

Reading Roster

Date: **27/28th August**

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| 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 Faithful: | Margaret Smith | Kim Crawford | Katherine Mahns |
| First Reading: | Lynette Boyd | Sandra Sheean | Phillip Saville |
| Second Reading: | Colleen Baker | Loida Derbyshire | Steve Bishop |
| Music: | Andrew Wilson | | E Street Band |

Date: **3/4th September**

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|--|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Mass Time: | VIGIL | 8.00AM | 9.30AM |
| Priest: | Fr Paul | Fr Paul | Fr Paul |
| Acolyte: | Ed Junis | Randall Noney | John Belfanti |
| Commentator/ Prayers of the Faithful: | Colleen Baker | Peter O'Brien | Peta Sparkes |
| First Reading: | Felix Kobus | Jim Gresser | Ingrid Merchant |
| Second Reading: | Anne-Maureen Scarf | Kim Crawford | Phillip Saville |
| Music: | Elizabeth Wilson | | Chris Wilson |

READERS:

Please see the Acolyte rostered on when you arrive at Mass

Ordination to the Priesthood; The Diocese of Parramatta wishes to congratulate Fr Andrew Rooney following his ordination to the priesthood on Friday 26 August. Visit catholicoutlook.org in the coming week for an article and photographs from the ordination as well as a video introducing Fr Andrew to the Diocese.

The Diocese of Parramatta is heading to WYD23 in Lisbon; Bishop Vincent has announced a pilgrimage to the next World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal from July 21 – August 11, 2023. Young people 16-35 and their families are encouraged to learn more at www.parrawyd.org. Express your interest in coming to Lisbon today! For all enquiries, contact James Camden, Head Mission Engagement – james.camden@parracatholic.org

Mount Druitt South Parish Fete: 11 September The Sacred Heart Parish South Mount Druitt fete will be held on Sunday 11 September at Sacred Heart Primary School, Mt Druitt, from 10.30am to 3.30pm. Activities include a While Elephant stall, jumping castle, chocolate wheel and showbags. For more information, contact the parish office on (02) 9832 3896

CONFIRMATION

Please join us in praying for our Confirmation candidates who will have their ceremonies next Wednesday 31st August, 2022 and Thursday 1st September, 2022.

On your Confirmation day, we pray God will bless your life and fill your heart with happiness. May the Holy Spirit be a guide throughout your life.

Please join us in welcoming Fr Chris de Souza and Monsignor Ron McFarlane to our parish on the above evenings.

St Thomas Aquinas Parish Bulletin

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Phone: 02 4754 1052



Parish Email: email: springwood@parracatholic.org
Parish Website: www.stachurchspringwood.org.au
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: 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

THE GOSPEL [Luke 14:1, 7-14](#)

Rather, when you hold a banquet,
invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the
blind.

Jesus,
at times,
we hobble.
We are frozen.
We see through a fog. We forget.

But please,
let us come to your banquet.
Hold us up, teach us the way to walk.
Tell us how to love one another,
and how to help
others.

Give us a taste of your feast,
every time we meet you,
in Mass, communion,
and every time
we love.

Anne Osdieck

THE SECOND READING [Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a](#)

You have approached Mount Zion and the city of the living God,
the heavenly Jerusalem.

The
mountain:
distant and cold.

Jesus
came to us
and made a door.

Warmth
rushed out,
and it welcomed
each and every
one of us.

Thanks, Lord,
for loving us: you, the
go-between of the new and
everlasting covenant
of love.

Anne Osdieck

Today's Readings: Sirach 3:17-20; Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24; Luke 14:1,7-14
Entrance Antiphon: Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 67:4-7, 10-11

R. God in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Take my yoke upon you; learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.



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

TREK FOR TIMOR:

The needs in this fledgling nation are still high in the areas of health and education. We have another opportunity to continue our support in the annual **TREK for TIMOR** event in October. This event will be held **virtually** as was quite successful last year. All you need to do is to follow the link <https://trek-for-timor-blue-mountains.raisely.com/>

You can financially support other walkers or pledge to walk 10, 25 or more kilometres over the month of October. Just look on the list of walkers to add your support.

ST THOMAS AQUINAS LADIES FELLOWSHIP:

Parishioners are invited to a luncheon on Friday, 16th September at Springwood Golf Club. Arriving 11.30 for 12 noon sit down. NO meeting that day.

Closing date for people to book is Thursday, 8th September.

Contacts: Pam Gorman 47077845 Colleen King 47544335. Please leave message if not answered.

It is a 'buy your own lunch' from the Menu Board. Looking forward to a great gathering.

CHURCH REPAIRS:

We have recently had confirmation from our Insurance Building Contractor that they are ready to proceed with our scope of works. The work will be undertaken during normal working hours and will stop for Mass 9.30-10am daily. There will be temporary mobile scaffolding placed around the church and these areas will be taped off for your safety. The scope of works we have requested for fixing is as follows:- Repair and paint church ceiling in 3 places, paint walls and replace corner ceilings in crying room, repair and paint male toilet and finally, repair, fix and set acoustic plasterboard to ceiling above altar.

JRS FOOD DRIVE:

On Sunday, 21st August, your generous food donations, collected on behalf of JRS Services at our previous week's food drive, were packed by a dedicated group of volunteers and were taken down to their headquarters. There was a packed trailer and a full car load of non-perishables. Absolutely amazing. Thank you to our St Thomas Aquinas Community.



Glancing Thoughts - True Humility

The Pharisee knew that every good in him was a gift from God. But he was glad that he had God's gifts and that the publican didn't

In the Gospel Reading, Jesus censures people who take the seats of honour at a feast. Take the least honourable places, he tells them, and then the host can invite you to a more honourable place.

Jesus is rebuking the pride of those people who go for the honourable seats. But what is the solution to the problem of pride? If you race your friends to the least honourable seat because the reward for doing so is that you get one of the best seats, isn't this pride too?

So, what is true humility? Well, think about pride.

There is a childish kind of pride, of course, where you brag about your accomplishments while everybody else tries to be polite enough not to roll their eyes while you are talking.

And then there is also the grown-up version of that childish pride, the pride of the self-made man. A multi-millionaire who explains that he has gotten where he is all by himself has this kind of pride. He has failed to notice all the gifts he has been given that have helped him get where he is. He thinks he himself is responsible for the good he has.

A more complicated kind of pride can be found in a person who knows that all his good comes from the grace of God. But he is sure that God has given such grace to him and not to his neighbours, because God knew that *he*, unlike his stupid worldly neighbours, would make good use of God's gifts. This is the pride of a 'snob'.

Finally, the worst and most sophisticated kind of pride is found in the Pharisee who thanked God that he was not like other men, especially not like that sinner, the publican, praying next to him in the Temple. The Pharisee knew that every good in him was a gift from God. But he was glad that *he* had God's gifts and that the publican didn't. The Pharisee liked looking down on the publican.

Here is what humility is, then. It is recognising that every good in yourself is a gift from God and is meant to be given back to the Lord by being shared with others.

So, you can't get true humility by racing for the least honourable seat. If the least honourable seat is, in the Lord's view, the best place to be seated, ***then true humility requires your sharing it with others in gratitude to the Lord who gave it.***

Eleonore Stump

Eleonore Stump is Professor of Philosophy, St Louis University

Social Justice Statement 2022-2023

Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse



This year's Social Justice Statement, Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse, invites us to engage with a complex and confronting social reality. It explores the roots of violence and abuse, honours the voices of victims, offers a social and theological exploration of the reality of violence, especially against women and children, and invites us to develop relationships in all parts of our lives 'marked by equality and reciprocity rather than domination and violence, respect and freedom rather than coercion and control.' We welcome this urgent call from our Church to deepen our faith through full and frank discussion and dialogue, advocacy and action. If the content of the Statement raises issues or concerns for you, please refer to the Getting Help page in the Statement for a list of support channels, or speak to a trusted friend, your GP, your parish priest or parish pastoral worker. Access the Statement <https://bit.ly/SJS22-23>. More information: ACBC Office for Justice, Ecology and Peace, www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au or Tel (02) 62019845. Facebook | www.facebook.com/socialjusticeACBC Twitter | @JusticeCatholic Instagram | @JusticeCatholic