



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

9-10 March 2024

Fourth 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

Coming to the Light

What does it mean to come to the light? It starts with honesty, primarily about ourselves. We have to lay down our defences and rationalisations, "our side of the story," and confess ourselves in good old-fashioned Catholic tradition, telling the truth about who we are. It involves admitting we're afraid of our darkness, ashamed of some of our choices, knowing we can be petty and self-serving. We may be unwilling to love our enemies or to forgive those who injure us. Our compassion is undersized, and we shrink from self-sacrifice above all. We don't like risking our comfort and security; most acts of goodness, we know, require that.

We prefer the darkness to the light. In darkness, we can pretend we're better people. We can feel better about ourselves without having to change. But once we come into the light, things **have** to change. WE must change. The good news is, Jesus makes such change possible, even desirable. We become who we've longed to be. And God so loved the world, just for this.

What truths are hardest to admit about yourself? What kind of person do you long to be?

Pray

Come all who need justice, **God weaves in us the path of life.** Come all who need peace, **God weaves in us the way of truth.** Come all who need comfort, **God weaves in us sure hope.** Come all who need healing, **God weaves in us the promise of wholeness.** Come all who need community, **God weaves in us the love of Christ.** Come all who need God, **God weaves us in the heart of the Divine.** Give thanks to God for God is good. **God's steadfast love endures for all time. Amen.**

Ponder

Build on the good that has come to you. Was someone merciful? Show mercy to others. Was someone generous? Give generously. Did someone listen? Be present to those in need.

Kids' Corner

... the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light. (John 3: 19)

Have you ever compared brand-new white socks with your old white socks? The old ones might be dingy, more grey than white. In fact, maybe you forgot how white socks could be until you saw those new ones. It's sort of the same thing with sin. Sometimes we don't notice how we slip into the bad habits that can lead to sin. It can happen a little at a time, so slowly that we don't notice until it feels like it's too late. But it's never too late. We can always come to God and ask God's forgiveness, especially in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. God will forgive us, so we'll be good as new.

Loving God, guide me in your light today. Amen.

www.gpbs.com.au



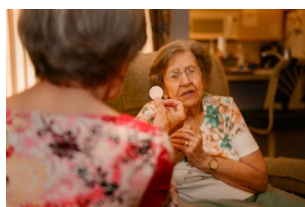
St Francis Xavier Hall

Saturdays 5:00pm

Parish News and Events



- * **Fridays During Lent | 6:00pm**— Stations of the Cross
- * **Wednesdays during school term 8:20am** | JPC Community Mass—parishioners and school families welcome.
- * **Wednesdays 10:00am** — Lenten group using Archdiocese of Wollongong Lenten Guided Program Pietà
- * **Thursday 14 March 6:00pm**—The Chosen (8 episodes) during lent with pot luck dinner.
- * **Sunday 10 March at 6:00pm** | The Congregation of Mary Queen of Peace— Mass will be celebrated by Fr Troy Bobbin followed by dinner at 9 Lucy Beeton Crescent, Bonner. RSVP Sr Kim: queenofpeace.nvhb@gmail.com or kimhoa30@hotmail.com
- * **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
- * **Sunday 17 March 2024 at 3:00pm** | **Working Bee** at St Francis Xavier Church, Hall. Pruning of plants and tree, removal of fallen branches, general autumn clean up. Please come along if you can spare an hour or so to help.



Holy Communion to the Housebound and Sick

As we prepare for Holy Week and Easter, we are keen to know of people in the Gungahlin area who might be sick or housebound and who may like to receive a home visit and/or Holy Communion. Please pass this information onto

family, friends or neighbours and encourage them to contact the Parish Office on 02 6242 6922 or by email to office@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au.

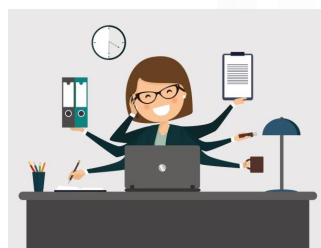
JOIN OUR TEAM

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).



Fourth Sunday of Lent —Mask of Identity

Let's Contemplate: What gives a person their identity – name, personality, family etc. When our identity is intact, it feels like we are 'at home' with ourselves.

Let's Consider: Think about the various understanding of 'being lost' and losing one's identity. Where is 'home for you'? What makes it 'home'? Reflect on times you have felt 'at home' with yourself and the world.

Let's Connect: Write a prayer of petition for those who are homeless/migrants/refugees/abandoned/abused/blind. Investigate organisations whose mission it is to provide support for these people.

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



For those who are sick

Kathy Morris
Elisabeth Faith O'Connell
Caitlin Wigglesworth
Kwang Hui Lim
Grant 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
Rozalind Murphy
Frances Miley
Sharni Laffan
Marc Darlington
Liam O'Brien

Anniversaries

Raf Bainbridge
Bertram Fernandez
Philip Newell

Recently Deceased

Stjepan Cirjak
Shirley Clifford
Anthony Gendusa

Birthdays

Kheila Alexandra Dare

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

[Prayer Requests](#)



Warm Clothing Appeal - Palm Sunday 23-24 March 2024

As summer has come to an end and the cooler days are fast approaching, we may remember our brothers and sisters who will find the winter months difficult due to lack of warm clothing and blankets. As part of our Lenten journey we remember Palm Sunday (Jesus' entry into Jerusalem), we hear of Jesus riding on the donkey through the gates of Jerusalem and people shedding their cloaks and tunics. This year I would like us to do the same, I would like us to shed a warm piece of clothing and bring it on Palm Sunday Weekend (23-24 March) and hang them on the end of the first chair of each row and after Palm Sunday services we can pass on the clothing to our brothers and sisters who are standing beside us shivering through St Vincent de Paul.

Parish Pastoral Council Update

Jossy Rappai, Theivani Evers, Fiona Wilkinson, Frances Dinn and Philippa Brochie, members of the PPC have recently resigned from the council. I would like to thank them all for many years of hard work and commitment to the Parish not just with the Council but in all the many programs, activities and events. Josyi, Theivani, Fiona, Frances and Philippa are all valuable members of our community and will continue to be involved in the Parish.

The recent resignations has left the Council with 11 members including Fr Eden and I. The Council is still consolidating a revised constitution and draft Parish plan and we anticipate this being finalised shortly. More to come on this. I will call for nominations for new members in the second half of 2024. Please consider whether you would like to be part of the Council over the coming months and watch this space.

I look forward to seeing everyone over Easter and the period leading up to Pentecost on 19 May for our Parish celebration.

Fr Troy.

Vocations Dinner at Pearce Presbytery.

Thursday 14 March at 6pm. For men interested in discerning a call to the Priesthood. A hearty meal provided with insightful discussions & prayer. To rsvp please contact vocations director Fr Emil emil.milat@cg.org.au 0414 523 036.

The Roundtable Series | Moments of Encounter: Sacramental Initiation

Join others from across the Archdiocese for a time of prayerful dialogue in the spirit of synodality on significant topics in the life and mission of the Church.

Thursday 21 March 2024, 4:30pm – 6:00pm at St Christophers Pastoral Centre + Zoom – [click here](#) to register or visit <https://www.cgevangelisation.org.au/roundtables/>



*Moments of
Encounter*



Cursillo Retreat, 12-14 April, St Clement's Retreat Centre, Galong

Cursillo provides an opportunity for men and women to renew and deepen their faith life through a program of talks, meditations and prayer. Contact Irma and Joe at irmandjoe@gmail.com. Info: <https://bit.ly/cursillo24>



Entrance Antiphon | Isaiah 66:10-11

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

First Reading | 2 Chronicles 36:14-16. 19-23

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy.

Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke through Jeremiah, 'Until this land has enjoyed its sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.'

And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: 'Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, "The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up."'

Responsorial Psalm | Ps 136. R. v.6

(R.) Let my tongue be silenced, if ever I forget you!

1. By the rivers of Babylon
there we sat and wept, remembering Zion;
on the poplars that grew there
we hung our harps. (R.)
2. For it was there that they asked us,
our captors, for songs,
our oppressors, for joy. 'Sing to us,' they said,
'one of Zion's songs.' (R.)
3. O how could we sing
the song of the Lord on alien soil?
If I forget you, Jerusalem,
let my right hand wither! (R.)
4. O let my tongue
cleave to my mouth
if I remember you not,
if I prize not Jerusalem
above all my joys! (R.)

Second Reading | Ephesians 2:4-10

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ – it is through grace that you have been saved – and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus.

This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

Gospel Acclamation | John 3:16

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
God loved the world so much, he gave us his only
Son,
that all who believe in him might have eternal life.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel | John 3:14-21

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'The Son of Man must be lifted up
as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert,
so that everyone who believes may have eternal life
in him.

Yes, God loved the world so much
that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost
but may have eternal life.

For God sent his Son into the world
not to condemn the world,
but so that through him the world might be saved.
No one who believes in him will be condemned;
but whoever refuses to believe is condemned
already,

because he has refused to believe
in the name of God's only Son.

On these grounds is sentence pronounced:
that though the light has come into the world
men have shown they prefer
darkness to the light
because their deeds were evil.

And indeed, everybody who does wrong
hates the light and avoids it,
for fear his actions should be exposed;
but the man who lives by the truth
comes out into the light,
so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is
done in God.'

Communion Antiphon | Cf Psalm 121: 3-4

Jerusalem is built as a city bonded as one together.
It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,
to praise the name of the Lord.

Source: Liturgy Help © 2024

Your invitation to
Holy Week
2024



— AT HOLY SPIRIT PARISH CHURCH, AMAROO —

- **PALM SUNDAY 23/24 MARCH -**
Saturday 5:00pm, Sunday 8:00am, 9:30am & 5:00pm
- **RECONCILIATION 26 MARCH -**
Tuesday 7:00pm

— AT ST. JOHN PAUL II COLLEGE, NICHOLLS —

- **HOLY THURSDAY 28 MARCH -**
Thursday 7:00pm
- **GOOD FRIDAY 29 MARCH -**
Friday 9:00am Walking Stations of the Cross
Friday 11:00am Stations of the Cross
Friday 3:00pm Liturgy of the Passion
- **HOLY SATURDAY 30 MARCH -**
Saturday 7:00pm Easter Vigil Mass
- **EASTER SUNDAY 31 MARCH -**
Sunday 9:30am Only (No 8:00am or 5:00pm Mass)

For information
about Holy Week visit



Holy Spirit Catholic Parish

www.holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Get the slavery out of Easter chocolate

The International Day of Prayer, Reflection and Action Against Human Trafficking has come and gone.

The day was designated by Pope Francis as 8 February, the feast of St Josephine Bakhita (see note below) and we missed it.

This weekend is the Fourth Sunday of Lent, 'Laetare' (Rejoice) Sunday from the first word of the Entrance Antiphon at Masses this weekend. We have four weeks until Easter and those amongst us who are organised, might start buying the traditional Easter Egg for family members.

On the ACRATH website it is suggested that we 'Get the slavery out of Easter chocolate'. So this Easter, let's educate ourselves about what's really going into the chocolate we buy for family and friends.

[Be Slavery Free](#) has produced a chocolate scorecard after surveying the world's biggest chocolate companies to find out about their supply chains.

Click [here](#) to download the scorecard via their website and find out which chocolate brands are rising to the challenge and which ones continue to ignore consumer demand for chocolate that's produced free of child labour.



Note: Who is St Josephine Bakhita? Josephine Bakhita was born in Southern Sudan in 1869, and during her life experienced kidnapping and slavery in both Sudan and Italy. After gaining her freedom Josephine Bakhita dedicated her life to sharing her story and to supporting the poor and suffering. She eventually became a Canossian Sister and was canonised in 2000.

Learn more about Josephine Bakhita [here](#).

We acknowledge ACRATH (Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans) for the above information regarding human trafficking and we pray for all people who are in this situation and those helping them find freedom. *-Holy Spirit Social Justice Group*

A poster for 'THE FORUM' event. The background is a gradient of orange, green, and blue with geometric patterns. At the top center is a shield-shaped logo with a cross and a star. The text 'THE FORUM' is in large, white, outlined letters. Below it is a QR code. At the bottom left, it says 'REGISTER YOUR FREE PLACE BY MONDAY 11 MARCH 2024.' At the bottom right, it says 'YOUNG ADULTS | MASS | DINNER | DIALOGUE'.

WEDNESDAY
13 MARCH 2024

7:00PM - 9:00PM
ARRIVAL FROM 6:30PM

ST BRIGID'S CHURCH
+ PARISH CENTRE
2 BANCROFT STREET, DICKSON

CREATING A SPACE TO SEE & EXPERIENCE THE CHURCH DIFFERENTLY.

**Enrolments
now Open!**



ST JOHN PAUL II COLLEGE
1021 Gungahlin Drive, Nicholls

OPEN EVENTS at JPC

Try JPC Day Friday 22 March 2024
9.00 am - 2.30 pm

Open Evening Wednesday 3 April 2024
4.30 pm - last tour at 6.30 pm

Try JPC Day Friday 10 May 2024
9.00 am - 2.30 pm

**Senior College
Expo** Tuesday 7 May 2024
4.30 pm - 6.30 pm
Years 9 - 12

Enrolment Period for Year 7 2025
29 April 2024 - 31 May 2024



Visit the St John Paul II
College Website to book your
tickets for all events
www.act.jpc.edu.au

Fourth Sunday of Lent | 9-10 March

As the eldest child in a low-income farming family in rural Malawi, **Memory** faced many barriers to her education. But, with the support of Caritas Australia, she enrolled in a technical school and became the first female carpenter in her village.

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.



**PROJECT
COMPASSION**
FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS

Calling all creative people!

*Do you know how to Tie-Dye??
Fr Troy is looking for people to help him
with a special Confirmation project.
If you can help, please see Fr Troy after
Mass or contact the
parish office
on 6242 9622.
Thanks!*



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