



**Mark Malone J.P.**  
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](mailto: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."



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**Next Bingo 10:00 am Friday 3rd March 2023**

**Montefano Hall \$15 entry includes**

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**Come join us, united as a Parish.**



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2023!**

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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 Strohmayer 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

## 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

**19 February 2023**

HAVE YOU  
*Prayed*  
FOR YOUR  
ENEMIES TODAY?

### 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,  
& 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

Angelina Vaccari, 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](mailto:office@stgertrude.org.au)

Website: [www.stgertrude.org.au](http://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](mailto:catechist@stgertrude.org.au)

**Sacraments:** Contact: Jodie Micallef

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

[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 8:30 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 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto: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](http://www.stgsmithfield.syd.catholic.edu.au)  
[www.facebook.com/stgertrudessmithfield](https://www.facebook.com/stgertrudessmithfield)  
[www.instagram.com/stgsmithfield/](https://www.instagram.com/stgsmithfield/)

### MARY MACKILLOP COLLEGE WAKELEY

#### WAKELEY



Girls: 7-12: Ph: 9725 4322  
Principal: Ms Gilda Pussich  
5 Carnarvon St, Wakeley NSW 2176  
[info@mmcwakeley.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@mmcwakeley.catholic.edu.au)  
[mmcwakeley.syd.catholic.edu.au](http://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  
2165  
[info@pbcfairfield.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@pbcfairfield.catholic.edu.au)  
[www.pbcfairfield.catholic.edu.au](http://www.pbcfairfield.catholic.edu.au)

## 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  
need.

## 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 25 February

St Benedict: Group E: Neo-Cats  
St. Therese: Group B: Vietnamese

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



## 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.  
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.  
I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

### FIRST READING Lv 19:1-2, 17-18

A reading from the book of Leviticus

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said: 'Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them: "Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy.

"You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord."

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord,  
all my being, bless his holy name.  
My soul, give thanks to the Lord  
and never forget all his blessings. (R.)
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt,  
who heals every one of your ills,  
who redeems your life from the grave,  
who crowns you with love and compassion. (R.)
3. The Lord is compassion and love,  
slow to anger and rich in mercy.  
He does not treat us according to our sins  
nor repay us according to our faults. (R.)
4. As far as the east is from the west  
so far does he remove our sins.  
As a father has compassion on his sons,  
the Lord has pity on those who fear him. (R.)

### SECOND READING 1 Cor 3:16-23

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

Didn't you realise that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple.

Make no mistake about it: if any one of you thinks of himself as wise, in the ordinary sense of the word, then he must learn to be a fool before he really can be wise. Why? Because the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God. As scripture says: The Lord knows wise men's thoughts: he knows how useless they are, or again: God is not convinced by the arguments of the wise. So there is nothing to boast about in anything human: Paul, Apollos, Cephas, the world, life and death, the present and the future, are all your servants; but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Whoever keeps the word of Christ,  
grows perfect in the love of God.

Alleluia!

### GOSPEL Mt 5:38-48

A reading from the holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You have learnt how it was said: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well; if a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to anyone

who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away. 'You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons of your Father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike. For if you love those who love you, what right have you to claim any credit? Even the tax collectors do as much, do they not? And if you save your greetings for your brothers, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not? You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.'

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

I will recount all your wonders,  
I will rejoice in you and be glad,  
and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.

or

Lord, I have come to believe that you are the Christ,  
the Son of the living God, who is coming into this world.



### BLESSING OF BACKPACKS: SUNDAY, 19TH FEBRUARY

The Annual Blessing of Backpacks will take place this **Sunday at 10:30 am 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.

### CATECHIST NEWS

#### CATECHIST SUNDAY

Catechist Commissioning Mass will be celebrated at **6pm**  
**Mass this Sunday** at St. Benedict's Shrine, Smithfield.

Congratulations to

**Vincent Haber** in recognition of 5 years of service,

**Layla Mona** 10 years of service

**Janet Canning** 15 years of service in our Parish.

God Bless you and all your work.

**Have you considered being Catechist ?**



### PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

The new set of planned giving envelopes are ready for collection. These are available this week at St. Benedict's Shrine. The Giving envelopes are a vital way that the Parish can plan for future expenses. Your weekly contributions allow us to calculate and forecast income to pay for expenses such as Parish loans, utilities, maintenance, etc. If you would like to join our Planned Giving System, please complete contact the Parish Office. There is also the option of direct debit.

**Next Week: FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT, Year A**

**Scripture:** Gen 2:7-9, 3:1-7; Rom 5:12-19

**Gospel:** Mt 4:1-11

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# Lent

### ASH WEDNESDAY



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.

### LENTEN PROGRAM 2023

**SPIRIT AND TRUTH LENTEN COMPANION.** This publication contains Gospel meditations for each Sunday in Lent and Passion Sunday, with some questions to help discussion. There is also the inclusion of the Stations of the Cross and an Examination of Conscience. This is a FREE gift from the Archdiocese of Sydney and is available at the doors of the church/Foyer. Maybe you would like to set up a group or even use this for family prayer!

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS & MASS EACH FRIDAY OF LENT

St. Therese's Church  
7am Mass followed by Stations of the Cross  
St. Benedict's Shrine  
7pm Stations of the Cross followed by Mass



### PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES

With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction. Project Compassion 2023 reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come.

Projection Compassion Boxes will be available from Ash Wednesday in the Foyer of the church.



### MEN'S ROSARY GROUP

Our Men's Rosary Group will be meeting at **7pm, Thursday 24th February 2023** at St Benedict's Shrine.

### 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.

### SACRAMENTAL NEWS!

Thank you to those parents who attended the Parent Information Night on Thursday. I look forward to journeying with you, as the first educators of the faith, as we prepare your child to celebrate the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion.

We ask the St Gertrude's parish family to continue to pray for our candidates as they prepare to receive the love and mercy of God in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

### RECONCILIATION LESSON DATES

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](mailto:sacraments@stgertrude.org.au) or

phone 0412-804-465 to leave a message.

Thank you.

God bless,

Jodie

## PARISH CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OPEN DAYS!

Sunday 5th March 11.30 - 1pm Tuesday 7th March 3.30 - 5pm

**Dream Big!**

St Gertrude's Catholic Primary School

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for the future

## OPEN DAY

21 March 2023

4.00pm-7.00pm

5 Carnarvon Street, Wakeley  
(02) 9725 4322

PROUDLY PART OF THE COMMUNITY OF Sydney Catholic Schools



## OPEN DAY

14 March 2023  
3-6pm

P 9728 4488  
268 The Horsley Drive, Fairfield

PROUDLY PART OF THE COMMUNITY OF Sydney Catholic Schools