



# The Word WEEKLY BULLETIN



Parishes of Holy Spirit, St Anne & St Gerard.

**Second Sunday of Lent, 24-25 February 2024**

**Parish Priest: Fr. Arsenio Tuazon**

**Pastor Emeritus: Fr. John Dupuche**

**WELCOME TO OUR PREP FAMILIES!**

**HOLY SPIRIT PARISH**

120 Oban Road, Ringwood North 3134

Phone: 7036 9395

Email: [Ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au](mailto:Ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au)

Website: [www.holyspiritparish.org.au](http://www.holyspiritparish.org.au)

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday, closed Mondays

**PARISH SECRETARIES**

Ruth Frangeskakis

[ruth.frangeskakis@cam.org.au](mailto:ruth.frangeskakis@cam.org.au)

Jenny Philp

[jenny.philp@cam.org.au](mailto:jenny.philp@cam.org.au)

**SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM COORDINATOR**

Marianne Condon—Wednesdays

[mcondon@hsringwoodnth.catholic.edu.au](mailto:mcondon@hsringwoodnth.catholic.edu.au)

**HIGH SPIRITS COORDINATOR**—Elma Gama, 4-5pm Sundays

**PARISH HOSTESS**—Mary Yeo

**MASS TIMES:** Wednesdays and Fridays 9:15am in Chapel  
Saturdays 6pm in Church  
Sundays 9am in Church and 5pm in Chapel  
1st Saturday of the month 9:15am in Chapel

**HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL PRINCIPAL**—Duncan Arendse —9876 1103

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

Secretary

[ppc-sec@holyspiritparish.org.au](mailto:ppc-sec@holyspiritparish.org.au)

**FETE COMMITTEE**

Lauren Cefai (Chairperson) - [fete@holyspiritparish.org.au](mailto:fete@holyspiritparish.org.au)

**PARISH OF ST GERARD AND ST ANNE**

St Gerard's: McCulloch Street, Warrandyte 3113

St Anne's: 54 Knees Road, Park Orchards 3114

Phone: 7064 3922

Email: [ParkOrchards@cam.org.au](mailto:ParkOrchards@cam.org.au)

Website: [www.cam.org.au/parkorchardswarrandyte](http://www.cam.org.au/parkorchardswarrandyte)

**PARISH SECRETARY**

Kerry McGowan

**Office Hours:**

THURS 9am—3pm

FRI 9am—3pm

**Masses:**

**Tuesdays** 9am at St Gerard's Warrandyte

**Sundays** 10:30am—1st Sunday of the month at St. Anne's  
Every other Sunday 10:30am at St Gerard's

**ST ANNE'S SCHOOL PRINCIPAL**

Michael Edmonds—9876 1533

**IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST—RECENTLY DECEASED:** Bruna Nisi (Stefanie Chiodo's mother)

**ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH:** Father Kevin Mogg, Lucas Murphy, Rick Doensen, Robert Williams, Frances Hanlon, Trevor Chandler, Margaret Merchant, Peter Brown, Jack Carroll and Teresa Panek

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING SICK:** Stella & family, Sean Hill, Valerie Mason, Adrian Ness, Carol Vallance, Chris Neate, Edna Danelutti, Helen, Justine, Christian Heskett, Will Laussen, Kerry McIntyre, Lyn Read, Heather Doy, Evelyn Reinecke, Melanie Saba, Arthur McConnell, Penny Mifsud, Patricia Higgins, Kellie Nagle, Barry Robbins, Jim Nippard, Barbara Delia, Daniel Leo, Ron Chamberlin

**Readings this week:** Genesis 22:1-2,9-13,15-18; Romans 8:31-34; Mark 9:2-10

The Word, Spirit Magazine and "Spirit Extra" are available online at [www.holyspiritparish.org.au](http://www.holyspiritparish.org.au)

To join the email distribution list, please use this link:

## Holy Spirit Parish Vision

At Holy Spirit Parish, we are an inviting community inspired by the Holy Spirit; welcoming everyone to worship, grow, belong and serve together as Disciples of Christ.



**Holy Spirit is a child safe parish. At Holy Spirit we hold the care, safety and well being of children and young people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our parish.**

**EVENTS THIS COMING WEEK - 26th February—3rd March 2024**

<b>MONDAY</b>	7.00 pm St Vincent de Paul Meeting, Mary Bresnan Room
<b>TUESDAY</b>	9.15-10.00 am Meditation, Holy Spirit Chapel 7.30 pm RCIA via Zoom 8.00 pm Charismatic Prayer Group, Holy Spirit Chapel
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	9.15 am Mass with Grade 5 children, Holy Spirit Church 6.00 pm Rosary via Zoom
<b>THURSDAY</b>	7:30pm Choir, Holy Spirit Church
<b>FRIDAY</b>	9.15 am Mass, Holy Spirit Chapel
<b>SATURDAY</b>	9.00 am Reconciliation 9.15 am Mass, Holy Spirit Chapel (First Saturday of the month only) 6.00 pm Vigil Mass, Holy Spirit Church
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT</b> 9.00 am Mass, Holy Spirit Church 4.00-5.00 pm High Spirits, Mary Bresnan Room 5.00 pm Mass, Holy Spirit Chapel

**ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND 2nd-3rd March 2024**

**Mass Coordinators:**

**6.00 pm:** Mary Ryan

**9.00 am:** Silvio Volombello

**Lectors:**

**6.00 pm:** Judy Barber

**9.00 am:** Ted Ryan

**Welcomers:**

**6.00 pm:** Marita North-Coombes

**9.00 am:** Don Schroder

**Ministers of Communion:** **6.00 pm:** Ron & Jean Smith

**9.00 am:** Chris & Vicki Morris

**Tea and Coffee:** **9.00 am:** Anna Fantin & Emma D'Aristotle

**BAPTISM INFORMATION MEETINGS** are held every second Tuesday of the month (except January) in the Parish House. Please call the Office on 7036 9395 to register your attendance/interest.  
Next meeting: Tuesday 13th March at 7.30 pm, Mary Bresnan Room.

**Holy Spirit Web Site - [www.holyspiritparish.org.au](http://www.holyspiritparish.org.au):**

Stay in touch with our parish website.

- "News, Events": ref menu
- "How we stay connected", online resources such as Masses, Prayers, Newsletters, Next Zoom: ref home page

**Parish Database Update** Please remember to advise the parish staff of any changes to phone and email details so we can update our database via email to [Ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au](mailto:Ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au) or phone 7036 9395.

**Tuesday Meditation** Tuesdays @ 9:15am in the Holy Spirit Chapel (not during School holidays).  
Please contact Len on 0401 519 727 if you have queries.

**Charismatic Prayer Group** Tuesdays @ 8pm in the Holy Spirit Chapel for prayer, praise and worship and fellowship. If interested, contact Jacek on 0490 884 914 or Ann on 0437 127 326.



**HOLY SPIRIT PARISH ZOOM ROSARY**

**Wednesday evenings at 6:00pm—Meeting ID: 631 950 8706 Passcode: 2p7ssZ**

**Hosted by Ambrose & Philomena Cornelio**

Prayer requests may be emailed to Ambrose: [acornelio@connecteast.com.au](mailto:acornelio@connecteast.com.au) for inclusion weekly.

Collection Notice For information on the Parish's policies regarding information collection and privacy please refer to: [www.holyspiritparish.org.au/Collection-Notice](http://www.holyspiritparish.org.au/Collection-Notice)



**Ronita** is 22. She lives with her husband and two children in a barangay (local district) in Quezon City, which is situated in Metro Manila in the Philippines. Ronita left school when she became pregnant as a teenager. This could have had a life-long impact on her ability to find work and provide for her family but, thankfully, she heard about the Alternative Learning System (ALS) program run by the Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ), Caritas Australia's local partners in the Philippines. Through the FCJ, Ronita was able to re-enrol in her studies and continue learning in a safe and flexible environment – even with the arrival of her second child. After completing her ALS classes, Ronita went on to earn her Grade 12 Senior High School Diploma. With her new diploma, Ronita has now secured a job at a call centre and is looking to a brighter future for her whole family. "I have now graduated senior school and I am so proud of myself," she said. "I feel hopeful for the future... Now it's not impossible for me to achieve my dream... Thank you."

**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](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) or by calling 1800 024 413.

Photo: Richard Wainwright/Caritas Australia



**WEEKLY REFLECTION SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

**Genesis 22:1–2, 9–13, 15–18 | Romans 8:31–34 | Mark 9:2–10**

*Written by Michael McGirr*

When Jesus took his closest friends to the top of a high mountain, they experienced something quite extraordinary. The transfiguration gave them a glimpse of what it meant for Jesus to be the son of God. It is hardly surprising that Peter said, 'it is wonderful for us to be here.' The Gospel also tells us that Jesus' friends were frightened, and this is also easy to understand. They were overwhelmed. Nevertheless, it's not long before Jesus reminds them that he is destined to die. His friends must come down from the mountain and walk with Jesus through all the ordinary and arduous days and weeks that lie ahead.

We can all say 'it is wonderful for us to be here' no matter where that happens to be. Life is full of wonder. That doesn't mean it is always easy. We live in the arms of a very deep mystery. God's love enfolds us.

Throughout Lent, we are called to support Project Compassion, an initiative of Caritas Australia. This year, Project Compassion celebrates 60 years of partnership with some of the most marginal communities in the world. With your help, we have walked alongside literally millions of people in dozens of countries.

This week we encounter the story of Ronita who lives in Quezon City, part of metro Manila in the Philippines. Becoming a mother at a young age meant that her schooling was cut short. Her husband, Lean, leaves for work at 3am and returns at 9pm, earning less than \$US10 per day in a demanding job in waste disposal. On such a small income, Ronita and Lean, along with two young children, are able to rent a room of about 10 square metres.

**HIGH SPIRITS** is back for 2024. Does your child attend a State Primary School and is interested in making their Sacraments at Holy Spirit? We are accepting new enrolments now. Classes run during school terms on a Sunday from 4.00-5.00 pm in the Mary Bresnan Room of the Parish House. The children then attend mass at 5.00 pm in the Chapel. If you would like further information or have any queries, please contact the High Spirits Coordinator, Elma Gama on 0413 231 871.

**On the Journey this week:** Sr Katherine Stone MGL says all the readings this weekend helps us with our struggle to know God as our loving Father and ourselves as beloved sons and daughters. Mother Hilda says God put little things into our life so that we might just see God saying I love you. Fr Tony Percy says that Jesus is transfigured immediately, not so us, however as we offer ourselves to God, we are slowly, but surely transfigured. Sr Anastasia Reeves OP reminds us that we, too, much practice what we preach, and Fr Antony Jukes says our prayer this week can be: Lord, help me to recognise your infinite love and mercy. Plus, more great music! Visit [www.jcr.org.au](http://www.jcr.org.au) or [www.itunes.jcr.org.au](http://www.itunes.jcr.org.au) where you can listen anytime

**LENTEN RETREAT AT ST DOMINIC'S- Saturday, 16 March**

St Dominic's Parish invites everyone for a day-long Advent Retreat focusing on theme: 'Sacrifice, Suffering, Salvation'.

*Time: commences with 9:00am Mass and concluding with Adoration, Confession and Benediction from 4-5pm.*

*Venue: St Dominic's Parish, 816 Riversdale Road, Camberwell*

*Cost: \$20.00, includes morning/afternoon tea and lunch*

To register: <https://www.trybooking.com/CPJAH> OR contact Carlo on [pastoral.associate@stdominics.org.au](mailto:pastoral.associate@stdominics.org.au)

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced people for the positions of:

**Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne**

- **Executive Support Officer-Proclaim, East Melbourne**
- **Aboriginal Catholic Ministry of Victoria (ACMV) Coordinator, Thornbury**

**Parish Positions**

- **Parish Secretary- St John Bosco's Parish, Niddrie**
- **Liturgical & Sacramental Coordinator - Nazareth Parish, Grovedale, Torquay, Anglesea**
- **Parish Secretary, Partnered Parish St Gabriels, St Stephens & St Raphael, Reservoir- Reservoir East - Preston West, Reservoir**
- **Ministry Coordinator, St Scholastica's Parish, Bennettswood**

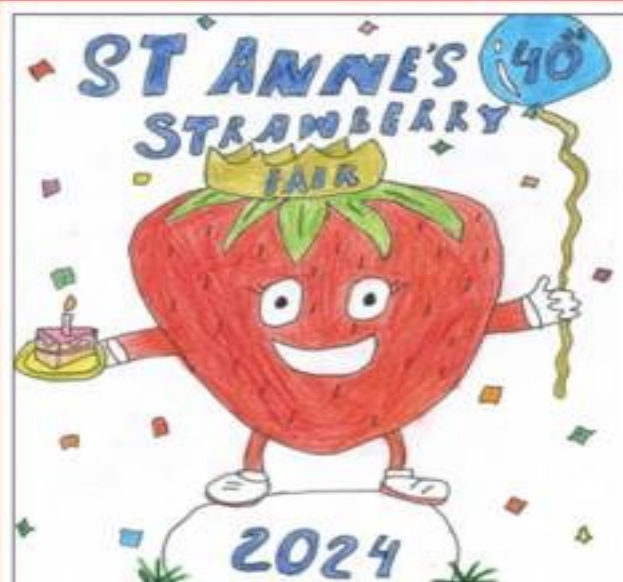
**Other Positions**

- **Executive Assistant to the Provincial, Camberwell**

Further details of the above positions can be found on the Archdiocese website at:

[Job vacancies | Melbourne Catholic](#)

Should you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact Human Resources at [hadmin@cam.org.au](mailto:hadmin@cam.org.au)



**St Anne's Strawberry Fair**

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2024**

**10am – 4pm**

**Please join us for our  
Annual Community Fair!**





## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2024 PALESTINE

**10am Friday March 1st March,  
*Ringwood Uniting Church.***

The World Day of Prayer is an international ecumenical Christian laywomen's initiative. It is run under the motto "Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action," and is celebrated annually in over 170 countries on the first Friday in March. The movement aims to bring together women of various races, cultures and traditions in a yearly common Day of Prayer, as well as in closer fellowship, understanding and action throughout the year.

The theme in 2024 is

*"I Beg You... Bear With One Another in Love"*

**Ephesians 4:1-3**

This program calls us to bear with each other in love, despite all difficulties and oppression. The program was written by a group of ecumenical Christian Palestinian women in response to the passage from Ephesians 4:1-7. We reflected collectively on this theme from the context of our suffering as Palestinian Christian women. We hope to inspire other women around the world to bear with one another in love during troubled times. **ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND**

Lent is the 40 days of preparation for the Easter season when Christians are called to deepen their spiritual lives through the practices of fasting, prayer, and almsgiving.

We believe that regular participation in these practices — like exercise we do for our physical health — improves our spiritual well-being, by stripping away all that is unnecessary and becoming more mindful of how God is working in our lives.

Challenge yourself this year, and go beyond the usual practice of "giving up" something.

Now is a great time to take stock of your spiritual life and to grow in it.

Not sure where to start? Here are some suggestions:

- Participate in a Lenten reflection Program, either through our parish groups or on line;
- Try a daily act of kindness
- Try a new 'Spiritual practice' i.e. Stations of the Cross, Rosary, Daily Mass, Meditation
- Spend some time each day in quiet reflection on your life and how you are deepening your relationship with God. Ask God about this and listen for the whisper of the Spirit in response.
- Do you spend too much on clothes or dinners? Pick an expense that you'll "fast" from during Lent, and then give the money you would usually spend to a charity
- Pray for somebody. As you're walking, travelling, or waiting somewhere, pick out a person who appears to be in need and pray for that person. In the words of philosopher Philo of Alexandria: "Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a great battle."
- Volunteer to participate in the Easter Liturgies - it is always great to have new ideas and you will get to share your faith in a very practical way. **We plan to reintroduce the large Cross to the Good Friday Service. In order to do this, we will need many new volunteers. As this is a highlight of our parish Liturgical celebrations, please volunteer your time to make it possible. We will have more information in the coming weeks.**

**REFLECTION: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent**

*"Here I am!" he answered." - Genesis 22:11*

It is easy to say, "Here I am, Lord," when we are kneeling in church. But how easy is it to say "Here I am, Lord," when a neighbor needs our help, or when we are invited to join a parish ministry, or when we are asked to provide financial support? Often times we are called when it's not convenient for us. Discipleship is not easy, most of the time it will make us uncomfortable and vulnerable..

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:**

***Celebrant:***

*Jesus strengthened his disciples for his coming passion and death by sharing his own transfiguration with them. This glimpse of glory helps us to raise our minds and hearts to Him and so we turn to God in prayer.*

**Reader:**

We pray especially for the 2024 Prep families as they begin this important stage of their lives. We give thanks for their presence among us and pray that each family will be drawn to participate in the richness of parish life and may be led to give and receive the many blessings that come from belonging to the Holy Spirit Community.

**LORD HEAR US.**

We pray for gratitude for the wonder of faith in God and the beauty of life. May our vision be broad and deep as we embrace people in great need through our support of Project Compassion, organised by Caritas Australia.

**LORD HEAR US.**

Lord, you guide us by your words written in the Bible. Help us to listen to your words and live our lives as you would.

**LORD HEAR US.**

We pray for our sisters and brothers around the world who are living with disability; that together we can work to ensure the God given dignity of all is upheld, removing obstacles and overcoming the structures that exist preventing equality in our communities.

**LORD HEAR US.**

We pray for new growth in our Christian faith; that the Holy Spirit will enlighten our often darkened vision, so that we may trust more fully in God's presence with us in the challenges we face each day.

**LORD HEAR US.**

We pray that Jesus our light, will help us know our many blind spots; that the eyes of our hearts may be opened to know and love God's love and serve others more faithfully.

**LORD HEAR US.**

We pray for those who have died recently Bruna Nisi, and those whose anniversaries of death occur about this time: Father Kevin Mogg, Lucas Murphy, Rick Doensen, Robert Williams, Frances Hanlon, Trevor Chandler, Margaret Merchant, Peter Brown, Jack Carroll and Teresa Panek.

May they rest in the loving arms and peace of Christ.

**LORD HEAR US.**

***Celebrant:***

*Draw us together O Lord as your family. May we learn the new wisdom of your teaching and walk in your ways. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## FIRST READING

Genesis 22.1-2, 9-13, 15-18

*Abraham, our father in faith, was ready for sacrifice.*

A reading from the book of Genesis.

**1** God tested Abraham.

God said to him, "Abraham!"

And Abraham said, "Here I am."

**2** God said,

"Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you."

**9** When Abraham and Isaac came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order.

He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood.

**10** Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son.

**11** But the angel of the Lord called to Abraham from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!"

And he replied, "Here I am."

**12** The angel said,

"Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me."

**13** Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son.

**15** The angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven,

**16** and said,

"By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son,

**17** I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore.

And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies,

**18** and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice."

The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalms 116.10+15, 16-17, 18-19 (R.9)

**R.** I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

**10** I kept my faith, even when I said, "I am greatly afflicted";

**15** Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones. **R.**

**16** O Lord, I am your servant; You have loosed my bonds.

**17** I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the Lord. **R.**

**18** I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people,

**19** in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem. **R.**

## SECOND READING

**Romans 8.31b-35, 37++**  
***God did not withhold his own Son.***

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

**31** If God is for us, who is against us?

**32** He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else?

**33** Who will bring any charge against God's elect?  
Is it God who justifies?

**34** Who is to condemn?

Is it Christ Jesus, who died, and indeed, who was raised,  
who is at the right hand of God, who intercedes for us?

**35** Who will separate us from the love of Christ?

Will hardship, or distress, or persecution,  
or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors  
through him who loved us.

The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory.

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:

This is my beloved Son, hear him.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory.

## GOSPEL

**Mark 9.2-10**  
***This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him.***

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

**2** Jesus took with him Peter and James and John,  
and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves.

And he was transfigured before them,

**3** and his clothes became dazzling white,  
such as no one on earth could bleach them.

**4** And there appeared to them Elijah and Moses,  
who were talking with Jesus.

**5** Then Peter said to Jesus,  
"Rabbi, it is good for us to be here;  
let us make three tents,

one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

**6** Peter did not know what to say, for they were terrified.

**7** Then a cloud overshadowed them,  
and from the cloud there came a voice,  
"This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!"

**8** Suddenly when they looked around,  
they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

**9** As they were coming down the mountain,  
Jesus ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen,  
until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

**10** So they kept the matter to themselves,  
questioning what this rising from the dead could mean.

The gospel of the Lord.

