

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 till 7.30pm; *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; 11.2 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:
From 6.30am

Chaplet of Divine Mercy:
Tuesdays after Mass

Second Sunday of Easter

19 April 2020



We pray for the sick of the parish

Charbel Kassas, Fr Anthony David OSPPE, Kevin
Dicconson, 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.*

We remember in your prayers

Domenica Ponzo, Francesco Bruzzano, Lorraine
Mock, Lesley Spagnol,
George Ebejer, Aldo De Gasperi,

Recently Deceased

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

Work Health & Safety: Andrew Maia

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 Sunday of month during the 10.30am
Mass at St Benedict's Church; and 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 HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR APRIL

[Universal prayer
intention - Freedom from
Addiction](#)

We pray that those
suffering from addiction
may be helped and
accompanied.

Pope Francis's Prayer to Mary during Coronavirus Pandemic
O Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm. You, Salvation of Your People, know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Amen. Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen

Church Cleaners:
No rostered cleaners during this time.

Second Sunday of Easter

Entrance Antiphon 1 Pt 2:2

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

First Reading Acts 2:42-47

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.

The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone.

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.

They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 117:2-4. 13-15. 22-24. R. v.1

(R.) *Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.*

1. Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'
Let the sons of Aaron say:
'His love has no end.'
Let those who fear the Lord say:
'His love has no end.' (R.)
2. I was thrust, thrust down and falling
but the Lord was my helper.
The Lord is my strength and my song;
he was my saviour.
There are shouts of joy and victory
in the tents of the just. (R.)
3. The stone which the builders rejecte
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.
This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Pt 1:3-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;
happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 20:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.
For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;
for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes

that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.



Communion Antiphon

Cf. Jn 20:27

*Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails,
and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.*

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Dear Parishioners

Christ is Risen Alleluia, Alleluia

He is truly Risen! Alleluia! Alleluia!

This year amid the global COVID-19 Pandemic, we have seen our Sacred Triduum celebrated in a different way. From Pope Francis in Rome, to St. Mary's Cathedral in Sydney, to our own Parish, the pews remained empty as we walked with Christ and his disciples from the Upper Room, to the Garden of Gethsemane, to the Golgotha. But today that emptiness has a new meaning. We are not looking at empty pews and closed churches, but rather we stand in awe of an open and empty tomb! It is this sight, amid tragedy and anxiety, which gives us the courage and the unity to sing from the innermost place of our soul, "Alleluia! He is Risen!" That empty tomb gives us the promise that God does not abandon his people, that God has not fallen deaf to our pleading, that God promises us life and hope. It is this same life and hope that Christ brings to us this Easter Sunday. Today as you celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus, remember that it is Christ's body, broken and raised, that unites us all. As St. Paul writes in his Letter to the Romans, "Nothing will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Rom.8: 38). May the Blessings of this Easter Season be poured with abundance upon you and your loved ones and give you the strength you need in these unusual and uncertain times. Happy Easter and God Bless! Alleluia!

Fr Jarek, Fr Wojtek and Fr Peter James



Divine Mercy Sunday 19 April 2020 – Mass 3pm followed by Devotions (via Zoom)

Our Lord's Divine Mercy Sunday grants forgiveness of all sins and punishment on the Feast of Divine Mercy, Mercy Sunday, mercy for even the most hardened sinners! <http://www.divinemercysunday.com/>

How to obtain the Graces of Divine Mercy Sunday during Coronavirus?

Say an Act of Contrition and receive Spiritual Communion (as notice below explains).

Please listen to this link for more detail.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=btiU8-JeOag&feature=youtu.be>

Spiritual Communion

Catholics are encouraged to make a 'spiritual communion'. St. John Paul II writes that "it is good to cultivate in our hearts a constant desire for the sacrament of the Eucharist. This was the origin of the practice of 'spiritual communion', which has happily been established in the Church for centuries and recommended by saints who were masters of the spiritual life. Saint Teresa of Jesus wrote: 'When you do not receive communion and you do not attend Mass, you can make a spiritual communion, which is a most beneficial practice; by it the love of God will be greatly impressed on you.'" (Ecclesia Eucharistia, no. 34)

How do I make a Spiritual Communion?

Below are recommendations for how to make a 'spiritual communion' when unable to participate in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. The recommendations can be adapted based upon personal and family needs.

- Gather with others in your household and begin a time of prayer with the sign of the cross.
- Take time to read and reflect upon the readings from Sunday Mass
- Share prayer intentions quietly or aloud.
- Pray the Lord's Prayer.
- Pray the Act of Spiritual Communion (see below).
- Close with the sign of the cross

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. (Pause for a moment in silence and adoration). I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Parish Donations

As our Parish and the Priests rely on the generosity of our Parishioners, not having Sunday Mass will place a very heavy burden on our Parish. I also understand that many of our Parishioners may have found themselves affected by loss of jobs in so many vital industries. If it is at all possible for you to continue to contribute to our Parish it would be greatly appreciated. We all anticipate the day we can celebrate physically together once more around the Lord's Table. Thank you for your continued support and generosity. God Bless.

First Collection (Priests)

Account Name: Smithfield House – Order of St Paul the First Hermit

BSB 066711 Acct. No. 007392

Second Collection (Parish)

Account Name: Smithfield Catholic Church

BSB: 062784 Acct. No. 6675001

Prayer Resources during time of Pandemic

The Archdiocese of Sydney has a dedicated webpage with prayers and scriptural reflections to help nurture your faith during these difficult times. You'll find the webpage <https://www.sydneycatholic.org/coronavirus-updates/prayer-resources-for-the-coronavirus-pandemic/>

The Catholic Weekly has temporarily transitioned to a digital presence only due to the government's decision to close all Churches during the COVID-19 pandemic. While it has brought challenges, I am pleased to inform you that we have adapted extremely well and are continuing to produce the paper in a **digital form** making it available to everyone online at www.catholicweekly.com.au

Caritas Australia Project Compassion Appeal

Online donations are encouraged this year rather than handing in Project Compassion boxes directly to parishes. Please see the attached PDF on how you can donate to this appeal this year.



Mark Malone J.P.

Director

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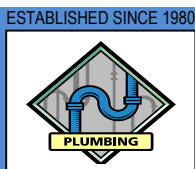
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A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

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. 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.

**Patrician Brothers' College Fairfield has
extended the due date for Enrolment
applications for 2021 and 2022.
The new closing date is now May 1st 2020.
Starting Term 2, the College's Office hours
are 8am - 3pm.
Please contact the Enrolment officer on
9728 4488 ext 1011 for any inquiries.**

CATHOLIC Care Volunteer Program

The Archdiocese of Sydney is working alongside our social
welfare agency Catholic Care to roll out a volunteer
program to help the needy access groceries, cooked
meals, medicines and other necessities at this difficult
time. You are asked to nominate a volunteer coordinator
(not your Parish Priest or parish secretary) and 5-10
people in your parish who are young and healthy enough
to carry out these visits to the needy. Please provide their
contact details to Laura Rahill
at laura.rahill@sydneycatholic.org

**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
Tuesday—Friday 10am–2pm**

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