

<b>Date:</b>	1st/2nd June 2024		The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ	
<b>Mass Time:</b>	<b>Acolyte</b>	<b>First Reading &amp; Responsorial Psalm</b>	<b>Second Reading &amp; Prayer of the Faithful</b>	<b>Music</b>
<b>Vigil: 5:00 PM</b>	Ian Miles	Neil Kirby	Cheryl Kirby	Andrew Wilson
<b>8:00 AM</b>	Marek Grus	Vicky Walker	Cecilia Hunt	
<b>9:30 AM</b>	Richard Merchant	Anne Edwards	Peta Sparkes	Chris Wilson
<b>Morning Tea:</b>	East Timor			

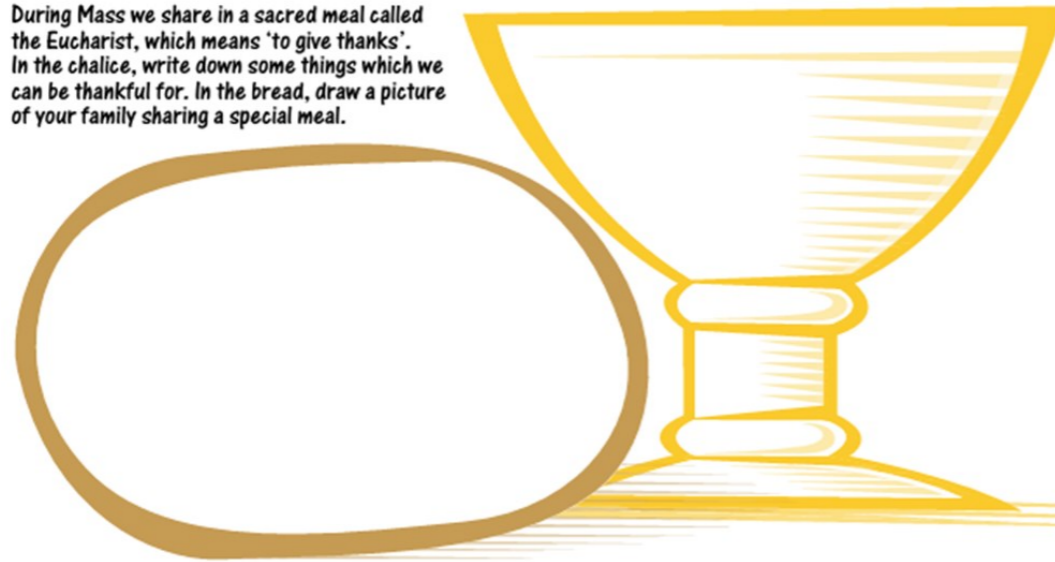
<b>Date:</b>	8th/9th June 2024		Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
<b>Mass Time:</b>	<b>Acolyte</b>	<b>First Reading &amp; Responsorial Psalm</b>	<b>Second Reading &amp; Prayer of the Faithful</b>	<b>Music</b>
<b>Vigil: 5:00 PM</b>	Ed Junis	Tanya Baldwin	Tamsyn Baldwin	Chris Wilson
<b>8:00 AM</b>	Randall Noney	Loida Derbyshire	Tom Horsfall	
<b>9:30 AM</b>	Phil Saville	Margaret Hickey	Katherine Mahns	Streeters

KID'S CORNER



**The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, Year B**

During Mass we share in a sacred meal called the Eucharist, which means 'to give thanks'. In the chalice, write down some things which we can be thankful for. In the bread, draw a picture of your family sharing a special meal.



**Gospel** Mark 14:12-16, 22-26

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb was sacrificed, his disciples said to Jesus, 'Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the passover?' So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the city and you will meet a man carrying a pitcher of water. Follow him, and say to the owner of the house which he enters, "The Master says: Where is my dining room in which I can eat the passover with my disciples?" He will show you a large upper room furnished with couches, all prepared. Make the preparations for us there.' The disciples set out and went to the city and found everything as he had told them, and prepared the Passover.

And as they were eating he took some bread, and when he had said the blessing he broke it and gave it to them. 'Take it,' he said 'this is my body.' Then he took a cup, and when he had returned thanks he gave it to them, and all drank from it, and he said to them, 'This is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many. I tell you solemnly, I shall not drink any more wine until the day I drink the new wine in the kingdom of God.'

After psalms had been sung they left for the Mount of Olives.

Dear Lord,

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Amen.

Write a prayer of thanksgiving to God that you can say before every meal.



The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton, Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.

St Thomas Aquinas Parish

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**Parish Email:** email: [springwood@parracatholic.org](mailto:springwood@parracatholic.org)  
**Parish Website:** [www.stachurchspringwood.org.au](http://www.stachurchspringwood.org.au)  
**Parish Facebook Page:** St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Community Springwood  
**Parish Administrator:** Rev Christopher del Rosario (E: [christopher.del-rosario@parracatholic.org](mailto:christopher.del-rosario@parracatholic.org))  
**Parish Pastoral Council:** Email suggestions to [springwoodparishpc@gmail.com](mailto:springwoodparishpc@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:** Monday - Saturday 9:30 am  
**Adoration:** Monday - Saturday from 8:15 am - 9:15 am  
**First Friday Adoration:** Every first Friday of the month 7:00 pm  
**Reconciliation:** Saturday after 9:30 am Mass and 4:00-5:00 pm before the Vigil Mass  
**Children's Liturgy:** 3rd Sunday of every month, 9:30 am  
**Baptisms:** 2nd and 4th Sundays of every month - 11:00 am and by appointment  
**Weddings:** By appointment  
**Funerals:** Please Contact the Parish Office



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*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.*

Corpus Christi



The sixth chapter of St. John's Gospel is known by Scripture Scholars as Jesus' Eucharistic Discourse; following the multiplication of loaves and fishes Our Lord reveals to the people that he is the Bread of Life - he is the Bread from Heaven. Upon reflection one notes the sentiments of the crowd towards Our Lord turns sour the longer he speaks to them - it begins with their admiration of him: 'When the people saw the sign which he had done, they said, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world!"' (Jn 6:14) and ends with many deserting Jesus: 'After this many of his disciples drew back and no longer went about with him.' (Jn 6:66). The Catechism of the Catholic Church, when speaking of the Eucharist states 'The Eucharist is "the source and summit of the Christian life. The other sacraments, and indeed all ecclesiastical ministries and works of the apostolate, are bound up with the Eucharist and are oriented toward it. For in the blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ himself, our Pasch.'" With this in mind it is baffling to note many deserted Our Lord following the revelation of the Eucharist - why would one reject the gift of the Eucharist?

Human Beings are sensible creatures: sensible refers to sense-oriented - we experience the world through our senses; our senses are the means of receiving data to develop our understanding of the world and how to glorify God. When the crowd first hears Jesus saying he is the Bread of Life they are astounded - they know his parents so they deduce he is not from Heaven; they cannot see beyond the physical and so question his statement. Our Lord however, does not relinquish his position and asserts he is the Bread of Life: 'Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that a man may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread which came down from heaven; if any one eats of this bread, he will live for ever; and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh.'" Why are they so concerned? The people interpret his instruction to eat his flesh and drink his blood as cannibalism. This act was and is frowned upon by the known world and so reject his offer to eat of him. What is clearly lacking is an understanding of Our Lord's words - Christ offers himself through the guise of Bread and Wine. Whilst the Eucharistic Host still retains all the physical properties of bread (sight, taste, smell, feel & sound) through the eyes of faith it is no longer that - it is truly, really, substantially the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ.

Dear friends, the Solemnity of Corpus Christi is a reminder of the great treasure we as Catholics hold: the Eucharist. We are blessed to receive Our Lord under the guise of Bread and Wine - our reception grants us the grace to continue on our pilgrim journey towards Heaven; it is also a foretaste of Eternal Life as for a few brief moments we are one with Our Lord. May we renew our appreciation of this wonderful gift and continue to show due honour and reverence towards the Blessed Sacrament. May we see beyond the physical and see Jesus Christ, our Lord, in the Most Holy Eucharist.

Wishing you a blessed week ahead,

Fr Chris

**Entrance Antiphon** Cf Psalm 80:17

He fed them with the finest wheat  
and satisfied them with honey from the rock.

**First Reading** Exodus 24:3-8

A reading from the book of Exodus

*This is the blood of the Covenant that the Lord has made with you.*

Moses went and told the people all the commands of the Lord and all the ordinances. In answer, all the people said with one voice, 'We will observe all the commands that the Lord has decreed.' Moses put all the commands of the Lord into writing, and early next morning he built an altar at the foot of the mountain, with twelve standing-stones for the twelve tribes of Israel. Then he directed certain young Israelites to offer holocausts and to immolate bullocks to the Lord as communion sacrifices. Half of the blood Moses took up and put into basins, the other half he cast on the altar. And taking the Book of the Covenant he read it to the listening people, and they said, 'We will observe all that the Lord has decreed; we will obey.' Then Moses took the blood and cast it towards the people. 'This' he said 'is the blood of the Covenant that the Lord has made with you, containing all these rules.'

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 115:12-13, 15-18. R. v.13

(R.) I will take the cup of salvation,  
and call on the name of the Lord.

1. How can I repay the Lord  
for his goodness to me?  
The cup of salvation I will raise;  
I will call on the Lord's name. (R.)
2. O precious in the eyes of the Lord  
is the death of his faithful.  
Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;  
you have loosened my bonds. (R.)
3. A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:  
I will call on the Lord's name.  
My vows to the Lord I will fulfil  
before all his people. (R.)

**Second Reading** Hebrews 9:11-15

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

*The blood of Christ will purify our inner selves.*

Now Christ has come, as the high priest of all the blessings which were to come. He has passed through the greater, the more perfect tent, which is better than one made by men's hands because it is not of this created order; and he has entered the sanctuary once and for all, taking with him not the blood of goats and bull calves, but his own blood, having won an eternal redemption for us. The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer are sprinkled on those who have incurred defilement and they restore the holiness of their outward lives; how much more effectively the blood of Christ, who offered himself as the perfect sacrifice to God through the eternal Spirit, can purify our inner self from dead actions so that we do our service to the living God.

He brings a new covenant, as the mediator, only so that the people who were called to an eternal inheritance may actually receive what was promised: his death took place to cancel the sins that infringed the earlier covenant.

**Sequence**

*The sequence, Sing forth, O Zion, may be said or sung in full, or using the shorter form indicated by the asterisked verses.*

- \*Behold the bread of angels, sent for pilgrims in their banishment, the bread for God's true children meant, that may not unto dogs be given: oft in the olden types foreshowed; in Isaac on the altar bowed, and in the ancient paschal food, and in the manna sent from heaven.
- \*Come then, good shepherd, bread divine, still show to us thy mercy sign; oh, feed us still, still keep us thine; so may we see thy glories shine in fields of immortality;
- \*O thou, the wisest, mightiest, best, our present food, our future rest, come, make us each thy chosen guest, co-heirs of thine, and comrades blest with saints whose dwelling is with thee.

**Gospel Acclamation** John 6:51-52

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord;  
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel** Mark 14:12-16, 22-26

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

*This is my body. This is my blood.*

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb was sacrificed, his disciples said to Jesus, 'Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the passover?' So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the city and you will meet a man carrying a pitcher of water. Follow him, and say to the owner of the house which he enters, "The Master says: Where is my dining room in which I can eat the passover with my disciples?" He will show you a large upper room furnished with couches, all prepared. Make the preparations for us there.' The disciples set out and went to the city and found everything as he had told them, and prepared the Passover. And as they were eating he took some bread, and when he had said the blessing he broke it and gave it to them. 'Take it,' he said 'this is my body.' Then he took a cup, and when he had returned thanks he gave it to them, and all drank from it, and he said to them, 'This is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many. I tell you solemnly, I shall not drink any more wine until the day I drink the new wine in the kingdom of God.'

After psalms had been sung they left for the Mount of Olives.

**Communion Antiphon** John 6:57

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood  
remains in me and I in him, says the Lord.



**Sick:** Odette Harb, Andy Hutvagner, Precious Tamayo, Julie Somerville, Fr Bob Bossini, Dane San Pedro, Marama Watson, Margaret Munro, 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****FINANCIALLY SUPPORTING OUR PARISH AND ITS WORKS:**

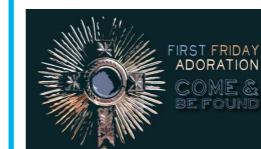
Please support our Parish and its projects.

- **Direct Debit:** Please contact the Parish Office for more details.

- **Direct Deposit:** Details are as follows:  
Bank Account Name: Springwood; BSB: 067-950  
Bank Account Number: 00000560  
Reference: Your name in full.

**FIRST COLLECTION:** This goes to the Board of Management. The fund supports the living expenses of the priests within our Diocese.

**SECOND COLLECTION:** This goes to our Parish of St Thomas Aquinas—directly funding operational costs, pastoral activities and various programs that enrich our community. Thank you.



**FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION** is going to be held this coming Friday 7th June at 7pm. Everybody is most welcome to spend some time with Our Lord.

**PARISH WORKING BEE:** We are asking for as many volunteers as possible to join us for a parish grounds working bee on Saturday 29th June from 10.00am until 3.00pm. Bring along your gloves, spades, trowels, secateurs, pruning shears, garden fork, HATS, sunscreen lotion and water! The BBQ will be sparked up for a re-fuel around lunch time. If you have any ground covers you would like to donate, please also bring them along!

**STA LADIES FELLOWSHIP** wishes to thank all who attended the recent BIGGEST MORNING TEA which raised \$1000 for the Cancer Council. Many thanks also to the cooks and providers who all helped to make the morning an enjoyable social occasion .

**BLUE MOUNTAINS REGION SRE CATECHIST MASS 2024:**

You are warmly invited to join us to celebrate Mass for the SRE Catechist ministry in our region on Tues 11th June 2024 at 11:30am at STA Parish. Certificates for SRE Catechist training (Lev 1 & 2) and awards for 5 & 10 years will be presented. A light lunch will follow. Friends, family are also welcome. RSVP please to Melissa McDonald by Tuesday 4th June 2024; M:0408 693 042 E: melissa.mcdonald@parracatholic.org

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL**

**2024:** July 2024 sees the St Thomas Aquinas Springwood Conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society reach the 86<sup>th</sup> year of its service to the needy in our community. So far this year, we have assisted an average of six families and individuals every week. Again, at a time when financial stress is straining so many, we invite our generous parishioners to contribute to the 2024 Winter Appeal. It will start on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2024 and conclude with Vinnies members collecting cash or card donations (eftpos machine available) at the end of all masses on the weekend of 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> June. Cash or envelope donations (please enclose CC details) can also be made at any time to the wooden Poor Box at the rear of the church. Tax receipts available on request. Thank you for your continuing generosity. Our Conference is always open to new members, so if you are interested in joining us, just ask one of the members after mass on that weekend in mid-June. An information session on the origins and purpose of SVDP will be held in the parish hall @ Our Lady of Nativity Parish Lawson Saturday June 15<sup>th</sup> starting at 9:30am. All welcome.

**BISHOP'S GOOD SAMARITAN APPEAL FOR CATHOLIC CARE'S PROJECT ELIZABETH:**

Will you strengthen the dignity of struggling mums? Your compassionate generosity and prayers will provide struggling mums with the practical and emotional support they need to overcome adversity and build a better future for themselves and their families. Please give generously to the Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal at parracatholic.org/appeal. Thank you.

**2024 Sacrament of Confirmation**

The Sacrament of Confirmation confers special graces of the Holy Spirit upon the person being confirmed, just as such graces were granted to the Apostles at Pentecost. Like Baptism, therefore it can only be performed once, and Confirmation increases and deepens all of the graces granted at Baptism. On Tuesday evening we spoke about the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit and how they each of them gives us strength to spread and defend the faith by word.

**O God, grant me:**

*The gift of wisdom*

*to see the world through your eyes;*

*The gift of counsel*

*to make difficult decisions;*

*The gifts of knowledge and understanding*

*to use my mind to know you and to love you;*

*The gift of fortitude*

*to have the courage to live in the faith, despite the*

*difficulties and disappointments;*

*The gift of piety*

*To be able to express my special love and commitment to you;*

*And the right kind of awesome fear*

*that makes me pause to wonder and revere God's love.*

**Amen**