

<b>Date:</b>	29th/30th June 2024 <i>Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>			
<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	Anne Maureen Scarff	Colleen Baker	No One
<b>8:00 AM</b>	Randall Noney	Cecilia Hunt	Jim Gresser	
<b>9:30 AM</b>	Richard Merchant	Anne Ellis	Jaden Ellis	No One
<b>Offertory:</b>	Isabella Turner, Abriella Turner and Jose Ramires			

<b>Date:</b>	6th/7th June 2024 <i>Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>			
<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	Neil Kirby	Cheryl Kirby	Andrew Wilson
<b>8:00 AM</b>	Marek Grus	Vicky Walker	Georgia Cook	
<b>9:30 AM</b>	John Belfanti	Anne Edwards	Brian Edwards	Chris Wilson
<b>Morning Tea:</b>	STA Ladies Fellowship			

KID'S CORNER



13th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

**Gospel** Mk 5:21-24, 35-43

When Jesus had crossed in the boat to the other side, a large crowd gathered round him and he stayed by the lakeside. Then one of the synagogue officials came up, Jairus by name, and seeing him, fell at his feet and pleaded with him earnestly, saying, 'My little daughter is desperately sick. Do come and lay your hands on her to make her better and save her life.' Jesus went with him and a large crowd followed him; they were pressing all round him.

Some people arrived from the house of the synagogue official to say, 'Your daughter is dead: why put the Master to any further trouble?' But Jesus had overheard this remark of theirs and he said to the official, 'Do not be afraid; only have faith.' And he allowed no one to go with him except Peter and James and John the brother of James. So they came to the official's house and Jesus noticed all the commotion, with people weeping and wailing unrestrainedly. He went in and said to them, 'Why all this commotion and crying? The child is not dead, but asleep.' But they laughed at him. So he turned them all out and, taking with him the child's father and mother and his own companions, he went into the place where the child lay. And taking the child by the hand he said to her, 'Talitha, kum!' which means, 'little girl, I tell you to get up.' The little girl got up at once and began to walk about, for she was twelve years old. At this they were overcome with astonishment, and he ordered them strictly not to let anyone know about it, and told them to give her something to eat.

Finish the story of Jesus and the little girl by adding the missing words and pictures

A crowd of people came to see Jesus as he stood on the shore of Lake Galilee.

Draw Jesus standing on the shore

A man named Jairus knelt at Jesus' feet and said, "My \_\_\_\_\_ is about to die! Please come and \_\_\_\_\_ her and she will be well again."

Fill in the missing words

\_\_\_\_\_ went with Jairus, but along the way some men came and said, "Jairus, your daughter has \_\_\_\_\_."

Fill in the missing words

Jesus said to Jairus, "Don't worry. Just have faith!"

Draw Jesus talking to Jairus

When they got to the \_\_\_\_\_ they saw people crying. Jesus said, "Why are you \_\_\_\_\_? She is not dead, she is only \_\_\_\_\_."

Fill in the missing words

Jesus took the girl by the hand and said, "Little girl, get up!". Then she got up and started to walk around.

Draw Jesus and the little girl

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St Thomas Aquinas Parish

168 Hawkesbury Road, Springwood, NSW, 2777  
 PO Box 4410, Winmalee, NSW 2777  
 Phone: 02 4754 1052; Emergency ONLY: 0474 631 168



**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 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.*

Pope Francis Angelus Address: 27 June 2021 - 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

Dear Brothers and Sisters,  
 Buongiorno!

In the Gospel today (cf. Mk 5:21-43) Jesus encounters our two most dramatic situations, death and disease. He frees two people from them: a little girl, who dies just as her father has gone to ask Jesus' help; and a woman, who has had blood loss for many years. Jesus lets himself be touched by our suffering and our death, and he works two signs of healing to tell us that neither suffering nor death have the last word. He tells us that death is not the end. He defeats this enemy, from which alone we cannot free ourselves.

However, in this period in which illness is still at the centre of the news, let us focus on the other sign, the healing of the woman. More than her health, her affections were compromised. Why? She had blood loss and therefore, according to the mindset of the time, she was deemed impure. She was a marginalised woman; she could not have stable relationships; she could not have a husband; she could not have a family, and could not have normal social relationships, because she was "impure", an illness that made her "impure". She lived alone, with a wounded heart. What is the greatest illness of life? Cancer? Tuberculosis? The pandemic? No. The greatest illness of life is a lack of love; it is not being able to love. This poor woman was sick, yes, with blood loss, but as a result of lack of love, because she could not be with others socially. And the healing that counts the most is that of affections. But how do we find it? We can think of our affections: are they sick or are they in good health? Are they infirm? Jesus is able to heal them. The story of this nameless woman — let us call her this way, "the nameless woman" — in whom we can all see ourselves, is exemplary. The text says that she had tried many treatments, "had spent all that she had, and was no better but rather grew worse" (v. 26). We too, how often do we throw ourselves into mistaken remedies to satisfy our lack of love? We think that success and money make us happy, but love cannot be bought; it is free. We hide in the virtual, but love is tangible. We do not accept ourselves as we are and we hide behind external facades, but love is not an appearance. We look for solutions from wizards and from holy men, to then find ourselves without money and without peace, like that woman. Finally, she chooses Jesus and throws herself into the crowd to touch Jesus' garment. In other words, that woman seeks direct contact, physical contact with Jesus. Especially at this time, we understand how important contact and relationships are. The same goes for Jesus: at times we are content to observe some precepts and to repeat prayers — many times, like parrots — but the Lord waits for us to encounter him, for us to open our hearts to him, that, like the woman, we touch his garment in order to heal. Because, by becoming intimate with Jesus, we are healed in our affections.

Jesus wants this. In fact, we read that, even while pressed by the crowd, he looks around to find who touched him. The disciples were saying: "But you see the crowd pressing around you...". No: "Who touched me?". This is Jesus' gaze: there are many people, but he goes in search of a face and a heart full of faith. Jesus does not look at the whole, like we do, but he looks at the individual. He does not stop at the wounds and mistakes of the past, but goes beyond sins and prejudices. We all have a history, and each of us, in our secret, knows well the ugly matters of our own history. But Jesus looks at them in order to heal them. We, instead, like to look at the ugly matters of others. How often when we speak, do we fall into chattering, which is speaking ill of others, "flaying" others. But look: what horizon of life is this? Not like Jesus, who always looks at how to save us; he looks at today; good will, and not the ugly history that we have. Jesus goes beyond sins. Jesus goes beyond prejudices. Jesus does not stop at appearances, but reaches the heart and he heals precisely the one who had been rejected by everyone, an impure woman. He tenderly calls her "daughter" (v. 34) — Jesus' style was closeness, compassion and tenderness: "Daughter..." — and he praises her faith, restoring her self-confidence.

Sister, brother, you are here, let Jesus look at and heal your heart. I too have to do this: let Jesus look at my heart and heal it. And if you have already felt his tender gaze upon you, imitate him, and do as he does. Look around: you will see that many people who live beside you feel wounded and alone; they need to feel loved: take the step. Jesus asks you for a gaze that does not stop at the outward appearance, but that goes to the heart: a gaze that is not judgmental, — let us stop judging others — Jesus asks us for a gaze that is nonjudgmental, but rather welcoming. Let us open our hearts to welcome others. Because love alone heals life. May Our Lady, Consoler of the suffering, help us bring a caress to those with wounded hearts whom we meet on our journey. And do not judge; do not judge the personal, social reality of others. God loves everyone! Do not judge; let others live and try to approach them with love.

**Entrance Antiphon** [Psalm 46:2](#)

All peoples, clap your hands.  
Cry to God with shouts of joy!

**First Reading** [Wisdom 1:13-15; 2:23-24](#)

A reading from the book of Wisdom

*It was the devil's envy that brought death into the world.*

Death was not God's doing, he takes no pleasure in the extinction of the living. To be – for this he created all; the world's created things have health in them, in them no fatal poison can be found, and Hades holds no power on earth; for virtue is undying. Yet God did make man imperishable, he made him in the image of his own nature; it was the devil's envy that brought death into the world, as those who are his partners will discover.

**Responsorial Psalm** [Ps 29:2, 4-6, 11-13, R. v.2](#)

(R.) I will praise you, Lord,  
for you have rescued me.

1. I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me and have not let my enemies rejoice over me. O Lord, you have raised my soul from the dead, restored me to life from those who sink into the grave. (R.)
2. Sing psalms to the Lord, you who love him, give thanks to his holy name. His anger lasts but a moment: his favour through life. At night there are tears, but joy comes with dawn. (R.)
3. The Lord listened and had pity. The Lord came to my help. For me you have changed my mourning into dancing, O Lord my God, I will thank you for ever. (R.)

**Second Reading** [2 Corinthians 8:7, 9, 13-15](#)

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

*Your abundance should supply their want.*

You always have the most of everything – of faith, of eloquence, of understanding, of keenness for any cause, and the biggest share of our affection – so we expect you to put the most into this work of mercy too. Remember how generous the Lord Jesus was: he was rich, but he became poor for your sake, to make you rich out of his poverty. This does not mean that to give relief to others you ought to make things difficult for yourselves: it is a question of balancing what happens to be your surplus now against their present need, and one day they may have something to spare that will supply your own need. That is how we strike a balance: as scripture says: The man who gathered much had none too much, the man who gathered little did not go short.

**Gospel Acclamation** [2 Timothy 1:10](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death and brought us life through his gospel.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel** [Mark 5:21-43](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

*Young girl, I say to you, arise.*

When Jesus had crossed in the boat to the other side, a large crowd gathered round him and he stayed by the lakeside. Then one of the synagogue officials came up, Jairus by name, and seeing him, fell at his feet and pleaded with him earnestly, saying, 'My little daughter is desperately sick. Do come and lay your hands on her to make her better and save her life.' Jesus went with him and a large crowd followed him; they were pressing all round him.

Now there was a woman who had suffered from a haemorrhage for twelve years; after long and painful treatment under various doctors, she had spent all she had without being any the better for it, in fact, she was getting worse. She had heard about Jesus, and she came up behind him through the crowd and touched his cloak. 'If I can touch even his clothes,' she had told herself 'I shall be well again.' And the source of the bleeding dried up instantly, and she felt in herself that she was cured of her complaint. Immediately aware that power had gone out from him, Jesus turned round in the crowd and said, 'Who touched my clothes?' His disciples said to him, 'You see how the crowd is pressing round you and yet you say, "Who touched me?"' But he continued to look all round to see who had done it. Then the woman came forward, frightened and trembling because she knew what had happened to her, and she fell at his feet and told him the whole truth. 'My daughter,' he said 'your faith has restored you to health; go in peace and be free from your complaint.'

While he was still speaking some people arrived from the house of the synagogue official to say, 'Your daughter is dead: why put the Master to any further trouble?' But Jesus had overheard this remark of theirs and he said to the official, 'Do not be afraid; only have faith.' And he allowed no one to go with him except Peter and James and John the brother of James. So they came to the official's house and Jesus noticed all the commotion, with people weeping and wailing unrestrainedly. He went in and said to them, 'Why all this commotion and crying? The child is not dead, but asleep.' But they laughed at him. So he turned them all out and, taking with him the child's father and mother and his own companions, he went into the place where the child lay. And taking the child by the hand he said to her, 'Talitha, kum!' which means, 'little girl, I tell you to get up.' The little girl got up at once and began to walk about, for she was twelve years old. At this they were overcome with astonishment, and he ordered them strictly not to let anyone know about it, and told them to give her something to eat.

**Communion Antiphon** [Cf Psalm 102:1](#)

Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and all within me, his holy name.



**Sick:** Philip Coggan, Liz Miles, James Connor, Richard Ford, 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. Thank you.

**WHAT ARE MASS INTENTIONS?** When a priest celebrates Mass each day, he offers each celebration of the Eucharist for a particular person, or intention. By doing so he applies special graces from God upon that person or intention. Similar to how we are able to intercede for others by our personal prayers, **the Church is able to intercede for us through the celebration of the Mass.**

However, since the Eucharist is the "source and summit of the Christian life" the Mass possess a power that our personal prayers do not. Pope Paul VI said, "**The Mass is the most perfect form of prayer!**" It has immense power and countless miracles and conversions have occurred throughout the centuries by offering Masses for a specific intention or person. Intentions like for quick recovery of our loved ones who are ill, for the repose of the soul of someone who has died, for the intentions of another person such as on a birthday or thanksgiving. Mass intentions are a great treasure of the Church and have a spiritual weight that is incalculable.

The Christian faithful who give an offering to apply the Mass for their intention contribute to the good of the Church and by that offering share its concern to support its ministers and works.



**2024 Reconciliation Sacramental Program**

We invite you and your child (Year 3 or older who have not yet received Reconciliation) to be part of our 2024 Reconciliation Sacramental Program.

This sacrament will take place through a parish-based process. This means that you will do the preparation with your child, but we help you through a process of guided reflection on a weekly basis by meetings in the church.

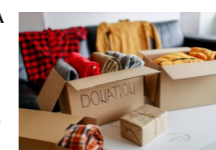
Enrolment Forms and other information will be available soon.

**Parent Information Sessions:**

- 1<sup>ST</sup> MEETING: Tues 6<sup>th</sup> Aug at 7.00pm, STA Church
- 2<sup>ND</sup> MEETING: Tues 13<sup>th</sup> Aug at 7.00pm, STA Church
- Children and Parent Information Sessions:**
- 3<sup>RD</sup> MEETING: Sat 24<sup>th</sup> Aug at 11.00am, STA Church
- 4<sup>TH</sup> MEETING: Sat 31<sup>st</sup> Aug at 11.00am, STA Church (and practice)

*Reconciliation will take place on Wed 4<sup>th</sup> Sept at 7.00pm, St Thomas Aquinas Church*

**WINTER BLANKET APPEAL:** The STA Earthcare Team on behalf of the Jesuit Refugee Services, would like to thank the generous parishioners who donated blankets to their recent appeal. They will be delivered to Jesuit Services next week.

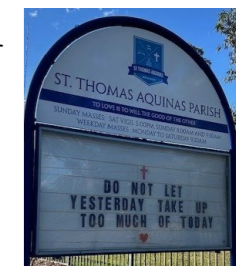


**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT:** Fr Chris will be away on the 5th July 2024 and so there is **no First Friday Adoration** at 7:00pm.

**STA PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS** Monday 8th July to Friday 19th July except on Thursdays 10th and 17th July. For any enquiries please call 02 4754 1052 or send an email to: [springwood@parracatholic.org](mailto:springwood@parracatholic.org)

**CAR PARK SECURITY:** Please do not leave your cars unlocked while attending Mass. We have received notification that items have gone missing from vehicles that were unlocked in the parish car park during Mass. It appears that this is an opportune time for people to help themselves. Remove valuables from your cars. It is better to be safe than sorry.

**NEW SIGN:** As you enter the church car park you will see a new sign welcoming you to St Thomas Aquinas Parish. This was made possible by the office raffle sold last month. We hope you agree with us that it looks stylish and inviting.



**ST VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL 2024:** Despite the cost-of-living pressures we all know, the generosity of St Thomas Aquinas parishioners and members of the St Thomas Aquinas Primary School community has again tipped the balance in favour of the needy in our area. Just over \$3000 has been raised from the Winter Appeal that was held mid-June, with parishioners donating \$1700 and the school \$1300. Receipts will be available near the Poor Box at the back of the church for those who requested them. A big "thank you" to all who contributed from the members of the St Thomas Aquinas Springwood Vinnies Conference.

**COMING TO UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS PARISH 5 to 7 JULY: THE VATICAN EXHIBITION OF EUCHARISTIC MIRACLES BY BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS WITH HIS FIRST CLASS RELIC:**

Compiled online in 2006 by soon to be canonised Blessed Carlo Acutis who died 10 days after finishing this work. In 2009 a digital copy and permission to print the posters for a display to exhibit here in Australia was obtained by Kieran and Kate Hobbs. In 2022 a first-class relic of Blessed Carlos was also acquired to be venerated with the Exhibition. There will be an opportunity to place prayer petitions which the exhibition holders collect and send to Blessed Carlo's tomb in Assisi. The Exhibition is approx 150 posters each with pictures of a Eucharistic Miracle and a simple description and some detailed information to read, which makes it engaging to all ages and levels of understanding. The exhibition is cost free but a donation can be made to help with the upkeep of the exhibition. The exhibition takes about 1-2 hours to view and will be on display in St Canice's Church hall Katoomba. It will be open 1-3pm on Friday and 10am to 3pm Saturday & Sunday.