

**Reading Roster**

<b>Date:</b>	<b>28th/29th January 2023</b>		
<b>Mass Time:</b>	<b>VIGIL</b>	<b>8.00AM</b>	<b>9.30AM</b>
<b>Priest:</b>	<b>Fr Shinto</b>	<b>Fr Shinto</b>	<b>Fr Shinto</b>
<b>Acolyte:</b>	<b>Ian Miles</b>	<b>Randall Noney</b>	<b>Ed Junis</b>
<b>Commentator:</b>	<b>Felix Kobus</b>	<b>Cecilia Hunt</b>	<b>Domhnall MacCormac</b>
<b>First Reading:</b>	<b>Anne Maureen Scarf</b>	<b>Roslyn Comfort</b>	<b>Phillip Saville</b>
<b>Second Reading:</b>	<b>Colleen Baker</b>	<b>Jim Gresser</b>	<b>Steve Bishop</b>
<b>Music:</b>			<b>Chris Wilson</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>4th/5th February 2023</b>		
<b>Mass Time:</b>	<b>VIGIL</b>	<b>8.00AM</b>	<b>9.30AM</b>
<b>Priest:</b>	<b>Fr Shinto</b>	<b>Fr Shinto</b>	<b>Fr Shinto</b>
<b>Acolyte:</b>	<b>Ian Miles</b>	<b>Randall Noney</b>	<b>Richard Merchant</b>
<b>Commentator:</b>	<b>Margaret Smith</b>	<b>Kim Crawford</b>	<b>Matt Aldous</b>
<b>First Reading:</b>	<b>Wilhelmina de Raadt</b>	<b>Jim Gresser</b>	<b>Anne Ellis</b>
<b>Second Reading:</b>	<b>Lynette Boyd</b>	<b>Cecilia Hunt</b>	<b>Peta Sparkes</b>
<b>Music:</b>			<b>E-Street Band</b>

**REFUGEE FOOD DRIVE - LENTEN GIVING**

With the Lenten season approaching later in February 2023, it is an appropriate time to remember again the ongoing needs and situations of hardship facing refugees and asylum seekers, living in the Western Sydney region. The St Thomas Aquinas Parish did an amazing job last year, in organizing a large (and much appreciated) delivery of groceries to the Jesuit Refugee Services in Parramatta.

This February we would like to support the House of Welcome, another refugee support agency. It has been suggested that parishioners take up our Lenten commitment to "Alms Giving" by donating needed food and toiletry items to support refugees and asylum seekers.

We will be providing a list of appropriate foods and there will be a box available in the church for food donations during February or you can bring them in a shopping bag. The main collection date will be Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th February 2023. If you are able to contribute, every donation will be valued and appreciated. Thank you.

**IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:**

Saturday, 28th January:	St Thomas Aquinas
Tuesday, 31st January:	St John Bosco
Thursday, 2nd February:	The Presentation of the Lord
Wednesday, 8th February:	St Josephine Bakhita and St Jerome Emiliani
Saturday, 11th February:	Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes
Wednesday, 22nd February:	Ash Wednesday
Thursday, 23rd February:	St Polycarp

**2023 COMBINED First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Sacramental Program - 6 Week preparation**

We invite you and your child to be part of our 2023 First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Sacramental Program. This program will be conducted as one combined preparation in 2023 instead of two separate programs as both themes are connected. These sacraments will be in group sessions in a home or parish-based environment.

**Age:** Children in Year 3 or older in 2023, who have not yet received Reconciliation are invited to participate.

**Meetings:** Please come along to both Parent Meetings on Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> February and Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> February (same week) 7pm at St Thomas Aquinas Church. (Not necessary for candidates to attend)

**What do I bring along to the first meeting?** Please bring with you a completed copy of the enrolment form (available to download via [www.stachurchspringwood.org.au](http://www.stachurchspringwood.org.au), hard copies at the back of the church or at the parish office) and also a copy of your child's baptism certificate.

**The cost:** \$40.00 per family (includes both sacraments). This covers all books required to complete both sacraments, certificates, and medal (medal - Holy Communion only). Payable via eftpos on the first parent evening.

**Presentation of Candidates and Families at Mass:** 18th February 5.00pm or 19th February 8.00am or 9.30am.

**First Reconciliation will take place on Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00pm and Holy Communion on Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00pm (Please note new date)**

Please refer to our website for further information : [www.stachurchspringwood.org.au](http://www.stachurchspringwood.org.au)

**St Thomas Aquinas Parish Bulletin**

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 Phone: 02 4754 1052



<b>Parish Email:</b>	<i>email: <a href="mailto:springwood@parracatholic.org">springwood@parracatholic.org</a></i>
<b>Parish Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.stachurchspringwood.org.au">www.stachurchspringwood.org.au</a>
<b>Parish Facebook Page:</b>	St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Community Springwood
<b>Parish Priest:</b>	Fr Paul Slyney - 4754 1052 <i>Emergency ONLY:</i> 0418 461 316
<b>Assistant Priest:</b>	Fr Shinto Francis - 4754 1052 <i>Emergency ONLY:</i> 0415 077 969
<b>Parish Pastoral Council:</b>	email - <a href="mailto:springwoodppc@gmail.com">springwoodppc@gmail.com</a>
<b>Parish Office Hours:</b>	Tuesday to Friday 8.30 am - 3.30 pm
<b>Weekend Masses:</b>	Saturday Vigil Mass 5.00 pm, Sunday 8.00 am and 9.30 am
<b>Weekday Mass:</b>	Tuesday - Saturday 9.30 am
<b>Healing Mass:</b>	1st Friday of the month, 9.30am
<b>Rosary &amp; Devotions:</b>	Tuesday-Saturday 9.00am
<b>Adoration, Rosary:</b>	2nd and 4th Wednesdays of every month, 7.30 - 8.30 pm
<b>Baptisms:</b>	2nd and 4th Sundays of every month - 10.30am and by appointment
<b>Reconciliation:</b>	Please Contact the Parish Office
<b>Weddings:</b>	By appointment
<b>Funerals:</b>	Please Contact the Parish Office

**THE GOSPEL**

*Matthew 5:1-12*

*When Jesus saw the crowds he went up the mountain. He began to teach them.*

Christ, our teacher, you are a peacemaker.

You hunger and you thirst for justice. Yet you are meek and merciful and strong and powerful in all that counts.

Please be a blest beatitude for each of us.

Let us live in you and be beatitudes for one another.

**THE FIRST READING**

*Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13*

*But I will leave a remnant in your midst a people humble and lowly, who shall take refuge in the name of the Lord.*

The rich can put all their trust in their money.

The poor have trust in God alone. They hope, expect, wait for, and then reap what they need.

Lord, make us poor in spirit.

Anne Osdieck

**Today's Readings: Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13; 1 Corinthians 1:26-31; Matthew 5:1-12**

**Entrance Antiphon: Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to your holy name, and make it our glory to praise you.**

**Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 145:7-10 R. Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!**

**Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Rejoice and be glad; Your reward will be great in heaven. Alleluia!**

**Communion Antiphon: Let your face shine on your servant. Save me in your merciful love. O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.**



**Sick:** Lorna & Ray Lyons, Lally Sabater, Baby Leonardo Diaz, 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

**STA CHILDREN'S LITURGY:** Our Children's Liturgy Ministry team will be commencing on Sunday 19th February at the 9.30am Mass and ALL primary school children are welcome. The Children's Liturgy Ministry will be held on the 3rd Sunday of the month. We are looking forward to seeing all you wonderful young people. Vicky Walker, Children's Liturgy Coordinator.

**PRAYERS AND CONDOLENCES TO THE GLENMORE PARK COMMUNITY:** Please join our Parish community in **praying for Nicholas Tadros** who is in a serious and critical condition in hospital after an horrific helicopter accident in Queensland.

*We pray for Vanessa Tadros. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace.*

Our thoughts and prayers are with Simon Tadros, their extended family, St Padre Pio Parish, Bethany Primary School and the Glenmore Park community.

**STA EARTH CARE TEAM:** Have signed up for 2023 Clean up Australia day and invite you to join in!!! On Sunday 5th March from 9:00am until 11:45am. You and your family are invited to clean up along College Drive and return all NON NATURAL litter to the bags provided. Bring your own water bottle, gloves and tongs!! No costs - just the reward of doing something to keep our communal area of the Planet clean. Pick up and return rubbish to the provided collection bags near the church car park. A small supply of safety gloves will be available. "STA is now a Catholic Earthcare Parish".

**FIRST CPR TRAINING EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST:** The Diocese of Parramatta is participating in a program called First CPR that involves education and training in responding to cardiac arrest in the community. The program will provide you with CPR accredited training to parish staff and volunteers and is free of charge. For more information, and to express your interest, please visit <http://parracatholic.org/cpr-training-eoi/>

**DIOCESAN WORLD DAY OF THE SICK MASS - 11TH FEBRUARY 2023:** A Mass for the World Day of the Sick, including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, will be held at 11am on Saturday 11th February 2023 at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. All are welcome, including those who may be sick, and those who care for the sick and dying and health care professionals. RSVPs are required by 6th February 2022 to [hanah.portelli@parracatholic.org](mailto:hanah.portelli@parracatholic.org)

**SAVE THE DATE – MEMORIAL MASS OF ST JOSEPHINE BAKHITA - 19TH FEBRUARY 2023:** You are invited to the Memorial Mass of St Josephine Bakhita, Patron Saint of South Sudan and Sudan, and victims of Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking on Sunday 19th February at 2pm at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. We hope you will join us to commemorate the victims of modern slavery and human trafficking in Australia and worldwide and look forward to celebrating the legacy of St Josephine Bakhita with you.

**GLENBROOK PARISH SHROUD OF TURIN PRESENTATION AND TALK - 21ST FEBRUARY 2023:** St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook, is hosting a presentation by local parishioner and former journalist William West on the Shroud of Turin on Tuesday 21st February at 7.30pm. William will discuss the history of the Shroud, which he explores in his book *Riddles of the Shroud – Questions Science Can't Answer*. Entry is via gold coin donation. To RSVP, please contact: [secretary@stfinbars.org.au](mailto:secretary@stfinbars.org.au)

**MUSIC FOR LENT:** Musicians & Liturgy Planners are invited to attend an evening exploring "Music For Lent". Presented by Eric Grella on Monday 13th February at 7pm - 8.30pm. At the Bishop Bede Heather Centre 1-5 Marion St Blacktown. RSVP by Thursday 9th February to [hanah.portelli@parracatholic.org](mailto:hanah.portelli@parracatholic.org) or 0460 037 795 Office of Worship.

## SAFEGUARDING FOR VOLUNTEERS: An Invitation to Face-to-Face Training

St Thomas Aquinas will be presenting the Mandatory Safeguarding Training onsite for our parish community, on **Saturday 11th February 2023**.

The schedule for the day will be:

- 10.00am - Module 1: Understanding Safeguarding & the Child Safe Standards
- 11.00am - Morning Tea
- 11.30am - Module 2: Legal Compliance: Risk of Significant Harm & Reportable Conduct
- 1:00pm - Lunch
- 1.30pm - Module 3: Working with Adults at Risk & Understanding Boundaries
- 3.00pm - Finish

Volunteers across the Diocese are asked to participate in this training to ensure our parishes are inclusive and safe for children and adults at risk.

Our participation is an expression of our personal commitment to living the values of the Gospel in this modern world. It is also an opportunity to show how we can combine our gifts and talents to ensure our parish is a faith-filled and welcoming community for all people.

**Please register by emailing:** [springwood@parracatholic.org](mailto:springwood@parracatholic.org) or [maria.kervin@parracatholic.org](mailto:maria.kervin@parracatholic.org)

I am looking forward to working with you all in ensuring that, together, we are building a safe parish for all our faith community.



Office for Safeguarding

Maria Kervin

### WHY should I sign up for Mandatory Safeguarding Training?

- ✚ All people involved in parish life have a collective responsibility to ensure our parish life is safe and inclusive for all.
- ✚ We have a special responsibility to care for children and adults at risk.
- ✚ Religious organisations are now required by law to ensure their volunteers who are involved in ministries that may directly or indirectly come in contact with children and/or adults at risk are supported with Mandatory Safeguarding Training.
- ✚ This is a real opportunity to join with Bishop Vincent and work together at a Parish level to demonstrate that the Parish of St Thomas Aquinas has a zero tolerance of abuse in any form.

### WHO should register for Mandatory Safeguarding Training?

- ≈ Are you involved in a ministry that works directly with children? (Acolytes, SRE Teachers, Children's Liturgy Helpers, Readers etc)
- ≈ Are you involved in a ministry that operates through liturgies and parish events?
- ≈ Are you involved in a ministry that may directly or indirectly come into contact with children and/or vulnerable adults?
- ≈ Are you curious and would like to know more about keeping parishes safe?