

ST GERTRUDE'S PARISH

St Benedict's Church

Corner Justin & Neville Street
SMITHFIELD

Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil 6.00pm;
8.00am (Italian); 10.30am; 6.00pm.

Weekday Masses:

9.15am Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday;
7pm Wednesday

Weekday Public Holidays: 10.30am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament/Adoration:

Wednesdays after evening Mass with Novena to
St Benedict till 7.30pm; Saturdays from
4.45pm—5.45pm; & Fridays after the 9.15am Mass

First Friday of the Month:

7pm Mass & Adoration

Chaplet of Divine Mercy:

Tuesdays after Mass



Parish Priest

Fr Jarek Zan OSPPE

Assistant Priest

Fr Wojtek Sliwa OSPPE

St Theresa's Church

Corner The Boulevard & Stella Street
FAIRFIELD WEST

Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil 5pm (Vietnamese);
7.30am & 9.00am; 11am (Spanish); 5pm (Arabic)

Weekday Masses:

Mon - Fri 7.00am; Saturday 8am
Weekday Public Holidays: 8.00am

First Friday of the Month:

from 6.30am

First Saturday of the Month:

7am Rosary 8am Mass

Chaplet of Divine Mercy:

Tuesdays after Mass

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY 24th December 2017



Congratulations to

Kathleen VELLA & Johnny LALIC

Married in our Parish

May God confirm them in their love.

We pray for the sick of this parish

Paul Bradbury Maria Blanda, Max Hazmoth,
Indu Vassallo, Kartia Grace Russell,
Frank Trimboli, Gino Mifsud, Rina Favotto, Neang
Nep, Eric Pasquetti, Emely Jade, Sandra Roy,
Patricia Battistel, Ivy Fernandes, Maria Perre,
Tania Perre, Alina Przewoznik,
Philomena Greenwood, Ernesto DiDomizio,
Stella Zappacosta, Antoinette Jansen.

*Bless our sick today so that they may bear
their illness in union with Jesus' sufferings and
restore them quickly to health*

Please remember in your prayers

Gino Cesarone, Carmelina Calleja,
Lucia Elda Bruzzano, Luciano Signor,
Eva Di Federico, Rita Vanolini, Antonio Tionvinne,
Filipo Leto, Antonio Zumbo,

Recently Deceased

*And for those whose Anniversaries occur
at this time :*

Frank Iacopetta, Rosaria Ienna, Maria Bongiorno,
Luigia Ageti, Giuseppe Caparotta, Elda Gasparin



PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Office:

6 Justin St, Smithfield
Tuesday-Friday 10am - 2pm
Phone: 9604 1199 Fax 9609 6585
Email: office@stgertrude.org.au
Website: www.stgertrude.org.au

Parish Council:

Denise Namroud

Finance Committee:

Jurgen Mertin

Catechists: 9725 4317

Mimi Romeo: catechist@stgertrude.org.au

Sacraments: 9725 4317 Helena Mertin

sacraments@stgertrude.org.au
Reconciliation/Eucharist/Confirmation

Liturgy: 9725 4317 Anna Kleibert

liturgy@stgertrude.org.au

Adult Sacraments (RCIA) Mariola Herbert

Every Sunday at 8.30am in the
Crying Room (in front of St Benedict's)
Contact Mariola: 0421 944 051.

Children's Liturgy

Mariola Herbert

Reconciliation:

Smithfield - Sat 4.45—5.45 pm
(or by appointment)

Baptisms: Parish Office 9604 1199

1st Sundays of the month during the
10.30am Mass at St Benedict's Church; &
Every 3rd Sunday at 12noon St Benedict's

Marriages: Parish Office 9604 1199

By appointment only (6 months required)

Sick Calls: 9604 1199

Any Time

Novena to St Benedict

Every Wednesday after the 7pm
Mass with Rosary &
Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament



Reconciliation is
available during this time.
*Everyone is encouraged to
participate!*

Rosary for Vocation to
Religious life and
Priesthood.

After Mass on Thursdays
at St Therese's Church,
Fairfield West



Church Cleaners

Tuesday 26th December ~
Edith's Group

Parish Collections Week- Ending 17/12/2017

1st Collection \$1,646.95 goes to Fr. Jarek & Fr Wojtek as well as the upkeep of their Order of St Paul the First Hermit.

2nd Collection: Envelopes and/or Credit Card payments: \$2,622.50 and \$964.60 Loose Money.

Thank you for your generous support & May God Bless you all!

Advent



*New liturgical year begins:
Sunday cycle B, weekday
cycle 2*

ADVENT has a twofold character, for it is a time of preparation for the Solemnities of Christmas, in which the First Coming of the Son of God to humanity is remembered, and likewise a time when, by remembrance of this, minds and hearts are led to look forward to Christ's Second coming at the end of the time. For these two reasons, Advent is a period of devout and expectant delight.

Christmas Carols with the Joyful Hearts



Our Christmas Concert starts at 5pm on Christmas Eve 24th December in St Benedict's, Smithfield. Everyone Welcome!

Donations at Crib

Donations made at the crib will go towards the orphanage and community of Sr Anna Maria in Pakistan.

Thank you for your support and offerings to help the poor during this Christmas Season!



2018 PARISH FACILITY BOOKINGS

(Smithfield & Fairfield West Church & Hall)

Attention ALL groups wanting to use the above facilities for 2018. Please book your dates and times, in writing, to the parish office at 6 Justin Street, Smithfield. Thank you.

Parish Office Holiday Hours

The Parish Office will be closed from close of Business on Thursday 21 December and reopen on Wednesday 3rd January 2017.



Sacraments

The Sacramental Office will close for 2017 on the 19th December. It will reopen in February on Tuesday 6th February 2018.

Thank you for your support throughout the year. ***We wish you all a very safe, holy and joyous Christmas season!***

HELP URGENTLY NEEDED!!!!!!

We urgently need more church cleaners for 2018. on a roster one-day-a-month basis.

If you are interested in putting a group together or just wish to help another group, then please contact the parish office.

Men are also welcome to help!

Christmas Mass Times



St Benedict's Church

Christmas Eve 24 December

5pm Carols (Children)

6pm Christmas Vigil

11pm Carols

Christmas 25 December

Midnight Mass (12 am)

8am (Italian)

10.30am



Christmas Octave & Public Holidays

10.30am

St Theresa's Church

Christmas 25 December

7.30am & 9am

11am (Spanish)

* Christmas Octave & Public Holidays

8am



Sunday the 24th of December and Monday the 25th of December are both holy days of obligation and Catholics are required to attend Mass on both days. The Vigil Mass on the 24th of December is not a Sunday Mass, but the Christmas Vigil.

* PUBLIC HOLIDAYS & 'OCTAVE SEASON' MASS TIMES

26th December 2017 (Feast of St Stephen) to 2nd January 2018 (inclusive)

St Therese's Church Fairfield West: 8am

St Benedict's Church Smithfield: 10.30am

Please Note: Wednesday 27 December – NO EVENING MASS (Mass will be at 10.30am.)

★★★

Feasts

Tuesday 26 December ~ of St Stephen, the first martyr

Wednesday 27 December ~ St John, apostle, evangelist

Wine Blessing Wednesday 27 December

(Feast of the St John, Apostle Evangelist)

Parishioners are invited to bring a bottle(s) of wine to the

8am Mass at St Therese's or the 10.30am Mass at

St Benedict's to have your wine blessed.

Solemnity

Monday 1 January ~ MARY, the Holy MOTHER OF GOD

Masses: 8am St Therese's Fairfield West

10.30am St Benedict's Smithfield

Thank you for your response to sponsor
Liturgical Items
Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

Smithfield **YOUTH** MASS

Next Mass: Sunday 1st January at 6pm

Youth Program on 3rd Sunday of the month .
7pm - 8pm in the Montefano Hall.
All Youth Welcome!

❖ **THERE WILL BE NO YOUTH FELLOWSHIP IN
JANUARY
WILL RESUME IN FEBRUARY 2018**

YOUTH GROUP THANK YOU!

A big **Thank You** to all who attended and celebrated
in our end of year Youth Group Gathering.
A special thank you to all the parents and volunteers
who made not only this evening a wonderful success,
but during the year as well.

Royal Commission

Copies of Catholic Archbishop of Sydney, Most Rev. Anthony
Fisher's statement following the recent release of the final
report into the Royal Commission into institutional
Responses to Child Sexual Abuse are available at the church
doors.

Australian Catholic Youth Festival

The Australian Catholic Youth Festival has been an
outstanding success. There were more than 20,000
registrations and the young people participated with joy
and enthusiasm in the prayers, workshops, plenaries and
general activities. The Closing Mass was very well attended
by festival participants and by parishioners of Sydney. It
was a beautiful celebration with the Archbishop of Sydney,
29 Bishops of Australia, 200 priests and 15,000 in the
congregation. The Festival was an extraordinary
achievement for our Archdiocese and the support of the
priests and parishioners is greatly appreciated. Thank you
to the hundreds of volunteers who gave up their time on
Thursday, Friday and Saturday to make it such a special
event. Go to www.xt3.com/live and watch "on demand"
the major events including the Closing Mass.

Thank you for your support!

The Lights of Christmas - St Mary's Cathedral 5 - 25 December 2017 8.30pm-Midnight

Celebrate the season at Sydney's most popular Christmas
lights show.

Join us at the annual *Lights of Christmas* at St Mary's
Cathedral Square, in the heart of Sydney's CBD, for a
spectacular free sound and light show every night from
Wednesday 6 December until Christmas Night 2017.
Choirs will sing Christmas carols from 7.30pm, and the new
sound and light show celebrating the season of peace, joy
and goodwill will illuminate the huge 75m façade of St
Mary's Cathedral at 8.30pm and continue through until
midnight.

This event continues to capture the imagination of adults
and children alike and is now firmly Sydney's most popular
Christmas lights show.

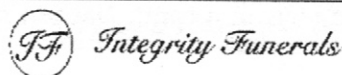
For more details: <http://lightsofchristmas.com.au/>

Parish Website updated

We have recently upgraded the parish
website www.stgertrude.org.au and
started a Facebook page www.facebook.com/stgertrudesparish.



We will be posting news about what's happening at the Parish of
St. Gertrude's on both website and facebook, please check it out!



Mark Malone J.P.
Director

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advertisements listed in this bulletin*

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

FIRST READING 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16

A reading from the second book of Samuel

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent'. Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.'

But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan:

'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever."

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 88:2-5, 27, 29. R. see v.2

(R.) For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord; through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. (R.)
2. 'I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant:
I will establish your dynasty for ever
and set up your throne through all ages.' (R.)
3. He will say to me: 'You are my father, my God, the rock who saves me.'
I will keep my love for him always;
for him my covenant shall endure. (R.)

SECOND READING Rom 16:25-27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants

things to be.

He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Lk 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord:

may his will for me be done.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Lk 1:26-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Next Week : The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Readings: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-16 or Gen 15:6, 21:1-3; Col 3:12-21 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40

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