

Date:	28th June/29th June 2025		Saints Peter and Paul, apostles	
Mass Time:	Acolyte	First Reading & Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading & Prayer of the Faithful	Music
5:00 PM	Ian Miles	Anne Maureen Scarff	Felix Kobus	No One
8:00 AM	Marek Grus	Vicky Walker	Kim Crawford	
9:30 AM	Phil Saville	Steve Bishop	Anne Ellis	Couples for Christ
Morning Tea:	Fr Jack's Welcome to the Parish Morning Tea			

Date:	5th July/6th July 2025		Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
Mass Time:	Acolyte	First Reading & Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading & Prayer of the Faithful	Music
5:00 PM	Ed Junis	Margaret Smith	Wilhelmina de Raadt	Andrew Wilson
8:00 AM	Randall Noney	Georgia Cook	Mary Morris	
9:30 AM	John Belfanti	Anne Edwards	Brian Edwards	Chris Wilson



Recently Deceased: Maria Thi Nguyen, Dane San Pedro, Martina Galea, Naziha George

Sick: Chris Gorman, Cliff Smith, Peter Avery, John Hunia, Eva Fitzgerald, Philip Coggan, James Connor, Richard Ford, Julie Somerville, Fr Bob Bossini, Marama Watson. We also pray for private intentions including the sick, dying and the suffering. *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:

- **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.

2025 PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION: SUNDAY 29 JUNE:

The annual Peter's Pence Collection for the Holy Father will be held this **Sunday 29 June 2025**. The collection, usually held around the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, supports the Pope's mission, which extends throughout the entire world from the proclamation of the Gospel to the promotion of integral human development, education, peace and brotherhood among peoples. Every offering—large or small—will support the Holy Father in his ministry and in his charitable activities in response to emergencies and needs around the world. Please donate generously via separate collections at our three weekend Masses or special collection bucket (located at the back of the church).



IGNITE CONFERENCE 25: is an event of Ignite Youth, a national Catholic youth ministry that springs out of the Emmanuel Community, Brisbane. This is going to be held on the **10th to 13th July 2025** (Thursday afternoon to Sunday lunchtime) at 27 Yardley Avenue, Broken Bay Cathedral Precinct, Waitara NSW 2077. For more details or enquiries contact: Noah Tabone on 0493 490 960; E: ntab12110@gmail.com



All Parishioners are invited to join a visit to **Mary McKillop Museum and Chapel** on **FRIDAY 18th JULY**. The outing will include a train journey with only a small amount of walking. Lunch will be available to purchase at the on-site café. Contact Colleen Kime (0407 125 427) to register your interest. Further details and costs will be available later.



STA 2025 Reconciliation Sacramental Program

Please note that the preparation sessions for the Sacrament of Reconciliation starts this August. For enquiries, please call 02 4754 1052 or email: springwood@parracatholic.org

Parent Information Sessions:

Thursday 7th August at 7.00pm, STA Church
Wednesday 13th August at 7.00pm, STA Church

Enrolment forms are available at the back of the church, STA Parish Office or online by visiting our website: www.stachurchspringwood.org.au

WELCOME TO THE PARISH MORNING TEA – 29/6/25

PLEASE JOIN US **SUNDAY 29/6/25 after the 9.30am Morning Mass** for a Welcome to the Parish Morning Tea for Fr Jack. We hope to see you there.

Our Piety Store is finally OPEN! Please visit the store **Tuesday – Friday 9am – 3pm, Sunday 9am – 11am**. Show your support by purchasing sacramental gifts, religious gifts for families or for your own spiritual journey. Located in the parish office building!

Volunteers are always needed for our parish. If you are willing to help our parish in any way, please see our parish team during office hours or contact us on 02 4754 1052 or email: springwood@parracatholic.org



We welcome into our Catholic Christian family

Freya Niamh Kuzma

who was recently baptised here.



A SPECIAL CHARISMATIC HEALING MASS will be held on **Sunday, 20th July at 2:00pm** at Our Lady of the Rosary Church 26 Swanston St, St Marys. The prayer ministry team from Miracle Prayers, WA, will be joining to offer prayers for healing.

CAMPION COLLEGE AUSTRALIA EARLY SCHOLARS PROGRAM Open to Yr 11 & 12 students ages 16-18 allows students to complete a first year (Level 100) university unit and use it as an alternative admission pathway into Campion College's Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts. Scan QR code for more details. Explore Philosophy. Experience University. Earn credit.



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
Parish Facebook Page: St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Community Springwood
Parish Administrator: Fr Jack Elkazzi (E: jack.elkazzi@parracatholic.org)
Parish Pastoral Council: Email suggestions to 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: Tuesday: 9:30 am & 7:00 pm; Wednesday - Saturday: 9:30 am
Adoration: Tuesday: 8:15 am & 6:00 pm; Wednesday - Saturday 8:15 am
First Friday Adoration: Every first Friday of the month 5:30 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



Support us!
Scan to donate

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.

Feast of Saints Peter and Paul

"You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God" (Matthew 16:16)

In today's Gospel, we hear Simon Peter's bold confession: "*You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God.*" It is a moment of divine revelation, not born of flesh and blood but granted from the Father above. Pope Benedict XVI often reflected on this moment as the "*rock*" upon which Christ would build His Church—not merely Peter the man, but Peter the believer, the confessor of the true identity of Jesus.

This confession of faith marks the heart of Peter's mission. And it is upon this faith that the Church stands. "The Church is apostolic," Benedict wrote, "because she is founded on the witness of the Apostles—those who first encountered the risen Lord and were sent to proclaim Him to the world." Peter represents steadfastness in truth; Paul, the fire of evangelical mission. Together they reveal two essential aspects of the Church: *unity in truth* and *mission to the nations*.

Saint Paul, though not among the Twelve, was personally called by the Risen Christ. His life is a dramatic unfolding of transformation and grace—what Pope Benedict often called "*the logic of the Cross.*" Where Peter professes, Paul preaches. Where Peter guards, Paul goes. And yet, both are united in their witness to the one Lord and in their martyrdom in Rome, the centre of the universal Church.

Pope Benedict was insistent that the Church is not a human invention but a divine reality that transcends history while entering into it. Today's feast reminds us that the Church, in every age, must remain rooted in the apostolic faith—Peter's clear confession—and animated by the apostolic mission—Paul's bold proclamation. We are called, like Peter and Paul, to confess Christ not only with our lips but with our lives. The world may challenge, misunderstand, or reject this confession. Yet Pope Benedict often reminded us that truth does not change—it must be witnessed, even unto death.

Let us therefore renew our own confession: *You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God.* And let us echo the Apostle's zeal: "*Woe to me if I do not preach the Gospel!*" In this way, we honour Peter and Paul not only with words, but by living the faith they proclaimed and died for.

May God bless you +

Fr Jack Elkazzi

The Vigil Mass

Entrance Antiphon

Peter the Apostle, and Paul the teacher of the Gentiles, these have taught us your law, O Lord.

First Reading [Acts of the Apostles 3:1-10](#)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

What I have, I give to you: in the name of Jesus stand up and walk.

Once, when Peter and John were going up to the Temple for the prayers at the ninth hour, it happened that there was a man being carried past. He was a cripple from birth; and they used to put him down every day near the Temple entrance called the Beautiful Gate so that he could beg from the people going in. When this man saw Peter and John on their way into the Temple he begged from them. Both Peter and John looked straight at him and said, ‘Look at us.’ He turned to them expectantly, hoping to get something from them, but Peter said, ‘I have neither silver nor gold, but I will give you what I have: in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, walk!’ Peter then took him by the hand and helped him to stand up. Instantly his feet and ankles became firm, he jumped up, stood, and began to walk, and he went with them into the Temple, walking and jumping and praising God. Everyone could see him walking and praising God, and they recognised him as the man who used to sit begging at the Beautiful Gate of the Temple. They were all astonished and unable to explain what had happened to him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm [Ps 18:2-5. R. v.5](#)

- (R.) Their message goes out through all the earth.
1. The heavens proclaim the glory of God and the firmament shows forth the work of his hands.
Day unto day takes up the story and night unto night makes known the message. (R.)
 2. No speech, no word, no voice is heard yet their span extends through all the earth, their words to the utmost bounds of the world. (R.)

Second Reading [Galatians 1:11-20](#)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Galatians

God chose me while I was still in my mother’s womb.

The Good News I preached is not a human message that I was given by men, it is something I learnt only through a revelation of Jesus Christ. You must have heard of my career as a practising Jew, how merciless I was in persecuting the Church of God, how much damage I did to it, how I stood out among other Jews of my generation, and how enthusiastic I was for the traditions of my ancestors.

Second Reading (continuation)

Then God, who had specially chosen me while I was still in my mother’s womb, called me through his grace and chose to reveal his Son to me, so that I might preach the Good News about him to the pagans. I did not stop to discuss this with any human being, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to see those who were already apostles before me, but I went off to Arabia at once and later went straight back from there to Damascus. Even when after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and stayed with him for fifteen days, I did not see any of the other apostles; I only saw James, the brother of the Lord, and I swear before God that what I have just written is the literal truth.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation [John 21:17](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!
Lord, you know all things;
you know that I love you.
Alleluia!

Gospel [John 21:15-19](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Feed my lambs, feed my sheep.

After Jesus had shown himself to his disciples and eaten with them, he said to Simon Peter, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me more than these others do?’ He answered, ‘Yes Lord, you know I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my lambs.’ A second time he said to him, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me?’ He replied, ‘Yes, Lord, you know I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Look after my sheep.’ Then he said to him a third time, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me?’ Peter was upset that he asked him the third time, ‘Do you love me?’ and said, ‘Lord, you know everything; you know I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my sheep.

‘I tell you most solemnly,
when you were young
you put on your own belt
and walked where you liked;
but when you grow old
you will stretch out your hands,
and somebody else will put a belt round you
and take you where you would rather not go.’

In these words he indicated the kind of death by which Peter would give glory to God. After this he said, ‘Follow me.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon [Cf John 21:15,17](#)

Simon, Son of John, do you love me more than these?
Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.

The Mass During the Day

Entrance Antiphon

These are the ones who, living in the flesh, planted the Church with their blood; they drank the chalice of the Lord and became the friends of God.

First Reading [Acts of the Apostles 12:1-11](#)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Now I know it is indeed true: the Lord has saved me from the power of Herod.

King Herod started persecuting certain members of the Church. He beheaded James the brother of John, and when he saw that this pleased the Jews he decided to arrest Peter as well. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread, and he put Peter in prison, assigning four squads of four soldiers each to guard him in turns. Herod meant to try Peter in public after the end of Passover week. All the time Peter was under guard the Church prayed to God for him unremittingly.

On the night before Herod was to try him, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, fastened with double chains, while guards kept watch at the main entrance to the prison. Then suddenly the angel of the Lord stood there, and the cell was filled with light. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him. ‘Get up!’ he said ‘Hurry!’ – and the chains fell from his hands. The angel then said, ‘Put on your belt and sandals.’ After he had done this, the angel next said, ‘Wrap your cloak round you and follow me.’ Peter followed him, but had no idea that what the angel did was all happening in reality; he thought he was seeing a vision. They passed through two guard posts one after the other, and reached the iron gate leading to the city. This opened of its own accord; they went through it and had walked the whole length of one street when suddenly the angel left him. It was only then that Peter came to himself. ‘Now I know it is all true,’ he said. ‘The Lord really did send his angel and has saved me from Herod and from all that the Jewish people were so certain would happen to me.’

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm [Ps 33:2-9. R. v.5](#)

- (R.) The Lord set me free from all my fears.
1. I will bless the Lord at all times
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. (R.)
 2. Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us praise his name.
I sought the Lord and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free. (R.)
 3. Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called; the Lord heard him
and rescued him from all his distress. (R.)
 4. The angel of the Lord is encamped
around those who revere him, to rescue them.
Taste and see that the Lord is good.
He is happy who seeks refuge in him. (R.)

Second Reading [2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18](#)

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy

All that remains now is the crown of righteousness.

My life is already being poured away as a libation, and the time has come for me to be gone. I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that Day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his Appearing.

The Lord stood by me and gave me power, so that through me the whole message might be proclaimed for all the pagans to hear; and so I was rescued from the lion’s mouth. The Lord will rescue me from all evil attempts on me, and bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation [Matthew 16:18](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!
You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church;
the gates of hell will not hold out against it.
Alleluia!

Gospel [Matthew 16:13-19](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

You are Peter, and I will give to you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, ‘Who do people say the Son of Man is?’ And they said, ‘Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.’ ‘But you,’ he said, ‘who do you say I am?’ Then Simon Peter spoke up, ‘You are the Christ,’ he said, ‘the Son of the living God.’ Jesus replied, ‘Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to your, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon [Cf Matthew 16:16,18](#)

Peter said to Jesus: You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.
And Jesus replied: You are Peter,
and upon this rock I will build my Church.