

Date:	18th October/19th October 2025		Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
Mass Time:	Acolyte	First Reading & Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading & Prayer of the Faithful	Music
5:00 PM	Ian Miles	Tanya Baldwin	Timothy Baldwin	No One
8:00 AM	Marek Grus	Tanya Graham	Domhnall MacCormac	
9:30 AM	John Belfanti	Katherine Mahns	Peta Sparkes	Chris Wilson
Morning Tea:	Communion to the Sick			

Date:	25th October/26th October 2025		Thirtieth 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	Felix Kobus	Chris Wilson
8:00 AM	Randall Noney	Ros Comfort	Kim Crawford	
9:30 AM	Phillip Saville	Margaret Hickey	Matt Aldous	Streeters

KID’S CORNER



Keep praying and God will help you

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

Jesus wants us to pray to God and not give up.
Draw a picture of yourself praying to God



Who are some of the people we need to pray for?

Write a prayer asking God to help you to never give up when things get tough.

Cross out all letters that appear three times or more.
Then unscramble the remaining letters to complete the name of the popular prayer below.

H T G O C E J W
S A P Q G K I T
F O E A S B Q O
K L T J T E U B
E B C F U J C E
Q G M E Y B W U
U F S O C P Q S
O R P K W E J T

The _____

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: springwood@parracatholic.org
Parish Website: www.stchurchspringwood.org.au
Parish Facebook Page: St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Community Springwood
Parish Administrator: Fr Jack Elkazzi (jack.elkazzi@parracatholic.org)
Parish Pastoral Council: 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: 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today’s Gospel (Luke 18:1–8), Jesus tells the parable of the persistent widow who never gives up in pleading for justice. Her perseverance becomes a lesson for all who pray. God is not like the unjust judge; He is infinitely loving and attentive. Yet Jesus asks a searching question: “*When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?*”

Prayer is not about convincing God to act—it is about shaping our hearts to trust Him. Perseverance in prayer trains the soul in faith, hope, and humility. Often, God’s silence is an invitation to deeper communion, not neglect. We learn to pray not merely for what we want, but to remain united with the One who loves us.

This Sunday challenges us to pray with faith that endures. Like Moses lifting his hands in intercession and like the widow who refuses to lose heart, we are called to trust that our faithful God will bring justice and mercy in His time.

May God Bless you and all your loved ones +
In Christ Jesus and Mary,

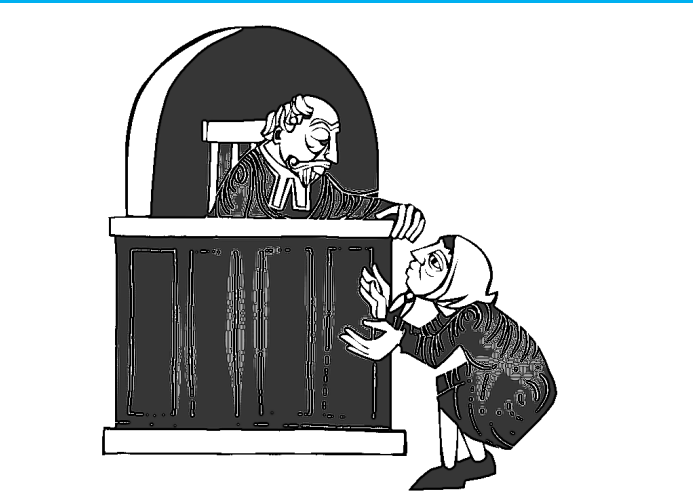
Fr Jack Elkazzi

Rosary Quote — St Thérèse of Lisieux

“For me, prayer is a surge of the heart; it is a simple look turned toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy.”

— St Thérèse of Lisieux





Entrance Antiphon Cf Psalm 16:6,8
To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God;
turn your ear to me; hear my words.
Guard me as the apple of your eye;
in the shadow of your wings protect me.

First Reading Exodus 17:8-13
A reading from the book of Exodus
As long as Moses kept his arms raised, Israel had the advantage.

The Amalekites came and attacked Israel at Rephidim. Moses said to Joshua, ‘Pick out men for yourself, and tomorrow morning march out to engage Amalek. I, meanwhile, will stand on the hilltop, the staff of God in my hand.’ Joshua did as Moses told him and marched out to engage Amalek, while Moses and Aaron and Hur went up to the top of the hill. As long as Moses kept his arms raised, Israel had the advantage; when he let his arms fall, the advantage went to Amalek. But Moses’ arms grew heavy, so they took a stone and put it under him and on this he sat, Aaron and Hur supporting his arms, one on one side, one on the other; and his arms remained firm till sunset. With the edge of the sword Joshua cut down Amalek and his people.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 120. R. v.2
(R.) Our help is from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

1. I lift up my eyes to the mountains:
from where shall come my help?
My help shall come from the Lord
who made heaven and earth. (R.)
2. May he never allow you to stumble!
Let him sleep not, your guard.
No, he sleeps not nor slumbers,
Israel’s guard. (R.)
3. The Lord is your guard and your shade;
at your right side he stands.
By day the sun shall not smite you
nor the moon in the night. (R.)
4. The Lord will guard you from evil,
he will guard your soul.
The Lord will guard your going and coming
both now and for ever. (R.)

Second Reading 2 Timothy 3:14 – 4:2
A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy
This is how the people of God become equipped and ready for every good work.
You must keep to what you have been taught and know to be true; remember who your teachers were, and how, ever since you were a child, you have known the holy scriptures – from these you can learn the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and can profitably be used for teaching, for refuting error, for guiding people’s lives and teaching them to be holy. This is how the man who is dedicated to God becomes fully equipped and ready for any good work.

Before God and before Christ Jesus who is to be judge of the living and the dead, I put this duty to you, in the name of his Appearing and of his kingdom: proclaim the message and, welcome or unwelcome, insist on it. Refute falsehood, correct error, call to obedience – but do all with patience and with the intention of teaching.
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Hebrews 4:12
Alleluia, alleluia!
The word of God is living and active;
it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart.
Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 18:1-8
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
God will see those who cry to him vindicated.
Jesus told his disciples a parable about the need to pray continually and never lose heart. ‘There was a judge in a certain town’ he said ‘who had neither fear of God nor respect for man. In the same town there was a widow who kept on coming to him and saying, “I want justice from you against my enemy!” For a long time he refused, but at last he said to himself, “Maybe I have neither fear of God nor respect for man, but since she keeps pestering me I must give this widow her just rights, or she will persist in coming and worry me to death.”’

And the Lord said, ‘You notice what the unjust judge has to say? Now will not God see justice done to his chosen who cry to him day and night even when he delays to help them? I promise you, he will see justice done to them, and done speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find any faith on earth?’
The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon Cf Psalm 32:18-19
Behold, the eyes of the Lord
are on those who fear him,
who hope in his merciful love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine.

Recently Deceased: Adele Boennebruch, Chris Gorman, Phillip Wise; **Commemorative Deceased:** Graham Maynard, Odette Harb; **Sick:** James Murray, Erlisa Argayoso, Allan Arias, Mary Coombs, Carl Johnson, Peter Avery, John Hunia, Eva Fitzgerald, Philip Coggan, James Connor, Richard Ford, Julie Somerville, Fr Bob Bossini, Marama Watson, Graham Downie. 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: 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.

UNLOCKING THE MYSTERY OF THE BIBLE: Many Catholics want to read the Bible but get bogged down by the long stretches that seem not to make sense or get lost among the sea of Old Testament names and places. Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible, an eight-part Bible study, helps you uncover the story woven throughout Scripture, so you can get the “big picture” of the Bible and understand what it is all about. Aided by a unique color-coded Bible Timeline™ Chart that arranges the key people, places, and events of the Bible in chronological order, Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible will help you pick up the Bible with confidence and understand how you fit into God’s plan. STA will begin the Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible study on November 6 at 7:30pm. Participants will meet every Thursday for 5 weeks to view an engaging video presentation followed by a time of lively group discussion and fellowship. To register please scan the QR Code.



We welcome into our Catholic Christian family the following children:

Sophia Victoria Bryce
Joseph Kenneth Palermo
Lillia Grace Palermo

who were recently baptised here.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS AT ST PATRICK’S CATHEDRAL SUNDAY 26TH OCTOBER AT 2PM Please register attendance at marriage@parracatholic.org or phone 02 8838 3460. Kindly include full names, years of marriage and number of family attending. Couples and their families are warmly invited to afternoon tea in the Cathedral Hall after Mass.



THE SPRINGWOOD EAST TIMOR SUPPORT GROUP (SETSG) is conducting a street stall in Springwood Town Square on **Saturday November 1st**. Parishioners wishing to contribute to the supply of goodies for sale please bring them along after 8:00am on the day or contact Dennis Farrar 0425 209 840 to organise collection. All funds raised will go to Health and Educational initiatives in Timor Leste. We would also welcome a call from anyone wishing to join our support Group. Thank you for your involvement and donations over the years.

SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING EUCHARISTIC PROCESSION is on the **23rd of November 2025** at St Thomas Aquinas parish grounds starting at 9:30am. Procession is followed by Benediction and Mass. Morning tea follows. More details to follow. Interested Acolytes please contact Deacon Alan: alan.skofic@transport.nsw.gov.au

Have you registered your child for the First Holy Communion? The STA 2025 First Holy Communion Sacramental Program starts on **Wednesday 22nd October 2025 at 7pm.**
Parents with children who were baptised and had received the Sacrament of Reconciliation are invited to register them by completing the enrolment form found in our website or at the back of our church or parish office. For more information, please call 4754 1052 or email springwood@parracatholic.org

2025 First Holy Communion Sacramental Program
Parent Information Sessions:
Wednesday 22nd October at 7.00pm, STA Parish
Wednesday 29th October at 7.00pm, STA Parish
Children and Parent Sessions:
Saturday 8th November at 11.00am, STA Parish
Saturday 15th November at 11.00am, STA Parish (**and practice**)
First Holy Communion will take place on Saturday, 5pm Vigil Mass, Saturday 22nd November 2025, St Thomas Aquinas Church

ST THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC GIFT 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.

2026 Franciscan Friar Calendar – On Sale Now!
Get your **2026 Franciscan Friar Calendar** for **\$10 each**. Featuring beautiful images of the Franciscan way of life, inspiring quotes, and important liturgical dates, this calendar is perfect for your home or as a thoughtful gift.
Available at the parish office and STA Catholic Giftshop – grab yours today!



Now Available for Purchase
God’s Word 2026 • Ordo 2026 • Daily Mass Book 2026
Copies of *God’s Word 2026*, the *Ordo 2026*, and the *Daily Mass Book 2026* are now available for purchase from the Parish Office and Giftshop. These resources are a wonderful way to deepen your faith and follow the readings and prayers throughout the liturgical year.

Please order early to ensure availability.

For prices and orders, contact the **Parish Office** or visit the **STA Giftshop**

