

Date:	8th November/9th November 2025		The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica	
Mass Time:	Acolyte	First Reading & Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading & Prayer of the Faithful	Music
5:00 PM	Ed Junis	Tanya Baldwin	Timothy Baldwin	Chris Wilson
8:00 AM	Randall Noney	Ros Comfort	Georgia Cook	
9:30 AM	Bernard Ellis	Lisa Vaughan	Anne Ellis	Streeters
Date:	15th November/16th November 2025		Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	
Mass Time:	Acolyte	First Reading & Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading & Prayer of the Faithful	Music
5:00 PM	Ian Miles	Wilhelmina de Raadt	Felix Kobus	No One
8:00 AM	Marek Grus	Domhnall MacCormac	Tanya Graham	
9:30 AM	Phillip Saville	Katherine Mahns	Matt Aldous	Chris Wilson
Celebrant:	Bishop Vincent			
Morning Tea:	Chris Wilson & Choir Group			

KID’S CORNER



Jesus was not pleased when he found people selling things in the temple. Some people sold cattle, sheep and doves for sacrifice and some people changed Roman coins for temple coins. Draw some traders and money-changers in the temple and write down what Jesus said to them.



The church you go to mass in is a special building just like the temple in Jerusalem. What are the things you should do when you are in church.



St Thomas Aquinas Parish

168 Hawkesbury Road, Springwood, NSW, 2777
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Phone: 02 4754 1052; Emergency ONLY: 0474 631 168

Parish Email: springwood@parracatholic.org
Parish Website: www.stachurchspringwood.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

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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.

Bulletin Reflection

Today we celebrate the **Dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome**, the cathedral church of the Pope and the “mother and head of all churches.” This feast reminds us that the Church is not merely a building of stone, but a living temple built of people united in Christ. Every baptised person is a “living stone” forming the dwelling place of God.

As we honour the physical church where countless generations have prayed, we are also called to renew our own hearts as sacred spaces where Christ dwells. Just as the Lateran Basilica stands as a symbol of unity with the Pope and the universal Church, our parish church is a visible sign of our communion in faith and charity. Let us be grateful for this spiritual home and strive to make our lives worthy temples of the Holy Spirit.

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

Fr Jack Elkazzi

Events in November 2025

- ✚ November Mass Offerings. All November Masses are offered for the Faithful Departed.
- ✚ Bishop Vincent Long to celebrate Mass at STA Parish on Sunday **16th November 2025** at 9:30am Mass. Morning tea follows.
- ✚ First Holy Communion Mass will be at the 5pm Vigil on the **22nd November 2025. PLEASE NOTE** space will be limited as large attendance is expected. Parishioners may consider going to the 8am or 9:30am Sunday Mass 23rd November 2025.
- ✚ Eucharistic Procession, Benediction and Mass on the Solemnity of Christ the King **23rd November 2025 from 9:30 am**. Morning tea follows.
- ✚ We’re excited to announce the upcoming construction of a shaded outdoor space designed to accommodate parishioners following Mass. This new area will offer a comfortable place to sit, relax, and connect, while also featuring a designated BBQ zone for community gatherings and events. Stay tuned for updates as we begin fundraising, prepare the site, and move into construction. We look forward to creating a welcoming space for fellowship and shared moments. For more information, pleas see our Parish Notice Board.



Entrance Antiphon Cf Revelation 21:2

I saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared like a bride adorned for her husband.

First Reading Ezekiel 47:1-2. 8-9. 12

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel
I see water flowing from the temple and all who were touched by it were saved.

The angel brought me to the entrance of the Temple, where a stream came out from under the Temple threshold and flowed eastwards, since the Temple faced east. The water flowed from under the right side of the Temple, south of the altar. He took me out by the north gate and led me right round outside as far as the outer east gate where the water flowed out on the right-hand side. The man went to the east holding his measuring line and measured off a thousand cubits; he then made me wade across the stream; the water reached my ankles. He measured off another thousand and made me wade across the stream again; the water reached my knees. He measured off another thousand and made me wade across again; the water reached my waist. He measured off another thousand; it was now a river which I could not cross; the stream had swollen and was now deep water, a river impossible to cross. He then said, ‘Do you see, son of man?’ He took me further, then brought me back to the bank of the river. When I got back, there were many trees on each bank of the river. He said, ‘This water flows east down to the Arabah and to the sea; and flowing into the sea it makes its waters wholesome. Wherever the river flows, all living creatures teeming in it will live. Fish will be very plentiful, for wherever the water goes it brings health, and life teems wherever the river flows. Along the river, on either bank, will grow every kind of fruit tree with leaves that never wither and fruit that never fails; they will bear new fruit every month, because this water comes from the sanctuary. And their fruit will be good to eat and the leaves medicinal.’

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 45:2-3. 5-6. 8-9. R. v.5

(R.) The waters of the river gladden the city of God.
1. God is for us a refuge and strength,
a helper close at hand, in time of distress:
so we shall not fear though the earth should rock,
though the mountains fall into the depths of the sea. **(R.)**

Responsorial Psalm (continuation)

(R.) The waters of the river gladden the city of God.
2. The waters of a river give joy to God’s city,
the holy place where the Most High dwells.
God is within, it cannot be shaken;
God will help it at the dawning of the day. **(R.)**
3. The Lord of hosts is with us:
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
Come, consider the works of the Lord,
the redoubtable deeds he has done on the earth. **(R.)**

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 3:9-11. 16-17

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians
You are the temple of God.

You are God’s building. By the grace God gave me, I succeeded as an architect and laid the foundations, on which someone else is doing the building. Everyone doing the building must work carefully. For the foundation, nobody can lay any other than the one which has already been laid, that is Jesus Christ. Didn’t you realise that you were God’s temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation 2 Chronicles 7:16

Alleluia, alleluia!
I have chosen and sanctified this house, says the Lord,
that my name may remain in it for all time.
Alleluia!

Gospel John 2:13-22

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
He spoke about the temple of his own body.

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers’ coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, ‘Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father’s house into a market’. Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, ‘What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?’ Jesus answered, ‘Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up’. The Jews replied, ‘It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?’ But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

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

Communion Antiphon Cf 1 Pet 2:5

Be built up like living stones,
into a spiritual house, a holy priesthood.



Recently Deceased: Marilyn Scobie, John McKendry, Sr Helena Hill RSJ; **Sick:** Stephen Bishop, 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.

Announcements 1 - Parish Survey

As our parish continues to grow and look toward new initiatives to strengthen our community, we will be conducting a Parish Survey to help us update our records.

This survey will ensure we have accurate information about all individuals and families in our parish, helping us better serve your pastoral, sacramental, and community needs.

You can complete a hard copy of the 2-page survey form and drop this in the box available at the back of the church or do this online by scanning the QR code.

Announcement 2 - New groups

We are inviting expressions of interest for those who would like to become more involved in parish life through emerging parish groups:

Greeters Team— offering a warm welcome to parishioners and visitors at our weekend Masses, assisting with morning teas and BBQs.

Maintenance Team— assisting with light repairs, upkeep, and care of our parish grounds and facilities.

Fundraising Team— helping to plan and support parish events and initiatives that strengthen our community. Please see the Parish Notice Board for more information.



No Auslan Interpreter will be present on Saturday 5pm Vigil Mass **8th November** as previously announced. This has been cancelled. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS HAMPER APPEAL:

Our Parish has been a consistently strong supporter of our appeals which provides support to the needy in our area.

On the weekends of **November 8/9 and 15/ 16th** members will collect the names of those willing to create hampers for families or individuals this Christmas. Parishioners preferring to donate money for purchasing food vouchers can do that at the same Masses. Please be sure to advise us if a tax receipt is required. Hampers will be returned at Masses on the **20/21st of December** for distribution in the days before Christmas.

The next meeting of the STA Ladies Fellowship will be held after morning Mass on **Friday 21st November**. This will be followed at MIDDAY by an END OF YEAR Lunch at the Royal Hotel to which PARISHIONERS are invited. Call 0409 849 186 if you require transport.



Copies of God’s Word 2026, the Ordo 2026, Daily Mass Book 2026 and 2026 Church Art Calendar are now available for purchase from the Parish Office and Giftshop. For prices and orders, contact the **Parish Office** or visit the **STA Giftshop**.



November Mass Offerings

During the month of November, the Church invites us to remember and pray for all the faithful departed. It is a sacred time to commend our loved ones to God’s mercy and to offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for their eternal rest.

Parishioners are encouraged to submit the names of deceased family members and friends to be included in our November Mass Offerings. Please ensure all **NAMES are CLEARLY written**. These names will be placed in our Book of Remembrance located at the back of the church and remembered at all Masses throughout the month.

“Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.”



All are welcome! Participation within the Mountain Deanery is highly encouraged!

Morning Tea: We are seeking Volunteers, Food and Financial Contributions for our Christ the King Procession Morning Tea on **Sunday, 23rd November** after the 9.30am Mass If you are able to help in any way or bring a plate to share, please contact the parish office or email us at springwood@parracatholic.org.

Your generosity and support are greatly appreciated as we come together to celebrate this special feast day!

Please help us welcome Bishop Vincent, who will be celebrating Mass here at STA parish on Sunday **16th November 2025** at the 9:30am Mass. Morning tea follows. All are invited to attend.

Anyone who would like to assist or share a plate, please contact Chris Wilson directly on 0425 290 952. Thank you.



2025 First Holy Communion Sacramental Program
Children and Parent Session:
Saturday 15th November at 11.00am, STA Parish (including practice)
First Holy Communion will take place on Saturday, 5pm Vigil Mass, Saturday 22nd November 2025, St Thomas Aquinas Church
COMMUNION GIFTS ARE AVAILABLE AT OUR STA CATHOLIC GIFTSHOP.

O Father, we come before you with grateful hearts as our candidates prepare for their First Communion. Bless these children as they receive your Body and Blood for the first time. Fill them with your love and grace, and may this sacred moment deepen their faith and bring them closer to you. Amen.



ST THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC GIFTSHOP 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.