



**Mark Malone J.P.**  
Director

67B Brenan Street, Smithfield NSW 2164  
Ph: (02) 9727 0400 Fax: (02) 9727 0800 Mob: 0404 718 528  
www.integrityfuneralsnsw.com.au

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#### 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](mailto:laura.rahill@sydneycatholic.org)

#### 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.**

#### 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—2 pm

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Tuesday—Friday 10am—2 pm

# 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 Strohmayr 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

## The Ascension of the Lord

24 May, 2020



#### We welcome the following

Mia Anastasia Prohm

#### Baptised in our Parish Community

#### We pray for the sick of this parish

Charbel Kassas, Fr Anthony David OSPPE,  
Kevin Dicconson, Adam Westwood, Emile &  
Mary Kody, 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

Teresina Bordin, Jill Wilson, Giuseppe Bruscino,  
Giuseppa Portolesi, Fr Pat McAuliffe,

#### Recently Deceased

**And for those whose Anniversaries occur at this time**

Luciana Veneran, Peter Klish, George Garces,  
Domenica Carpiantieri, Nina Vella, Ovidio Fedele-  
Giovanni Taska, Phyllis Richardson,  
Erasmus Tolomeo, Geoffrey Manche

## PARISH INFORMATION

### Parish Office:

6 Justin St, Smithfield  
Tuesday-Friday 10am - 2pm  
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)

### 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:

9725 4317 Helena Mertin  
[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 8.30am 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

## THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER Intention for MAY

### For Deacons

*We pray that the Deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol For the entire Church.*

## Solemnity

~ Monday 25 May, 2020 ~  
Our Lady, Help of Christians

## 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.

## The ASCENSION of the LORD

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON *Acts 1:11*

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.'

The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 46:2-3. 6-9. R. v.6*

**(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.

The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Mt 28:19. 20*

*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 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.'

The Gospel of the Lord

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON *Mt 28:20*

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

**Next Week: Pentecost Sunday**

*Readings: Gen 11:1-9; Rom 8:22-27, Jn 7:37-39*

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The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved.

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### Pentecost Sunday

Next weekend the Church celebrates Pentecost Sunday. This is a very special Solemnity of the Liturgical Year. The Vigil Mass will be celebrated according to *the Extended Form* and will include four readings: I) Gen 11:1-9; II) Ex. 19:308, 16-20; III) Ez. 37: 1-14; IV) Joel 3: 1-5; V) Rom 8: 22-27; Gospel Jn7: 37-

Information on the **Gradual Re-Opening of Church Activities: Stage One** will be a separate insert to this bulletin.

#### MASSES AT:

##### **St. Benedict's Shrine**

#### *Monday – Friday*

Private Prayer 9.00am – Noon (except if there is a funeral)  
4.00pm – 7.00pm

#### **Confession**

Adoration **6.00pm – 7.00pm**  
Mass 7.30pm via Zoom  
8.00pm via Zoom.

#### *Saturday*

Confession 4.00pm – 5.00pm  
Mass 6.00pm via Zoom.

#### *Sunday*

Mass 6.00pm via Zoom.

##### **St. Therese Church**

#### *Monday – Friday*

Mass 3.00pm

### **St. Benedict's Shrine Closure – Monday 25<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May**

St. Benedict's Shrine will be closed this coming week on Monday (25<sup>th</sup>) and Wednesday (27<sup>th</sup>) as we undertake professional cleaning and polishing of the church floors. We apologise for any inconvenience caused and ask for your understanding at this time. Mass at 8pm will continue as planned.

### **Syriac Mass Services – St. Therese**

The Syriac Community will resume its services in accordance with the ten person limit this week. Mass will begin at 6.30pm. This will be organised by the Syriac community according to their allocate envelope number. For further inquiries please email [info@syriac-catholic-church.org.au](mailto:info@syriac-catholic-church.org.au) or Fr. Lenard Ina on 0476860277.

### **Parish Maintenance Program Update**

Whilst this time of restricted movement during the Pandemic has meant that many church activities have come to a stop, the maintenance and upkeep of the Parish has continued. During the past weeks many maintenance works have been undertaken: installation of Internet connection to St. Benedict's Shrine, continued renovation of the Parish demountable buildings, installation and changing of lighting at St. Benedict's, plumbing works at St. Benedict's, extensive cleaning of St. Benedict's and St. Therese, improvements to the sound system at St. Therese, erection of fencing at St. Therese, and general maintenance such as gardening, cleaning, etc.

The rental property on The Boulevard at Fairfield Heights has recently been vacated by the tenants and it has come to our attention that the property is in need of some urgent maintenance including removal of mould, repaint throughout and new guttering. The Montessori Academy on Oxford Street (child-care centre) is also in need of some major drainage maintenance. These will be conducted in the near future at quite an expense to the Parish.

Your continued support and generosity is very much appreciated, especially during this time where the Parish finances have come under extraordinary strain.

### **Thank You St. Gertrude's Parish**

Fr. Jarek, Fr. Wojtek and Fr. Peter James would like to extend our sincere thanks to the St. Gertrude's Parish community for your continued support during this time of Pandemic. We have been overwhelmed and humbled by the generosity of our Parishioners who have shared with us meals, groceries, financial support, emails, telephone and SMS support, words of encouragement, cards, letters and above all your prayers. This has been a very challenging time for the priests on so many levels, but your constant contact has given us encouragement.

We would also like to thank the army of volunteers who have actively sought to assist and to serve, not only the priests, but the parish in so many different ways. Thank you also to those who have kept contact with some of our isolated parishioners sharing with them Mass resources, bulletins, offering to do shopping and to collect medications. We have had so much overwhelming positive feedback from Parishioners who have been kept engaged with the Parish. Thank you and God bless you all!

### **Parish Donations**

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

**\*\* Payment by Bpoint will be available very soon. Please see Parish website for details and updates.**

### **Communion to the Sick**

The Parish has resumed its weekly communion to the sick. If you or anyone you know would like to receive a visit from one of our priests, please contact the Parish Office Tuesday - Friday 10am - 2pm on 9604 1199.

**Safeguarding:** The **Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney** have introduced new requirements for volunteers 18yrs and over. All volunteers must sign a **Volunteer Acceptance Form, a Code of Conduct for Working with Children** and complete a **Safeguarding Induction Training Course**.

The **ONLINE Induction Training Course** is available to new parish volunteers. Please register by following this link:-

**<https://goo.gl/forms/wSkRi3ZO6PzkRfbo1>.**

Additionally, some new volunteers are also required to attend an interview. These include \* Ministers of the Word, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Children's Liturgy, Catechists, Collectors, Acolytes etc.

**Please NO Chewing Gum in Church at any time.**  
Thank you!

# St Gertrude's Parish, Smithfield

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## **Information on the Gradual Re-Opening of Church Activities: Stage One.**

As you will be aware by now the Government has announced some revised regulations in regards to places of worship. Under the new guidelines, 20 mourners are allowed at an indoor funeral, 30 for an outdoor funeral. In addition **religious gatherings and places of worship can have up to 10 worshippers** at any one time. In line with these new regulations and on encouragement from Archbishop Anthony Fisher, we are proposing the following to come into effect on a **trial basis**, from **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2020 at St. Gertrude's Parish:**

- **St. Benedict's Shrine Smithfield** will be **open for private prayer** weekdays from **9am – Noon** (except if a funeral is booked then precedence will be given to the Funeral Service) and from **4pm-7pm**. To accommodate this there will be volunteers who will remain in the church to ensure social distancing and hygiene protocols are followed. The pews that may be used will be clearly marked. We ask that you only use those places that are marked.
- **Confessions** Monday to Saturday **6pm to 7pm**. Please note, that those wishing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation are included in the 10 worshippers.
- **Mass times at St. Benedict's** will remain as they are at present:
  - Mon – Fri **8pm** Mass streamed via Zoom with **adoration at 7.30pm**.
  - Saturday Vigil **6pm** Mass streamed via Zoom
  - Sunday **9am & 6pm** Mass streamed via Zoom
- **Mass times at St. Therese** Fairfield Heights
  - Mon – Fri **3pm**

In accordance with Government guidelines, **each person who enters the church MUST give their name, telephone number and email address** (if they have one). There will be a sheet provided in the foyer of the church for this purpose. The information will be kept confidential and is purely for tracing purposes should anyone test positive for COVID 19.

Interested parties who would like to attend Mass as part of the 10 worshippers are asked to text the **Parish Mobile 0491 185 681** and leave the names of those desiring to attend and the day of attendance and place (St. Benedict or St. Therese). For those who are unable to text, there will also be a box at the doors of the church to place a handwritten request. There is also an option to register your interest via the Parish Facebook site. As there are only 10 worshippers a roster will be devised and worshippers notified by one of our assigned Mass coordinators. Please note that it may not be possible to give you the EXACT date you desire, but every effort will be made to accommodate you.

If you would like to act as an usher for the periods of private prayer please also contact the Parish Mobile and we can allocate you a time in the church.

**It is important to note that, in line with recommendations from the Federal and State Governments and the Archdiocese that if you are an "at-risk" parishioner (the very elderly, those with any symptoms, those with compromised immune or respiratory systems) you are asked to consider carefully your health and safety when asking to attend a Church Service. The Parish acknowledges that whilst we are allowed to have worshippers in the church this comes with some risk and we will make every effort to minimise the risk to all Parishioners, especially those identified as most vulnerable. However, there also needs to be some personal responsibility taken in this matter.**

According to hygiene guidelines, the church will be cleaned regularly with commercial grade disinfectant detergent.

- **Baptism:** In line with Government and Church recommendations, baptisms may be celebrated in the church with a limit of 10 attendees. If you would like to have your child baptised, please contact the Parish Office.
- **Weddings:** The Government has allowed for 10 guests (not including the bride and groom and celebrant or essential workers) to attend a wedding. All other Government and Church regulations are still applicable for weddings, e.g. Pre-marriage course, completion of appropriate paperwork, etc. For bookings, please contact the Parish Office.

As mentioned, this is a **trial basis only**. As this situation and the regulations handed down by various authorities are constantly changing, we ask for your patience and understanding at this time. This is a new and unique situation for all of us so we may find that things will change in the coming weeks. Please keep updated with the Parish Bulletin and Facebook Site. We are doing all that we can to allow you to express your faith but also need to adhere to various regulations.

## St. Benedict's Shrine

### Monday – Friday

Private Prayer	9.00am – Noon (except if there is a funeral)	
	4.00pm – 7.00pm	
Confession	6.00pm – 7.00pm	
Adoration	7.30pm	via Zoom
Mass	8.00pm	via Zoom.

### Saturday

Confession	4.00pm – 5.00pm	
Mass	6.00pm	via Zoom.

### Sunday

Mass	6.00pm	via Zoom.
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## St. Therese Church

### Monday – Friday

Mass	3.00pm	
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