

Reading Roster 2/3rd and 9/10th July



Date:	2/3rd July		
Mass Time:	VIGIL	8:00AM	9.30AM
Priest:	Fr Shinto	Fr Shinto	Fr Shinto
Acolyte:	Ian Miles	Richard Merchant	Ed Junis
Commentator/			
Prayers of the Faithfull:	Anne-Maureen Scarf	Kim Crawford	Steve Bishop
First Reading:	Colleen Baker	Jim Gresser	Katherine Mahns
Second Reading:	Wilhelmina de Raadt	Sandra Sheean	Ingrid Merchant
Music:	Elizabeth Wilson		Chris Wilson

Date:	9/10th July		
Mass Time:	VIGIL	8:00AM	9.30AM
Priest:	Fr Shinto	Fr Shinto	Fr Shinto
Acolyte:	Ian Miles	John Belfanti	Richard Merchant
Commentator/			
Prayers of the Faithfull:	Colleen Baker	Loida Derbyshire	Katherine Mahns
First Reading:	Margaret Smith	Kim Crawford	Ingrid Merchant
Second Reading:	Lynette Boyd	Jim Gresser	Steve Bishop
Music:	Andrew Wilson		E Street Band

The Perspective of Justice - At the Service of Peace

In today's Gospel, Jesus sends his disciples out in pairs, and he tells them to bring nothing with them. They are to carry the message that the kingdom of God is at hand, but they must trust in God's care.

For it is God whose "right hand is filled with justice," it is God who will "free us from sin," and it is God who will "spread prosperity over [the world] like a river, and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing torrent."

The disciples of Jesus are sent to call others to "come and see the works of God, his tremendous deeds among men."

They know that the Lord's power shall be "known to his servants through their efforts," and they exclaim with Paul: "May I never boast of anything but the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ!"

We Christians are called to go out into the world with a message of love, justice, forgiveness, and peace. We are to work for the coming of the kingdom. But our hope is in the Lord, and our faith tells us that the salvation of the world is a gift from God. "Blessed is he who hopes in God."

Because peace, like the kingdom of God itself, is both a divine gift and a human work, the Church should continually pray for the gift and share in the work. We are called to be a Church at the service of peace, precisely because peace is one manifestation of God's word and work in our midst.

U.S. Bishops, The Challenge of Peace, 1983: 23

Gerald Darring

Gerald Darring is an adjunct instructor of theology at Spring Hill College, Alabama

A hug is always the right size.

Thank you for the reminder Pooh Bear



St Thomas Aquinas Parish Bulletin

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Parish Facebook Page: St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Community Springwood
Parish Priest: Fr Paul Slyney - 4754 1052 *Emergency ONLY:* 0418 461 316
Assistant Priest: Fr Shinto Francis - 4754 1052 *Emergency ONLY:* 0415 077 969
Parish Pastoral Council: email - springwoodppc@gmail.com
Parish Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 8.30 am - 3.30 pm

Weekend Masses: Saturday Vigil Mass 5.00 pm, Sunday 8.00 am and 9.30 am
Weekday Mass: Tuesday - Saturday 9.30 am
Rosary & Devotions: Tuesday - Saturday 9.00 am
Adoration, Rosary & Chaplet: 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of every month, 7.30 - 8.30 pm
Baptisms: 2nd and 4th Sundays of every month - 10.30am and by appointment
Reconciliation: By request
Weddings: By appointment
Funerals: By appointment

The First Reading

Isaiah 66:10-14c

As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you.

Father
 in heaven,
 was there ever a time
 when you held back your love,
 the treasure we cannot ask for or imagine?

You sent your only son.
 We can see you,
 and feel you
 within our
 hearts.

We thank you.
 We
 rejoice.

Anne Osdieck

A Poem to Sit With

If Christ
 is our earth
 who can uproot us

what wind
 could transplant us

only heads
 of trees are
 storm tossed

hope lies in roots

in embrace.

J. Janda

Today's Readings: Isaiah 66:10-14; Paul 6:14-18, 13-18; Luke 10:1-12, 17-20

Entrance Antiphon: Your merciful love, O God, we have received in the midst of your temple. Your praise, O God, like your name, reaches the ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with saving justice.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 65:1-7, 16, 20

R. Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and the fullness of his message live within you. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed the man who seeks refuge in him.



Sick: Baby Leonardo Diaz, Ross Baker, Roshan Rupesinghe, Susie Ziino, James Wallace, Mischa Damaguc and family, Margaret Day, Adam McCully, Christopher Coombs, Kate Moore, Luca Hurley and all Private Intentions.

Due to the strict privacy laws, names of the deceased and sick can only be included in the Bulletin with the express permission of the immediate family. Thank you.

Parish and Local Community News

CLEANING ROSTER: If you have volunteered for any of the cleaning roles for the parish, you will find the cleaning roster ready to be collected from the back of the church.

EXERCISE CLASS: Alf would like our parish community to know that the exercise class has resumed at the back of the Springwood Presbyterian Church every Monday morning at 9.30am. Everyone is welcome. Please seek medical advice before starting any form of exercise.

JRS GOOD DRIVE: Back in June 2020 - a time that seems like a world away, St Thomas Aquinas Parishioners began a drive to gather food for refugees in our diocese. The result was amazing! In total, the STA faith community donated three trailer loads of food items to Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS) and How of Welcome (HOW). In May 2021, we planned to conduct another food drive. A number of people came on board to work together to coordinate a regular effort that would offer some food security for people in desperate need of food to survive. What we have here is clear evidence of the generosity of people who are in great need. If we watch people walking our streets, it is impossible to recognise people who are hungry, this is why JRS and HOW are a wonderful team to work with. We have a team to coordinate this effort, but we do need more people who can share in this effort. You WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE. Please email Vic and Liz O'Callaghan on vicocallaghan@gmail.com.

HOME CARE PACKAGES: Buckland homecare ensures you are provided with the very best care while in the comfort of your own home. With over 80 years' experience in providing on going care to the blue mountain's community, our dedicated staff know what it means to deliver the highest level of care to promote a lifetime of independence at home. Buckland homecare can provide personalized support around the home to assist with all activities of daily living, such as: Personal Care; Domestic Assistance; Home Maintenance; Transport Services; Social Support Services; Meal and Food Services. If you want to know how best to maintain your independence or that of a loved one, please give us a call at 4752 2500 or email homecare@buckland-rv.com.au and we will be more than happy to help you.



St Vincent de Paul

This year the Springwood St Vincent de Paul Conference celebrates 85 years of support to the people of Springwood and surrounding villages. While we are able to assist people through major disaster events our main work has been to support people through difficult and challenging times in their lives. Sometimes that support is only needed for a short time until people are able to get their situation sorted however some people benefit by having us journey with them for many months and sometimes for a much longer period of time.

Our members meet people for support at the Catholic Care office in Macquarie Rd, Springwood, (down the little walkway next to Blooms the Chemist), every Thursday between 10am and 12noon, we are also available in the small office in the Parish Pastoral centre from 10am to 12noon on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month.

If anyone would like to discuss their situation and find out how we can help you can ring our call centre 1800 606 742 or simply drop in at either office at the advertised times. If there is need we also can visit people in their homes. Confidentiality in all matters discussed is assured.

St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal (July)

The St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal collection is held after each Mass at St Thomas Aquinas Church every July. This year the collection appeal will be **Saturday 23rd, Sunday 24th, Saturday 30th and Sunday 31st July**. On the weekend of the **30th and 31st July, conference members will hold a morning tea after Mass** as a thank you to our parishioners for your generosity.

Thank you for helping someone in need.

Spirituality of the Readings - Glancing Thoughts

BEING LEFT OUT: In the Gospel Reading, Jesus picks seventy-two people to send out on a challenging preaching mission. They travel from one city to another, by foot, without money or other provisions. Think about all the stuff we take when we travel, and you will see how difficult their mission was. But Jesus doesn't leave them helpless. He gives them power. They can cure sicknesses and cast out enemies. That is a lot of power!

Jesus handpicked the seventy-two people he gave this power to. What would it have felt like to be a disciple who was *not* picked? How left out must such a disciple have felt?

But guess what? These seventy-two disciples were left out too. They may have done miracles, but they were left out of the company of the twelve apostles. The Gospel says that Jesus appointed seventy-two *others*—others beside the apostles, that is. Even though the seventy-two come back rejoicing that the enemies are subject to their power, they still don't rank being added to the twelve apostles.

And, of course, that isn't the end of the story. Jesus took John and Peter with him to witness his transfiguration. The other ten apostles were left out.

How can Jesus leave people out in this way? Is everybody supposed to suffer some sense of abandonment by Jesus except those lucky enough to be in the innermost circle of the twelve? Or the even smaller circle of the two?

The solution to this puzzle lies in what a person wants. The seventy-two come back rejoicing in their power. But then power is what they want. Jesus rebukes them for it. Don't rejoice in your power, he tells them; rejoice rather in the fact that you will be united to God in heaven.

If you want not to be left out of something, your desire has to do with yourself and your status. Those who felt left out because they weren't chosen to be among the seventy-two wanted to be honoured by being part of that group. And maybe that is why they weren't picked.

And maybe the seventy-two were passed over when Jesus was picking the twelve apostles because what the seventy-two cared about was power and their own status as powerful people handpicked by Jesus. If what you want is power and status, your desire is for yourself, isn't it? It isn't for Jesus.

So maybe in the end it is Peter and John who come with Jesus to see his transfiguration because what they want more than anything else is being with him. If what you want is Jesus, you will never be left out.

Eleonore Stump

Eleonore Stump is Professor of Philosophy, Saint Louis University

Upcoming Sacramental Dates:

Confirmation 2022

First Parent Meeting - Tuesday, 19th July, 7pm, St Thomas Aquinas Church

Second Parent Meeting - Tuesday, 26th July, 7pm, St Thomas Aquinas Church

Commitment of Candidates - Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th July at any of the weekend Masses

Confirmation - Wednesday, 31st August, 7pm, St Thomas Aquinas Church



Sunday 3rd - Sunday 11th July : NAIDOC Week

Monday, 11th July - The Memorial of Saint Benedict

Friday, 15th July - The Memorial of St Bonaventure

Saturday, 16th July - The Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Friday 22nd July - Feast Day of Saint Mary Magdalene

Monday, 25th July - Feast Day of St James, the Apostle

Tuesday, 26th July - The Memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne

Friday, 29th July - The Memorial of Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus