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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. 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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SCAN ME



CHURCH WORKS IN PROGRESS

Please be aware that works on the retaining wall on the corner of Justin St. & Neville St. are still in progress.

This will mean that there will be changed conditions for entry to St. Benedict's Shrine with restricted access to some areas.

The second phase of our Shrine roof repair is under way. This work covers the Childrens' Room and the Sacristy area of the church.

The Church organ will also undergo repairs that will begin this week. We will be without organs for the next few weeks.

This works are all part of the water damage that occurred March 2022.

There will also be workmen and machinery so please use caution in the church grounds and pray for the success of these works.

We apologise for the inconvenience.



PARISH PLAYGROUP

When: Thursday 25th May 2023

Where: St. Augustine Catechesis Centre

Time: 9:30am—11:30am

Playgroup will meet every Thursday during the school term. New and existing families are invited to attend.
Hope to see you all there!

Advertising Space Available - Beginning New Financial Year

Quarterly (No Easter Ads): \$330
Half Year (26 Weeks - No Easter Ads): \$550
Annually (No Easter Ads): \$990

•10% discount for parishioners who are actively donating via the St Gertrude's Fund.

Contact Parish Office - 9604 1199
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9:00 am—4:00 pm

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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 Priest

Fr Peter James Strohmayer 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

The ASCENSION of the LORD, Year A

21 May 2023



Welcome into our Parish

Chelsea Faith GEORGES,
Clayton SURYANTO,
Landon SURYANTO & Megan SURYANTO
Baptised this weekend

We pray for the sick of this Parish

Fr. Anthony David, OSPPE,
Fr. Gabriel Taylor, OSPPE

Alyssa Ferreri, Ray Wilson, Gino Mifsud,
Helen Maric, Adam Westwood,
Emile & Mary Kodszy, 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

Robert Wasniowski, Thomas Zammit,
Dino Di Federico,
Salvatore Maugeri.

And for those whose Anniversary occur at this time

Geoffrey Manche, Rose Rogers,
Giuseppina Ronzini, Steven Casamento,
Fr. Karol Olszewski.

PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Office:

6 Justin St, Smithfield
Phone: 9604 1199 Fax 9609 6585
Email: office@stgertrude.org.au
Website: 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

Sacraments:

Reconciliation/Eucharist/Confirmation

Contact: Jodie Micallef

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

Liturgy: 9725 4317 Anna Kleibert
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: Parish Office

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 1st & 3rd 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 (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: 9609-4144
Principal: Mrs Linda Katsibras
1-11 Justin, Street, Smithfield NSW 2164
www.stgsmithfield.syd.catholic.edu.au
www.facebook.com/stgertrudessmithfield
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
mmcwakeley.syd.catholic.edu.au

PATRICIAN BROTHERS' COLLEGE FAIRFIELD

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

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER
For Church Movements And Groups
We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.

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 27th May
St Benedict: Group C: Wilson family
St. Therese: Group A: Frances

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

The ASCENSION of the LORD, Year A

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens?
This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven
will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.' Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.' As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

- (R.) God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.
1. All peoples, clap your hands,
cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,
great king over all the earth. (R.)
 2. God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise,
sing praise to our king, sing praise. (R.)
 3. God is king of all the earth.
Sing praise with all your skill.
God is king over the nations;
God reigns on his holy throne. (R.)

SECOND READING Eph 1:17-23

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel.
I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mt 28:16-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to St Matthew

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commandments I gave to you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Behold, I am with you always,
even to the end of the age, alleluia.

SAVE CALVARY HOSPITAL

I am writing to ask for your assistance in petitioning the ACT Government to reverse a decision to take the ownership and management of Calvary Hospital away from Calvary Health Care – a Catholic operator and give the ownership to the government-run, non-faith-based Canberra Health Services instead. Calvary Health Care operates hospitals and aged care facilities across the country and has been operating Calvary Hospital for 44 years. It is trusted to provide quality health care to Canberrans regardless of their religious belief. The ACT Government is trying to ram through a bill that would allow this extreme land-and-assets grab to occur as soon as 3 July 2023. The bill was prepared in secret, with Calvary management and staff only finding out about it the day before it was tabled in parliament, and the government has scrapped the usual inquiry process so that the bill could be law as soon as 31 May.

There is no time to lost: we must act now.

It's no secret that the ACT Government want to force Calvary Hospital to provide abortions now, and euthanasia and assisted suicide in the future. Taking the land, buildings and hospital equipment and transferring staff employment across to Canberra Health Services allows them to push their anti-life agenda right through the hospital.

I'm asking for your help in stopping this nonsensical and anti-faith action.

Please sign the petition at [savecalvary.com.au](https://www.savecalvary.com.au) and share it with friends. Let the ACT Government know that we want our Catholic hospitals to stay Catholic.

Next Week: PENTECOST SUNDAY

Scripture: Acts 2:1-11 1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13

Gospel: Jn 20:19-23.

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REGINA CAELI

Regina caeli, laetare, alleluia.
Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.

Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia.
For He whom you did merit to bear, alleluia.

Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia.
He risen, as he said. alleluia.

Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.
Pray for us to God, alleluia.

V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.
R. For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.

Let us pray.

O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen



SOLEMNITY OF OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS WEDNESDAY, 24TH MAY

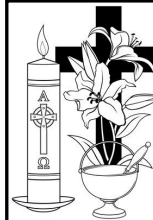
Mass Times:

St. Therese's Church 7:00 am

St. Benedict's Shrine 9:30 am Whole School Mass
7:00 pm



RIP ROBERT WASNIOWSKI



Please keep in your prayers Robert Wasniowski, brother of Fr. Albert Wasniowski, who passed away in Poland on Thursday 11/05/2023 aged 56.

The Parish would like to extend to Fr. Albert our prayers and condolences at this time.

RELOCATION OF THE PARISH OFFICE



Please note that the Parish Office will be moving to 22 Neville Street (opposite the Parish Carpark). This move is necessary due to the condition of the current Parish Office and the danger this poses to employees and visitors. This move will occur during this coming week and will impact on our office hours. Email and telephone contact numbers will remain the same. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we relocate the Office.

PARISH YOUTH



Our Parish Youth Groups have returned!

Our youth meet:

- **High Schoolers/Teenagers:** 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month following the 6pm Mass
- **Over 18s:** 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month following the 6pm Mass.



YOUTH BOWLING NIGHT SUNDAY, 21ST MAY

Following the 6pm Mass our youth are invited to Bowlarama for a social get-together.
For catering, please let Fr. Peter James know if you will attend.

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.

SACRAMENTAL NEWS!

ENROLEMENT FOR THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION IS NOW OPEN

Enrolments for the 2023 Confirmation Sacramental Preparation Program is now open. Children in 2023 who are enrolled in Year 6 and above, who have been Baptised in the Catholic Church, and have received the Sacrament of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion may be eligible to enrol.



To enrol please complete the online form by scanning the following QR code or logging onto

<https://tinyurl.com/5f7rsxnb>

Enrolments are due by no later than **Sunday, 11th June**. Late enrolments will not be accepted.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION LESSON DATES

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

- Lesson 3 – Sunday, 21st May
- Lesson 4 – Sunday, 28th May
- Lesson 5 – Sunday, 4th June



SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION

A reminder that the Sacrament of First Reconciliation will be held on **Thursday, 8th June** from **6.30pm to 7.30pm** in St Benedict's Shrine.

For further information please visit the Parish Website.

<https://www.stgertrude.org.au/ministries/sacramental-program/>

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

Thank you.

God bless
Jodie

ST THERESE'S CHURCH JUBILEE

Seeking Organising Committee Members

In 2024 St Therese's Church will celebrate its 70th Anniversary. The church was blessed on 21st November 1954 by Cardinal Gilroy. The Parish would like to commemorate this occasion with a number of activities. If you would like to be part of the planning for these events, please contact Fr. Peter James or the Parish Office.

PARISH FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

The Parish Pastoral and Finance Council would like to invite interested persons who have a particular interest in events designed at raising funds and building community spirit. This group will organise, coordinate and host events to help our community grow and strengthen our friendship as well as raise money for the Parish. If you would like to join this committee, please contact Fr. Peter James or the Parish Office.

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

The Parish Pastoral Council would like to invite interested persons who have an interest in hospitality to join the Hospitality Committee. The aim of this committee is to organise, coordinate and run hospitality events in the Parish such as the Sunday morning tea, special events, etc. If you are interested, please contact Fr. Peter James or the Parish Office.



REMINDER ~ PLEASE TURN OFF MOBILE PHONES

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