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"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

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

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."



St Gertrude's Catholic Primary School Smithfield



ENROL NOW FOR 2023

Contact us for an Enrolment Package Ph: 9609 4144

stgsmithfield.catholic.edu.au



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

ST GERTRUDE'S PARISH

St Benedict's Shrine

Corner Justin & Neville Street SMITHFIFI D

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 Strohmayer OSPPE

Assistant Priest

Fr Wojtek Sliwa OSPPE

St Therese's Church

Corner The Boulevarde & 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:

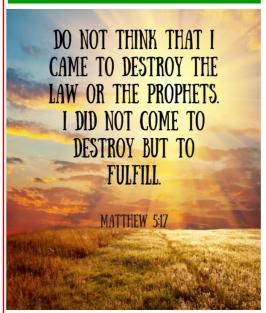
7:00 am Rosary 8:00 am Mass

Chaplet of Divine Mercy:

Tuesday after Mass

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

12 February 2023



We pray for the sick of this Parish

Alyssa Ferreri, Ray Wilson, Giuseppina Pignataro, Gino Mifsud Fr. Anthony David, OSPPE, Fr. Gabriel Taylor, OSPPE, Adam Westwood, Emile & Mary Kodsy, Kartia Grace Russell, & Ivv 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

Antonius Haakman, Elizabeth Ebejer, Mike Erak, Regina De Biasi. Angelo Vit. Marlene Pace, Robyn Hankinson.

And for those whose Anniversary occur at this time

Rosa Gravante, Pietro Anastasi, D'Elia Giuseppe, 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

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: 9609-4144 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 BROTHERS' COLLEGE **FAIRFIELD**



Boys: 7-12: Ph: 9728-4488 Principal: Mr Peter Wade 268 The Horsley Drive, Fairfield NSW

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THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER

For parishes

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in

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 18 February
> St Benedict: Group D: Grace

St. Therese: Group B: Vietnamese

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

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

FIRST READING Sir 15:15-20

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus If you wish, you can keep the commandments, to behave faithfully is within your power. He has set fire and water before you; put out your hand to whichever you prefer. Man has life and death before him; whichever a man likes better will be given him. For vast is the wisdom of the Lord; he is almighty and all-seeing. His eyes are on those who fear him, he notes every action of man. He never commanded anyone to be godless, he has given no one permission to sin.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

- 1. They are happy whose life is blameless, who follow God's law! They are happy those who do his will. seeking him with all their hearts. (R.)
- 2. You have laid down your precepts to be obeved with care. May my footsteps be firm to obey your statutes. (R.)
- 3. Bless your servant and I shall live and obey your word. Open my eyes that I may consider the wonders of your law. (R.)
- 4. Teach me the demands of your statutes and I will keep them to the end. Train me to observe your law. to keep it with my heart. (R.)

SECOND READING 1 Cor 2:16-10

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him

These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mt 5:17-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish them but to complete them. I tell you solemnly, till heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, one little stroke. shall disappear from the Law until its purpose is achieved. Therefore, the man who infringes even one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven; but the man who keeps them and teaches them will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven.

'For I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court; if a man calls his brother "Fool" he will answer for it before the Sanhedrin; and if a man calls him "Renegade" he will answer for it in hell fire. So then, if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, go and be reconciled with your brother first, and then come back and present your offering. Come to terms with your opponent in good time while you are still on the way to the court with him, or he may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. I tell you solemnly, you will not get out till you have paid the last penny.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye should cause you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body thrown into hell. And if your right hand should cause you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body go to hell.

'It has also been said: Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a writ of dismissal. But I say this to you: everyone who divorces his wife, except for the case of fornication, makes her an adulteress; and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all, either by heaven, since that is God's throne; or by the earth, since that is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, since that is the city of the great king. Do not swear by your own head either, since you cannot turn a single hair white or black. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

God so loved the world that he gave his Only Begotten Son, so that all who believe in him may not perish, but may have eternal life.

Next Week: 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Scripture: Lev 19:1-2; 1 Cor 3:16-23

Gospel: Mt 5:38-48

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MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR AND FAREWELL TO FR. JAREK SUNDAY, 12TH FEBRUARY 10:30 AM

The Parish will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving for Fr. Jarek as he prepares for his new position.

This is an opportunity for us all to thank God for the many years of dedicated service and leadership that Fr. Jarek has given to St. Gertrude's Parish.

It is also a time for us to pray for Fr. Jarek as he prepares to continue his Pastoral Ministry as Prior of the Shrine of Our Lady Help of Christians "Marian Valley" in Queensland.

There will be refreshments in the Montefano Hall following the Mass. Please bring some food to share. This can be brought to Montefano Hall before the 10.30am Mass.

Thank you Fr. Jarek for your fatherly hands, your "steady as she goes" attitude and leadership of St. Gertrude's Parish. especially during the challenges of Covid. May our Blessed Mother continue to intercede for you, holding you close to her Beloved Son.



ASH WEDNESDAY, 22ND FEBRUARY

In the Roman Catholic Tradition, Ash Wednesday begins the penitential Season of Lent. Although this is not a holy day of obligation, the faithful are strongly encouraged to attend Mass and receive the ashes.

If anyone has the palm leaves from the last year please bring them to the church before Ash Wednesday to burn them for ashes

Mass times: St. Therese's Church 7:00 am St. Benedict's Shrine 9:15 am 7:00 pm

Please note that there will be no Novena on the evening of Ash Wednesday.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting (one main meal and two snacks) and abstinence (not eating meat). Fasting applies to those who have completed their eighteenth year, until the beginning of their sixtieth year; the law of abstinence binds those who have completed their fourteenth year.

CATECHIST NEWS

CATECHIST SUNDAY

Catechist Commissioning Mass will be celebrated at 6pm, Sunday 19th February at St. Benedict's Shrine, Smithfield.

CATECHIST MEETING

A Catechist meeting will be held at 10am, Wednesday, 15th February in the Montefano Hall.

All Catechist's who are able to teach in State schools will be commissioned and sent forth for 2023.

Congratulations to Vincent Haber in recognition of 5 years of service, Layla Mona 10 years of service and Janet Canning 15 years of service in our Parish.

Have you considered being Catechist?

God Bless you and all your work.

BLESSING OF BACKPACKS: SUNDAY, 19TH FEBRUARY

The annual blessing of Backpacks will take place on Sunday 19th February at the 10.30am Mass.

All our students are invited to bring their backpacks for the blessing. This will also be a return to our "Family Mass" celebrated with St. Gertrude's Primary.

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

Thank you.

God bless .

Jodie

phone 0412-804-465 to leave a message.

St. Gertrude's Primary School **OPENING MASS** THURSDAY, 16TH FEBRUARY

St. Gertrude's opening school Mass will be celebrated at 9.30 am on Thursday 16th February 2023 at St Benedict's Shrine, Smithfield. Family and friends are welcome.

PARISH PLAYGROUP

When: Thursday 16th February 2023 Where: St. Augustine Catechesis Centre

Time: 9:30am—11.30am

Playgroup will meet every Thursday during the school term. New and existing families are invited to attend.

Hope to see you all there!

FCI – Italian Catholic Federation ALL Nationalities are welcome.

Bingo Numbers called out in English & Italian Next Bingo 10:00 am Friday 17th February 2023 Montefano Hall \$15 entry includes

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



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.

