

Reading RosterDate: **22nd/23rd October**

Mass Time:	VIGIL	8:00AM	9:30AM
Priest:	Fr Gregory Jacobs	Fr PJ	Fr PJ
Acolyte:	Ian Miles	Richard Merchant	Bernard Ellis
Commentator:	Anne Maureen Scarf	Cecilia Hunt	Steve Bishop
First Reading:	Felix Kobus	Kim Crawford	Matt Aldous
Second Reading:	Lynette Boyd	Loida Derbyshire	Phillip Saville
Music:			E Street Band

Date: **29th/30th October**

Mass Time:	VIGIL	8:00AM	9:30AM
Priest:	Fr Gregory Jacobs	Fr Benedict	Fr Benedict
Acolyte:	Ed Junis	Randall Noney	John Belfanti
Commentator:	Margaret Smith	Jim Gresser	Ingrid Merchant
First Reading:	Colleen Baker	Cecilia Hunt	Katherine Mahns
Second Reading:	Lynette Boyd	Loida Derbyshire	Steve Bishop
Music:			Chris Wilson

READERS:
Please see the Acolyte
rostered on when you
arrive at Mass

November – Month of the Holy Souls

November is the month that we remember family and friends that have gone before us in faith.

On the 1st November we celebrate **All Saints Day**.

The **Feast of All Saints** should inspire us with tremendous hope. Among the saints in heaven are some whom we have known. All lived on earth, lives like our own. They were baptised, marked with the sign of faith and were faithful to Christ's teaching.

On this day we remember them, pray with them and appreciate them. There are so many, and we are invited on this day to not only remember them, but to imitate them.

The 2nd November is the **Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day)**.

All Souls' Day is an intensely personal celebration.

This day calls to mind the members of our own families and our friends who have died.

It is also an important day for reflecting on society. All Souls' Day reminds us that each human being, no matter how insignificant, is precious in God's sight – valued and loved so much that the Son of God died with and for them. As we remember the people on whose lives our own have rested, we affirm their value. The respect we show to them encourages us to show equal respect to people still living.

All Souls' Day asserts that the value of human beings is not cancelled in their death, and that the value of the living cannot be measured by their wealth or success, but by their simple humanity.

Respect for people who have gone before us encourages us to see our world as a gift that is entrusted to us to nurture, and not something simply to be used, exploited, and altered as we please. The memory of the dead leads us to gratitude for the way in which they have shaped our lives and possibilities. It also encourages gratitude for the world in which we are part of. This gives depth to the way in which we live.

If you would like to place a name into the Book of Prayer, please use the November Mass Offering envelopes situated at the back of the church.

All Souls Day Mass

at St Thomas Aquinas Church

Wednesday, 2nd November 2022, 6.00pm

Fr Shinto welcomes you to join him:

November is the month that we remember family and friends that have gone before us in faith. We would like to honour those loved ones by saying Mass on Wednesday evening, 6.00pm.

St Thomas Aquinas Parish Bulletin

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Phone: 02 4754 1052



Parish Email: email: springwood@parracatholic.org
Parish Website: www.stchurchspringwood.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
Healing Mass: Every 1st Friday of the month 9.30am
Rosary & Devotions: Tuesday-Saturday 9.00am
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 FIRST READING
Sirach 35:12-14, 16-18

*Though not unduly partial toward the weak,
yet he hears the cry of the oppressed.*

I will bless the Lord at all times.
Praise ever in my mouth.

Let my soul glory
in the Lord,
who will hear
the cry of the poor.

Let the lowly hear and be glad:
the Lord listens to
their pleas,
and to hearts broken,
God is near, who will hear the
cry of the poor.

We proclaim your greatness, O God,
with praise ever in our mouth.

Every face brightened
in your light, for you hear
the cry of the poor.*

*Prayer for the First Reading
taken from The Cry of the Poor**

A POEM TO SIT WITH**Christ Our Earth**

Not to know or to forget that
my deepest desire is to do God's will
that I am rooted in Christ
is blindness —
to deny that my deepest
desire is to do God's will
to deny that I am rooted in Christ
is a lie — delusion
is darkness
is belief in nothing
is death
He came that we might have life
and have it more abundantly.

J. Janda**Today's Readings: Sirach 35:12-14,16-19; 2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-18; Luke 18:9-14****Entrance Antiphon:** Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalm 33:2-3, 17-19, 23**R. The Lord hears the cry of the poor.****Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. Alleluia!**Communion Antiphon:** We will ring out our joy at your saving help and exult in the name of our God.

We acknowledge the Darug and Gundungarra people, the traditional custodians of this land and pay our respects to elders both past and present.



Sick: Brian Hickey, Baby Leonardo Diaz, Ross Baker, 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 Diocesan News

CAKE STALL: On Saturday morning November 12th, the Springtime **CAKE STALL** of the Springwood East Timor Support Group will be held in the Town Square in Springwood's Macquarie Road. Anyone who would like to contribute some cakes, slices, jams or other goodies for sale could contact Dennis Farrar 0425209840 for further details. Thanks to those who have already promised to contribute.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: The forms for the PPC are situated in the back of the church for collection if wishing to participate in service to our parish community.

DIocese OF PARRAMATTA WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS: 30th October. The annual Wedding Anniversary Mass will be held on Sunday 30th October at 11am at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Bishop Vincent will celebrate Solemn Mass, followed by a light lunch at the Cathedral Hall. All couples celebrating a significant wedding anniversary will receive a certificate from Bishop Vincent. Please register your name, years of marriage and numbers attending at marriage@parracatholic.org by 21st October. Family and friends are welcome.

MASS OF REMEMBRANCE: A Mass of Remembrance will be celebrated at 9.30am on Saturday, 12th November, 2022, in Our Lady of the Nativity Church, Lawson to remember the life and achievements of Fr Theo Arrivoli, Lawson Parish Priest from 1998 to 2010, who went home to God on 4th August, 2022, aged 100. As the Mass will be followed by a morning tea, attendance numbers for catering purposes are required by Sunday, 6th November. If you are able to attend, please contact Paula Currie on 0416 185 651.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR OCTOBER: "A Church Open to Everyone" We pray for the Church, ever faithful to and courageous in preaching the Gospel. May the Church be a community of solidarity, fraternity, and welcome, always living in an atmosphere of synodality.



OCTOBER SAINTS: 22nd October - Memorial of St John Paul II.

DECEASED FAMILY AND FRIENDS ANNUAL MASS: All parishioners are invited to attend a Mass which will be celebrated to the Repose of the Souls of family members commencing at 7.00pm on Wednesday, 16th November. A candle ceremony will be part of the celebration of the Mass so if you would like your loved one remembered by lighting a candle, which your family member will place on the sanctuary, please contact the Parish office by the week ending Friday, 11th November 2022. A framed photo of your loved one may be placed on the sanctuary before the commencement of Mass (prior to 7.00pm).

FUND RAISER FOR BLUE MOUNTAINS REFUGEE SUPPORT GROUP: Special Concert – Phillips Hall, Blackheath Community Centre, Sunday 6th November – 2pm to 4:30pm.

• **Starring** popular, award winning, hilarious songsters and vaudeville entertainers **Mic Conway and Robbie Long** **Special Guest – Kenya Wilkins** – original composer and singer – including interview with Meg Benson about Kenya's recent collaboration with imprisoned refugees

Accompanied by The Heathens – Blackheath's own talented choir.

Tickets available through Humanitix - <https://events.humanitix.com/mic-conway-fundraiser>

Glancing Thoughts - The Worst Kind of Pride

In the Gospel Reading, Jesus tells a parable about a Pharisee and a tax collector in order to teach a lesson about pride. As Jesus tells the parable, the Pharisee is not pleasing to God; the tax collector is.

In the parable, what the Pharisee says in his prayer is this: "I thank you, God, that I am not like the rest of humanity—greedy, dishonest, adulterous—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, and I pay tithes on my whole income." The tax collector just prays for God to have mercy on him, a sinful man. Now what exactly is wrong with the Pharisee's prayer?

Notice that the parable doesn't doubt the Pharisee's truthfulness: he does have real moral excellence. And notice too that the Pharisee doesn't congratulate himself on this moral excellence in himself. He thanks God for it; he gives God all the credit for it.

So what exactly is wrong with this Pharisee?

Think about it this way. Aquinas says that there are four kinds of pride.

- (1) There's foolish pride. You think you have an excellence which you don't have, like a child who thinks he's the best basketball player in the world.
- (2) There's the pride of the self-made man. You think you have an excellence you do have, but you think you got that excellence for yourself, without anybody's help.
- (3) There's the sneakily self-congratulatory pride. You think you have an excellence you do have, and you recognize that God gave it to you; but you assume God gave it to *you* because he knew that *you* would make such good use of it.
- (4) And then there's the most self-deceptive kind of pride. You think you have an excellence you do have, and you recognize that you have it because God gave it, and you acknowledge that God gave it because he is so good, not because you are so nice—but you are glad others don't have it and you hope they don't get it.

Now we see what is wrong with the Pharisee, don't we? He accepts that his excellence is a gift from the Lord. He just doesn't want anybody else to have what he has. He likes looking down on that tax collector! And that is the worst kind of pride.

True humility is seeing that every excellence you have is a gift from your loving Lord and is given to you so that you can share it with others in love and rejoice with them when they have it too.

Eleonore Stump

Eleonore Stump is Professor of Philosophy, Saint Louis University

Daily Prayer This Week

Please, Lord, anything but humility! Our instinctive reaction to humility might be the result of a culture that exalts riches, honours and pride. Yet all this week Jesus teaches that the way to salvation is through humility.

The first step might be simply asking for the desire to be humble. As we move through the simplest of moments in our everyday lives, we can stop and ask God to help us *want* to be humble. As we sit on the edge of the bed in the morning, as we head to work, sort laundry, or do our errands, we can keep a running prayer in the background of our consciousness: "Lord, help me to desire the humility that will make me more aware of your saving grace."

These same background moments offer ways for us to recognise opportunities to practice humility as we go through our days. Perhaps I can stop myself from correcting my spouse. In a disagreement, I might make an extra effort to listen to the other person's side rather than planning my rebuttal as they speak. I can let a person in line in front of me, hold the door for someone or make an extra effort to recognise and thank those who serve me. Even these tiny gestures, when done in the spirit of Jesus' teachings this week, offer us a special grace.

All week we can continue to speak to the Lord as we would to a loving friend who listens to us. And always, we can end our day in gratitude, for the merciful God who loves us so compassionately and longs to be in our hearts.

Lord, you know me; you know my heart. Take away my pride and any stubbornness within me. Let me surrender it to you. Let me more and more be your humble servant, full of gratitude, and rich in mercy and self-less love like yours.

Weekly Guide for Daily Prayer

<https://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Prayer/C2-0T-30.html>