

The BAPTISM of the LORD	
FIRST READING	Is 40:1-5. 9-11
<i>A reading from the prophet Isaiah</i>	
<p>'Console my people, console them' says your God.</p> <p>'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.'</p> <p>A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert.</p> <p>Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'</p> <p>Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion.</p> <p>Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem.</p> <p>Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God.'</p> <p>Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him.</p> <p>The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him.</p> <p>He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.</p>	
The word of the Lord.	
All: Thanks be to God.	

1. Lord God, how great you are,
clothed in majesty and glory,
wrapped in light as in a robe!
You stretch out the heavens like a tent. (R.)
2. Above the rains you build your dwelling.
You make the clouds your chariot,
you walk on the wings of the wind,
you make the winds your messengers
and flashing fire your servants. (R.)
3. How many are your works, O Lord!
In wisdom you have made them all.
The earth is full of your riches.
There is the sea, vast and wide,
with its moving swarms past counting,
living things great and small. (R.)
4. All of these look to you
to give them their food in due season.
You give it, they gather it up:
you open your hand, they have their fill. (R.)
5. You take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth. (R.)

*The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the *Lectionary for Mass* ©1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved.*

Week ending 19 January 2019 ~
Group A: Edith

Weekend Parish Collections

If there are people wishing to give to the parish through the envelope system, envelopes are available through the parish office.

Novena

9 day Novena to St Paul the First Hermit started the 6th January and will conclude on the 15th January.

Litany is said after each weekday Mass during this time.

Everyone welcome

~ St Paul the First Hermit ~

Patron Saint to the Pauline Fathers

&

Blessed Eusibius

Founder of the Order

Solemn Mass on Sunday 20th January at the 10:30am Mass

- *Renewal of Vows by the Pauline Fathers and Brothers will be said on Tuesday 15th January after the 9.15am Mass at Smithfield.*

Wednesday 16th January

~ Our Lady Queen of Hermits ~

Patroness of the Order of St Paul the First Hermit and yearly consecration to our Lady of the Pauline Fathers and Brothers.

Thursday 17th January

St Anthony, abbot

You are invited to join us for

~ Study of the Word of God ~

Lead by

Elham Khalil

On Fridays at 7pm beginning 8th February 2019

Please show your interest by writing your name on the forms provided at the back of the Church. Thank you!

2019 PARISH FACILITY BOOKINGS

(Smithfield & Fairfield West Church & Hall)

Attention ALL groups wanting to use the above facilities for 2019, please book your dates and times, in writing, to the parish office as soon as possible. Thank you.

SACRAMENT NEWS!

FIRST RECONCILIATION / FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

ENROLMENTS 2019: Enrolments are now complete. The Parent Information Evening will be held on: **Wednesday 13th March 2019.**

SACRAMENTAL OFFICE: Please be advised the **Sacramental Office is now closed. It will re-open in February 2019.** For all enquiries please email: sacraments@stgertrude.org.au or call 9725 4317 and leave a message. If you wish to see Helena face-to-face, please email/call the Sacramental Office to make an appointment. Thank You.

YOUTH MASS & YOUTH GROUP

Youth group Mass, meetings and music rehearsals will re-commence in February.

~ Altar Servers ~

No Altar Servers meeting throughout the school holidays

House for Rent

The property next to the Church Carpark on Neville Street, will be available for rent in 2019. Please direct any interest to the parish office.

St Gertrude's Parish Playgroup

Playgroup is closed during the school holidays and will re-open when the new school term begins
Contact: playgroup@stgertrude.org.

SAFEGUARDING NEWS

The Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office, in conjunction with the Parish Support and Development Team, has identified the following require a Working with Children Check (WWCC): Youth ministers, children's liturgy, children's choir, Catechists, Sacramental group leaders, readers, acolytes, senior altar servers, extra-ordinary ministers of Holy Communion, Parish counters & **collectors** and ministers to the homebound. **Please note that some ministries that did not previously require a WWCC, now need one, please visit the RMS before the end of November to obtain a WWCC, otherwise you will need to cease your ministry until this requirement is met.**

Volunteers who have not yet completed a Code of Conduct please visit the Parish ASAP.

If you have not attended Safeguarding induction training, please speak to Maria or Helena to arrange a time – safeguarding induction training is mandatory for all volunteers. The training can also be completed online, please contact us to ask us how!

All volunteers – please check the expiration date of your WWCC. If it is due for renewal please visit the RMS. Once renewed please notify the Parish Office.

Thank you for your continued co-operation to ensure our Parish meets Safeguarding requirements. For more information, please contact the Parish Office or email psso@stgertrude.org.au

St Gertrude's Parish Fund

New sets of envelopes will be available to pick up at the end of February.

Please contact the parish office on 9604 1199 if there are any changes to be made to your envelopes, (contact details etc) **prior to distribution**

Anyone wishing to use envelopes for St Gertrude's Parish Fund can please complete the following form and return to the parish office as soon as possible.

Thank you for your support!

REQUEST FOR ENVELOPE FORM

Please complete this form and place it in the collection plate or post to

St Gertrude's Parish, 6 Justin Street, Smithfield.

Yes, I would like a set of weekly envelopes

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FIRST NAME

CONTACT NO

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SUBURB: POST CODE:.....

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*** I UNDERSTAND THAT MY CONTRIBUTIONS WILL GO TOWARDS THE UPKEEP OF THE CHURCH AND ITS WORKS AND IS **NOT** A TAX DEDUCTION.**

SIGNATURE:.....

office use only

ENVELOPE NO

Events & Marketing Coordinator, Fairfield Parish

Fairfield Parish is inviting applications for this newly-created position. The primary purpose of this position is to assist the Parish to engage in outreach, faith-renewal, and build up the Parish's faith-community. The Position Description, which includes the desired requirements for applicants, can be downloaded from: <https://catholicjobsonline.com.au> Permanent salary negotiable. For enquiries, contact Priscilla, Parish Operations Manager: 9724 5997 or 0490 099 551 or priscilla@olrfairfield.org.au Applications are to be submitted in writing, including a CV and cover letter, and close on 20 January 2019.

Vocation Discernment Weekend Run By The Capuchin Friars 15-17th February 2019

Come away for a few days of quiet to reflect upon the inspiring and uplifting vocations to the priesthood and religious life. This weekend retreat is for men aged 18-35. Begins 7:30pm Friday and concludes 4pm Sunday at the Marymount Mercy Centre, Castle Hill. There will be Mass on Saturday and Sunday, Adoration, quiet prayer, talks, confession available and quiet time. Come and reflect on God's will in your life, and these amazing ways of making a gift of self for the glory of God and in service of His Kingdom. The cost is only \$50. Registrations required by 7th February: contact Father Thomas vocations@capuchinfriars.org.au or 0432 362 052. <https://www.capuchin.org.au>

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Safeguarding Office
If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Archdiocese of Sydney we invite you to contact us. We will listen to you respectfully; offer support and discuss the options you have available to you. Please contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office on



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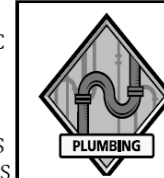
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