

Reading Roster

Date:	23/24th July	(St Vincent de Paul weekend collection)	
Mass Time:	VIGIL	8:00AM	9.30AM
Priest:	Fr Paul	Fr Shinto	Fr Shinto
Acolyte:	Ian Miles	John Belfanti	Bernie Ellis
Commentator/			
Prayers of the Faithfull:	Wilhelmina de Raadt	Jim Gresser	Phillip Saville
First Reading:	Colleen Baker	Kim Crawford	Ingrid Merchant
Second Reading:	Margaret Smith	Sandra Sheean	Katherine Mahns
Music:	Elizabeth Wilson	E Street Band	

Date:	30/31st July	(St Vincent de Paul morning tea)	
Mass Time:	VIGIL	8:00AM	9.30AM
Priest:	Fr Paul	Fr Shinto	Fr Shinto
Acolyte:	Ian Miles	Richard Merchant	Bernie Ellis
Commentator/			
Prayers of the Faithfull:	Colleen Baker	Peter O'Brien	Peta Sparkes
First Reading:	Felix Kobus	Loida Derbyshire	Katherine Mahns
Second Reading:	Lynette Boyd	Kim Crawford	Phillip Saville
Music:	Andrew Wilson	Chris Wilson	

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Confirmation completes Baptism, by which in the laying on of hands and the anointing with Chrism Oil, which first happened at Baptism, we are confirmed with the fullness of the Holy Spirit. We are reminded of our participation in the ministry and mission of Jesus, and strengthened to follow Jesus more closely.



Commitment of the Candidates will take place at any of the Parish Masses on Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th July 2022.

Confirmation - Wednesday, 31st August 7pm, St Thomas Aquinas Church
AND Thursday, 1st September 7pm (should enrolments exceed our expectations)

Celebrant - Rev Fr Chris de Souza

Diary Dates:

Tues 19/26 July – Parent Meetings

Sat 23/Sun 24 July – Commitment of Candidates

Week of 31 July – Sacramental Program begins

Thurs 25 Aug 3.30pm – Tentative practice date 1 (to confirm)

Fri 26 Aug 3.30pm – Tentative practice date 2 (to confirm)

We invite you to pray for these children who are preparing for their Confirmation.

Pray wait trust



JRS and HOW weekend appeal - 13th and 14th August

Further information to follow.



St Thomas Aquinas Parish Bulletin

168 Hawkesbury Road, Springwood, NSW, 2777

PO Box 4410, Winmalee, NSW 2777

Phone: 02 4754 1052



Parish Email:	<i>email: springwood@parracatholic.org</i>
Parish Website:	www.stchurchspringwood.org.au
Parish Facebook Page:	St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Community Springwood
Parish Priest:	Fr Paul Slyney - 4754 1052 <i>Emergency ONLY:</i> 0418 461 316
Assistant Priest:	Fr Shinto Francis - 4754 1052 <i>Emergency ONLY:</i> 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:	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:	Please Contact the Parish Office
Weddings:	By appointment
Funerals:	Please Contact the Parish Office

PARISH COLLECTIONS:

First Collection

Assists our Clergy

Second Collection

Helps to maintain our Church and Parish grounds along with our ongoing running costs

Cashless Collection

Our machine is set at \$10 per transaction and is situated at the back of the Church (second collection)

Monthly Credit Card Debit

Please see the Parish office if you would like to arrange a monthly credit card debit to assist our Church and Parish

Monthly Direct Debit

As above but by direct debit from your bank account

THANK YOU

St Vincent de Paul weekend collection

this Saturday and Sunday 24th July

St Vincent de Paul's main work is 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 St Vincent de Paul journey with them for many months and sometimes for a much longer period of time.

Please give generously.



Today's Readings: Genesis 18:20-32; Colossians 2:12-14; Luke 11:1-13

Entrance Antiphon: God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house; he himself gives might and strength to his people.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

R. Psalm 137:1-3, 6-8

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children, and in that Spirit we call God our Father. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his benefits.

Next Week's Readings: Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23; Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11; Luke 12:13-21



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

EXERCISE CLASS: Alf's 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.

HOW VOLUNTEER POSITION: Housing Maintenance Volunteer - House of Welcome (HOW), a partner of the Diocese of Parramatta is seeking a handyman to look after their properties, as they continue to support people in need in our communities. The Housing Maintenance Volunteer will also be required to provide face-to-face support for Occupants with practical components of their property and its care. This will be a short-term appointment, 1 day a week. For more information please contact HOW Volunteer Program Manager, Lumka Liwela Power on 0402 549 962 or l.liwelapower@houseofwelcome.com.au.

ST VINCENT PALLOTTI SCHOLARSHIP TRUST: The St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust offers scholarships to enable lay people to further their understanding and skills in leadership/ministry or a specialised activity, such as promoting faith enhancement, social justice and pastoral care. More information and Applications Forms are available on our website <https://pallottine.org.au/scholarships/st-vincent-pallotti-scholar-shipfor-lay-ministry.html>. Applications close 29 July 2022.

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE AGEING PERSONS AND PASTORAL CARE UNIT: The Catholic Theological College is offering a unit on Ageing Persons and Pastoral Care over six Saturday sessions beginning 30 July. Commencing with the ancient Christian understanding of the "care of souls" the course unit explores the evolution of pastoral and spiritual care to the present day as they contribute to the personal, mental and social wellbeing of ageing persons in our society. Contact the Academic Records Office for enrolment information and appointments on (03) 9412 3309 or registrar@ctc.edu.au



This Sunday is the second World Day for Grandparents and Elderly. The theme for this year's celebration is 'In Old Age They Will Still Bear Fruit' (PS 92:15) and emphasises how grandparents are a gift both to society and the Church.



Masks are not compulsory at Mass but are recommended.



Finding Our Way Back Home Getting Un-Stuck in our Prayer Life



There are times in our lives when we simply need to start something with a fresh outlook. Periodically, we need to begin again – a routine, a resolution or a relationship might need a new view. Our relationship with God is one of those things that we all need to refresh from time to time.

We often make our prayer lives quite complicated, but in many ways, our relationship with God is very much like a relationship with the people we love in our lives. Whether it is a spouse, a friend or a favourite sibling, there are times when we seem out of touch, not sure what the other is thinking or feeling. How do we adjust this? We get in touch with our loved one, making plans for a nice dinner together, a cup of coffee or a phone call. *How are you? What is going on in your life? Let me tell you what I am wrestling with. Let me share what makes my life joyful, sad, confused or angry.*

The very instincts we rely on to get back in touch with our loved ones are the same ones that can reconnect us with our loving God. It starts with a little time. Our lives are hectic, rushed and busy, and too often we work hard to keep them that way. In our busy-ness, we can sometimes pretend that we are not feeling lost or empty. The first step to finding our way home to God begins with a little time.

Our prayer lives can seem complicated, but they don't need to be. Too often, we arm our prayer lives with books, theories and beautiful prayers we have known since childhood. These are all good things, but sometimes these good things may become routine and can move us into thoughts in our heads rather than feelings in our hearts. Prayer is a conversation from my heart to God's and our God is waiting with delight to talk with us and to hear us share our lives.

We might begin with just five minutes a day, choosing our own best time of day. If I am a morning person, I make a commitment to rise five minutes earlier each morning to talk with God. If I am better at night, I resolve to take the last five minutes of my day for prayer.

Where do I start? A good way to re-energise our life with God is to simply start with a quiet place, an empty lap and open hands. It also helps if we remember the wonderful news that our God absolutely delights in us and is thrilled that we are taking the time to get back in touch.

We can use our own words to begin to speak to God in our hearts. "I haven't been in touch for a while but I want to. Help me start again." We can let God know what is deepest in our hearts. We can tell God exactly what has been locked in the silence of our hearts.

After we have spent a few minutes sharing our lives with God, we take a little time to sit in silence and listen. We can get antsy about sitting in silence, but it is in that profound quiet that God speaks to us. Wordlessly and lovingly, God begins to heal our grief or sadness and to rejoice with us in our happiness. Most of all, God wants us to feel deeply his love for each one of us individually.

If we have trouble hearing God speak, we can try to read from Isaiah 43 and simply say in our hearts what God has been telling us: "I have called you by name, _____." We use our own name as we whisper aloud God's words of love.

Do not fear, _____. I have called you by name. When you pass through fire, you will not be burned. If your life takes you through raging waters, you will not be swept away. I am with you. I have called you by name, _____. Simply saying those words from Isaiah 43 slowly and with feeling, is a wonderful beginning.

I thank God for the few minutes we spent together and sit gratefully, committed to meeting up with God again tomorrow.

Renewing our prayer lives is not a project to be crossed off the To Do list. It is a meeting with a friend who cares for me, as if over a cup of coffee.

Our God loves us and calls to us, inviting us to draw closer.

"Taken from Creighton's Online Ministries Web site: <http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html>. Used with permission."

St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal (July)

This weekend

