

Date:	5th Oct/6th Oct 2024		Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time	
Mass Time:	Acolyte	First Reading & Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading & Prayer of the Faithful	Music
Vigil: 5:00 PM	Randall Noney	Margaret Smith	Anne Maureen Scarff	Andrew Wilson
8:00 AM	Randall Noney	Georgia Cook	Jim Gresser	
9:30 AM	Bernard Ellis	Anne Edwards	Brian Edwards	Chris Wilson
Morning Tea:	Mothers Prayers			

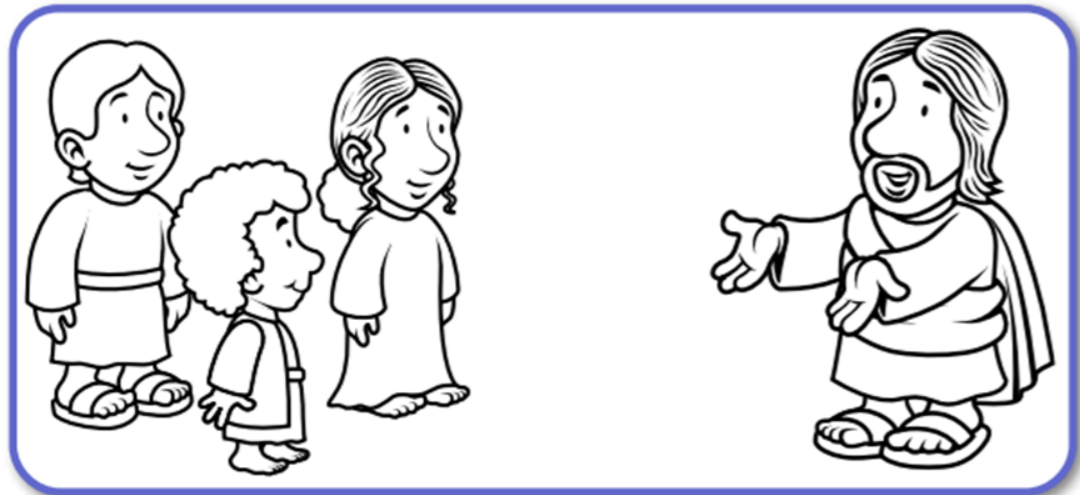
Date:	12th Oct/13th Oct 2024		Twenty-Eight Sunday in Ordinary Time	
Mass Time:	Acolyte	First Reading & Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading & Prayer of the Faithful	Music
Vigil: 5:00 PM	Ian Miles	Tanya Baldwin	Tamsyn Baldwin	Chris Wilson
8:00 AM	Marek Grus	Loida Derbyshire	Kim Crawford	
9:30 AM	Richard Merchant	Anne Ellis	Domhnall MacCormac	Streeters

KID'S CORNER

**Blessed are the children**

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

Some people brought their children to see Jesus. The disciples eventually tried to turn them away but Jesus wanted them to stay. He took the children in his arms and blessed them. Draw yourself with Jesus and the rest of the children.

**What do you think the kingdom of God is really like?**

Write or draw your answer

**CHILDREN**

How many words can you make from the letters in CHILDREN?

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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.

Pope Benedict XVI Angelus Address: 8 October 2006: 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This Sunday, the Gospel presents to us Jesus' words on marriage. He answered those who asked him whether it was lawful for a man to divorce his wife, as provided by a decree in Mosaic law (cf. Dt 24: 1), that this was a concession made to Moses because of man's "hardness of heart", whereas the truth about marriage dated back to "the beginning of creation" when, as is written of God in the Book of Genesis, "male and female he created them; for this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one" (Mk 10: 6-7; cf. Gn 1: 27; 2: 24). And Jesus added: "So they are no longer two but one. What therefore God has joined together, let not man put asunder" (Mk 10: 8-9). This is God's original plan, as the Second Vatican Council also recalled in the Constitution Gaudium et Spes: "The intimate partnership of life and love which constitutes the married state has been established by the Creator and endowed by him with its own proper laws: it is rooted in the contract of its partners... God himself is the author of marriage" (n. 48).

My thoughts now go to all Christian spouses: I thank the Lord with them for the gift of the Sacrament of Marriage, and I urge them to remain faithful to their vocation in every season of life, "in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health", as they promised in the sacramental rite. Conscious of the grace they have received, may Christian husbands and wives build a family open to life and capable of facing united the many complex challenges of our time.

Today, there is a special need for their witness. There is a need for families that do not let themselves be swept away by modern cultural currents inspired by hedonism and relativism, and which are ready instead to carry out their mission in the Church and in society with generous dedication. In the Apostolic Exhortation Familiaris Consortio, the Servant of God John Paul II wrote that "the sacrament of marriage makes Christian couples and parents witnesses of Christ "to the end of the earth", missionaries, in the true and proper sense, of love and life" (cf. n. 54). Their mission is directed both to inside the family - especially in reciprocal service and the education of the children - and to outside it. Indeed, the domestic community is called to be a sign of God's love for all. The Christian family can only fulfil this mission if it is supported by divine grace. It is therefore necessary for Christian couples to pray tirelessly and to persevere in their daily efforts to maintain the commitments they assumed on their wedding day.

I invoke upon all families, especially those in difficulty, the motherly protection of Our Lady and of her husband Joseph. Mary, Queen of the family, pray for us!



**Second Reading** [Hebrews 2:9-11](#)

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

*He who sanctifies, and those who are sanctified have one origin.*

We see in Jesus one who was for a short while made lower than the angels and is now crowned with glory and splendour because he submitted to death; by God's grace he had to experience death for all mankind.

As it was his purpose to bring a great many of his sons into glory, it was appropriate that God, for whom everything exists and through whom everything exists, should make perfect, through suffering, the leader who would take them to their salvation. For the one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock; that is why he openly calls them brothers.

The word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation** [cf 1 John 4:12](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!  
If we love one another,  
God will live in us in perfect love.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel** [Mark 10:2-16](#)

A reading from the Gospel according to Mark

*What God has joined together, no one must divide.*

Some Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, 'Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?' They were testing him. He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' 'Moses allowed us' they said 'to draw up a writ of dismissal and so to divorce.' Then Jesus said to them, 'It was because you were so unteachable that he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation God made them male and female. This is why a man must leave father and mother, and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide.' Back in the house the disciples questioned him again about this, and he said to them, 'The man who divorces his wife and marries another is guilty of adultery against her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another she is guilty of adultery too.'

People were bringing little children to him, for him to touch them. The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' Then he put his arms round them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Communion Antiphon** [Lam 3:25](#)

The Lord is good to those who hope in him,  
to the soul that seeks him.

**Entrance Antiphon** [Cf Esther 4:17](#)

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

**First Reading** [Genesis 2:18-24](#)

A reading from the book of Genesis

*They were two in one flesh.*

The Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him a helpmate.' So from the soil the Lord God fashioned all the wild beasts and all the birds of heaven. These he brought to the man to see what he would call them, each one was to bear the name the man would give it. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of heaven and all the wild beasts. But no helpmate suitable for man was found for him. So the Lord God made the man fall into a deep sleep. And while he slept, he took one of his ribs and enclosed it in flesh. The Lord God built the rib he had taken from the man into a woman, and brought her to the man. The man exclaimed:

'This at last is bone from my bones,  
and flesh from my flesh!  
This is to be called woman,  
for this was taken from man.'

This is why a man leaves his father and mother and joins himself to his wife, and they become one body.

The word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm** [Ps 127. R. v.5](#)

**(R.)** May the Lord bless us  
all the days of our lives.

- O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!  
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.  
You will be happy and prosper. **(R.)**
- Your wife will be like a fruitful vine  
in the heart of your house;  
your children like shoots of the olive,  
around your table. **(R.)**
- Indeed thus shall be blessed  
the man who fears the Lord.  
May the Lord bless you from Zion  
in a happy Jerusalem  
all the days of your life!  
May you see your children's children.  
On Israel, peace! **(R.)**



**Recently Deceased:** Kathryn Vaughan

**Sick:** Alan Brown, John Fisher, John Hunia, Eva Fitzgerald, Philip Coggan, James Connor, Richard Ford, Odette Harb, 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.

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

**2024 First Holy Communion Sacramental Program**

*Parent Information Sessions:*

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October at 7.00pm, STA Parish

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**

Enrolment forms, payment arrangements and other information are available on our website, the back of the church or the parish office.

**DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA'S PASTORAL PLAN FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH 2024 – 2028:**

The STA Parish Pastoral Council recently met and initiated a working document on how to involve our parish in the new Pastoral Plan. We would like for as many parishioners as possible to read this document. It is available to download on: [Behold-I-Am-With-You-Always-Pastoral-Plan-for-a-Synodal-Church-2024-2028-WEBv.pdf](#) ([parracatholic.org](#)). We have limited copies available at the back of the church. Our initial plan is to gather as much information as possible from you, our parish community on how we can grow our faith community in prayer, mission and formation. Therefore, the PPC would appreciate your feedback from this document so we can work together and prioritise what items have been identified as significant to Springwood Parish.



**BISHOP'S FATHER'S DAY APPEAL:**

Over \$1,160 has now been sent to the Clergy Support Foundation which enables the Foundation to nurture our retired priests' physical, emotional, and mental wellbeing, and provide for daily living essentials and medical expenses for our ageing priests. Thank you.

**GIRLS DAY OUT AT THE SHRINE:**

Wed. 9<sup>th</sup> Oct. (15-18 years) OR  
Thurs. 10<sup>th</sup> Oct. (11-14 years). Both days will run from 9.30am-5.00pm at the "Home of Light" at Mount Schoenstatt and costs \$22. There is the opportunity for leaders (15+ years) to stay overnight for \$55.  
Contact: Sr. M. Rita to register: 0493 026 628  
Email: [srrita@schoenstatt.org.au](mailto:srrita@schoenstatt.org.au)



**STA PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS:**

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October to Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October except Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October. For any enquiries please call 0474 631 168 or send an email to: [springwood@parracatholic.org](mailto:springwood@parracatholic.org)

**WELCOME:**

We welcome Bishop Vincent and Fr Peter Williams VG to our parish this Sunday who will be celebrating our 9.30am Mass and will be blessing our new Cross and Sanctuary. Morning tea will be supplied after Mass for all to enjoy.

*Prayer for Our Students Taking HSC Exams*

*Almighty Father, as our students embark on their HSC exams, grant them wisdom to understand, retain, and recall the knowledge they have acquired. May Your light guide them through the challenges they face.*

*Bless these students with calm minds and focused hearts. Help them approach their exams with confidence, knowing that with Your strength, all things are possible.*

*Instil in these students a spirit of perseverance and resilience. May they overcome any anxiety or fear, trusting in Your plan for their success.*

*We ask these through Christ Our Lord. Amen.*

**SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION:**

We welcome into our Catholic Christian family

*Rafael Peter Murray* who recently received the Sacraments of Initiation.



**WEDDINGS:** We also pray for the following couple recently married here...

*Shaun Keating & Jaden Ellis*

**STA LADIES FELLOWSHIP GROUP**

is conducting their annual cakes and Preserves Stall on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October from 9am – 12:30pm at Springwood Town Square. If you wish to donate cakes, jams, preserves, plants or unwanted gifts, please bring them along on the day. Proceeds go to Vinnies.

**FEAST OF OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY, DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST:**

The ACBC has designated that the Feast of our Lady of the Rosary, Monday October 7<sup>th</sup> be the Day of Prayer for Peace in the Middle East. Prayer below can be used during the month of October or any other time deemed suitable:

*O God of Mercy and Tender Compassion, we cry out to you in this time of crisis. Hear the cries of the people of the Middle East. Bring healing to those suffering from violence and comfort to those mourning the dead.*

*O God of Hope, sustain those who labour for peaceful and just solutions. Inspire leaders and decision makers to choose the way of peace over the way of violence. Deliver all your children from the threat of war and teach us to encounter one another with reverence and love.*

*We pray in the name of Jesus Christ who came to bring to peace on earth and who abides with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.*

- Sr. Deborah Harmeling, O.S.B.

**DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS:**

**27 OCTOBER** The annual Diocese of Parramatta Wedding Anniversary Mass will be held on Sun 27 Oct at 11am at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Bishop Vincent will celebrate Solemn Mass, followed by a light lunch at the Cathedral Hall. All couples celebrating a significant wedding anniversary will receive a certificate from Bishop Vincent. Please register your name, years of marriage and numbers attending by visiting [parracatholic.org/weddingmass](http://parracatholic.org/weddingmass) or phone 0488 000 211 by 20 October. Family and friends are welcome.