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Director

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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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ALL Nationalities are welcome.

Bingo Numbers called out in **English & Italian**
Next Bingo 10:00 am Friday 3rd February 2023

Montefano Hall \$15 entry includes

Bingo Games, prizes; Morning Tea/Coffee and light lunch.
Come join us, united as a Parish.



St Gertrude's
Catholic Primary School
Smithfield



ENROL NOW FOR 2023

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stgsmithfield.catholic.edu.au



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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 Administrator

Fr Peter James Strohmayr OSPPE

Assistant Priest

Fr Wojtek Sliwa 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:

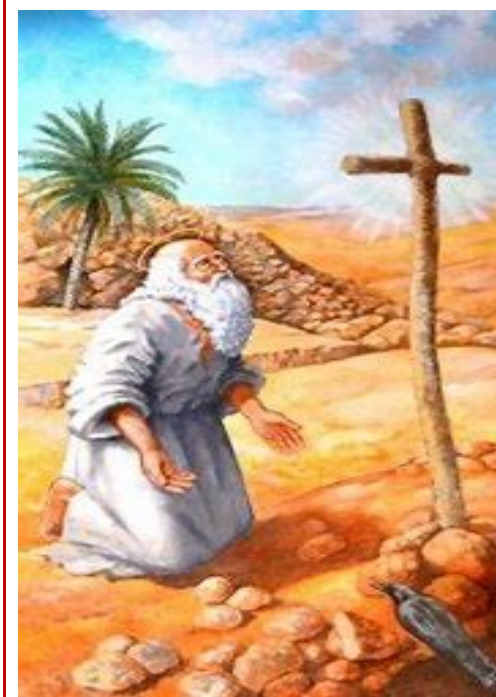
7:00 am Rosary 8:00 am Mass

Chaplet of Divine Mercy:

Tuesday after Mass

Solemnity of St Paul the First Hermit

15 January 2023



We pray for the sick of this Parish

Alyssa Ferreri, Giuseppina Pignataro, Gino Mifsud
Fr. Anthony David, OSPPE,
Fr. Gabriel Taylor, OSPPE, Adam Westwood,
Emile & Mary Kody, 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

Angelo Vit, Marlene Pace, Robyn Hankinson,
Joe Ida, Walter Schranz.

And for those whose Anniversary occur at this time

Silvana Fenech, Maria Fernandes, Mihaly Puskas,
Angelo Sinocropi, Carmen Rosa Diaz.

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: Contact: Jodie Micallef

Mob: 0412-804-465 (to leave a message)

sacraments@stgertrude.org.au

Reconciliation/Eucharist/Confirmation

Liturgy: 9725 4317 Anna Kleibert

liturgy@stgertrude.org.au

Adult Sacraments (RCIA): Mariola Herbert

Every Sunday at 8:30 am in the

Crying Room (in front of St Benedict's)

Contact Mariola: 0421 944 051.

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.

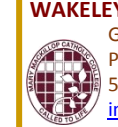
Our Schools

ST GERTRUDE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL SMITHFIELD



Boys & Girls: K-6: Ph: 9609-4414
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 BROTHER'S 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 educators

We pray that educators may be credible
witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than
competition and helping the youngest and
most vulnerable above all.

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 21 January

St Benedict: Group E: Neo-Cats
St. Therese: Group A: Frances

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

Solemnity of St Paul the First Hermit

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Oh that I had wings like a dove to fly away and be at rest.
So I would escape far away and take refuge in the desert.
I would hasten to find a shelter from the raging wind.

FIRST READING 1Kings 17:2-6

A reading from the book of Kings

Then the Lord said to Elijah, "Leave this place and go east and hide yourself near Cherith Brook, east of the Jordan. The brook will supply you with water to drink, and I have commanded ravens to bring you food there".

Elijah obeyed the Lord's command, and went and stayed by Cherith Brook. He drank water from the brook and ravens brought him bread and meat every morning and every evening.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) I will always thank the Lord.

1. I will always thank the Lord,
I will never stop praising him.
I will praise him for what he has done.
May all who are oppressed listen and be glad. (R.)
2. Proclaim with me the Lord's greatness;
let us praise his name together!
The oppressed look to him and are glad;
they will never be disappointed. (R.)
3. Find out for yourself how good the Lord is.
Happy are those who find safety with him.
Come, my young friends, and listen to me,
and I will teach you to honour the Lord. (R.)
4. Then keep from speaking evil
and from telling lies.
Turn away from evil and do good;
strive for peace with all your heart. (R.)

SECOND READING Gal 2,19-20; 5:24-25; 6:14-17

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Galatians
Brothers, so far as the Law is concerned, however, I am dead – killed by the Law itself – in order that I might live for God. I have been put to death with Christ on his cross, so that it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. This life that I live now, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave his life for me. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have put to death their human nature with all its passions and desires. The Spirit has given us life; He must also control our lives.

As for me, however, I will boast only about the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ; for by means of his cross the world is dead to me, and I am dead to the world. It does not matter at all whether or not one is circumcised; what does matter is being a new creature. As for those who follow this rule in their lives, may peace and mercy be with them and with all of God's people!

To conclude; let no one give me any more trouble, because the scars I have on my body show that I am the slave of Jesus.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because You have shown these things to the unlearned.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 11:25-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

At that time Jesus said; "Father, Lord of heaven and earth! I thank you because you have shown to the unlearned what you have hidden from the wise and learned. Yes, Father, this was how you were pleased to have it happen.

My Father has given me all things. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

Come to me, all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke and put it on you, and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in spirit; and you will find rest. For the yoke I will give you is easy and the load I will put on you is light".

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

He makes us remember his words. The Lord is compassion and love. He gives food to those who fear him; keeps his covenant ever in mind.



ST. PAUL THE FIRST HERMIT SUNDAY, 15TH JANUARY 2023

Patriarch of the Pauline Order

St. Paul the First Hermit or Paul of Thebes is the Patriarch of the Pauline Order.

As a parish community, this important Solemnity of the Pauline Fathers will be celebrated at the 10:30 am Mass, this Sunday.

As is the custom for the Pauline Order, there will be a special blessing for all children on the Solemnity.



OUR LADY QUEEN OF HERMITS MONDAY, 16TH JANUARY 2023

Patroness of the Order of St. Paul the First Hermit and yearly consecration to our Lady of the Pauline Fathers and brothers.

NO WEDNESDAY EVENING MASSES DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY



Evening Masses on Wednesdays will resume at 7:00 pm, Wednesday 8th February 2023 with Adoration and Novena to St. Benedict.



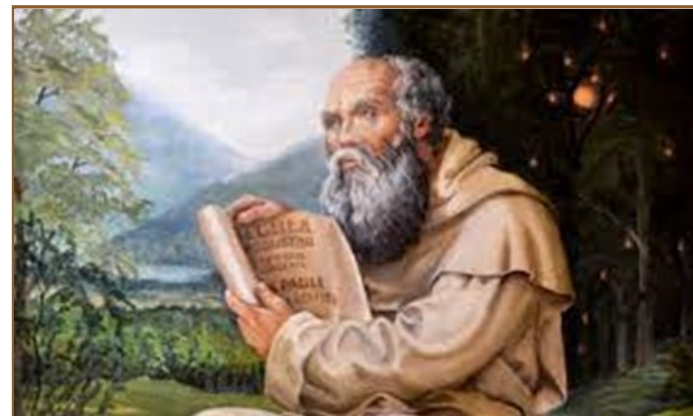
HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY CATERINA TRIMBOLI

From all the parish at St Gertrude's, we wish our heartfelt congratulations and blessings to our beloved parishioner, Caterina Trimboli.

May the Lord bless you and your family. Celebrate well!

Next Week: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A
Scripture: Is 8:23-9:3, 1 Cor 1:10-13,17
Gospel: Mt 4:12-23

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Feast of Bl. Eusebius of Esztergom– 20th JANUARY

Eusebius was born in the Hungarian town of Esztergom in the early thirteenth century.

He stood out from others even when very young. Those who knew him marvelled at his knowledge and piety. He often stayed awake all night keeping vigil. He devoted all his time to prayer, the psalms, meditation and learning. Sometimes he spoke to people about ways they could gain special wisdom which would bring them closer to God.

Eusebius was made a canon in Esztergom. Eusebius was not only famous for his virtues, but also for his generous hospitality. He was often visited by hermits who lived in abodes scattered throughout the mountainous region around Esztergom. On these occasions the hermits exchanged woven baskets for food. Eusebius admired these hermits so much that he decided to become a hermit himself.

The invasion of the Tartar hordes into Hungary interrupted his plan. After the Tartars had left he still remained at his post and may have helped in the rebuilding of his country. In all it took him three years to ask permission from his superior, the Archbishop Istvan Vancsa to leave and begin a new life as a hermit. He thus did not flee from difficulties but made a peacetime, conscious decision for a life of self-sacrifice and penance.

At this time many others also become hermits, determined to serve Christ in solitude. Their parents and friends tried to persuade them to return. Eusebius made this reply to them: *Although Christ loved his Mother and also his cousin John the Apostle and knew his crucifixion was causing them both untold sorrow, Christ did not save himself from the cross. Christ died the way he chose to.*

Following Christ's example Eusebius and his fellow hermits cannot choose to descend from the cross of penitence in spite of the lamentations of beloved ones. We are staying! Hearing these words from the depths of Eusebius' soul the parents and friends could make no reply.

Eusebius moved into a triple cave near Szanto. He placed a large wooden cross in front of the cave. It was there where he prayed and meditated.

One night while praying he had a vision. The entire Pilis mountain range was full of tiny flames. These flames started to move towards him and finally in front of the cross by his cave, the flames converged into one enormous blazing torch. Eusebius then heard a voice coming from the cross: *Eusebius, summon all the hermits and found a monastic community. The love present in each will be the bond that will unite you and enable each to give loving service.*

At the beginning of the second half of the thirteenth century Eusebius established the first Hungarian monastic order.

At the National Synod at Esztergom in 1256 he signed his name as the first provincial of the Order of St. Paul the First Hermit.

In 1262 Eusebius and some fellow monks journeyed to the Court of Pope Urban IV. There the pontiff was asked to endorse the Order.

Eusebius had the support of St. Thomas of Aquino and also of the first Hungarian Cardinal, Istvan Vancsa, the very same person who gave permission to Eusebius to become a hermit.

Eusebius was the abbot of his cloister for 20 years. When he was near death he gathered his brother hermits around him and blessed them. On the 19th January 1270 in the cloister of Szentkereszt (Holy Cross) Eusebius died.

There were sixteen Pauline cloisters during Eusebius' lifetime and after his death this number rose to nearly 150.

SACRAMENTAL NEWS!

2023 FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION



Thank you to those families who have enrolled into the Parish First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Sacramental Program for 2023. Enrolments are **NOW CLOSED**.

IMPORTANT DATES

The **Parent Information Night** for the First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion will be from 7:00pm to 8:00pm in the Montefano Hall on **Thursday, 16th February 2023**.

Only one adult per family to attend.

Please do not bring the children to the meeting.

RECONCILIATION LESSONS

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

Lesson 1 – Sunday, 5th March

Lesson 2 – Sunday, 12th March

Lesson 3 – Sunday, 19th March

Lesson 4 – Sunday, 26th March



For all 2023 Sacramental Preparation Program dates and 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



BEWARE SPAM E-MAIL

Please be aware that a spam e-mail has been circulating with Fr Peter James name listed, requesting funds.

This email does not belong to Fr Peter and he would never ask for money via email.

If you see this fraudulent email: churchcare@gmail.com, please ignore and delete.



PARISH FUNDRAISER: PLANT SALE

John & Rita Cunningham are hosting a plant sale to support our parish. There will be over 5000 plants with many varieties

including Peace Lilies, Madonna Lilies, Frangipani's, Orchid's, Succulents and more.

All profits will go towards the restoration of the church roof.

Date: Saturday 21st January 2023 (All Day)

Address: 25 Kihilla Street, Fairfield Heights

NB: For more information, please contact Rita 0487 778 379



REMINDER ~ PLEASE TURN OFF MOBILE PHONES

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

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.