

Reading Roster

Date:	11th/12th February 2023		
Mass Time:	VIGIL	8.00AM	9.30AM
Priest:	Fr Shinto	Fr Shinto	Fr Shinto
Acolyte:	Ian Miles	Bernard Ellis	John Belfanti
Commentator:	Colleen Baker	Cecilia Hunt	Phillip Saville
First Reading:	Lynette Boyd	Kim Crawford	Margaret Hickey
Second Reading:	Felix Kobus	Jim Gresser	Katherine Mahns
Music:			E-Street Band
Date:	18th/19th February 2023		
Mass Time:	VIGIL	8.00AM	9.30AM
Priest:	Fr Paul	Fr Paul	Fr Paul
Acolyte:	Ian Miles	Randall Noney	Richard Merchant
Commentator:	Margaret Smith	Jim Gresser	Domhnall MacCormac
First Reading:	Wilhelmina de Raadt	Cecilia Hunt	Peta Sparkes
Second Reading:	Colleen Baker	Kim Crawford	Matt Aldous
Music:			Chris Wilson

REFUGEE FOOD DRIVE - LENTEN GIVING

Are you able to contribute food or household items this Lent? Drop off at St Thomas Aquinas Church 25th or 26th February 2023.

House of Welcome is part of St Francis Social Services and provides services to support families seeking asylum. It receives support from many parishes throughout the Parramatta Diocese. Their Food-bank provides household necessities for asylum seekers with limited or no income. If you can make a donation of any items listed below, it would be greatly appreciated. No contribution is too small!

Requested Food Items: Canned Tuna in oil; Cooking oil; Tea & Coffee; Sweet biscuits; Honey/Jam; Basmati rice; Crushed Tomatoes with ring pull; Cereal; Raw lentils; Salt, pepper & spices; Instant noodles (chicken flavour); Sweet corn kernels; Tinned fruit; Flour; Sugar.

Requested Household Items: Deodorant; Cleaning products; Sanitary pads (not tampons); Body soap, body wash; Toothpaste/toothbrush; Shampoo/Conditioner; Toilet rolls; Dish cloths; Toilet cleaner; Dishwashing liquid; Laundry powder; Nappies (large sizes 5/6)

PS: PLEASE NO SOUP, BAKED BEANS OR TINNED SPAGHETTI

SRE THANKS!! "Ask and you shall receive" it tells us in the bible.

Well! Springwood parishioners sure respond to helping when asked. Thank you very much. It was humbling last weekend! I know some people will bring money this weekend, as they did not have cash last weekend, so I will let you know next weekend how much we raised for our catholic students in the public schools. YES, we can order activity books and keep going.

We also feel so much support for the work we are still allowed to do in the public schools, spreading God's word and sharing our faith. It is not just the SRE's, it now is the St Thomas Aquinas parish community who are supporting. Together. Again, thank you so much. For more information contact me, Wilhelmina de Raadt (SRE Co-ordinator) on 4751 3319

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](http://www.stachurchspringwood.org.au)

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.stachurchspringwood.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
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 GOSPEL

Matthew 5:17-37

Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets. I have come not to abolish but to fulfill.

Jesus, Let us grasp your teaching of the law.
Justice. Love. Compassion. Let your law
make us holy.

Not like the Pharisees, who blow trumpets
before they give.

You showed us with your every breath just
what it means to be holy. You are the wonder,
the goal, the summit of the law.

Teach us. Turn all of our
law-keeping into love.

THE FIRST READING

Sirach 15:15-20

*Before man are life and death, good and evil, which-
ever he chooses shall be given to him.*

God of so much wisdom, why do you let
us choose?

Is it that you would like to be chosen?

Then help us always to want you.

Anne Osdieck

Today's Readings: Sirach 15:15-20; 1 Corinthians 2:6-10; Matthew 5:17-37

Entrance Antiphon: Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 118:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34 R. Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

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

Recently Deceased: Lorna Lyons



Sick: 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 was involved in a helicopter crash in Queensland. **UPDATE: NICHOLAS IS NOW ABLE TO TALK, THOUGH HIS VOICE IS A BIT SLURRED. HE DOES NOT HAVE ANY BRAIN INJURY!!**

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/>

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

STA LADIES FELLOWSHIP: Our next meeting is being held on Friday 17th February 2023, after the 9.30am Mass. Guest speaker: Fr Shinto. All are welcome to come along and share morning tea & friendship with fellow parishioners.

ALL PARISHIONERS: Are invited and welcome to attend the World Day of Prayer at the Salvation Army Citadel, Francis St, Faulconbridge on Friday 3rd March 2023,. There will be a 10.30am morning tea followed by a 11.00am Prayer Service. The nation highlighted for prayer this year is TAIWAN.

CHARISMATIC HEALING MASS: Mass will be followed by individual prayer for healing. Celebrant: Robin Koning SJ, Sunday 19th February 2023, 2.00pm at St Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church, 36-40 Breakfast Rd, Marayong.

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?

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

Saturday, 11th February:	Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes
Tuesday, 14th February:	St Cyril and St Methodius
Tuesday, 21st February:	St Peter Damian
Wednesday, 22nd February:	ASH WEDNESDAY (Day of Fast and Abstinence)
Thursday, 23rd February:	St Polycarp
Monday, 27th February:	St Gregory of Narek