

Date:		15th November/16th November 2025		Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	
Mass Time:	<u>Acolyte</u>	<u>First Reading & Responsorial Psalm</u>		<u>Second Reading & Prayer of the Faithful</u>	<u>Music</u>
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				
Date:		22nd November/23rd November 2025		Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe	
Mass Time:	<u>Acolyte</u>	<u>First Reading & Responsorial Psalm</u>		<u>Second Reading & Prayer of the Faithful</u>	<u>Music</u>
5:00 PM	Ed Junis	Tanya Baldwin		Timothy Baldwin	Chris Wilson
8:00 AM	Randall Noney	Ros Comfort		Kim Crawford	
9:30 AM	John Belfanti	Margaret Hickey		Peta Sparkes	Streeters
Morning Tea:	STA Team				

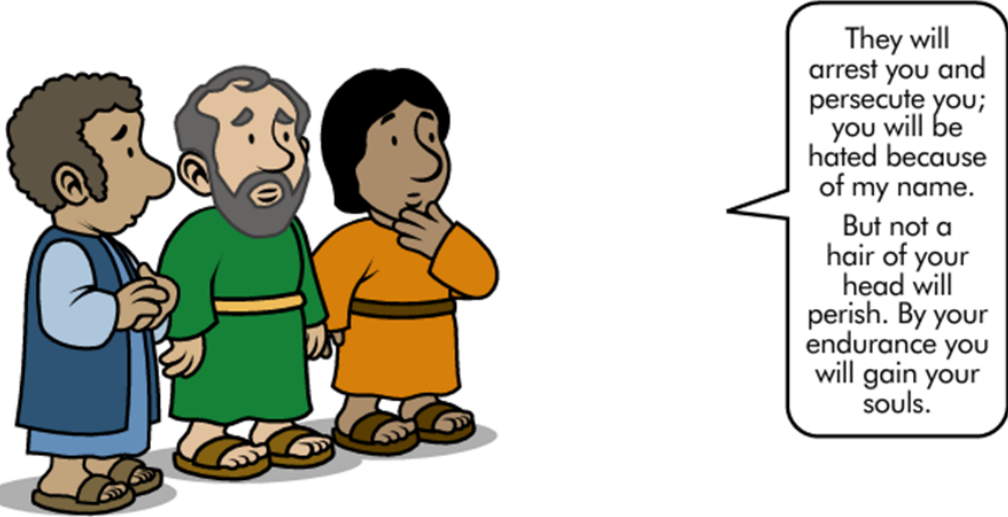
KID’S CORNER

33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

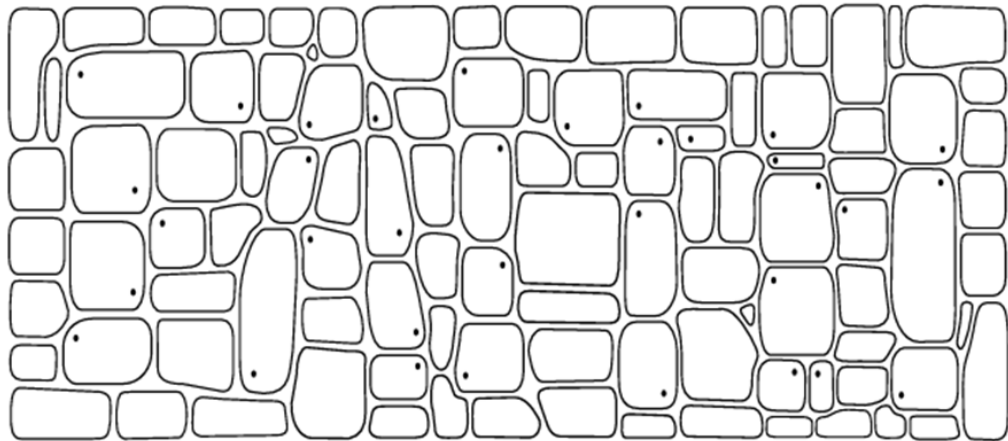
You will be saved
by being faithful

Luke 21:5-19
My name is

Jesus tried to reassure his disciples that although some bad things were about to happen, God’s love and mercy would ultimately prevail. Draw Jesus as he speaks to his disciples.



Colour in the stones marked with a dot to reveal something we need if we are to be saved.



St Thomas Aquinas Parish

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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

Support us!
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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 – 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

As the liturgical year draws to its close, Jesus reminds us that everything passing will yield to the one thing that endures: the Word of God. The Gospel does not promise a trouble-free life, but a grace-filled perseverance—‘by your endurance you will gain your lives.’

Christians are not spectators of history; we are witnesses within it. Fidelity in prayer, honesty in work, mercy to the poor, courage in trials: these are the small daily bricks by which God builds a future that lasts. When fear rises, we look to the Cross and find the calm strength of the Crucified. When confusion swirls, we return to the Eucharist where Christ feeds us with his steadfast love.

Let us ask for the constant gladness of serving God, and for the hope that does not disappoint, so that whatever shakes around us, our hearts remain anchored in Christ who is Lord of time and history.

May God bless you all +
In Christ Jesus and Mary

Fr Jack Elkazzi

Events in November 2025

- ✚ November Mass Offerings. All November Masses are offered for the Faithful Departed.
- ✚ 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.
- ✚ Join us on the **29th of November between 9am and 1pm** at the church for a Working Bee. Bring your gloves, tools and a smile as we clear the way for our upcoming shade project.
- ✚ 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, please see our Parish Notice Board.



Entrance Antiphon

Jeremiah 29:11,12,14

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction.

You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

First Reading

Malachi 3:19-20

A reading from the prophet Malachi

The sun of righteousness will shine on you.

The day is coming now, burning like a furnace; and all the arrogant and the evil-doers will be like stubble. The day that is coming is going to burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, leaving them neither root nor stalk. But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness will shine out with healing in its rays.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 97:5-9. R. see v.9

(R.) The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice.

1. Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp with the sound of music. With trumpets and the sound of the horn acclaim the King, the Lord. (R.)
2. Let the sea and all within it, thunder; the world, and all its peoples. Let the rivers clap their hands and the hills ring out their joy at the presence of the Lord. (R.)
3. For the Lord comes, he comes to rule the earth. He will rule the world with justice and the peoples with fairness. (R.)

Second Reading

2 Thessalonians 3:7-12

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

Do not give anyone food who refuses to work.

You know how you are supposed to imitate us: now we were not idle when we were with you, nor did we ever have our meals at anyone’s table without paying for them; no, we worked night and day, slaving and straining, so as not to be a burden on any of you. This was not because we had no right to be, but in order to make ourselves an example for you to follow.

Second Reading (continuation)

We gave you a rule when we were with you: not to let anyone have any food if he refused to do any work. Now we hear that there are some of you who are living in idleness, doing no work themselves but interfering with everyone else’s. In the Lord Jesus Christ, we order and call on people of this kind to go on quietly working and earning the food that they eat.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 21:28

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lift up your heads and see; your redemption is near at hand. Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 21:5-19

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Your endurance will win you your life.

When some were talking about the Temple, remarking how it was adorned with fine stonework and votive offerings, Jesus said, ‘All these things you are staring at now – the time will come when not a single stone will be left on another: everything will be destroyed.’ And they put to him this question: ‘Master,’ they said, ‘when will this happen, then, and what sign will there be that this is about to take place?’

‘Take care not to be deceived,’ he said, ‘because many will come using my name and saying, “I am he” and, “The time is near at hand.” Refuse to join them. And when you hear of wars and revolutions, do not be frightened, for this is something that must happen but the end is not soon.’ Then he said to them, ‘Nation will fight against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes and plagues and famines here and there; there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.

‘But before all this happens, men will seize you and persecute you; they will hand you over to the synagogues and to imprisonment, and bring you before kings and governors because of my name – and that will be your opportunity to bear witness. Keep this carefully in mind: you are not to prepare your defence, because I myself shall give you an eloquence and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to resist or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relations and friends; and some of you will be put to death. You will be hated by all men on account of my name, but not a hair of your head will be lost. Your endurance will win you your lives.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

Psalms 72:28

To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.



All November Masses will be offered for the Faithful Departed Souls; **Sick:** Stan Pakulski, 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: *Proceeds go to the Board of Management.* The fund supports the living expenses of the priests within our Diocese.

SECOND COLLECTION: *Collection is for the upkeep of 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.

Thanking You for Your Service to Our Parish



We take this opportunity to thank all Catechists for their unwavering dedication and love in guiding our students on their faith journey.

We specially would like to acknowledge and recognise the 25 incredible years of service of Kim Ellis and Wilhelmina de Raadt. Patience, creativity and passion for teaching the Catholic faith are evident in every lesson they delivered. In the spirit of gratitude, we encourage all catechists to continue your important work with joy and enthusiasm. Your service is invaluable

and we are blessed to have you in our parish. Thank you once again for your dedication and love. May God bless you abundantly.

For anyone who would like to answer the call for being the guiding light in our student’s spiritual journey and be a part of our Catechist group of ministry, please contact Vicki Walker on 0408 024 597 or the parish office 02 4754 1052.

Announcements made last week from our PPC re: Invitation to join new parish groups: Greeters Team, Maintenance Team and Fundraising Team; Request to complete a Parish Survey; and Details on the upcoming construction of shaded outdoor space can all be found in the Parish News on our STA website (including the links to access more information. Visit: www.stachurchspringwood.org.au

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 weekend of **November 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 Franciscan Calendar are now available for purchase from the Parish Office and Giftshop. Also, due to increase in demand for the **Sunday Missal**, this will be available from next week. 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!



2025 First Holy Communion

Sacramental Program

First Holy Communion will take place on Saturday, 5pm Vigil Mass, 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.



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