



Australia Day

Entrance Antiphon Psalm 56:9-10

I will praise you, Lord, among the peoples,
among the nations sing psalms to you,
for your mercy reaches to the heavens,
and your truth to the skies.

First Reading Isaiah 32:15-18

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The effect of justice will be peace.

Once more there will be poured on us
the spirit from above;
then shall the wilderness be fertile land
and fertile land become forest.

In the wilderness justice will come to live
and integrity in the fertile land;
integrity will bring peace,
justice give lasting security.

My people will live in a peaceful home,
in safe houses,
in quiet dwellings.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 84:9-14. R. v.9

(R.) The Lord speaks of peace to his people.

1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace.
His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land. **(R.)**
2. Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven. **(R.)**
3. The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps. **(R.)**

Second Reading Romans 12:9-13

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Work for the Lord earnestly.

Do not let your love be a pretence, but sincerely prefer
good to evil. Love each other as much as brothers should,
and have a profound respect for each other. Work for the
Lord with untiring effort and with great earnestness of
spirit. If you have hope, this will make you cheerful. Do not
give up if trials come; and keep on praying. If any of the
saints are in need you must share with them; and you
should make hospitality your special care.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 5:9

Alleluia, alleluia!
Happy the peacemakers:
they shall be called children of God.
Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 5:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat
down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to
speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit:
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Happy the gentle:
they shall have the earth for their heritage.
Happy those who mourn:
they shall be comforted.
Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:
they shall be satisfied.
Happy the merciful:
they shall have mercy shown them.
Happy the pure in heart:
they shall see God.
Happy the peacemakers:
they shall be called sons of God.
Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of
right:
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you
and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account.
Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in
heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon Psalm 102:2

Bless the Lord, my soul,
and never forget his benefits.



Recently Deceased: Jean Munn

Sick: Colleen Baker, 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.

Everyone's participation in the Diocesan Plan is of paramount importance. Now that the scheduled meetings are coming soon (**1st Feb Saturday 6pm and 9th Feb Sunday 10:30am**), kindly use the link below to express your interest.
<https://forms.gle/QPqyvpiViqyJaPCC8>
We need to know the number of attendees. Please note you only need to attend one of the two meetings, which will run for approximately 1.5 hours.



SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS:

O God, who made Saint Thomas Aquinas outstanding in his zeal for holiness and his study of sacred doctrine, grant us, we pray, that we may understand what he taught and imitate what he accomplished.

thank you. We are incredibly blessed with such wonderful parishioners and had we not stopped into the office on Monday, we would have missed these lovely people working in our carpark to make it look so beautiful. It was hot, there was laughter and they got the job done. May God bless you Kevin, Rachel, Andrew and Gui.



Thank you from the pilgrims! Thank you to the community of St Thomas Aquinas Parish for welcoming the 2025 Epiphany Pilgrims in such a beautiful way. In particular, a huge thank you to Colleen Kime, Virginia Fortunat and their team of volunteers for preparing such a wonderful festive meal and to the parishioners who joined for the celebrations. We felt so blessed by your generous hospitality and welcome. Thank you! A selection of photos from the 2025 pilgrimage can be found at:
<https://www.epiphanypilgrimage.org/photos-2025.html>

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS / Acolytes, Readers, Musicians: on **Saturday 8 Feb 2025 from 10.15am**. Everyone who did their Safeguarding training two years ago are required to renew these modules. If you are 18 yrs of age or older and are new to volunteering, Cycle 1 is available. Please contact the parish office via email to confirm your attendance. If you do not attend this training you will NOT BE ABLE to volunteer in the parish as per the Diocese of Parramatta Safeguarding requirements.

HAPPY AUSTRALIA DAY! Grant we pray, O Lord our God, that as the Cross shines in our southern skies, so may Christ bring light to our nation, to its peoples old and new, and by saving grace, transform our lives. Amen.



FEAST THOMAS AQUINAS & AUSTRALIA DAY EVENT
FACE PAINTING · RAFFLE · FOOD
JANUARY 26, 2025 · 10:30 AM

St Thomas Aquinas Church, Springwood,
168 Hawkesbury Rd, Springwood NSW 2777

St Thomas Aquinas Parish
2025 Confirmation Sacramental Program
Parent ONLY Sessions:
Wednesday, 30th April at 7.00pm, St Thomas Aquinas Church
Wednesday 7th May at 7.00pm, St Thomas Aquinas Church
Children and Parent Sessions:
Saturday 17th May at 11.00am, St Thomas Aquinas Church
Saturday 24th May at 11.00am, St Thomas Aquinas Church (**and practice**)
Confirmation will take place on Wednesday 28th May at 6:30pm, St Thomas Aquinas Church