

**Reading Roster**

<b>Date:</b>	<b>27th/28th May 2023</b>	<b>Pentecost Sunday</b>	
<b>Mass Time:</b>	VIGIL 5:00PM	8.00AM	9.30AM
<b>Priest:</b>	TBA	Fr PJ	Fr PJ
<b>Acolyte:</b>	Ian Miles	Randall Noney	Bernard Ellis
<b>Commentator:</b>	Cheryl Kirby	Vicky Walker	Katherine Mahns
<b>First Reading:</b>	Lynette Boyd	Jim Gresser	Peta Sparkes
<b>Second Reading:</b>	Colleen Baker	Kim Crawford	Anne Ellis
<b>Music:</b>	Chris Wilson	None	None
<b>Date:</b>	<b>3rd/4th June 2023</b>	<b>The Most Holy Trinity</b>	
<b>Mass Time:</b>	VIGIL 5:00PM	8.00AM	9.30AM
<b>Priest:</b>	Fr Paul	Fr Paul	Fr Paul
<b>Acolyte:</b>	Ed Junis	John Belfanti	Richard Merchant
<b>Commentator:</b>	Colleen Baker	Kim Crawford	Katherine Mahns
<b>First Reading:</b>	Lynette Boyd	Cecilia Hunt	Ingrid Merchant
<b>Second Reading:</b>	Wilhelmina de Raadt	Jim Gresser	Steve Bishop
<b>Music:</b>	Andrew Wilson	None	Chris Wilson

Morning Tea Roster - 4th June after 9:30am Mass: Church Cleaners / Polish Group

**St Thomas Aquinas Parish Bulletin**

168 Hawkesbury Road, Springwood, NSW, 2777  
 PO Box 4410, Winmalee, NSW 2777  
 Phone: 02 4754 1052



**Parish Email:** email: [springwood@parracatholic.org](mailto:springwood@parracatholic.org)  
**Parish Website:** [www.stchurchspringwood.org.au](http://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:** Suggestions to the Box at the Back of the Church  
**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:** Monday-Saturday, 9.00am  
**Children's Liturgy:** 3rd Sunday of every month, 9:30 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

*We respect the Darug people and their elders both past and present, as the traditional custodians of this land on which we celebrate the Eucharist.*

**ACOLYTES**  
**LECTORS**  
**PPC MEMBERS**  
**COMMENTATORS**  
**SPECIAL MINISTERS**

**FLOWER ARRANGERS**  
**CHURCH CLEANERS**  
**MUSICIANS**  
**GARDENERS**  
**CHOIR**  
**CATECHISTS**

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY**  
**ALL OTHER VOLUNTEERS**

**PRAYERS FOR VOLUNTEERS**

Jesus, we were created in the image of your love. Even now you call your Church to be your hands and feet, to offer loving service to one another in your name. We give you thanks for the Spirit you send to sustain and strengthen us in our works of love. We give you thanks for the members you raise up to respond with special service, each in their own way, to the needs of our local communities.

Please bless all who freely labour for your love, especially the volunteers who give of themselves to support Catholic Charities. Bring to fulfillment the gifts they offer in hope of a better world and help us to see in one another the beauty and dignity that you bestow on each person.

Renew our hearts in grace and gratitude, that we may always find new reasons for joy.  
 Amen.



**Pray for our Confirmation Candidates**

Please keep our Confirmation Candidates in your prayers as they prepare for this beautiful Sacrament.

**Confirmation Prayer**  
*Confirmation enhances our appreciation of God's involvement in our lives by making us more aware of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.*

We are well into our Confirmation journey with our groups completing their four-week group sessions next week. *Let us pray for these children as they continue on this spiritual journey.*

Lord Jesus, you have gifted each one of these children with unique potential to do good for the human family. We thank you for these gifts, unique to each one of them. Let us rejoice in the sharing of the different gifts and talents that you have given each of them to serve the good in all. Amen.

**THE FIRST READING**  
Acts 2:1-11

*And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind.*



*As fire surges in the wind,  
 you blow through  
 all creation.  
 Not just in that upper room,  
 in one place and  
 time,  
 but  
 everywhere.  
 Oh Spirit,  
 set our hearts on fire  
 every minute of every day.  
 Let us  
 go with you to  
 the ends of the earth.*

**THE SECOND READING**

1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13

*We do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit itself intercedes with inexpressible groanings.*

**Spirit of Jesus,  
 You know our prayers.  
 Take our sighs up to the Father.  
 Wrap our life around them.  
 Let our spirits cry out  
 in joyful harmony  
 with you:  
 Abba, Father!**

Anne Osdieck

**Today's Readings: Acts 2:1-11; 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13; John 20:19-23**

**Entrance Antiphon:** The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world and that which contains all things understands what is said, alleluia.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalm 103:1, 24, 29-31, 34. R. v. 30

**R. Lord send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.**

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love, Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.



**Recently Deceased: David Williams, Joan Goldsworthy**

**Sick:** Maria Kay, Gwen Daly, 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**

**INFORMATION ON LITURGY:** The Parish Pastoral Council would like to hear from any parishioner who would be interested in helping our liturgical ministry. Liturgy is more than only words. We would like our parish to be a vibrant, meaningful and inclusive place of worship. Help us to establish a consistent, prayerful, and inviting liturgy for each Mass. Please email the Parish Pastoral Council on [springwoodparishpc@gmail.com](mailto:springwoodparishpc@gmail.com) or place your name into the suggestion box at the back of the church and the PPC will review submissions at the next meeting in June..

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:** The next meeting for the PPC will be held on Tuesday, 20th June. If you would like to include any items to the agenda, please place into an envelope and put into the PPC Box situated at the back of the church.

**FR SHINTO:** From Monday 22nd May until Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June Fr Shinto is attending a Cannon Law course and will not be available for weekend or midweek Masses therefore, we will have communion services on Thursday and Friday, except for The Healing Mass on 2nd June, which will still go ahead. We have arranged a supply priest for the weekend of the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> May.

**PAINTING:** Our Parish has been gifted a beautiful, original oil painting and we would like to have help from someone that may know of how the art world operates and how we can sell the art to raise money for our Parish (at the donors request). If you think you may be able to help, please speak with Debbie in the office. Thank you.



**AUSTRALIAN PILGRIMAGE:** The Sisters of Saint Joseph have prepared an Australian Pilgrimage, "In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop" commencing in Melbourne on 17 October, journeying through Victoria and South Australia, and ending at Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney on 28 October 2023. During the pilgrimage we visit many places associated with Mary MacKillop's life and ministry. For further information please contact national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au or on 89124818.

**THE PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUP MOVEMENT:** The population of the Parish had changed over time. A Family Group is one way to get to know fellow parishioners. If you want to find out more about the Family Groups pick up a brochure from the table at the rear of the church. Anyone can join: singles/couples/old/young/regulars/casuals – all are welcome: it's a family for all! More details to come.

**WALKING TOGETHER - YOUTH POWR MEETS THE ULURU STATEMENT:** In view of the upcoming referendum on the Voice to Parliament, Youth PoWR and the Challenging Racism Project at WSU are hosting a free interactive workshop led by Youth Off the Streets to foster purpose and understanding among non-Indigenous youth so they can confidently walk the path of reconciliation with First Nations people. For young adults aged 18-35 Please join us: Sunday 28 May @ 12-4pm, Vegetarian food served at midday. Come! Eat! Meet! Participate! Peter Shergold Building, WSU Level 9, 169 Macquarie St, Parramatta 2150. Register your attendance FREE at Humanitix: [events.humanitix.com/youthpowr-meets-ururu](https://events.humanitix.com/youthpowr-meets-ururu)

**PARISH LIBRARY:** The approach of winter seems a timely opportunity to remind you all of the parish library which operates from the shelves on the eastern / organ side of our church. Wander over for a browse and take, swap or donate as your interests move you.

**FREE WELLBEING GROUPS HOSTED BY CATHOLIC CARE'S SPRINGWOOD**

**DROP-IN CENTRE:** *About Time* is an exciting new group for men to discover, connect and be inspired at every stage of life. If you're looking to make new connections, to join in on a stimulating conversation or simply be in a group where ideas and stories are shared, valued and welcome, *About Time* is the group for you! Led by an experienced educator and trained facilitator, *About Time* will meet every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month in Springwood Town Centre from 10am-12pm. Men from all ages and stages of life are welcome. Be inspired. Discover things and people you didn't know and connect with your community.

**BISHOP'S GOOD SAMARITAN APPEAL FOR ABORIGINAL CATHOLIC CARE**

**AT EMERTON:** Thank you so much for your generous support of Aboriginal Catholic Care at Emerton through the Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal. Your gift provides a welcoming place where people experiencing tough times can be supported with kindness and compassion. Your generous gift will help provide a place where people's practical needs are met so they can live in comfort and dignity. Where many can come, and no one is turned away. Thank you. You can still scan the QR Code to give generously or use the envelopes on the pews.



**PROJECT COMPASSION:** Thank you for the kind donation to our Project Compassion 2023 Appeal which provides so much value to the communities we serve. Times are tough everywhere right now but your generous donation totalling \$3,782.10 provides so much security for families in need. Thank you.



**The Great Sharing**

Pentecost is a feast equal to Christmas and Easter in importance. It is the official sending of the Holy Spirit into men and women.

**If you let him, Jesus will be within you just as the Father is in him.**

We have been hearing Jesus talk about this moment in the Gospels for weeks now. We have been hearing that he will not leave us alone, but will send the Spirit, the Paraclete, to us.

Now it has happened.

- The Father is so much within Jesus that if you know Jesus you know the Father.
- Just as the Father is within Jesus, Jesus will be within us.
- This will happen through the sending of the Holy Spirit, who is the "inside" of Jesus and of the Father. The Spirit is the love they have for each other, the closeness, the great sharing.

The first sign is that the apostles begin speaking in tongues. People from all different lands and languages gather and each understands the disciples' words without any translation ([First Reading](#)). No small thing.

The reading then tells who the people in the crowd were: Parthians, Medes and Elamites; inhabitants of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, of Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia; Egypt and the districts of Libya near Cyrene; travellers from Rome, both Jews and converts to Judaism; Cretans and Arabs.

Language students of today wish they could talk in so many languages, don't they? But the real point is deeper than that. God's Holy Spirit means to bring us together, to allay differences, to let us hear other persons in the way they express themselves, not just to think about our own self. Each one has a "language" that expresses who they are (not a literal language, but an idiomatic way of speaking and acting that comes from the inside of who that person is). If you are able to hear, you can "listen through" characteristics and receive loving knowledge of that person, even if they have no intention of letting us in.

But that is so difficult, you say. Some people you run into are just plain annoying. "So-and-so just talks on and on and I think I will go crazy if there is a minute more." How in the world can we "hear" another human being?

With the aid of the Holy Spirit.

It is not magic. The work of the Spirit is to listen for the "insides" of the other person, as we saw above. If you take Jesus seriously in the [Gospel](#), you will hear with the aid of the Spirit, the Paraclete, which is Love given to the deepest part of you. Not Love instead of your own freedom, but Love as a help, a push (not a shove) toward caring for everything in God, of course, and what is best in other people, even troublesome ones.

It takes time to learn all this, of course, to clear the various blockages inside us that keep the Spirit at bay. Remember, we are being invited into the greatest closeness possible, the great sharing that is God himself. Yes it does take time. And we make a lot of mistakes. But God is willing to make us "temples of the Holy Spirit," and to stay with us, strengthening us, guiding us, helping us to make Love a root in us.

John Foley, SJ

**Mountains Deanery Listening Consultation**

Over 60 people were involved in the **Mountains Deanery Listening Consultation for the Diocesan Synod** last Saturday evening. It started with a warm welcome of soup, tasty food and friendly socialising before meeting for the consultation. The structure of small groups of 5 and the emphasis on respectful listening gave everyone time to be heard.

Below was the most powerful, reflective tool; the choice of the short but hope filled scripture that we all had time to pray about before listening to each other.

**Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert** *Isaiah 43:19.*

We were further encouraged by **Bishop Vincent** to join in to help make **new plans** for all of us in our Diocese through this synodal or sharing together process.

With wonderful organisation from the Parramatta Diocesan team, generous hospitality from St. Columba's Catholic College and energetic support from all of the Deanery Council Members, many participants had a good encounter in this listening and consultative event.

**But it's not over yet!** We have a chance to be involved in further listening consultation groups or by putting in our own personal submission. **So Watch This Space.....**

Maureen (Deanery PC)