



**Mark Malone J.P.**  
Director

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

"A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney: Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org). You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police."

The Parish does not imply any endorsement for advertisements listed in this bulletin.



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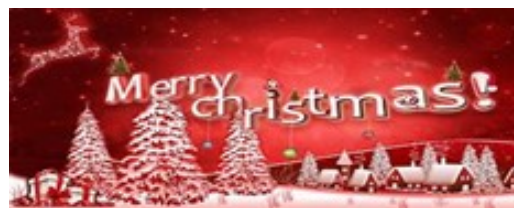


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Website: [www.pbcfairfield.syd.catholic.edu.au](http://www.pbcfairfield.syd.catholic.edu.au)

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## Italian Catholic Federation

Wish all parishioners a Merry Christmas &  
a Safe and Blessed New Year 2023



Bingo will restart on Friday 3rd February 2023



**St Gertrude's**  
Catholic Primary School  
Smithfield



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# ST GERTRUDE'S PARISH

## St Benedict's Shrine

Corner Justin & Neville Street  
SMITHFIELD

### Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil 6:00 pm;  
9:00 am (Italian); 10:30am; 6:00pm.

### Weekday Masses:

9:15am Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday;  
7:00 pm Wednesday

Weekday Public Holidays: 10:00am

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament/Adoration:

Wednesdays after evening Mass with Novena to  
St Benedict until 8:30 pm; Saturday from  
4:30pm—5:30pm; & Friday after the 9:15am Mass

### First Friday of the Month:

9:15 am followed by Devotions  
7pm Mass & Adoration followed by Devotions

Chaplet of Divine Mercy: Tuesday after Mass &  
Friday after 9:15am Mass with Exposition.



### Parish Administrator

Fr Peter James Strohmayer OSPPE

### Assistant Priest

Fr Wojtek Sliwa OSPPE

## St Therese's Church

Corner The Boulevard & Stella Street  
FAIRFIELD WEST

### Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm (Vietnamese);  
7:30 am (English); 12 noon (Spanish); 6:00 pm (Syriac)

### Weekday Masses:

Mon - Fri 7:00 am; Saturday 8:00 am  
Weekday Public Holiday: 8:00 am

### First Friday of the Month:

6.30 am Exposition & Confession; 7:00 am Mass

### First Saturday of the Month:

7:00 am Rosary 8:00 am Mass

### Chaplet of Divine Mercy:

Tuesday after Mass

## Mary, the Holy Mother of God Year A

1 January 2023



### We pray for the sick of this Parish

Alyssa Ferreri, Giuseppina Pignataro, Gino Mifsud  
Fr. Anthony David, OSPPE,  
Fr. Gabriel Taylor, OSPPE, Adam Westwood,  
Emile & Mary Kodsy, Kartia Grace Russell,  
& Ivy Fernandes.

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

### Recently Deceased

Robyn Hankinson, Walter Schranz, Dora Gabriel,  
Sylvia Muscat, Carmen Bugeja, Michael Muscat,  
Ernesto Campolongo, Filippa Cutelli.

### And for those whose Anniversary occur at this time

Silvana Fenech, Maria Fernandes, Mihaly Puskas,  
Angelo Sinocropi, Carmen Rosa Diaz.

## PARISH INFORMATION

### Parish Office:

6 Justin St, Smithfield  
Phone: 9604 1199 Fax 9609 6585  
Email: [office@stgertrude.org.au](mailto:office@stgertrude.org.au)  
Website: [www.stgertrude.org.au](http://www.stgertrude.org.au)

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday  
& Friday (closed Wednesday)  
9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Parish Council: Denise Namroud

Finance Committee: Tan Do  
Andrew Maia: Work Health & Safety  
Catechists: 9725 4317

Mimi Romeo: [catechist@stgertrude.org.au](mailto:catechist@stgertrude.org.au)

Sacraments: Contact: Jodie Micallef

Mob: 0412-804-465 (to leave a message)  
[sacraments@stgertrude.org.au](mailto:sacraments@stgertrude.org.au)

Reconciliation/Eucharist/Confirmation

Liturgy: 9725 4317 Anna Kleibert  
[liturgy@stgertrude.org.au](mailto:liturgy@stgertrude.org.au)

Adult Sacraments (RCIA): Mariola Herbert  
Every Sunday at 8:30 am in the  
Crying Room (in front of St Benedict's)  
Contact Mariola: 0421 944 051.

Children's Liturgy: Currently not available  
at this time

### Reconciliation:

Smithfield - Saturday 4:30 — 5:30 pm  
Sunday 5:45 pm (or by appointment)

### Baptisms: Parish Office 9604 1199

Every 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month at  
12:00 noon in St Benedict's Shrine Church  
Smithfield

### Marriages: Parish Office 9604 1199

By appointment only (6 months required)

Sick Calls: 9604 1199 — Any Time

### Safeguarding: [psso@stgertrude.org.au](mailto:psso@stgertrude.org.au)

(Parish Safeguarding Support Officers and  
all WWCC renewals)

### Other: FCI (Italian Catholic Federation)

Tony Coiera 0409 908 424

Parish Playgroup: Thursday during school  
term. 9:30 am – 11:30 am.

## Our Schools

### ST GERTRUDE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL SMITHFIELD



Boys & Girls: K-6: Ph: 9609-4414  
Principal: Mrs Linda Katsibras  
1-11 Justin, Street, Smithfield NSW 2164  
[www.stgsmithfield.syd.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stgsmithfield.syd.catholic.edu.au)  
[www.facebook.com/stgertrudessmithfield](https://www.facebook.com/stgertrudessmithfield)  
[www.instagram.com/stgsmithfield/](https://www.instagram.com/stgsmithfield/)

### MARY MACKILLOP COLLEGE WAKELEY



Girls: 7-12: Ph: 9725 4322  
Principal: Ms Gilda Pussich  
5 Carnarvon St, Wakeley NSW 2176  
[info@mmcwakeley.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@mmcwakeley.catholic.edu.au)  
[mmcwakeley.syd.catholic.edu.au](http://mmcwakeley.syd.catholic.edu.au)

### PATRICIAN BROTHER'S COLLEGE FAIRFIELD



Boys: 7-12: Ph: 9728-4488  
Principal: Mr Peter Wade  
268 The Horsley Drive, Fairfield NSW  
2165  
[info@pbcfairfield.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@pbcfairfield.catholic.edu.au)  
[www.pbcfairfield.catholic.edu.au](http://www.pbcfairfield.catholic.edu.au)

## THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER For educators

We pray that educators may be credible  
witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than  
competition and helping the youngest and  
most vulnerable above all.

## Novena to St Benedict

Wednesday after the 7:00 pm Mass with  
Rosary & Exposition  
of the Blessed Sacrament.  
Reconciliation is available during this time.

## Church Cleaners

W/E 7 January  
St Benedict: Group C: Wilson family  
St. Therese: Group D: Syriacs

Parish Office Hours: 9:00 am—4:00 pm  
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday  
(closed Wednesday)



## Mary, the Holy Mother of God Year A

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Hail, Holy Mother, who gave birth to the King,  
who rules heaven and earth for ever.

### FIRST READING Nm 6:22-27

A reading from the book of Numbers

The Lord spoke to Moses and said, 'Say this to Aaron and his sons: "This is how you are to bless the sons of Israel. You shall say to them:

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord let his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord uncover his face to you and bring you peace."

This is how they are to call down my name on the sons of Israel, and I will bless them.'

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) May God bless us in his mercy.

1. God, be gracious and bless us  
and let your face shed its light upon us.  
So will your ways be known upon earth  
and all nations learn your saving help. (R.)
2. Let the nations be glad and exult  
for you rule the world with justice.  
With fairness you rule the peoples.  
you guide the nations on earth. (R.)
3. Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.  
May God still give us his blessing  
till the ends of the earth revere him. (R.)

### SECOND READING Gal 4:4-7

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Galatians

When the appointed time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born a subject of the Law, to redeem the subjects of the Law and to enable us to be adopted as sons. The proof that you are sons is that God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts: the Spirit that cries, 'Abba, Father', and it is this that makes you a son, you are not a slave any more; and if God has made you son, then he has made you heir.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets;

now he speaks to us through his Son.

Alleluia!

### GOSPEL

Lk 2:16-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to St. Luke

The shepherds hurried away to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. When they saw the child they repeated what they had been told about him, and everyone who heard it was astonished at what the shepherds had to say. As for Mary, she treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds went back glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen; it was exactly as they had been told.

When the eighth day came and the child was to be circumcised, they gave him the name Jesus, the name the angel had given him before his conception.

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and for ever.

Happy New Year

Wishing you, your family and friends many  
Blessings and peace in the new year.  
We hope 2023 brings you much love,  
happiness and good health.

### PUBLIC HOLIDAY MASS TIMETABLE

Monday 2nd January 2023 —Public Holiday



St. Therese's Church  
8:00 am Mass

St. Benedict's Shrine  
10:00 am Mass

### NEXT WEEK:

Solemnity - The EPIPHANY of the LORD; Year A

Scripture: Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3, 5-6;

Gospel: Mt 2:1-12

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### FIRST FRIDAY – 6TH JANUARY 2023

Mass times as follows:

#### St Therese's Church:

6:30 am exposition and  
confession

7:00 am Mass

St. Benedict's Shrine: 9:15 am Mass followed by  
devotions.

Please note, No evening Mass.

### FIRST SATURDAY– 7TH JANUARY 2023

Mass times as follows:

St Therese's Church: 7:00 am exposition and confession  
8:00 am Mass

St. Benedict's Shrine: 10:00 am Rosary

### NO WEDNESDAY EVENING MASSES DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY



Evening Masses on Wednesdays will resume  
at 7:00 pm on Wednesday 8th of February 2023  
with Adoration and Novena to St. Benedict.

### NOVENA TO ST. PAUL THE FIRST HERMIT 6TH-15TH JANUARY 2023



In preparation for the Solemnity of St. Paul,  
the First Hermit on 15th January we will pray  
the Novena to St. Paul beginning Friday 6th,  
January 2023.

#### Patriarch of the Pauline Order

St. Paul the First Hermit or Paul of Thebes  
the Patriarch of the Pauline Order.

As a parish community this important Solemnity of the Pauline  
Fathers will be celebrated at the 10:30 am Mass, Sunday 15th  
January 2023 with readings of St. Paul.

As is the custom for the Pauline Order, there will be a special  
blessing for all children on the Solemnity.

### Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

*It is with sincere gratitude that I thank all who have sent to  
Fr. Wojtek and myself Christmas wishes and Christmas gifts.*

*We are truly are truly humbled by your heartfelt wishes and  
words of support.*

*I would also like to thank Fr. Wojtek and all who have assisted  
in our Christmas celebrations this year, especially those who  
have made both St. Benedict's Shrine and St. Therese's  
Church look and sound beautiful and festive.*

*I also take this opportunity of wishing all our regular  
Parishioners and those visiting a very happy, safe, healthy  
and holy New Year.*

*I look forward to 2023 knowing that with God and together we  
can achieve so much for our community.*

*With my prayers and blessings,  
Fr. Peter James.*



### REMINDER ~ PLEASE TURN OFF MOBILE PHONES

Please remember to turn off your mobile phones – or  
switch to silent – when entering the Church.

## SACRAMENTAL NEWS!

### 2023 FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION



Thank you to those families who have enrolled into the Parish  
First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Sacramental  
Program for 2023. Enrolments are NOW CLOSED.

### IMPORTANT DATES

The **Parent Information Night** for the First Reconciliation and  
First Holy Communion will be from 7:00pm to 8:00pm in the  
Montefano Hall on **Thursday, 16th February 2023**.

Only one adult per family to attend.

Please do not bring the children to the meeting.

### RECONCILIATION LESSONS

From 8:45 am to 10:15 am in the Montefano Hall.

Lesson 1 – Sunday, 5th March

Lesson 2 – Sunday, 12th March

Lesson 3 – Sunday, 19th March

Lesson 4 – Sunday, 26th March



For all 2023 Sacramental Preparation Program dates and  
further information please visit the Parish Website. [https://  
www.stgertrude.org.au/ministries/sacramental-program/](https://www.stgertrude.org.au/ministries/sacramental-program/)

For all enquiries, please contact the Sacramental Office by  
emailing [sacraments@stgertrude.org.au](mailto:sacraments@stgertrude.org.au) or  
phone 0412-804-465 to leave a message.

Thank you.

God bless

Jodie

### 2023 PARISH FACILITY BOOKINGS

(Smithfield & Fairfield West Church & Hall)

Any groups wanting to use these facilities on a regular basis,  
please book your dates and times in writing/email to the Parish  
Office ([office@stgertrude.org.au](mailto:office@stgertrude.org.au)).

Thank you

### CHRISTMAS OFFICE HOURS

Please note that the Parish Office will **close on Monday 26th**  
**December and re-open on Monday 9th January 2023.**

### CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Christmas Offering envelopes will be available in the church  
over the Christmas Season. Please take an envelope home  
and return it with your offering in the first collection. These  
offerings support the priests of the Parish. Thank you for your  
constant support and generosity.

### PARISH DONATIONS

**First Collection** (Priests) Account : Smithfield House –  
Order of St Paul the First Hermit

BSB 066711 Acct. No. 007392

**Second Collection** (Parish) Account : Smithfield Catholic Church  
BSB: 062784 Acct. No. 100001084

Thank you for your continued support and generosity. God Bless.