



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 February 2024

Second 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



St Francis Xavier Hall

Saturdays 5:00pm

Beloved

The film *Dead Man Walking* tells the story of a nun (Sr. Helen Prejean) as she accompanies a man (Robert) during the months leading up to his execution in the United States. Noticing how Robert tried to win the confidence of one of the wardens, who was a kind and fatherly figure, Sister Helen reflected:

Robert never really had a father. His father spent 27 of his 53 years in prison. It makes me think of my own father. It has to be one of life's most precious feelings to know that your dad is proud of you. I was my daddy's scholar, his scribe who kept the travel diary on family holidays. He always had a special tone in his voice when he introduced me to friends and colleagues. "And this is my daughter, Helen." In the presence of strangers I would fall silent, standing close to him, my hand holding on tightly to his. Afterwards, I would squeeze his hand tighter than ever and delight once more with chatter and questions. A child can sail to the moon with that feeling of security from a father.

This may help us to understand something of what the Tabor experience meant for Jesus. It came at a very difficult time in his life, a time of uncertainty and fear of the future. He was headed for Jerusalem, where he sensed that the same fate awaited him as befell all the prophets – a violent death. Naturally he recoiled from such a fate. In order to reflect on it and pray about it, he climbed to the top of Mount Tabor.

We don't know exactly what happened on the mountain. But it seems that he had an intense experience of the presence of God. He heard those marvellous words: "You are my beloved Son." On Tabor Jesus felt himself comforted and affirmed. He knew that God was pleased with him, and would give him the strength to face a dark and threatening future. With God on his side, he could face anything.

At times life can become dark for all of us. There are a lot of voices which say to us: "You're good, but only if you're popular." But there is a still small voice which whispers to us in our hearts: "You are my beloved son/ daughter." This is the voice we need to pay attention to. We must recognise that we are God's beloved children, and try to live our lives by the light of this truth.

Pray

Transform us, O God! Transform our apathy into a willingness to get involved where we should. Transform our near-sightedness into a broad vision, a vision that takes account of those far beyond family and friends. Transform our critical nature; enable us to see the essence of all that is challenging and joyful in others. Transform our faith, from a narrow set of beliefs, to a deep questioning, continuous, and practical quest. With the spirit of Christ we will be transformed. Amen.

Ponder

There's a hidden glory deep in the heart of things. We glimpse it in flowers and in sunshine, but also in shadowy places and ominous trails we fear to travel. Glory is concealed in our losses, glory awaits behind every glory. You can't see Easter from Good Friday. But that doesn't mean it's not there. In a world given over to cynicism, make hope a habit. Short-circuit doubt and negativity with prayer. Living hopefully is one way to put faith into practice. www.gpbs.com.au

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
- * **Tuesday 27 February at 1:00pm and 6:00pm | Sacrament of Confirmation Information Session.** For children in Year 6 and above wishing to receive the Sacrament
- * **Thursday 29 February 9:15am** | Anointing Mass followed by Seniors Morning tea. All are welcome to attend.
- * **Thursdays 6:00pm 29 February**—The Chosen (8 episodes) during lent with pot luck dinner.
- * **Sunday 3 March 3:30pm-4:45pm | TLIG PRAYER MEETING** in the Church meeting room. Bring your rosary beads. All are welcome. 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.
- * **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



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

Walter Konik
Carlos Rocholl
Scarlett Abigail Scott
Bibiana A Lejano

Recently Deceased

Ante Tony Tokich

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

[Prayer Requests](#)



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.

JOIN OUR TEAM

Secretary/Administration Officer Position - Holy Spirit Parish

Permanent Part-time – Four days per week (23 hrs)
Tuesday to Friday – 9.00am to 3.15pm

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

Applications: To apply please provide a covering letter along with your Curriculum Vitae to Fr Troy Bobbin at recruitment@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au.

Contact Theivani on 0472 921 518 or 6242 9622 (Tuesday to Friday).

Second Sunday of Lent —Mask of Mystery

Let's Contemplate: How does someone get to know another? Reflect on ways: talking, being with, sharing interests, listening. What can prevent us from knowing others?

Let's Consider: Think of ways by which you know who God is. Reflect on who or what you believe God to be like.

Let's Connect: In prayer: Who God is for me and does he reveal to me the mask I may be wearing.

Entrance Antiphon | Cf Psalm 26:8-9

Of you my heart has spoken, Seek his face.
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face from me.

First Reading | Genesis 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham,' he called.' Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.'

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt offering in place of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of your enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

Responsorial Psalm | Ps 115:10. 15-19. R. 114:9

(R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord
in the land of the living.

1. I trusted, even when I said:
'I am sorely afflicted.'
O precious in the eyes of the Lord
is the death of his faithful. **(R.)**
2. Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;
you have loosened my bonds.
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:
I will call on the Lord's name. **(R.)**
3. My vows to the Lord I will fulfil
before all his people,
in the courts of the house of the Lord,
in your midst, O Jerusalem. **(R.)**

Second Reading | Romans 8:31-34

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

Gospel Acclamation | See Matthew 17:5

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel | Mark 9:2-10

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

Communion Antiphon | Matthew 17:5

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased;
listen to him.

Source: Liturgy Help © 2024



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



**Second Sunday of Lent
24-25 February**



After the birth of her children, 22-year-old **Ronita** was at risk of having to leave school permanently. But, with the support of Caritas Australia's partners in the Philippines, she resumed her studies and secured a job at a call centre to support her family.

Please donate to Project Compassion.

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/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.



JPC Community MASS

We Invite

JPC families, feeder school families,
Holy Spirit Parish members and The Grove residents
to join staff and students
for Mass once a week during term time.

8.20 am to 8.50 am
Every Wednesday
(Semester 1 2024)

Term 1 - 28-Feb, 6-Mar, 13-Mar, 20-Mar, 27-Mar, 3-Apr, 10-Apr

Term 2 - 1-May, 8-May, 15-May, 22-May, 29-May, 5-Jun, 12-Jun
19-Jun, 26-Jun, 3-Jul, 5-Jul

Mass is held in the JPC Chapel

*Mass will be celebrated by Fr. Troy Bobbin of Holy Spirit Parish, Gungahlin
(All visitors are to sign in at the College Office on arrival)*

JPC Community Mass

St John Paul II College

International Women's Day Breakfast

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





KIDS

LENT PROGRAM

How much: Free

Day 1 : Sunday 10 March 4-6pm
at Catherine's house (Forde)

Day 2 : Monday 11 March 9.30-11.30 am (Canberra Day)
at Holy Spirit Catholic Church (Amaroo)

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Kids meditation on Gospel readings
- Games
- Friendly environment
- Parallel program will run for younger kids (K-y3), bigger kids (y4-y6)
- Teenagers and parents are welcome
- Organisers with WWVP card

B. Y. O.

- Family
- Snacks and drink bottle

RSVP BY FRIDAY 1 MARCH
TO ANNA 0416668985 OR
CATHERINE 0401073955

Top Ten Lenten Promises | Things to Surrender

1. **Grumpiness** – irritability is a choice. We can choose to be grumpy and hang on to our right to be foul-tempered, or we can choose to be pleasant and good humored.
2. **Blame** – when things go wrong, stop looking for a scapegoat. Practice acceptance and responsibility.
3. **Superiority** – A judgmental attitude is like a rotting corpse – it spreads it's bile over everyone in criticism and put downs.
4. **Gossip** – resist taking delight in someone else's failure. Protect their reputation and let the bad news stop with you.
5. **Vanity** – give up self-obsession and the fantasy that the world revolves around you. Start revolving your life around God and you'll find more joy than you ever dreamed.
6. **Self-pity** – everyone has to deal with setbacks and disappointments. Self-pity won't change your circumstances; it just makes you feel powerless.
7. **Resentment** – unforgiveness and resentment hangs over a person's life like dark thunder clouds. It makes your life gloomy and your presence unpleasant. It's not worth the cost.
8. **Tiredness** – if you're always tired, go to bed early. Be self-disciplined and resist the TV, internet or other recreation that steals your sleep. And if you choose not to, then at least stop whining about how tired you are! (Parents of young children exempted!)
9. **Busyness** – you have all the time you could ever need for the things that are important to you. Stop using a lack of time as an excuse for neglecting relationships or your health.
10. **Cynicism** – it's easier to be cynical than it is to be optimistic and hope-filled. Take the path less travelled.



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

Download our parish app: **Pocket Parish** from **App Store** or **Google Play**.

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

St Francis Xavier Social Group

Greg Farrugia 0412 299 549 gjvita@gmail.com

Gabrielle O'Kane 0417 464 216 okane.hall@gmail.com