

ANNUAL SACRED HEART PARISH FETE

SUNDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER

Help Us Make Our Parish Fete a Success! 🌿

What We Need

New and household items in working order, house décor, kitchenware, tools, toys, and books

(NO FURNITURE OR CLOTHING PLEASE)

Raffle/chocolate wheel: Unopened gifts, unperishable food/drink items, toiletries, cleaning products and vouchers

- **Plant Stall:** Potted plants, seedlings, and garden accessories.
- **Cake Stall:** Homemade sweets, cakes, and jams (delivered fresh on the day).

- **Raffle Tickets For SALE**

Drop-off Details

Location: Small items can be left in baskets at the back of the church.

Thank you for your continuous generosity and community spirit!

We're enrolling now for 2027

SACRED HEART PRIMARY

We invite you to attend an OPEN DAY

18 AUGUST 9:15AM-10:15AM

23 OCTOBER 9:15AM-10:15AM



Francis Alphonse at
Chrysalis Law Group
provides a range
of legal services.

Home visits for the elderly or infirm at
no extra charge in selected areas.

Ph 8046 7666

Email francis@chrysalislegal.com.au

'Be The Witness' Musical: 10-13

September at Riverside Theatres
Parramatta, 10-13 September.

Presented by Mary Queen of the
Family Parish, with a full cast and
chorus now in place and rehearsals
beginning this weekend, excitement
is building. Gather your parish and
book now at bethewitness.com.au

There is always lots happening around our Diocese, for information about all the events happening and information of safeguarding please visit parracatholic.org follow on Facebook & instagram

Don't forget to check our our Parish website on southmountdruitt.org.au

SACRED HEART PARISH

SOUTH MOUNT DRUITT

Celebrating 50 years of walking together in Faith



20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

16th AUGUST 2026

From Fr Marcus' Desk

Last week we read about Jesus walking on the water and the disciples' confession of faith that Jesus is the Son of God. If we were reading Matthew's entire Gospel, we would have read about Jesus' debate with the Pharisees about Jewish purity laws. Jesus argues that it is not what goes into us that makes us unclean; he is referring to the strict Jewish dietary rules. Instead, our words and our actions—what comes out of us—make us unclean because they emerge from a heart that is unclean.

Knowing about Jesus' debate with the Pharisees helps us to understand today's Gospel. In fact, the story heightens the surprise and shock we feel as we hear Jesus' exchange with the Canaanite woman. The woman, who is not Jewish, approaches Jesus, requesting that He heals her demon-possessed daughter. At first Jesus ignores her; he says nothing. The disciples ask Jesus to send her away, and Jesus agrees, remarking that he was sent to minister to the Jews alone.

The woman persists, paying homage to Jesus, and yet Jesus denies her request again. He even insults her, using a Jewish word of derision for Gentiles, "dog." But the woman cleverly turns Jesus' insult into an affirmation of faith. Only then does Jesus grant her request and heal her daughter.

Jesus' unresponsiveness to this woman may strike us as uncharacteristic or shocking. Yet in Matthew's Gospel, Jesus' ministry is directed primarily to the people of Israel. At only a very few points, such as the one found in today's Gospel, do we find Jesus anticipating the later Christian ministry to the rest of the world.

Behind Matthew's text we can hear this early Christian community's struggle to understand how God's selection of Israel is consistent with two events: Israel's rejection of Jesus and the Gentiles' acceptance of Jesus. Just as Jesus was surprised by the faith expressed by the Canaanite woman, so too the first Christians were surprised that the Gentiles would receive the salvation God offered through Christ. In today's second reading from Paul's letter to the Romans, we hear the apostle Paul considering this same concern.

The faith that the Canaanite woman expresses is an affirmation of and confidence in God's abundant mercy. Yes, salvation comes through Israel, but it overflows for the benefit of all.

(Ignatius Press)

Sunday Masses: 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday 7:30 pm Sunday 7.30 am & 9.00am

Weekday Masses:

Monday 17th August: 9:10am- Mon. 20th Week in Ordinary Time

Tuesday 18th August: 9:10am- Tues. 20th Week in Ordinary Time

Wednesday 19th August 7pm- Wed. 20th Week in Ordinary Time

Thursday 20th August 9:10am- Thur. 20th Week in Ordinary Time

Friday 21st August: 9:10am – St Bernard (memorial)

Saturday 22nd August: 9:10am – St Pius X (memorial)

Confession Times:

SATURDAYS -9.45 - 10.15am & 5.00 - 5.30pm

Pastoral Director: Deacon Roderick Pirota

Assistant Priests: Fr Marcus Hazelman: 0405 453 902

Fr Taliai Hausia: 0404 322 560

Parish Chairperson: Teresa Samuels

Parish Admin Assistance: Vacant

Church Office: 9 Ropes Creek Rd, Mt. Druitt

Ph: 98323896

Email: mountdruittsouth@parracatholic.org

Website: southmountdruitt.org.au

Baptisms & Weddings: By arrangement only

Sacred Heart Primary School:

email: sacredheartmtdruitt.catholic.edu.au **Tel:** 9625 8733

CHURCH CLEANING & LECTORS ROSTER

22 nd August	Samoan Community
29 th August	Stella Fagalei & family
5 th September	Nelson & Lydia
12 th September	Jerry & Gloria

LECTORS	6PM	7:30AM	9AM
15 th /16 th August 20 th Sunday in OT	Gloria Cardoza Pio Gemzon	Elijah Merjudio Thomas Merjudio	Leo Macatanjay Sosefo Vaisima
22 nd /23 rd August 21 st Sunday in OT	Luisto Villapana Herminia Villarica	Joaquim Mendes Herbie Cruz	Helen Nau Monica Uhatafe
29 th /30 th August 22 nd Sunday in OT	Gloria Cardoza Pio Vergara	Elijah Merjudio Phil Tonks	Fadi Antown Jovita Bugayong
5 th /6 th September 23 rd Sunday in OT	Wendy Farquharson Edna Gemzon	Herbie Cruz Elijah Merjudio	Mark Buhagiar Aloysius Wong

PARISH NOTICES

1. Registration for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion on 25th Oct 2026 are now open. Please take a form from the back of the church or it can be downloaded from our parish website: southmoundruitt.org.au. Please return completed form with necessary documents to the Parish office or email it to mountdruitsouth@parracatholic.org.
2. 30th August- 8th September- Novena for the Feast of Our Lady of Good Health. Please pick up a flyer from the back of the church.
3. **Music Workshop for Weddings & Funerals: 10 September at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre from 7pm-8:30pm. Please register via parracatholic.org/music-workshop**
4. **Bethany Pilgrimage for Women: 29 August** The theme for 2026 is "Totus Tuus" ("Totally Yours"). There will be a decade of the rosary, reflection and personal prayer at each church. Adoration and Confession will be available at times also. Registration is essential \$20.

The Bishop's Father's Day Appeal for the Clergy Support Foundation will run on the weekend of 29–30 August.

This Appeal supports the retired and unwell priests of our Diocese, our spiritual fathers, who have devoted their lives to serving God and His people.

Bishop's
**FATHER'S DAY
APPEAL**
HONOUR A LIFETIME OF
FAITHFUL SERVICE THIS
FATHER'S DAY



PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY:

SICK: Maurice Hillman; Ester Olanda Zambrana; Lorraine Joy Calvert, Jenny Taateo, Leonie Baybay, Aida Aniscol, Maria Llave; Fe Llave, Boyet Llave; Fara Vargas; Stella Edwards & Maria Belisario;

RECENTLY DECEASED: Irene Nimenzo; Chris Wilson; Judith Anne Calvert Stephenson, Wendy Joan Calvert; Ruben Cantillana; Sonny Resmaria; Prudencio Fronda; Betty Masilang; Patricia Borre; Jachino De Almeida; Norma Labrador; Nieves Arela Empleo;

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES: We pray for all those names who appear in the Parish memorial book for the month of August.