

Reading Roster

Date:	12th/13th August 2023 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time		
Mass Time:	VIGIL 5:00PM	8.00AM	9.30AM
Priest:	Fr Galbert	Fr Paul	Fr Galbert
Acolyte:	Ian Miles	Marek Grus	Richard Merchant
Commentator:	Margaret Smith	Kim Crawford	Steve Bishop
First Reading:	Tanya Baldwin	Jim Gresser	Anne Edwards
Second Reading:	Felix Kobus	Loida Derbyshire	Domhnall MacCormac
Music:	Chris Wilson	None	Streeters
Date:	19th/20th August 2023 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time		
Mass Time:	VIGIL 5:00PM	8.00AM	9.30AM
Priest:	Fr Peter Carroll	Fr PJ	Fr PJ
Acolyte:	Ian Miles	Randall Noney	Richard Merchant
Commentator:	Cheryl Kirby	Cecilia Hunt	Ingrid Merchant
First Reading:	Lynette Boyd	Michael Loyd	Anne Edwards
Second Reading:	Wilhelmina de Raadt	Jim Gresser	Brian Edwards
Music:	None	None	Chris Wilson
Date:	26th/27th August 2023 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time		
Mass Time:	VIGIL 5:00PM	8.00AM	9.30AM
Priest:	Fr Dado	Fr Paul	Fr Paul
Acolyte:	Ian Miles	Marek Grus	John Belfanti
Commentator:	Margaret Smith	Kim Crawford	Phillip Saville
First Reading:	Felix Kobus	Greg King	Katherine Mahns
Second Reading:	Lynette Boyd	Cecilia Hunt	Margaret Hickey
Music:	Chris Wilson		Streeters

Morning Tea Roster - 20th August after 9:30am Mass: STA Ladies Fellowship #2



Australia takes on France on Saturday, 12th August with both teams fighting for a place in the semi-finals.

Sending our Matildas hugs and kisses before their Quarter-Finals clash. The whole nation is cheering and praying for you!



Solemnity of The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Schedule of Masses:

Monday 14 August 7pm Vigil Springwood
Tuesday 15 August 9.30am Springwood
Tuesday 15 August 7.00pm Lawson

Everyone is welcome!

Alleluia, alleluia!

Mary is taken up to heaven, and the angels of God shout for joy.

Alleluia!

St Thomas Aquinas Parish Bulletin

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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
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, Wednesday, Thursday 9:30 am
Communion Service: Monday, Friday, 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.

REFLECTION

by Dianne Bergant CSA

Although divine power is manifested in dramatic ways, it is also present in what is unassuming. Traces of God can be seen in the delicacy of a violet, in a cool summer breeze, in the blush of innocence, in the fiery eyes of justice. Every one of us lives in the midst of God, breathes the breath of God's life, and is constantly touched by the exquisite artistry of God's creativity. Life itself is a mountain experience of God.

As wonderful as life may be, it can also be very frightening at times. There are misunderstandings and rancour, jealousy and vindictiveness, greed and a hunger for power. Our personal lives can come unravelled and we can feel that we are genuinely 'at sea'. Every human being is tossed about by the exigencies of life. It is at times like these that we need faith in Jesus. Even though we do not recognise him, he is there in the midst of our chaos. Having the power of God, he is the definitive champion of all chaos, and so he is able to allay our fears and calm the sea.

A true experience of God, whether it be within the ordinariness of life or one of life's tribulations, is both transformative and effusive. It is a reality that cannot be contained; it must be proclaimed. Disciples must be ready to do what they can in order that the good news of God's revelation be made known to others.

Today's Readings: 1 Kings 19:9, 11-13; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:22-33

Entrance Antiphon: Look to your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 84:9-14

R. Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord, who gives you your fill of finest wheat.



Recently Deceased: Marie Kennan, Patricia Quinn
Commemorative Deceased: John Baker, Andrew Langford-Brown

Sick: Marama Watson, Faith Naughton-Green, Margaret Munro, Mary Whyte, Gwen Daly, Ray Lyons, Lally Sabater, Baby Leonardo Diaz, James Wallace, Mischa Damaguc and family, Margaret Day, Adam McCully, Christopher Coombs, 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

FUNERAL MASS: The Funeral Mass for Patricia Quinn will be held at St Thomas Aquinas Church on Wednesday, 16th August at 11.00am. *May Patricia rest gently in the presence of her God.*

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: The next meeting for the PPC will be held on Tuesday, 15th August. 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.

STA LADIES FELLOWSHIP MEETING: STA Ladies Fellowship meeting will be held on Friday morning 18th August at the PARISH Centre from 10:00am. Guest speaker is KIM CRAWFORD who will be giving a talk and leading a discussion titled 'What is Christian Love'. All are welcome to attend.

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY: Mass schedules: Monday 14 August 7pm Vigil at Springwood, Tuesday 15 August 9.30am at Springwood and Tuesday 15 August 7.00pm at Lawson. Everyone is welcome!

NINE-WEEK NOVENA FOR THE DIOCESAN SYNOD: All are invited to pray a Nine-Week Novena for the Diocesan Synod. The Novena will begin the week of Sunday 13 August and conclude the week of Sunday 8th October in the lead-up to the Synod Assembly: Friday 13 to Sunday 15 October. You are invited to pray once a week as a parish community, with your family, ministry groups or during personal prayer. The copies of Reflection and Prayer for week 1 (Sunday 13th August) are available on the table at the back of the church. More information: <https://parracatholic.org/synod2023/>

CONGRATULATIONS: A massive congratulations to our Australian Netball Team on winning the Netball World Cup in Cape Town, South Africa by beating England 61-45. The momentous victory marks the first time the Diamonds have lifted the World Cup trophy in eight years and adds the final piece of silverware to their collection. We knew you could do it!

JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICE FOODBANK: During this unprecedented times, refugees and people seeking asylum in the community need your help more than ever. Non-perishable food, toiletries and financial donations are desperately needed and appreciated. We are seeking donations of Basmati Rice, Cooking Oil, Long Life Milk, Tinned Tuna, Red Kidney Beans, Biscuits and Muesli Bars, Dry Chickpeas, Red and Green Lentils, Nappies, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Shampoo & Conditioner, Sanitary products, Razors and Shavers, Deodorant (male and female), Soap. We thank you for walking with us at this critical time. We will have boxes available for this foodbank collection at the back of the church with the actual drive being on the weekend of the 2nd and 3rd of September.

CHARISMATIC HEALING MASS: Mass will be followed by individual prayer for healing. Celebrant: Fr Hugh Thomas CSsR. Sunday 20th August, 2023, 2pm at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, St Marys NSW. All welcome!

FaithLIFE - 3 NIGHT SHORT COURSE ON SYNODAL SPIRITUALITY Beginning 22 August: Sign up for the FaithLIFE 3-night short course on synodal spirituality with Sr Patty Andrew, brought to you by the Mission Enhancement Team (MET). 6:30PM to 8:30PM on three Tuesdays: 22 Aug + 29 Aug + 5 Sep. Downstairs @ Bishop Bede Heather Centre: 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown NSW 2148. RSVP via <https://pfparra.org.au/faithlife/>

GIVING ENVELOPES: This is an important message for all parishioners who give generously via the Giving Envelopes. It is time to re-order and we will, as previously mentioned, be changing the envelope numbers for the new year starting in October. We have been busy cataloguing an entire year and if you haven't used an envelope in the last year you will NOT BE ISSUED with another set. If you have any queries, please see Debbie in the parish office.

COUNTERS: If you would like to be part of our weekly contribution counters and are available during the week at 10.00am for one day a month, please send an email to the parish office at springwood@parracatholic.org

READERS: If you are interested in being a reader at any of our Masses please contact the Parish office via email or phone so we can place you on to our roster. Thank you.

MULCH: Thank you to the wonderful parishioner/s who has been placing the mulch around our parish over the last week. It is so very much appreciated and our grounds are looking fantastic.

LITURGICAL MINISTRY FORMATION COURSE: The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence in September. This is formation for anyone interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or mary.gale@parracatholic.org or visit our website to download an enrolment form at <https://officeforworship.org.au/>



Invitation to Josephite Companions

Experience a Perthville and Surrounds Pilgrimage

Celebrating 150 years of the Sisters of St Joseph in NSW

On 16th July 1872, a bitterly cold day in the middle of winter, three Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart, accompanied by a young lady whose wish it was to join the congregation, arrived at Queen Charlotte's Vale, now known as Perthville, a small village a few miles from Bathurst. They were sent from Adelaide with the blessings of the Josephite co-founders Mother Mary MacKillop and Fr Julian Tenison Woods. They arrived, after travelling from Adelaide for many weeks by coastal steamer, train and horse drawn carriage, at the invitation of Bishop Matthew Quinn. He was the first Bishop of the newly established Diocese of Bathurst, a huge area which covered almost half of New South Wales.

Bishop Quinn had heard of the wonderful work this new order of religious sisters was doing in isolated areas of SA and around Brisbane. He knew they were exactly what was needed to spread the faith and provide education for the ever-growing number of people who were moving to inland areas of NSW.

What did these women find when they arrived at the Vale? What were their living conditions? How did they manage to attract hundreds of women to join their congregation while reaching out to establish 60 convent schools, many of which had boarding facilities. Four other foundations were made in other Dioceses at Whanganui NZ, Goulburn and Lochinvar in NSW, and Westbury in Tasmania. Together with Perthville, these became Diocesan Josephite congregations in their own rite.

These were true pioneers in every sense of the word. Women of faith, courage, devotion and inclusiveness, who enabled countless children to achieve their potential through a comprehensive education. The sisters enhanced the lives of so many people living in the rural towns where they ministered.

While the story of the early years of these sisters is one of struggle, isolation and poverty it is also very inspiring, filling us with pride and gratitude for the commitment of these resilient women.

The Perthville and Surrounds Pilgrimage, being held at the Vale Lodge, Perthville (10km from Bathurst in the Central West of NSW), commences with the evening meal on Friday 15th September 2023 and concludes with lunch on Monday 18th September. It will take you on a journey with Mary MacKillop and Julian Woods through the early years of the Perthville foundation, introducing you to some of these amazing women and the districts where the very early convents were established.

The cost includes 3 nights' accommodation, all meals, pilgrimage tours, and transfers from Bathurst railway, bus terminal or airport (if applicable). \$540 single; \$790 double (4 available). Places are limited and bookings close on 18th August 2023.

For further information phone: Sr Alice 0428 741 342 or Margaret Smith 02 4753 1031

To book your place complete the form below and email to: perthville.coordinator@sosj.org.au

Or post to: Pilgrimage Co-ordinator, St Joseph's Heritage and Conference Centre, Tenison Woods Ave, Perthville NSW 2795

Josephite Companions - Perthville and Surrounds Pilgrimage 15-18 September 2023

APPLICATION FORM

Name (s): _____

The Double Rooms have one double bed suitable for couples. Do you require a double room? YES NO

Address: _____ Post Code _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

I wish to book my place in the Josephite Companies Retreat

I will be travelling by: Car Train Plane

Signed: _____

Date: _____