

Merry Christmas



The Parish Team would like to wish our Parish Community
and visitors a very special Christmas Season!

We wish for you much joy, love and happiness

With a New Year

full of God's goodness!

Christmas Offering Envelopes

This money goes towards our Priests:

Fr Jarek, Fr Wojtek, Fr Peter James. Thank you!

Thursday 26th December ~ Feast

St Stephen, the first martyr

Thursday 27th December ~ Feast

St John, apostle, evangelist

"Wine Blessing"

Parishioners are invited to bring your bottle/s of wine to the
8am Mass at St Therese's or the 10:30am Mass at St
Benedict's and have their wine blessed.

St. John the Apostle, is the disciple "whom Jesus loved". It is a
custom in the old countries to drink of "St. John's Love". The
Church provided a special blessing of wine in honor of the Saint.
According to legend St. John drank a glass of poisoned wine
without suffering harm because he had blessed it before he
drank. The wine is also a symbol of the great love of Christ that
filled St. John's heart with loyalty, courage and enthusiasm for
his Master; he alone of all the apostles was not afraid to stay
close to Our Lord during the Passion and Crucifixion.

<https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/prayers/view.cfm?id=965>

Public Holiday & "Octave Season" Mass Times

26th December 2019 (Feast of St Stephen) to

1st January 2020 inclusive:

8:00am St Therese's Church & 10:30am St Benedicts Church

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.*

NEW YEAR'S DAY ~ MASS TIMES

**Wednesday 1st January ~ Solemnity
Mary, the Holy MOTHER OF GOD**

St Therese's: 8:00am

St Benedict's Church: 10:30am (no evening Mass)

Parish Office Holiday Hours

The Parish Office will reopen on

Tuesday 7th January 2020

Happy Christmas
Karen, Linda & Suzanne



Holy Family Sunday ~ Sunday 29th December

Couples who have celebrated their Jubilee
Anniversary are invited to celebrate and renew their
vows at the 10:30am Mass at St Benedict's on this
Sunday. Anyone wishing to participate please put
your names on the form located in the church foyer

Donations at Crib

Donations made at the crib will now go
towards the many works of the
Catholic Mission.



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

2020 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
Thank you.



It is Christmas every time you let
God love others through
you...yes, it is Christmas every
time you smile at your brother
and offer him your hand.

Mother Teresa

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 Boulevard & Stella Street
FAIRFIELD WEST

Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil 5pm (Vietnamese);
7.30am & 9.00am; 12 noon (Spanish); 6pm (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

Christmas 2019



*During this
Christmas Season may you
have the gift of faith, the
blessing of hope and the
love of God that radiates
from the Holy Manger to
the World.*

*Thank you for the
dedication, service and hard
work you have shown to
make our parish a beacon of
Christ's love. In particular,
we thank those who serve
in various ministries and
groups.*



AS THE ANGELS WERE CALLED AND THE MAGI GUIDED BY THE STAR
TO THAT HOLY SIGHT,
SO MAY YOUR NEW YEAR BE FILLED WITH THE VOICE AND LIGHT OF CHRIST.



Fr Jarek, Fr Wojtek and Fr Peter James

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

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

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) ~ Vigil & Mass during the Night	
FIRST READING	Is 9:1-7
A reading from the prophet Isaiah	
The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase; they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils. For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian. For all the footgear of battle, every cloak rolled in blood, is burnt and consumed by fire. For there is a child born for us, a son given to us and dominion is laid on his shoulders; and this is the name they give him: Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God, Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace. Wide is his dominion in a peace that has no end, for the throne of David and for his royal power, which he establishes and makes secure in justice and integrity. From this time onwards and for ever, the jealous love of the Lord of hosts will do this.	
The word of the Lord.	
All: Thanks be to God.	
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	Lk 2:10-11
Alleluia, alleluia!	
Good News and great joy to all the world: today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.	
Alleluia!	
GOSPEL	Lk 2:1-14
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke	
Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a census of the whole world to be taken. This census – the first – took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria, and everyone went to his own town to be registered. So Joseph set out from the town of Nazareth in Galilee and travelled up to Judaea, to the town of David called Bethlehem, since he was of David’s House and line, in order to be registered together with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to a son, her first-born. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them at the inn. In the countryside close by there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turns to watch their flocks during the night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were terrified, but the angel said, ‘Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.’ And suddenly with the angel there was a great throng of the heavenly host, praising God and singing:	
‘Glory to God in the highest heaven and peace to men who enjoy his favour.’	
The Gospel of the Lord	
All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ	
SECOND READING	Ti 2:11-14
A reading from the letter of St Paul to Titus	
God’s grace has been revealed, and it has made	
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The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) ~ Mass during the Day	
FIRST READING	Is 52:7-10
A reading from the prophet Isaiah	
How beautiful on the mountains, are the feet of one who brings good news, who heralds peace, brings happiness, proclaims salvation, and tells Zion, ‘Your God is king!’ Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices, they shout for joy together, for they see the Lord face to face, as he returns to Zion. Break into shouts of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord is consoling his people, redeeming Jerusalem. The Lord bares his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.	
The word of the Lord.	
All: Thanks be to God.	
RESPONSORIAL PSALM	Ps 97:1-6. R. v.3
(R.) All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.	
1. Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders. His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation. (R.)	
2. The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations. He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel. (R.)	
3. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord all the earth, ring out your joy. (R.)	
4. Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp, with the sound of music. With trumpets and the sound of the horn acclaim the King, the Lord. (R.)	
SECOND READING	Heb 1:1-6
A reading from the letter to the Hebrews	
At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son, the Son that he has appointed to inherit everything and through whom he made everything there is. He is the radiant light of God’s glory and the perfect copy of his nature, sustaining the universe by his powerful command; and now that he has destroyed the defilement of sin, he has gone to take his place in heaven at the right hand of divine Majesty. So he is now as far above the angels as the title which he has inherited is higher than their own name. God has never said to any angel: You are my Son, today I have become your father, or: I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Again, when he brings the First-born into the world, he says: Let all the angels of God worship him.	
The word of the Lord.	
All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ	
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	
Alleluia, alleluia!	
A holy day has dawned upon us. Come you nations and adore the Lord. Today a great light has come upon the earth. Alleluia!	
GOSPEL	Jn 1:1-18
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John	
In the beginning was the Word: the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him. All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower. A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light. The Word was the true light that enlightens all men; and he was coming into the world. He was in the world that had its being through him, and the world did not know him. He came to his own domain and his own people did not accept him. But to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to all who believe in the name of him who was born not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or will of man but of God himself. The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth. John appears as his witness, He proclaims: ‘This is the one of whom I said: He who comes after me ranks before me because he existed before me.’ Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received – yes, grace in return for grace, since, though the Law was given through Moses, grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father’s heart, who has made him known.	
The Gospel of the Lord	
All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ	
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