

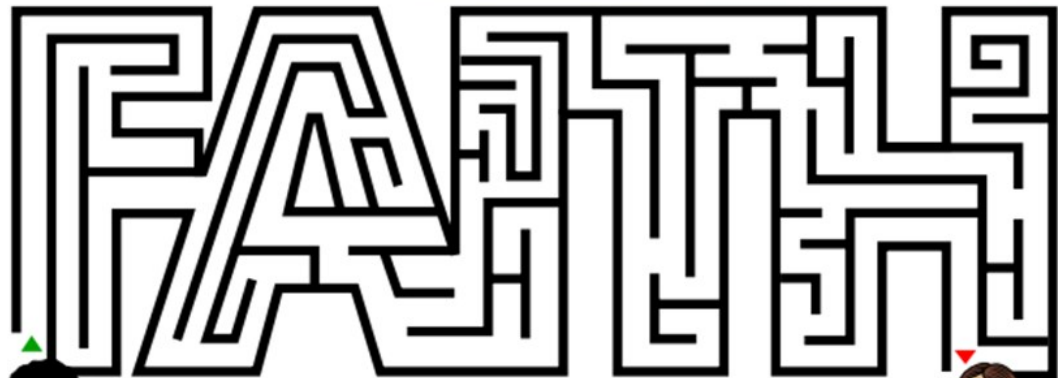
Date:	26th Oct/27th Oct 2024			Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
Mass Time:	Acolyte	First Reading & Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading & Prayer of the Faithful	Music	
Vigil: 5:00 PM	Ed Junis	Margaret Smith	Anne Maureen Scarrif	Chris Wilson	
8:00 AM	Marek Grus	Ros Comfort	Vicky Walker		
9:30 AM	John Belfanti	Katherine Mahns	Phillip Saville	Streeters	
Date:	2nd Nov/3rd Nov 2024			Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time	
Mass Time:	Acolyte	First Reading & Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading & Prayer of the Faithful	Music	
Vigil: 5:00 PM	Ian Miles	Tanya Baldwin	Tamsyn Baldwin	Andrew Wilson	
8:00 AM	Randall Noney	Jim Gresser	Georgia Cook		
9:30 AM	Richard Merchant	Anne Edwards	Brian Edwards	Chris Wilson	
Morning Tea:	Church Cleaners				

KID'S CORNER

The Lord helps those who have faith



30th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B




Bartimaeus was a blind man who begged Jesus to help him. He had faith that Jesus could make him see. Help Bartimaeus find his way to Jesus so that he can be healed.





The Lord helps those who are less fortunate - the poor, the sick and people who are sad. Write or draw about something nice you could do for someone who is poor, sick or sad.

 Jesus showed his love for all people by welcoming the poor and the sick. What were some of the wonderful things he did? Circle the correct answers.

- PERFORMED MIRACLES**
- HURT PEOPLES FEELINGS**
- HEALED THE SICK**
- FED THE HUNGRY**
- SAID MEAN THINGS**
- WELCOMED EVERYBODY**
- TOLD LIES**
- SET A GOOD EXAMPLE TO OTHERS**

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.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



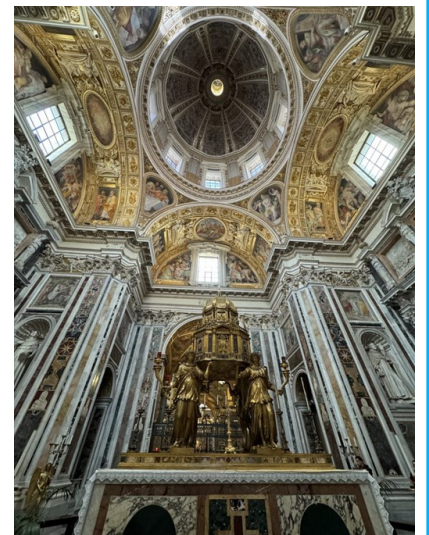
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We respect the Darug people and their elders both past and present, as the traditional custodians of this land on which we celebrate the Eucharist.

Pilgrimage Update

Buongiorno fratelli e sorelle in Christo! Buongiorno!

I write to you in not so sunny Rome in our pilgrimage coach departing the Eternal City and journeying towards Pietrelcina, the home of St. Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio). It has been an incredible experience so far; our group has been enamoured by the great signs of faith in Rome - a foretaste of what is to come. Our pilgrimage group, composed of men and women around Australia and the United States, has a large contingent from Springwood: Philip and Joanne Saville, Kim Ellis, Helen Ferry, Margaret Hickey, Therese Lahiff and myself. For me Rome has rejuvenated my faith: the beautiful Churches decorated head to toe with every precious metal is a reminder of the deep faith and appreciation of the faithful; they were detached from the riches of the world and sought to offer to God all they could give. As you know I could rave on with my experience but I thought it best to hear from our parish pilgrims.



Kim has found the entire experience both inspiring and humbling. As one who devotes her time teaching the Catholic Faith in our local state schools she is hoping to bring this experience back to her family and students. Her favourite Church so far is St. Paul's outside the walls.

Margaret found Rome a little too crazy; the crowds alongside the traffic made it a difficult to fully appreciate the beauty of the eternal city. Nonetheless Rome still inspired her to enliven her faith. Her daughter Therese also found beauty in the chaos of Rome; the art found in the museums and Basilica's elevated her experience.

Helen has found the pilgrimage so far amazing - the experience visiting the Churches and witnessing first hand the lives of the saints has inspired her to strengthen her faith.

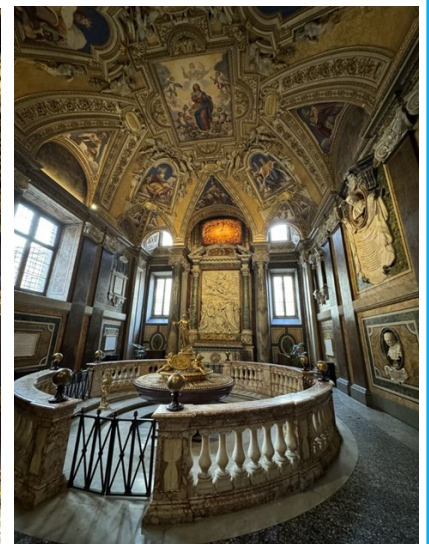
Phil has loved every moment of the Pilgrimage. He has enjoyed learning the history of our faith especially its growth in Rome. He was also impressed with the life of St. Paul that he wandered around the basilica with his jaw on the ground.

Our last activity in Rome saw us visit the catacombs of Domitilla - an early Christian burial ground outside of Rome. When speaking to our pilgrims each of them expressed their gratitude and pride towards the gift of faith and hoped to deepen their love for God.

Please know you are all in our prayers. Please continue to pray for us.

Wishing you a blessed week ahead,

Fr Chris







## Entrance Antiphon Cf Psalm 104:3-4

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice;  
turn to the Lord and his strength;  
constantly seek his face.

## First Reading Jeremiah 31:7-9

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

*I shall lead them back in mercy – both the blind and the lame.*

The Lord says this:

Shout with joy for Jacob!  
Hail the chief of nations!  
Proclaim! Praise! Shout:  
The Lord has saved his people,  
the remnant of Israel!  
See, I will bring them back  
from the land of the North  
and gather them from the far ends of earth;  
all of them: the blind and the lame,  
women with child, women in labour:  
a great company returning here.  
They had left in tears,  
I will comfort them as I lead them back;  
I will guide them to streams of water,  
by a smooth path where they will not stumble.  
For I am a father to Israel,  
and Ephraim is my first-born son.

The word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

## Responsorial Psalm Ps 125. R. v.3

**(R.)** The Lord has done great things for us;  
we are filled with joy.

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,  
It seemed like a dream.  
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,  
on our lips there were songs. **(R.)**
2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels  
the Lord worked for them!'   
What marvels the Lord worked for us!  
Indeed we were glad. **(R.)**
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage  
as streams in dry land.  
Those who are sowing in tears  
will sing when they reap. **(R.)**

## Responsorial Psalm (continued)

**(R.)** The Lord has done great things for us;  
we are filled with joy.

4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,  
carrying seed for the sowing:  
they come back, they come back, full of song,  
carrying their sheaves. **(R.)**

## Second Reading Hebrews 5:1-6

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

*You are a priest forever in the line of Melchizedek.*

Every high priest has been taken out of mankind and is appointed to act for men in their relations with God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins; and so he can sympathise with those who are ignorant or uncertain because he too lives in the limitations of weakness. That is why he has to make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people. No one takes this honour on himself, but each one is called by God, as Aaron was. Nor did Christ give himself the glory of becoming high priest, but he had it from the one who said to him: You are my son, today I have become your father, and in another text: You are a priest of the order of Melchizedek, and for ever.

The word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation See 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 10:46-52

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

*Master, grant that I may see.*

As Jesus left Jericho with his disciples and a large crowd, Bartimaeus (that is, the son of Timaeus), a blind beggar, was sitting at the side of the road. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout and to say, 'Son of David, Jesus, have pity on me.' And many of them scolded him and told him to keep quiet, but he only shouted all the louder, 'Son of David, have pity on me.' Jesus stopped and said, 'Call him here.' So they called the blind man. 'Courage,' they said 'get up; he is calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he jumped up and went to Jesus. Then Jesus spoke, 'What do you want me to do for you?' 'Rabbuni,' the blind man said to him 'Master, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has saved you.' And immediately his sight returned and he followed him along the road.

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## Communion Antiphon Cf Psalm 19:6

We will ring out our joy at your saving help  
and exult in the name of our God.



**Recently Deceased:** Veronica Duane

**Sick:** Colleen Baker, John Fisher, John Hunia, Eva Fitzgerald, Philip Coggan, James Connor, Richard Ford, 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.

**MASS OFFERING ENVELOPES** are also available which can be used to express your ongoing generosity and support. Thank you.



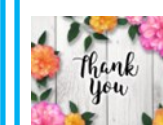
**TUESDAY 29TH OCT AND WEDNESDAY 30TH OCT:** There will be no Adoration or Mass at St Thomas Aquinas Church. You are welcome to join St Finbar's Parish at Glenbrook for Mass at 9.15am.

**FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION:** November 1, 2024 - First Friday Adoration at 7pm is cancelled for this month only.

**OFFICE CLOSED:** The parish office be closed on Wednesday 30th October due to a staff in-service with the Diocese of Parramatta. Thank you for your understanding.

Please pray for Fr Chris and all the pilgrims as they continue their religious journey deepening their faith while exploring the rich history of Italy. May this pilgrimage be guided by the Lord's light and grace.

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:** The PPC recently asked for as many parishioners as possible to read the Diocese of Parramatta's Pastoral Plan for a Synodal Church 2024 – 2028. Available to download on: [Behold-I-Am-With-You-Always-Pastoral-Plan-for-a-Synodal-Church2024-2028-WEBv.pdf](#) (parracatholic.org). We have limited copies available at the back of the church. The PPC will be meeting in a few weeks and would appreciate your feedback from this document so we can work together and prioritise what items have been identified as significant to Springwood Parish. Please email: [springwoodparishpc@gmail.com](mailto:springwoodparishpc@gmail.com)



We would like to thank Colleen Baker for her years of service in delivering the Catholic Weekly to our parish. Colleen has decided to pass on the baton and the parish office has taken up the call. May God bless you Colleen today and always.

Please continue to pray for our students taking the HSC Exams.

### *A Parish HSC Prayer*

*Heavenly Father, we bring before You our HSC students. Give them the gifts of wisdom, right judgment, knowledge and courage. Bless them with calm hearts and clarity of mind as they sit for their exams. May they be affirmed in their efforts and may they know that You are there with them. We pray that they will stay calm under pressure and work to the best of their ability. May they feel Your loving presence in their lives, now and always, and may they be strengthened by the prayerful support of us, their parish community. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit now and forever. Amen.*

### UPCOMING MASSES in our CHURCH

*"May Perpetual light shine upon them."*

Mass Schedules: All Saints' Day, 1st November Friday 9:30am  
All Souls' Day, 2nd November Saturday 9:30am

November is a time where the Church remembers all those who have died, specifically those souls in Purgatory, waiting for the day when they will be joyfully welcomed into eternal bliss with God and all the Saints.

November 1 is All Saints Day, a tribute to all saints, while November 2 is All Souls Day, dedicated to praying for those who have died. During this time, we continue to pray for those who have gone before us in faith and that they will be embraced by God.

If you would like to place the name of your loved one into the **BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE**, please print their name clearly on to an envelope and place into the collection box at the back of the church.

**Catholic Women's League Deceased Members Annual Mass:** The STA Ladies Fellowship (previously Catholic's Women's League) will be holding a Mass for the Catholic Women's League Deceased Members on **Friday 15th November 9.30am**. Everyone is welcome.



**BAPTISM:** We welcome into our Catholic Christian family: **John Paul Sebastian Del Rosario**, who was recently baptised here.

### 2024 First Holy Communion Sacramental Program *A reminder that the Second Parent Information Session is on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November at 7.00pm, STA Parish*



#### *Children and Parent Sessions:*

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November at 11.00am, STA Parish  
Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November at 11.00am, STA Parish  
(and practice)

**First Holy Communion will take place on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov 2024, Saturday, 5pm Vigil Mass at STA Church**



### 3<sup>RD</sup> SATURDAY NIGHT VIGIL MUSICIANS REQUIRED:

We currently have no musicians for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month. If you are able to provide and lead music for this Mass, please email the parish office: [springwood@parracatholic.org](mailto:springwood@parracatholic.org)

This is such a wonderful ministry which inspires all people in the faith while also enriching your own.

Members of the Springwood St. Vincent de Paul conference will be inviting parishioners to contribute to their Christmas Hamper Appeal, by offering to supply either a hamper or cash so we can purchase fruit and vegetable or fresh food vouchers, at all Masses on the weekends of 9th /10th and 16th /17th November. Donations towards this appeal will be accepted by conference members on the weekend of 14th /15th December. All cash donations placed in the Poor Box, near the Sacred Heart of Jesus' statue, from 9th November will go towards supporting the 45 local families we are supplying with hampers this Christmas.



STA Ladies Fellowship group held a very successful street stall recently at the Town Square. Thanks to Parishioners for their support. A final amount of \$1,141 will be donated to the local St Vincent de Paul Society.

**YOUNG ADULT FAITH FORMATION SESSIONS:** continue on Sunday 3rd November 2024 at The Hustle (Unit 4, 4-6 Purdy Rd Minchinbury) at 7pm. The speaker is Dr Mariusz Biliniewicz who will talk about and lead discussion on The Holy Souls and Purgatory. All adults 18-35 are encouraged to come along and enjoy some faith formation, pizza, and fellowship! If you have any questions, please call Mark on 0477 004 678.