



Date:	23rd August/24th August 2025		Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time	
Mass Time:	Acolyte	First Reading & Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading & Prayer of the Faithful	Music
5:00 PM	Ian Miles	Margaret Smith	Anne Maureen Scarff	Chris Wilson
8:00 AM	Randall Noney	Kim Crawford	Tanya Graham	
9:30 AM	Phillip Saville	Matt Aldous	Peta Sparkes	Streeters
Date:	30th August/31st August 2025		Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	
Mass Time:	Acolyte	First Reading & Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading & Prayer of the Faithful	Music
5:00 PM	Ed Junis	Tanya Baldwin	Timothy Baldwin	No One
8:00 AM	Marek Grus	Georgia Cook	Domhnall MacCormac	
9:30 AM	Bernard Ellis	Katherine Mahns	Steve Bishop	Couples for Christ
Morning Tea: Couples for Christ				

KID’S CORNER



Those who are least will be the most important



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

Write or draw someone who is not considered an important person. Then fill in the missing letters.

Write or draw someone who considers themselves more important than others. Then fill in the missing letters.

The o_es wh_ are _ow
le_t im_rt_nt wi__
be th_ mo_t i_po_tan_.

Th_se w_o a__ now
m_st i_po__nt _ill b_
the _e_st _m_rt_nt.

Draw some people from many different lands, sitting at the feast in God’s kingdom.



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
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

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.



Support us!
Scan to donate

Bulletin Reflection – 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

In today’s Gospel, someone asks Jesus: “Lord, will only a few be saved?” Jesus does not give a number. Instead, He gives us an urgent call: “Strive to enter through the narrow gate.” Salvation is not automatic; it is the fruit of faith lived with perseverance, humility, and love.

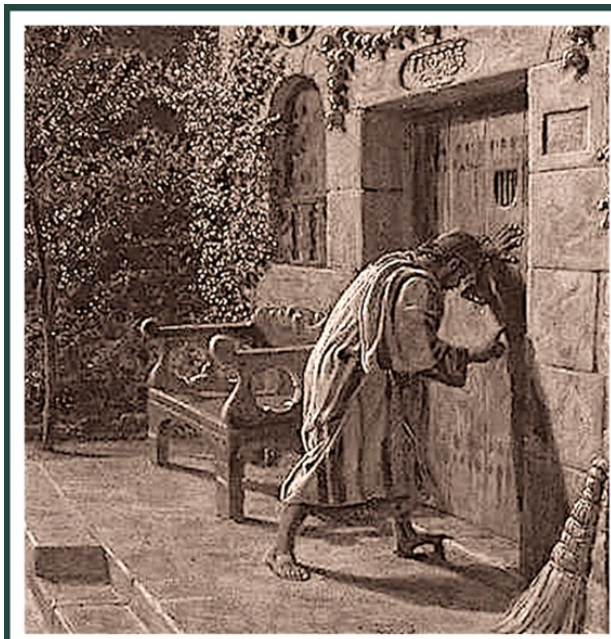
The narrow gate reminds us that discipleship is demanding. We cannot simply claim to “know” Jesus from a distance or presume on our Christian identity. Rather, the Gospel calls us to daily conversion, to choices that reflect the Cross and Resurrection. To enter the Kingdom is to follow Christ in truth, even when it is costly.

At the same time, today’s readings proclaim the universality of God’s plan. From the prophet Isaiah, we hear that God gathers people from every nation to see His glory. The banquet of heaven will include saints from east and west, north and south.

The challenge for us is clear: do not delay, do not settle for a comfortable Christianity. Let us strive now to walk faithfully with Christ, confident that His grace will sustain us on the narrow road that leads to life.

May God Bless you all +

Fr Jack Elkazzi



I do not know where you are from. Depart from me, all you evildoers! (Gospel)

Entrance Antiphon Cf Psalm 85:1-3

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

First Reading Isaiah 66:18-21

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
They will gather all of your people from all nations.

The Lord says this: I am coming to gather the nations of every language. They shall come to witness my glory. I will give them a sign and send some of their survivors to the nations: to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moshech, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan, to the distant islands that have never heard of me or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory to the nations. As an offering to the Lord they will bring all your brothers, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, on dromedaries, from all the nations to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says the Lord, like Israelites bringing oblations in clean vessels to the Temple of the Lord. And of some of them I will make priests and Levites, says the Lord.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 116. R. Mk 16:15

(R.) Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.

1. O praise the Lord, all you nations, acclaim him all you peoples! (R.)
2. Strong is his love for us; he is faithful for ever. (R.)

Second Reading Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews
The Lord disciplines those he loves.

Have you forgotten that encouraging text in which you are addressed as sons? My son, when the Lord corrects you, do not treat it lightly; but do not get discouraged when he reprimands you. For the Lord trains the ones that he loves and he punishes all those that he acknowledges as his sons. Suffering is part of your training; God is treating you as his sons. Has there ever been any son whose father did not train him? Of course, any punishment is most painful at the time, and far from pleasant; but later, in those on whom it has been used, it bears fruit in peace and goodness. So hold up your limp arms and steady your trembling knees and smooth out the path you tread; then the injured limb will not be wrenched, it will grow strong again.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation John 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me. Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 13:22-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
From East and West they will come to take their place in the kingdom of God.

Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to him, ‘Sir, will there be only a few saved?’ He said to them, ‘Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because, I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed.

‘Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, “Lord, open to us” but he will answer, “I do not know where you come from.” Then you will find yourself saying, “We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets” but he will reply, “I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!”

‘Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. And men from east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.

‘Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.’

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon Cf Psalm 103:13-15

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

Recently Deceased: Willem de Raadt, Ellis Dawod, Vince Tanna, Lilia Otaday, Rodney Dowling, Isaiah Dahdah

Sick: Mary Coombs, Chris Gorman, Carl Johnson, 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.

St. Augustine and St. Monica

28th August 27th August

“Thou hast made us for Thyself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in Thee.”

Behold a wise woman who has built her house. She feared the Lord and walked in the right path.

FOR CHILDREN PREPARING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: We kindly request our parish community to keep in your prayers the children who are preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, as well as their parents. This significant step in their spiritual journey is a moment of profound grace and joy and your prayers can offer them support, guidance and encouragement during this preparatory period. Your spiritual support is greatly appreciated as we together nurture the faith of these kids.

CHILDREN’S LITURGY WORKSHOP will be held on Thursday 4th September at Bishop Bede Heather Centre Blacktown from 7pm-8:30pm. Sr Mary-Louise will take this opportunity to go over the diocesan guidelines for Children’s Liturgy and be on hand to answer any questions you may have. This is a great opportunity for all who are involved in the ministry. To register your attendance, please email ofw@parracatholic.org

BETHANY PILGRIMAGE SATURDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER: Inviting all faithful women as we walk and visit five churches whilst meditating on the Glorious Mysteries. Starting with 8 am Mass at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, St Marys and returning at approximately 5:30 pm. Cost: \$20; Pilgrims must be 18+ years old; Registration is essential: www.trybooking.com/DBBUX Contact: 0494 173 359 or email: bethanypilgrimage@gmail.com Please see Parish Notice Board for more information.

ST PADRE PIO OF PIETRELCINA FEAST DAY: Triduum St Padre Pio’s Novena & Mass Schedule: **Thurs 18th Sept 7pm, Fri 19th Sept 7pm, Sat 20th Sept 5:30 pm. Sunday 21st Sept at 10am:** A procession followed by the Feast Day Mass, Veneration & Blessing with St Padre Pio’s Relic & fellowship Meal. Contact: 02 4789 2232 St Padre Pio Parish, Glenmore Park

MASS FOR MUSICIANS: In this Year of Jubilee, a Mass for Musicians will be celebrated by Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen on **Wednesday 24th September 2025** at 7:30pm at St Patrick’s Cathedral, 1 Marist Place, Parramatta. RSVP by 19th September 2025. Email: ofw@parracatholic.org or call 0460 037 795 with the number of guests attending for seating and catering purposes.

BIG THANK YOU FROM PPC: Six 'cars' took part in last Sunday’s parish car rally, which took participants to some interesting spots from Winmalee to Springwood and Faulconbridge, finishing up at the newly upgraded Jackson Park near the Corridor of Oaks. The various questions were fun, but best of all was chatting and getting to know each other more, while the kids enjoyed the playground and nearby walking track.

The Parish Pastoral Council would like to hear from you if you have any other ideas for parish social events.

Anne Edwards
PPC Member

STA 2025 Reconciliation Sacramental Program

Children and Parent Information Sessions:
Thursday 28th August at 7.00pm, STA Church (and practice)
Reconciliation will take place on Wed 3rd September at 6.30pm St Thomas Aquinas Church

ST THOMAS AQUINAS PIETY SHOP IS OPEN!

Please visit our shop located in the parish office building.

We are open:

Tuesday to Friday 9am – 3pm

Sunday 9am – 11:30am.

Show your support by purchasing sacramental gifts, religious gifts for families or for your own spiritual journey.

For all the latest information and updates about our parish, please follow our Instagram page:
@stthomasaquinas_springwoodnsw

ST THOMAS AQUINAS READING GROUP: A wonderful opportunity to engage in discussions and connect with like-minded individuals. This is an ongoing session **every Sunday at 3pm** in our Parish Centre. Feel free to simply show up.

SPRINGWOOD CATHOLIC YOUTH MEETING is on every Sunday from 5-7pm. Anyone interested and who is between 18 and 35 years of age please contact Noah Tabone on 0493 490 960.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SPRINGWOOD EOFY REPORT: In a spirit of accountability and transparency, we local SVPD Conference members would like to share some figures for the FY just ended with all parishioners. In the past 12 months of the FY, we issued close to \$27,000 in food and material voucher relief to needy individuals and families. We received a little over \$10,000 in donations to the Poor Box, and the Winter and Christmas appeals. The funding gap is covered by grants from the federal and state governments to Vinnies HQ, with funds then distributed as needed, and profits from Vinnies large network of shops. Again, we thank all parishioners and members of our local school communities for your ongoing support and generosity.

CELEBRATION OF THE FEAST OF ST COLUMBA UPDATE
Due to inclement weather, the celebration of the Holy Mass at St Columba’s school grounds has been postponed until Wednesday 24th September 2025 at 9:15 am. We look forward to seeing you all then.