

Reading Roster

Date:	14th/15th January 2023		
Mass Time:	VIGIL	8.00AM	9.30AM
Priest:	Fr Shinto	Fr Shinto	Fr Shinto
Acolyte:	Ian Miles	Randall Noney	Ed Junis
Commentator:	Felix Kobus	Kim Crawford	Phillip Saville
First Reading:	Colleen Baker	Jim Gresser	Domnhall MacCormac
Second Reading:	Margaret Smith	Cecilia Hunt	Ingrid Merchant
Music:			Chris Wilson
Date:	21st/22nd January 2023		
Mass Time:	VIGIL	8.00AM	9.30AM
Priest:	Fr Shinto	Fr Shinto	Fr Shinto
Acolyte:	Ian Miles	Richard Merchant	John Belfanti
Commentator:	Margaret Smith	Jim Gresser	Matt Aldous
First Reading:	Wilhelmina de Raadt	Rosalind Comfort	Margaret Hickey
Second Reading:	Lynette Boyd	Kim Crawford	Peta Sparkes
Music:			E Street Band

CARDINAL GEORGE PELL

Cardinal Pell fearlessly proclaimed the Gospel

The Church in Australia and around the world is deeply saddened at the sudden passing of Cardinal George Pell, the former Archbishop of Sydney and of Melbourne.

Cardinal Pell's episcopal motto was 'Be Not Afraid' and through good days and bad, he lived up to these words as a man of courage and with a big heart, who trusted in divine providence.

His Eminence was an author of books and a regular newspaper columnist, a lecturer and leader in Catholic education, and a scholar in his own right. He served the broader Church as a member of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, the Vox Clara Commission, the Pontifical Council for the Family and the Congregation of Bishops. As Prefect for the Secretariat of the Economy, member of Pope Francis' Council of Cardinal Advisors and one of the highest-ranking church officials in the world, the Cardinal's work for openness in Church affairs was hugely important.

By Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP

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, 13th February and Thursday, 16th 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, 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, 15th March at 7.00pm and Holy Communion on Friday, 24th March at 7.00pm (Please note new date)

Please refer to our website for further information : www.stachurchspringwood.org.au

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
Healing Mass: 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 parish office will be closed until 8.30am Friday, 20th January 2023

THE GOSPEL

John 1:29-34

John said, "I did not know him."
 So the spirit showed the Christ to him.
 And John replied,
 "behold, the Lamb of God,
 who takes away the sin of the world."
 Spirit, come, shine through our clouds.
 Teach us your love. Let us know Jesus.
 Let us tell everyone about the Lamb of God.

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 49:3, 5-6

I will make you a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

Lord,
 you made us
 glorious in your sight.
 You, the Holy One of Israel,
 the faithful covenant, have chosen us.
 Help us tell all the ends of the earth
 of your saving love.

Anne Osdieck

Today's Readings: Isaiah 49:3, 5-6; 1 Corinthians 1:1-3; John 1:29-34

Entrance Antiphon: All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 39:2, 4, 7-10 - R. Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us. He enabled those who accepted him to become the children of God. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

Recently Deceased: Patricia Schirato, Sandra Bastoli, John Denman, Jim Wren,
Cardinal George Pell



Sick: Barry Morris, 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

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.

OUR NEW WEBINAR SERIES LAUNCHES JANUARY 23RD 2023: We are thrilled to announce our new monthly webinar series - *Journeying with the Laudato Si' Action Platform* - dedicated to you and your path towards integral ecology. The first webinar in the series, "Wonder and Awe: How Eco-Spirituality Can Inspire Us in 2023", kicks off on January 23rd at 8:00 EST. This webinar will be available in English and Spanish. Register at: https://us06web.zoom.us/join/register/WN_WVVfl_vSXTJaFu6BGufzMVQ?

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/>

CHURCH CARPETS: On Thursday and Friday of this week, our Church carpets were fumigated to get rid of the carpet beetle by Wise Pest Control and low toxic materials were used. Thank you for your patience while this maintenance was carried out.

CARPARK GARDENS: Thank you to Aaron from Attard Excavations who levelled out the bark through the carpark gardens last week. It looks amazing.

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 11 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 6 February 2022 to 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 19 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.

PARISH OF RICHMOND ST PAULS'S FEAST - 21ST JANUARY 2023: Come join the celebrations at the Parish of Richmond's 2023 Annual St Paul's Feast on Saturday 21 January. Mass will be celebrated at St Monica's at 5.30pm, followed by a procession. Other activities include the Our Lady Queen of Peace Band, food and drink, chocolate wheel and kids amusement rides. If you are able to assist in any way, please contact Vicki on 0410 545 783.

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 or 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.

Maria Kervin
Community Engagement and Education Officer
Office of Safeguarding, Diocese of Parramatta



Office for Safeguarding

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?