

Date: 7th February/8th February 2026		Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
Mass Time: Acolyte	First Reading & Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading & Prayer of the Faithful	Music
Vigil 5:00 PM	Randall Noney Tanya Baldwin	Timothy Baldwin	Chris Wilson
8:00 AM	Marek Grus Ros Comfort	Domhnall MacCormac	
9:30 AM	John Belfanti Anne Edwards	Brian Edwards	Streeters
Co-Celebrant: Fr Chris del Rosario			
Date: 14th February/15th February 2026		Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
Mass Time: Acolyte	First Reading & Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading & Prayer of the Faithful	Music
Vigil 5:00 PM	Phil Saville Anne Maureen Scarff	Felix Kobus	Chris Wilson
8:00 AM	Randall Noney Tanya Graham	Kim Crawford	
9:30 AM	Bernard Ellis Katherine Mahns	Matt Aldous	Clemens del Rosario
Morning Tea: Parish Pastoral Council			

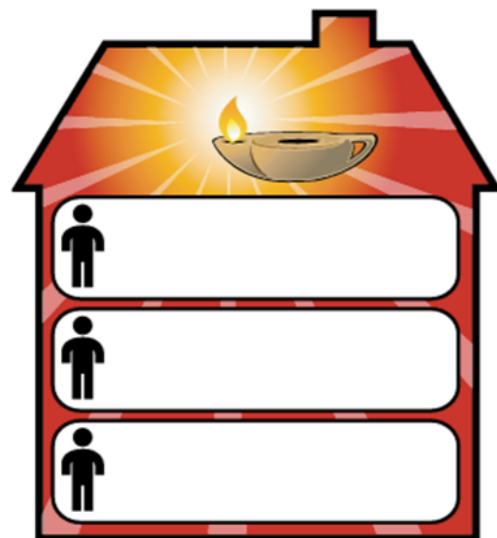
KID'S CORNER



5th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Draw a picture of yourself setting a good example to others.

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE



Write down a way you can let your light shine for each person in this house?

Unscramble and decipher these tiles to reveal one of Jesus' sayings from this week's Gospel.

on		U
like	4	
R	everyone	

" _____ "

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.stachurchspringwood.org.au
Parish Facebook Page: St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Community Springwood
Parish Administrator: Fr Jack Elkazzi
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 9:30am & 7:00 pm, Wednesday - Saturday: 9:30 am
Adoration: Tuesday 8:15am & 6:00pm, Wednesday - Saturday: 8:15 am
First Friday Adoration: Starting March 2026: Adoration & Confession - 8:15 am;
 First Friday Mass - 9:30 am will be offered for the Sacred Heart of Jesus
Reconciliation: Saturday after 9:30 am Mass and 4:00-5:00 pm before the Saturday Vigil Mass
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 – 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us something astonishing: "You are the salt of the earth... You are the light of the world." He does not say, "Try to become light." He says, "You are."

Salt preserves and gives flavour. Light reveals and guides. Christ is reminding us that faith is not private. It is meant to shape the world around us. When we live with integrity, patience, mercy and courage, something of God becomes visible through us.

Yet light can be hidden, and salt can lose its taste. We lose our brightness when we allow fear, resentment or discouragement to define us. We lose our savour when we reduce faith to routine rather than relationship.

The Lord invites us back to authenticity. Isaiah reminds us that true light shines when we care for the poor, forgive generously and act justly. Holiness is not dramatic; it is consistent goodness lived daily. This week, ask simply: where is Christ asking me to shine? A word of encouragement, an act of mercy, a quiet fidelity — these are the small lights that illumine the world.

May God bless you all +
 In Christ Jesus and Mary
 Fr Jack Elkazzi

STA LENTEN REFLECTION PROGRAM

You are warmly invited to participate in our parish Lenten Reflection Program, hosted by Fr Jack, as we journey together through the season of Lent.

These weekly gatherings will offer a time for prayer, reflection, and discussion, helping us to deepen our relationship with God and prepare our hearts for the celebration of Easter.

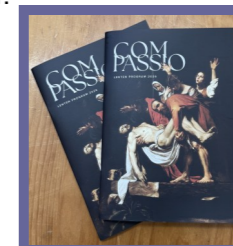
Save the Dates:

- Thursday: 19 February 2026 – 7:00 pm
- Wednesday: 25 February 2026 – 7:00 pm
- Wednesday: 4 March 2026 – 7:00 pm
- Wednesday: 11 March 2026 – 7:00 pm
- Wednesday: 18 March 2026 – 7:00 pm
- Wednesday: 25 March 2026 – 7:00 pm

Venue: St Thomas Aquinas Parish, Springwood

All welcome to attend one or all sessions. We encourage you to set aside this time during Lent for spiritual growth, renewal, and community.

For further information, please contact the Parish Office.



Lenten Program Booklet that will be used in the program is now available to purchase. Please visit STA Parish Office or the STA Springwood Giftshop for more information.



Second Reading 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

I came to you to proclaim Christ crucified.

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation John 8:12

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
the man who follows me
will have the light of life.
Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 5:13-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

You are the light of the world.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men.

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

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

Communion Antiphon Cf Psalm 106:8-9

Let them thank the Lord for his mercy,
his wonders for the children of men,
for he satisfies the thirsty soul,
and the hungry he fills with good things.

Entrance Antiphon Psalm 94:6-7

O come, let us worship God
and bow low before the God who made us,
for he is the Lord our God.

First Reading Isaiah 58:7-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Your light will shine like the dawn.

Thus says the Lord:

Share your bread with the hungry,
and shelter the homeless poor,
clothe the man you see to be naked
and turn not from your own kin.
Then will your light shine like the dawn
and your wound be quickly healed over.
Your integrity will go before you
and the glory of the Lord behind you.
Cry, and the Lord will answer;
call, and he will say, 'I am here.'
If you do away with the yoke,
the clenched fist, the wicked word,
if you give your bread to the hungry,
and relief to the oppressed,
your light will rise in the darkness,
and your shadows become like noon.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 111:4-9, R. v.4

(R.) A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

1. He is a light in the darkness for the upright:
he is generous, merciful and just.
The good man takes pity and lends,
he conducts his affairs with honour. **(R.)**
2. The just man will never waver:
he will be remembered for ever.
He has no fear of evil news;
with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord. **(R.)**
3. With a steadfast heart he will not fear;
open-handed, he gives to the poor;
his justice stands firm for ever.
His head will be raised in glory. **(R.)**



Recently Deceased: Joan Gracie, Richard Bell, Elizabeth Boshell
Sick: Precious Tamayo, David Rees, Melissa Couch, James Murray, Erlisa Argayoso, Allan Arias, Mary Coombs, Carl Johnson, 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: 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.

You're Invited – Join Our STA Reading Group!

We are excited to announce that the first meeting of our **STA Reading Group in 2026 with Dr Angus Brook will be on Sunday 15th February 2026 from 3pm-5pm** at the STA Parish Hall — a space where we can grow together in faith, deepen our understanding of St Thomas Aquinas' catechism, and enjoy meaningful fellowship. We'd love for you to join us, bring your thoughts, and share in the joy of learning together. Feel free to invite a friend — the more, the merrier! If you'd like to be part of the group or have any questions, simply show up on the day.

THE SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS LADIES FELLOWSHIP

Meeting will be on **Friday 20th February**, following 9:30 a.m. Mass. Join us for morning tea, and stay for our meeting. We are a very social, friendly, happy group of ladies who enjoy each other's company. More members always welcome.

STA MORNING TEA VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

STA morning teas are on every first and third Sundays of the month. We are looking for volunteers **to assist rostered small groups twice a year only** with: 1) Setting up tables, bringing of food to share, plates, etc, 2) Preparing and serving tea & coffee, 3) Welcoming guests and ensuring everyone feels at home, 4) Packing up afterwards. If you can spare even an hour of your time, your support would make a big difference. If you're able to help contact Colleen Kime on 0407 125 427. Thank you for considering a lending hand.

JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICE (JRS)

Springwood Parish has provided support to the Jesuit Refugee Support Service for some years. JRS provide support and advocacy for asylum seekers and refugees seeking safety in Australia. To continue their valuable work, they rely on donations from parishes, schools, individuals and community groups. Their current priority need is for food vouchers from Coles, Aldi or Woolworths (or cash), for their clients to purchase food and necessities. **Collection will be following all Masses on 28th February and 1st March, 2026. We appreciate any support you are able to provide. Thank you.**

WORLD DAY OF PRAY: The 2026 World Day of Pray this year has been put together by the women of Nigeria. Theme "I will give you rest: Come"
When: Friday 6th March, 2026; Where: Uniting Church, 4 Lewin St, Springwood; **Time:** 10:30 am Morning Tea. 11 am Service. Members of the STALF will be taking part in the service. Come and join the WDP with our fellow friends of faith in the Springwood Community.

STA Youth Group Opening Event: Sunday 22nd Feb 2026 5:30 pm—8pm

All years 7-12 students are invited to join this special event which starts with the celebration of the Holy Mass, followed with Games, BBQ, Fellowship!
To register, scan the code or call / text Youth Leader on 0433 686 362



Regular STA Youth Night Gathering commences every second Friday of the month beginning on **Friday the 27th February 2026 from 6pm-8pm** in front of the Parish Office



ST THOMAS AQUINAS SPRINGWOOD GIFTSHOP IS OPEN!

Please visit our shop located in the parish office building. We are open Tuesday to Friday 9am-3pm and every Sunday 9am—11:30am.
Show your support by purchasing sacramental gifts, religious gifts for families or for your own spiritual journey.



Still available for sale: Franciscan Calendar 2026 at \$10 and Columban Art Calendar 2026 at \$12



One of the most beautiful acts of service in our parish is bringing the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist to those who are sick, elderly, or unable to join us at Mass. This ministry is not only a sacred duty but also a profound gift of comfort, companionship, and faith to those in need.

We are inviting parishioners who feel called to serve as **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to the Sick and Housebound**. Training and guidance will be provided, so no prior experience is necessary—only a willing heart, a spirit of compassion, and a commitment to treat this ministry with reverence. If you would like to learn more or express your interest, please contact the parish office on 02 4751 1052 or email: springwood@parracatholic.org
Let us continue to be the hands and feet of Christ, bringing His love and presence to all members of our community.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE SICK: Most Rev Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv. DD. will be celebrating the Holy Mass with the Rite of Anointing of the Sick on **Wednesday 11th February 2026 11:00 am** at St Patrick's Catholic Church, 51-59 Allawah Street, Blacktown. At the conclusion of Mass, a special blessing will be given for all carers and those who minister to the sick. Refreshments available following Mass. For catering purposes, RSVP to: ofw@parracatholic.org / 0460 037 795