some bulbs, take a child to an arboretum, support a wildlife organisation. Honour the spiritual world. Renew your commitment to the spiritual works of mercy. "Time's up! God's kingdom is here. Change your life and believe the Good News."

Kids' Corner

Jesus remained in the desert for forty days and forty nights, tempted by Satan. (Mark 1: 13)

Jesus is good and loving. So how could he be tempted? Well, Jesus became one of us because he loves us. He shared in our life, and so he experienced temptations just as we do. But he never gave in to them, and he showed us how to resist them too. But Jesus went further. He never hurt those who hurt him. He never refused to help those who needed him. Jesus showed us how to love others as he did and how to live as he lived. Then he said to us, "Follow me."

Lord Jesus, help me find joy as I follow you. Amen. www.gpbs.com.au



St Francis Xavier Hall

Saturdays 5:00pm

*As we begin the season of Lent, we are invited to live with
open-hearted generosity, and to discover the joy and
freedom in living for others.*

Parish News and Events

- * **Fridays During Lent** | 6:00pm— Stations of the Cross
- * **Wednesdays 10:00am** — Lenten group using Archdiocese of Wollongong Lenten Guided Program Pietà
- * **Thursdays 6:00pm starting 22 February**—The Chosen (8 episodes) during lent with pot luck dinner.
- * **Saturday 16 March 2024** | The Loreto Canberra Chapter's annual reunion: Mass - 11am at St Francis Xavier Church, Victoria St, Hall, followed by lunch at 1882 Restaurant, Hall. RSVP by 8 March to loreto.canberra@gmail.com



Pilgrim Virgin Statue Home Visitation Program

Will you take me to your home?
Hosted by Legion of Mary—please call Peter 0437 672 069 to make a booking.

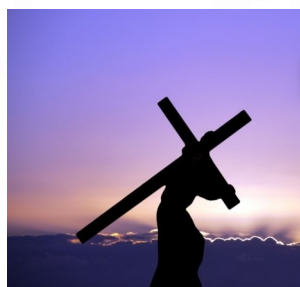


Sacrament of Confirmation 2024

For children in Year 6 and above wishing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2024. Information sessions will be held on **Tuesday 27 February at 1:00pm and 6:00pm** at the church.

Children **NOT** attending one of the parish Catholic Primary schools and wish to enrol in the parish program: <https://forms.gle/7Yiz8p5TCp7tjanQ6>

For more details please contact:
Parish Program: theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au



Good Friday - Walking Stations of the Cross

We are looking for interested people to re-enact the Good Friday story at our Walking Stations of the Cross. There will be practice sessions organized when we have the full cast. Men, women, teenagers and people of all ages are encouraged to participate. Please email theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au if you are interested.

First Sunday of Lent —Mask of Power

Let's Contemplate: Reflect the meaning of "power".

Let's Consider: Think of ways of using power to help, support, empower others. Think of examples. Consider also ways of using power to manipulate, control and disempower others.

Let's Connect: In prayer: Think of ways how Jesus goes about empowering his apostles.

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



For those who are sick

Kathy Morris
Elisabeth Faith O'Connell
Caitlin Wigglesworth
Kwang Hui Lim
Grant
Maria Therese Cummins
Gail
Elizabeth
Adriano Cesar Junior
Maria Teresa Meireles
Theresa and Joseph Tan
Cyril Jolicoeur
Bill Honess
Tony Johnston
Jaya Raghwan
Julie Mirfan
Paul Johnston
Edwin Joseph Dsouza
Alan Kay
Sharron Davis
Michelle
Mark Bush
Julie Morgan
Tim Watson
Jim Banks
Barbara Kirk
Vesna Ljubičić
Gaudencio Montaos
Alonso
Rosalind Murphy
Frances Miley
Sharni Laffan
Marc Darlington
Liam O'Brien

Anniversaries

Antonio Banhara
Greg Smith
Maria Pia Dobrigna
Megan Schulze
Walter Konik
Carlos Rocholl

Recently Deceased

Charles Falzon

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

[Prayer Requests](#)

Finance Update

Thanks everyone for your financial support of our Parish. The financial statements show that the parish recorded a surplus for 2023. Overall Income was up due to higher planned giving and second loose collections, interest income and the Piety stall run by the Legion of Mary. We continue to promote the move to cashless contributions, which continue around 70%. We thank those that have already changed and encourage others to move to assist with security and reduce cash handling within the parish.

PLEASE CONSIDER and contact Tony Rose in the office if you need assistance. Overall Expenditure was above budget due to new equipment purchases, higher telephone and photocopying expenses. Insurance premiums fell despite having to change insurers. Some planned property expenditure has been delayed.

Income & Expenditure for the year ended 31st December 2022				
	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	Variance	Budget 2024
<u>Income</u>				
Planned Giving/Second Collection	275,000	296,558	21,558	293,000
Weddings, Baptisms & Funerals	16,000	11,085	-4,915	13,000
Sacramental, Chaplaincy & Pastoral Programs.	30,000	19,395	-10,605	19,800
Other Revenue	39,000	38,647	-353	54,220
Total	360,000	365,685	5,685	380,020
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Administration	230,017	277,884	47,867	298,906
Insurances	29,300	26,444	-2,856	24,500
Capital Items	16,000	13,786	-2,214	23,500
Property Expenses	40,180	8,177	-32,003	20,845
Total	315,497	326,291	10,794	367,751
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	\$44,503	\$39,394	(\$5,109)	\$12,269



First Sunday of Lent 10 & 11 February



Please take home a Project Compassion box or set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and **for all future generations**.

This year, Project Compassion brings you the stories of three resilient women: Ronita from the Philippines, Leaia from Samoa and Memory from Malawi. While from three different corners of the world and facing vastly different challenges, they are all united by one dream: to create a better world **for all future generations**.



Please donate to Project Compassion.

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

JOIN OUR TEAM

**Secretary/Administrative Officer | Permanent Part-time – Four days per week (23 hrs)
Tuesday to Friday – 9.00am to 3.15pm**

The position of Secretary/Administration Officer at Holy Spirit Parish has become available.

This role has responsibility for a wide range of administrative and organisational activities in a busy Catholic Parish in the Gungahlin area and to ensure the smooth and effective operation of the parish office. The Secretary/Administrative Officer is often the first point of contact for people connecting with the parish and therefore is required to have an understanding of parish functions and groups, be able to answer a variety of general questions relating to parish life; be able to show compassion, understanding and patience when dealing with a wide range of people.

Applicants are required to be enthusiastic and have the ability to contribute to building community, have excellent administration skills, be able to self-manage work priorities and projects and to work effectively within a small team.

For the full job description and selection criteria, please visit our parish [website](#).

Applications

To apply please provide a covering letter which includes your response to the Selection Criteria along with your Curriculum Vitae to Fr Troy Bobbin at recruitment@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au. For more information, contact Theivani on 0472 921 518 or 6242 9622 (Tuesday to Friday).

Parish Youth Coordinator

If you are a young adult in our parish (18-35yrs) who is passionate about building community and sharing your faith, we invite you to apply to be a Parish Youth Coordinator here in Holy Spirit Parish. You would work 3 hours per week in a paid capacity, running a weekly/fortnightly Sunday night youth group (yr 4-7) after the Sunday evening Mass, as well as helping us start a group for teenagers (yr 8-12). There are also opportunities to support our young adult ministry in the parish. Additional to this, you will become part of a broader community of Parish Youth Coordinators and Volunteers in the Archdiocese, in the Apostolate Formation Program. Your time commitment attending formation will be paid by the Archdiocese, in addition to your parish hours. The formation provides you with catechesis, especially in the sacraments, prayer, Christian life and mission.

Our desire is to start as soon as we can. We look forward to seeing your application here: cgevangelisation@cg.org.au/parish-youth-coordinator

Community News

Easy Steps to Holiness: A Lenten Journey - The Good Shepherd prayer group invites you to join us each Wednesday evening for talks, sharing groups and worship. Deepen your faith this Lent and draw closer to Jesus. Weds 21 Feb to Weds 27 March, 7pm-9pm, Parish Room, St Peter Chancels, Weston St, Yarralumla. Call/text Neda 0415 266 019, Susanna 0419 902 293, Gabriel 0422 285 491 for more info.

Our Archdiocese's Women's Breakfast is on 7 March at the Ainslie Football Club at 7.30am. Celebrating women of faith, the Breakfast builds friendship and community. Listen to the inspiring ACT Local Hero, Selina Walker, a respected indigenous elder who will speak about her care for vulnerable children, her First Nations leadership experience and her faith and church perspective. We also raise funds to support MacKillop House in Lyneham, a CatholicCare Marymead place of safety and shelter for homeless women and their children. Register through: <https://www.cgwomen.org.au/>
Parish contacts:
Maureen Hilton at maureenhilton@gmail.com and Alison Weeks at alisonmweeks@bigpond.com

Readings for 1st Sunday of Lent

Entrance Antiphon | Cf Psalm 90:15-16

When he calls on me, I will answer him;
I will deliver him and give him glory,
I will grant him length of days.

First Reading | Genesis 9:8-15

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

Responsorial Psalm | Ps 24:4-9. R. see v.10

(R.) Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth
to those who keep your covenant.

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. (R.)
2. Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord. (R.)
3. The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor. (R.)

Second Reading | 1 Peter 3:18-22

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

Gospel Acclamation | Matthew 4:4

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of
God.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel | Mark 1:12-15

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

Communion Antiphon

One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of
God.

or

The Lord will conceal you with his pinions,
and under his wings you will trust.

Source: Liturgy Help © 2024

Parish Library

Now available! Books are located in the glass cupboard in the church foyer meeting room. To borrow one, simply grab a book and see someone at the Piety stall counter.





Holy Spirit Social Justice Group

YOU are invited to become a Friend of the Parish Social Justice Group

Some of you would know that there is a Social Justice Group in our parish. But you may not know why it exists or very much about what it does.

The group was formed about seven years ago by a small group of parishioners who are passionate about social justice issues. The group aims to raise awareness of social justice issues and to suggest ways that we, as a Catholic community, might take action.

The group draws on Catholic social justice teachings that promote human dignity and the common good in society. **The World Day of Social Justice is coming up on 20 February.** It is a day for remembering the various social justice issues affecting our world today.

Why should you care?

It is the responsibility of all Christians to care about their fellow human beings and about our common home - the planet.

So we all need to care about things like:

- ◆ People suffering from poverty and homelessness;
- ◆ The impacts of climate change, which impact on the poor more than anyone else;
- ◆ The refugees and asylum seekers of the world;
- ◆ Modern day slavery and oppression;
- ◆ Our aboriginal brothers and sisters who are still not benefiting from the Closing the Gap policy agreed to by all Australian governments.

When the time comes Jesus will ask every one of us:

- ◆ When I was hungry did you feed me?
- ◆ When I was thirsty did you give me a drink?
- ◆ When I was naked did you clothe me?
- ◆ When I was a stranger did you welcome me?
- ◆ When I was sick or in prison did you visit me?

How will we be able to answer?



So what can you do?

During the coming year the Parish Social Justice Group will continue to remind you about social justice issues and small things you might do to help address them. It might be that you support organisations who advocate for social justice, like the St Vincent de Paul Society, Caritas Australia, Catholic Missions, the Salvation Army, Red Cross, or similar organisations. Or there might be a local project that you can contribute to.

You may not have the time to join the Social Justice Group and attend its meetings. We understand that people have other obligations and families to look after. But if you have an interest in social justice issues you may be able to find the time to help with particular projects that the Group sponsors.

On the weekend of 17/18 February we invite you to register your interest in particular activities or issues that you might get involved in. We are hoping to build a register of parishioners who are willing to help us in raising awareness of social justice issues and doing something about them.

We would love you to consider joining us in some of our activities this year.

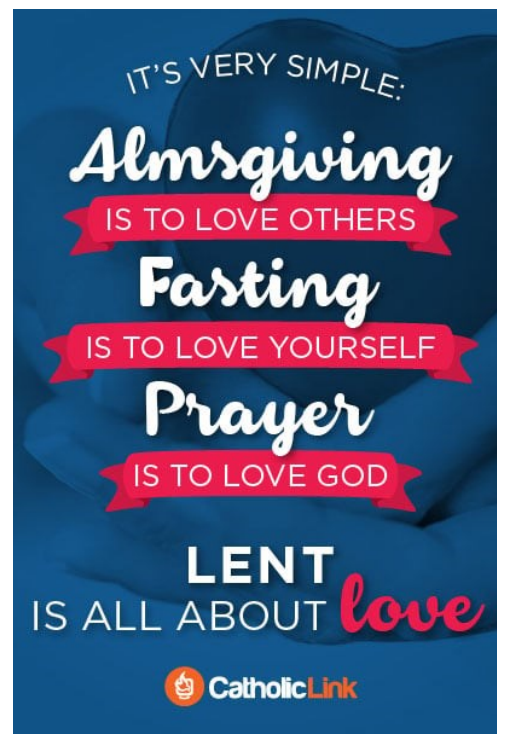
Mark Carter

On behalf of the Parish Social Justice Group



Stations of the Cross

6:00pm Fridays
During lent starting 16 February



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: Vacant

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): Sean Ryan

E: sean.ryan.cdss@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 | Maureen Hilton

M: 0431 123 465

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: 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](#).