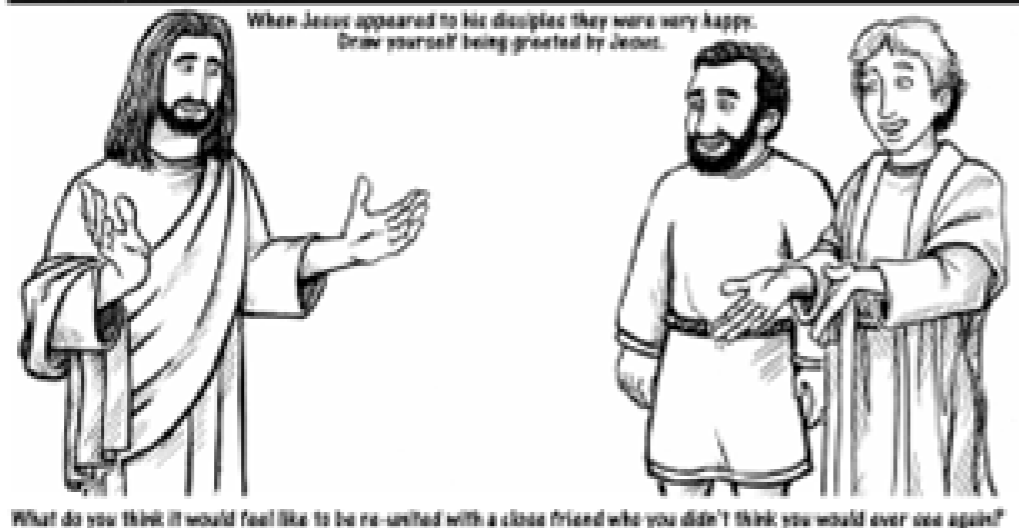
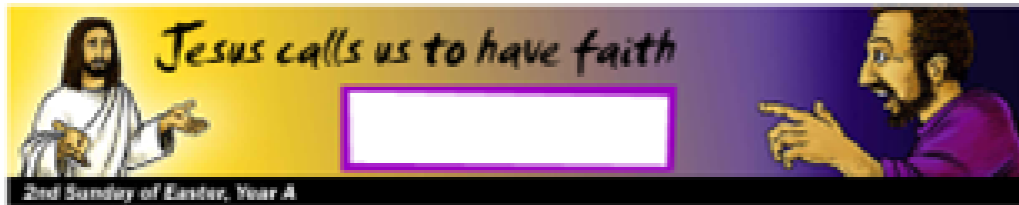


Date: 11th April / 12th April 2026		Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy)	
Mass Time:	Acolyte	First Reading & Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading & Prayer of the Faithful
Vigil 5:00 PM	Ian Miles	Tanya Baldwin	Timothy Baldwin
8:00 AM	Randall Noney	Loida Derbyshire	Ros Comfort
9:30 AM	Bernard Ellis	Katherine Mahns	Anne Ellis
3:00 PM	TBA	Lisa Vaughan	Minnie Harb
Date: 18th April / 19th April 2026		Third Sunday of Easter	
Mass Time:	Acolyte	First Reading & Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading & Prayer of the Faithful
Vigil 5:00 PM	Phil Saville	Wilhelmina de Raadt	Felix Kobus
8:00 AM	Marek Grus	Mary Morris	Georgia Cook
9:30 AM	John Belfanti	Margaret Hickey	Tanya Graham
Morning Tea: East Timor			

KID'S CORNER



What do you think it would feel like to be re-united with a close friend who you didn't think you would ever see again?

- There are many things present in our lives that we don't see with our eyes. Circle the words which represent things we do not see.
- BIBLE
 - LOVE
 - JOY
 - ALTAR
 - BREATH
 - CHALICE
 - CRUCIFIX
 - FORGIVENESS
 - PEACE
 - FLOWERS
 - CANDLE
 - HOPE

Complete the Text maze:
"You are my Lord and my God!"

START **Y**

E D R C A S F O
S A O L F W A U A
D N S Y M E R E R
M A O L
Y G D O
K O H T
C **D** F P

FINISH

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
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



Support us!
Scan to donate

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.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

2PM ADORATION & CONFESSION
Come Spend Time with the Lord!

FOLLOWED BY
MASS AT 3PM
+ EXTRA MASS TO THE ALREADY SCHEDULED MASSES AT 8AM & 9:30AM

Bulletin Reflection for Divine Mercy Sunday

Divine Mercy Sunday reveals the deepest meaning of Easter: that the Risen Christ still bears the wounds of His Passion. The Resurrection does not erase the Cross—it glorifies it. From His pierced Heart flows mercy for the whole world.

In the Gospel, Jesus enters the locked room of fear and failure and speaks a word the disciples do not deserve: "Peace be with you." He does not condemn them; He restores them. This is Divine Mercy—not earned, but given.

Thomas is invited to touch the wounds, and there he finds faith. So too for us: it is in the wounds of Christ that we discover healing, forgiveness, and new life.

Divine Mercy is not a feeling—it is the love of God poured out through the Cross. Today, Christ invites us to trust: not in ourselves, but in Him.

"Jesus, I trust in You."

May God Bless you All +
Fr Jack Elkazzi

To All our dedicated and reliable Volunteers who are (a) new to the role, (b) who have expired training and did not attend the one we had last in 2025 here at STA Parish and/or (c) have limited access to computers, now is your chance to attend a Safeguarding Face-to-face Training. A renewal training will be held on **2nd May 2026** at St Joseph's Parish, Kingswood. More training opportunities are available throughout May at different parishes. For more information, please email: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

Entrance Antiphon 1 Peter 2:2

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

First Reading Acts of the Apostles 2:42-47

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The faithful lived together and owned everything in common.

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.

The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone.

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.

They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 117:2-4, 13-15, 22-24, R. v.1

(R.) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

- Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'
Let the sons of Aaron say:
'His love has no end.'
Let those who fear the Lord say:
'His love has no end.' (R.)
- I was thrust, thrust down and falling
but the Lord was my helper.
The Lord is my strength and my song;
he was my saviour.
There are shouts of joy and victory
in the tents of the just. (R.)
- The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.
This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Peter 1:3-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

He has given us a new birth as his children, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead.

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that,

when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

Gospel Acclamation John 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! Alleluia!

Gospel John 20:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

After eight days Jesus came in and stood among them.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.
For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven;
for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

Communion Antiphon Cf John 20:27

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.



Recently Deceased: Hannah Irene Argayoso, Lucy Doran

Sick: Margaret Smith, Larry Munn, Mary Green, 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.



To our RCIA candidates, you have walked a path of prayer, study, and reflection. At the Easter Vigil night, you stood before us as living witnesses of God's love and faithfulness. The Church rejoices with you. And we, your parish family, will walk with you in faith, in prayer, and in love. May you always remember this night as you stepped fully into the mission God has prepared for you.

For those who are interested to become Ministers of the Word, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying, the Liturgical Ministry Courses are again available. Please see the Parish Notice Board for dates to remember starting from Monday **7th September 2026** and contact the St Thomas Aquinas Parish Office for enrolment form, which must be completed and returned by **Tuesday 4th August 2026**.

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION OPPORTUNITY - A parishioner, in training to be a Spiritual Director, is seeking a couple of parishioners interested in receiving spiritual direction. If interested email Chris at: currentofgraceministries@gmail.com

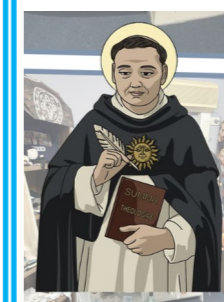
PROJECT COMPASSION: Caritas Australia sincerely thanks you for your generous support of Project Compassion this Lent.

If you still have your Project Compassion box or donation envelope at home, please return it next week at Mass.

Every contribution, no matter the size, helps to bring hope and opportunity to people experiencing poverty and injustice. Together, we are *Uniting Against Poverty* and walking alongside vulnerable communities as they build stronger, more sustainable futures.

The St Thomas Aquinas Ladies Fellowship meeting will be held on **Friday 17th April 2026** in the Parish Centre. Kim Crawford will be our Guest Speaker. Parishioners are all welcome. For enquiries, call Colleen Kime 0407 125 427

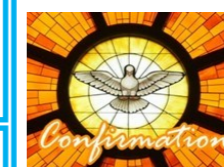
The Nepean Catenians invite Men of the Upper Blue Mountains to join us for meeting and dinner at Gaels Club, 75 Richmond Road, Kingswood, 6.45 pm, **Tuesday 14th April**, Enquiries and RSVP by 13th April. Email: mghtan@tpg.com.au; Phone: 0419279743
Connect with Catenians Catholic men's association: faith-based friendships.



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 range of Catholic 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

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.stchurchspringwood.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

To our Beloved Parishioners

We are reaching out to our parish community for support as we attend to several important maintenance and improvement needs within our parish.

At present, we are facing a few pressing issues, including major roof leaks, the need for a suitable shaded outdoor area, and the replacement of our ageing hot water system. These are essential works to ensure our parish remains a safe, welcoming, and functional space for all.

If you would simply like to contribute towards these projects, your help would be greatly appreciated. Together, as a parish family, we can care for and strengthen our shared home. For more information or to offer your assistance, please contact the Parish Office during work hours or email us at springwood@parracatholic.org

Thank you to our generous anonymous donors who already contributed to this cause. We appreciate this much needed help. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.



The meeting of **St Thomas Aquinas Reading Group with Dr Angus Brook** resumes on Sunday the 26th of April 2026, when the group will be reading and discussing a new book together: Thomas Aquinas, Summa of the Summa. All welcome to attend.

REGULAR STA YOUTH NIGHT GATHERING is held fortnightly on a Friday. Our next meeting resumes on Friday 24th April 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