

23rdSunday in ORDINARY TIME

Entrance Antiphon Ps 118:137,124

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

FIRST READING Wis 9:13-18

*A reading from the book of Wisdom*

What man can know the intentions of God? Who can divine the will of the Lord? The reasonings of mortals are unsure and our intentions unstable; for a perishable body presses down the soul, and this tent of clay weighs down the teeming mind. It is hard enough for us to work out what is on earth, laborious to know what lies within our reach; who, then, can discover what is in the heavens? As for your intention, who could have learnt it, had you not granted Wisdom and sent your holy spirit from above? Thus have the paths of those on earth been straightened and men been taught what pleases you, and saved, by Wisdom.

The word of the Lord.  
All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 89:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. v.1

(R.) *In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.*

1. You turn men back into dust and say: ‘Go back, sons of men.’ To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone, no more than a watch in the night. (R.)

2. You sweep men away like a dream, like grass which springs up in the morning. In the morning it springs up and flowers: by evening it withers and fades. (R.)

3. Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart. Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever? Show pity to your servants. (R.)

4. In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days. Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands. (R.)

SECOND READING Phlm 9-10, 12-17

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to Philemon*

This is Paul writing, an old man now and, what is more, still a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for a child of mine, whose father I became while wearing these chains: I mean Onesimus. I am sending him back to you, and with him – I could say – a part of my own self. I should have liked to keep him with me; he could have been a substitute for you, to help me while I am in the chains that the Good News has brought me. However, I did not want to do anything without your consent; it would have been forcing your act of kindness, which should be spontaneous. I know you have been deprived of Onesimus for a time, but it was only so that you could have him back for ever, not as a slave any more, but something much better than a slave, a dear brother; especially dear to me, but how much more to you, as a blood-brother as well as a brother in the Lord.

So if all that we have in common means anything to you, welcome him as you would me.

The word of the Lord.  
All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Ps 118:135

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

Let your face shine on your servant, and teach me your laws.  
*Alleluia!*

GOSPEL Lk 14:25-33

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke*

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. ‘If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

‘And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, “Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish.” Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.’

The Gospel of the Lord  
All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Communion Antiphon Cf. Ps 41:2-3

Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

Next Week: 24th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

Readings: Ex 32:7-11, 13-14; 1 Tim 1:12-17; Lk 15: 1-32

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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 until 8.30pm; 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 Priests  
Fr Wojtek Sliwa OSPPE &  
Fr Peter James Strohmayer OSPPE

St Theresa’s Church

Corner The Boulevarde & Stella Street  
FAIRFIELD WEST

Sunday Masses:  
Saturday Vigil 5pm (Vietnamese);  
7.30am & 9.00am; 12 noon (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

23rd SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

8 September 2019




We pray for the sick of this parish  
Nancy Maklouf, Fr Anthony David OSPPE, Kevin Dicconson, David Lazarus, Santina Pomili, Adam Westwood, Emile & Mary Kodsy, Kartia Grace Russell, Gino Mifsud & Ivy Fernandes.

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  
Philomena Greenwood, Mary Grech, Bertilla Colusso, Josephine Micallef, James Singh, Rocco Febbo, Giuseppe Speranza, Filomena Monaco, Gigiliola Puiatti, Rosina Gigliotti, Lorna Green, Rina Favotto, Geoffery Manche,

Recently Deceased

And for those whose Anniversaries occur at this time :  
Innocenzo Panebianco, Pasqualina Garzaniti, Gabriele Chiavaroli, Santa Reitano, Dominic Napoletano, Giuseppe Castagnella, Filippa Crisafulli



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:  
Tan Do

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)

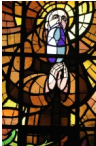
Baptisms: Parish Office 9604 1199  
1<sup>st</sup> Sundays of the month during the 10.30am Mass at St Benedict’s Church; & Every 3rd Sunday at 12noon St Benedict’s

Marriages: Parish Office 9604 1199  
By appointment only (6 months required)

Sick Calls: 9604 1199  
Any Time

Pope’s Intention: SEPTEMBER  
The Protection of the Oceans  
That politicians, scientists and economists work together to protect the world’s seas and oceans.

*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!

LIVING THE GOSPEL

Give up my possessions?

We live in an era of extraordinary wealth in some countries contrasted against extraordinary poverty and need in other countries. Accumulation of possessions has become a driving force in our society. Flat screen televisions, iPods, multiple computers, games consoles, portable DVD players, multifunction cell phones are all ‘must-have’ items. The thought of surrendering such items may be almost impossible to consider. However, Jesus’ message about being a disciple calls to us. How can some people in the world surround themselves with such luxuries while others don’t have enough to eat? Does the love of ‘possessions’ blind us to the needs of others?

Church Cleaners

Weekending 14 September  
Group E Neo Cats



### Weekend Parish Collections Week- Ending 1/09/2019

**1<sup>st</sup> Collection** goes to Fr. Jarek, Fr Wojtek & Fr Peter James as well as the upkeep of their Order of St Paul the First Hermit \$1,548.70

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection Envelopes and/or Credit Card payments: \$1,605.00 Loose Money: \$1,283.50**

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

### 8<sup>th</sup> September

The Nativity of Mary (Mary's Birth)  
*Sunday's take precedence over today's feast.  
Please pray the rosary*

### Memorial

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September ~ St John Chrysostom (*bishop, doctor*)

### Feast

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September ~ The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

### ~ Wedding Anniversary Blessing ~

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September ~ at the 10:30am mass**

All Married couples celebrating a Wedding Anniversary during the month of September are invited to attend and receive a Blessing.

*(Marriage Blessings will continue every  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month)*

### Altar Servers Meeting

Next meeting Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September  
4:30 - 5.15pm

### YOUTH GROUP ~ MUSIC REHEARSALS

Monday 9 September at 7.30pm Group 1  
*(Second Monday of the Month)*

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm Group 2  
*(last Monday of the Month)*

### SENIORS GROUP MEETING ~ F/ WEST CHURCH & HALL

Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> September

10:00am: Rosary & Divine Mercy Chaplet in the Church  
10:30am: Coffee, tea, a chat and line dancing for beginners in the hall

### PARISH BBQ

~ Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September~  
After the 6pm Mass

## Smithfield YOUTH MASS

Held on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Month at the  
6pm evening Mass

Youth Program is held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month.  
7pm - 8pm in the Montefano Hall.

*All Youth Welcome*

### PARISH MOVIE NIGHT ~ 'UNPLANNED'

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September – 6:30pm

**Hoys Wetherill Park \$14 per person.**

*Please contact the parish office to book during the week or after the  
Masses on the weekend. Tickets selling fast!*

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*A gripping film about one woman's journey that captures your heart  
and never lets go! Unplanned cuts past the rhetoric and the politics  
to tell the story about an insider who saw the truth about abortion  
and how it changed her life.*

## CONFIRMATION 2019



The Confirmation Retreat was held for candidates on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September. We would like to thank the children for their respect and reverence, your behaviour and participation throughout the day is to be commended.

We would also like to extend our thanks to the Principal of St Gertrude's Primary School, Mrs O'Regan; to the R.E.C. Ms Maria Panuccio; Alida Bila, the Family Educator; to the teachers, and Office Staff, who contributed so much to the success of the day.

A team of Catechists, led by Mimi Romeo, also supported the children on the day. Your willingness to jump in and do whatever was needed was much appreciated.

We thank Fr Jarek for offering Mass for the candidates to begin our day. In addition, we were blessed to have a visit from Bishop Tony Randazzo.

To the Confirmation Candidates, we pray that the power of the Holy Spirit may continue to strengthen you all through life's journey.



### CONFIRMATION - SUNDAY

**8<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2 PM & 4 PM**

This weekend, 65 candidates from our Parish Community will be receiving the Sacrament of

Confirmation. Congratulations to you all. We pray that you will continue your faith journey through life with heightened awareness of the power of the Holy Spirit within you. Thank you, Bishop Anthony Randazzo, for celebrating the Confirmation Masses in our Parish. We ask the Parish Community to please pray for the newly confirmed.

A big thank you to the Candidate's parents, our group leaders, Fr Jarek, Fr Peter James, Fr Wojtek, the school, teachers, catechists, choir, decorators, and all who helped in any way with the sacramental preparation, the retreat day and ceremonies. We are most grateful.

Enquiries Helena – [sacraments@stgertrude.org.au](mailto:sacraments@stgertrude.org.au)  
or 9725 4317 (Tues/Wed).

### Working with Children Check (WWCC)

All volunteers are now required to have their WWCC check. If you are currently volunteering/working in any ministry within the parish and do not have your WWCC then you are required to step down immediately.

Please contact the parish office if you have any concerns.

*Thank you for your cooperation.*

### Child Protection Sunday 2019

This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Child Protection Sunday, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and support network. We recognise the harm done by priests, religious and lay people and recommit to practices that support survivors and make the Catholic Church and its ministries the safest possible place for children and vulnerable adults. You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at: [www.catholic.org.au/responseandprevention](http://www.catholic.org.au/responseandprevention)

### A Parish Novena

On Tuesday, 17th September 2019, the NSW Legislative Council Upper House will be commencing debate on the Abortion Bill. Parishioners are invited to join in praying a 9-day Novena Prayer with St. Mary MacKillop for the Protection and Preservation of Life from Conception to Birth and Beyond. The Novena will commence on **Sunday 8 September and conclude on the 16 September** Jesus says, where two or three are gathered in his name He is there.

### Praying with Mary MacKillop



**For the Protection and Preservation of Life from  
Conception to Birth and Beyond.**

### Novena Prayer

Ever generous God,

You inspired Saint Mary MacKillop  
to live her life faithful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ,  
and to be constant in bringing hope and  
encouragement

to those who were disheartened, lonely, sick  
or needy.

With confidence in Your generous providence  
we join with Saint Mary MacKillop  
and ask that You grant our request for

May our faith and hope be fired afresh  
by the Holy Spirit so that we too, like  
Mary MacKillop may live with courage,  
trust and openness.

Ever generous God hear our prayer.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ. Amen.

### Stand for Life Rally

This is our last chance to have a huge public gathering to oppose the extreme abortion bill that is being rushed through NSW Parliament. Join religious leaders, politicians, pro-life advocates and everyone who stands for women and children for a rally on Sunday, 15 September 2019 at 2.30pm in Hyde Park, Sydney. More information [www.stand4.life](http://www.stand4.life)

## A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

Abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime 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.



**Mark Malone J.P.**  
*Director*

**67B Brenan Street, Smithfield**  
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**The Parish does not imply any endorsement**





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