

Date:	28th February / 1st March 2026		Second Sunday of Lent	
Mass Time:	Acolyte	First Reading & Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading & Prayer of the Faithful	Music
Vigil 5:00 PM	Phil Saville	Margaret Smith	Wilhelmina de Raadt	Andrew Wilson
8:00 AM	Marek Grus	Mary Morris	Georgia Cook	
9:30 AM	John Belfanti	Anne Edwards	Brian Edwards	Chris Wilson
Morning Tea:	Children's Liturgy / St Vincent de Paul			

Date:	7th March / 8th March 2026		Third Sunday of Lent	
Mass Time:	Acolyte	First Reading & Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading & Prayer of the Faithful	Music
Vigil 5:00 PM	Ian Miles	Tanya Baldwin	Timothy Baldwin	Chris Wilson
8:00 AM	Randall Noney	Loida Derbyshire	Kim Crawford	
9:30 AM	John Belfanti	Lisa Vaughan	Anne Ellis	Streeters

KID'S CORNER



2nd Sunday of Lent, Year A

Peter, James and John saw Moses and Elijah talking with Jesus. The true nature of Jesus and his work was revealed to them as they witnessed the Transfiguration. Draw Jesus, Moses and Elijah on top of the mountain as the apostles look on.



God wants us to listen to Jesus. Write down three things that Jesus is telling you.

By using the words below, can you work out what the voice from the cloud said to the apostles?

SON AM LISTEN TO SAYS BELOVED HIM IS PLEASED

THIS __ MY

_____ ,

AND I _____

WITH _____

__ WHAT HE _____

Matthew 17:1-9

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St Thomas Aquinas Parish

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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: 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



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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 – Second Sunday of Lent – Year A

“This is my beloved Son... listen to Him.” (Matthew 17:5) On the Second Sunday of Lent, we climb the mountain with Jesus and witness His Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1–9). His face shines; His garments become dazzling white. For a brief moment, the disciples see His divine glory.

This vision comes just after Jesus foretells His Passion. The glory of Tabor prepares them for the scandal of the Cross. The Father’s voice declares: “This is my beloved Son... listen to Him.” Lent is a season of listening — in prayer, in Scripture, and in silence.

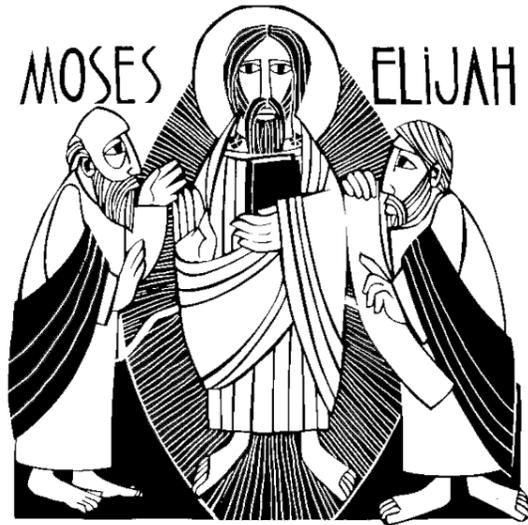
Like Peter, we may wish to remain in moments of consolation. Yet we must descend the mountain and follow Christ into daily life, trusting that His light remains with us.

As we continue our Lenten journey, may Christ transfigure our hearts, strengthen our faith, and teach us to trust Him more deeply.

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

Our parish gift shop is currently offering a beautiful range of Catholic devotional items to support prayer, faith formation, and meaningful gift-giving. Available items include reverent images of Christ, crucifixes in various styles, holy water bottles, rosaries, and sacred artwork such as the Last Supper. There is also a lovely selection of statues, including a Pietà, Last Supper, and images of Our Lady, as well as other devotional pieces to enrich your home prayer space. For families, the shop features faith-based children’s books, including titles focused on Lent and Easter, helping young hearts grow in understanding of the liturgical seasons. All items have been thoughtfully chosen to inspire devotion and make special gifts for sacraments and other occasions. Parishioners are warmly invited to browse the collection and find something meaningful for themselves or a loved one. Please come support our parish Catholic giftshop!





Second Reading [2 Timothy 1:8-10](#)

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy

God has saved us, and called us to be holy.

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation [Matthew 17:5](#)

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel [Matthew 17:1-9](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

His face shone like the sun.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus. As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order. 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

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

Communion Antiphon [Matthew 17:5](#)

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

Entrance Antiphon [Cf Psalm 26:8-9](#)

Of you my heart has spoken, Seek his face.
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face from me.

First Reading [Genesis 12:1-4](#)

A reading from the book of Genesis

The call of Abraham, the father of God's people.

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing.

'I will bless those who bless you:
I will curse those who slight you.
All the tribes of the earth
shall bless themselves by you.'
So Abram went as the Lord told him.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm [Ps 32:4-5, 18-20, 22. R. v.22](#)

(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.

- The word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love. (R.)
- The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine. (R.)
- Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield.
May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you. (R.)



Recently Deceased: John Hunia, Flordelis Ramos

Sick: Mary Green, Hannah Irene Argayoso, Danielle Pace, Rowena Cook, Precious Tamayo, David Rees, Melissa Couch, Erlisa Argayoso, Allan Arias, Mary Coombs, Carl Johnson, 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.

PLEASE NOTE: This is an official parish account linked to the Diocese of Parramatta. Some banks may display automated warning; this account is verified and legitimate. Please proceed. Thank you for your donation.

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.

ST THOMAS AQUINAS LENTEN REFLECTION PROGRAM

All are invited to participate in our parish Lenten Reflection Program hosted by Fr Jack. This is on every **Wednesday: 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th of March 2026** at 7:00 pm. **Venue:** St Thomas Aquinas Church, Springwood
We encourage you to set aside this time during Lent for spiritual growth, renewal, and community.

We welcome into our Catholic Christian family the following children:

- Maddison Skye Hancock*
 - Noah Taylor Hancock*
 - Theo Fox Hancock*
 - Jonathan Matulewicz*
- who were recently baptised here.

You're Invited – Join Our STA Reading Group!

Our STA Reading Group with Dr Angus Brook continues and is on every **Sunday 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.

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY is on Sunday March 1st Families and individuals will again have the opportunity to participate for a short time in the local area from 8am until 12 Midday. Registration is necessary at the Gazebo near the Parish car park. Wear a hat and solid shoes. Gloves, collection instruments and sunscreen will be available. See you there! - STA Earthcare Team

CORRECTION NOTICE:

In our earlier announcement for the *World Day of Pray Friday 6th March 2026* at the Uniting Church, 4 Lewin Street, Springwood NSW, the event time was incorrectly stated. The **correct time** is 10:00 am Morning Tea; 10:30 am Service
We apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused and look forward to seeing you there – Colleen Kime



Join us for the Stations of the Cross every Friday in Lent at 6:30pm, St Thomas Aquinas Church, Springwood NSW



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.

Our Parish Giftshop presents a beautiful new range of Lenten gifts, and seasonal treasures! From inspiring books and rosaries to unique religious art and thoughtful gifts, there's something for everyone. Whether you're looking for a special keepsake, a meaningful present, or simply wish to browse, we'd love for you to stop by and see what's new.



St Thomas Aquinas Parish Sacrament of Confirmation 2026 Program

We invite Children in Years 5 and older in 2026 who have not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation but have received Reconciliation and Holy Communion to join this sacramental program. Details and Enrolment Form are available on our website, at the back of the church / Parish Office. For more information, call 02 4754 1052 or email: springwood@parracatholic.org or visit our website: www.stachurchspringwood.org.au

Important Dates to Remember:

- Parent Only Information Sessions:**
Wednesday 29th April 2026 at 7pm, St Thomas Aquinas Church
Wednesday 6th May 2026 at 7pm, St Thomas Aquinas Church
 - Children and Parent Information Sessions:**
Saturday 16th May 2026 at 11am, St Thomas Aquinas Church
Saturday 23rd May 2026 at 11am, St Thomas Aquinas Church
- Confirmation Date: Wednesday 27th May 2026 at 6:30pm, STA Church**



Regular STA Youth Night Gathering is held every second Friday of the month **from 6pm-8pm** in front of the Parish Office. All years 7-12 students are invited to join.

For more info call / text Youth Leader on 0433 686 362

As our RCIA candidates continue their journey of faith toward full communion with the Church, let us surround them with our love, encouragement, and prayer. We invite you to join us in lifting them up to the Lord, asking that He strengthen their hearts, deepen their understanding of the Gospel, and fill them with the joy of His presence.



Saint John of God

- 8th March
Born in Portugal, John Cidade led an adventurous life in Spain. In his early forties, he was converted after hearing a sermon preached by St John of Avila. Thereafter he dedicated himself totally to the care of the sick and abandoned, and founded the Order of Brothers Hospitallers of St John of God. Honoured as patron of the sick, he was canonised in 1690.