

Date:	23rd May / 24th May 2026		Pentecost Sunday	
Mass Time:	Acolyte	First Reading & Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading & Prayer of the Faithful	Music
Vigil 5:00 PM	Joseph Tabone	Tanya Baldwin	Tamsyn Baldwin	
8:00 AM	Randall Noney	Loida Derbyshire	Domhnall MacCormac	
9:30 AM	John Belfanti	Phil Saville	Peta Sparkes	Streeters
Date:	30th May / 31st May 2026		The Most Holy Trinity	
Mass Time:	Acolyte	First Reading & Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading & Prayer of the Faithful	Music
Vigil 5:00 PM	Ian Miles	Shayna Jordaan	Felix Kobus	
8:00 AM	Marek Grus	Tanya Graham	Georgia Cook	
9:30 AM	Bernard Ellis	Katherine Mahns	Anne Ellis	Couples for Christ
Morning Tea:	Couples for Christ			

Recently Deceased: Brian Dewhurst; **Commemorative Deceased:** Boleslawa (Kozlowski) Wilenski, Deceased Members of Kozlowski, Foley, Brown, Roome Families and the Holy Souls
Sick: Murdo Macarthur, Evelyn Robinson, Lisa Vaughan, 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

SUPPORTING OUR PARISH AND ITS MISSION
 We rely on the faithful support of our parish community to sustain the life and mission of St Thomas Aquinas. Every contribution—large or small—makes a real and necessary difference.
 If you are not yet supporting the parish financially, I warmly encourage you to consider doing so. Regular giving allows us to plan responsibly and continue providing for the spiritual and pastoral needs of our community.



Ways to Give:
Direct Debit: Please contact the Parish Office to arrange a regular contribution.
Direct Deposit:
Account Name: Springwood; **BSB:** 067-950
Account Number: 00000560
Reference: Please include your full name.
Please Note: This is an official parish account of the Diocese of Parramatta. Some banks may display an automated warning; however, this account is verified and secure.

Parish Collections
First Collection supports the priests of our Diocese, assisting with their living expenses.
Second Collection directly supports our parish—covering essential costs, i.e. insurance and wages, maintaining our facilities, and enabling our ministries and programs.
Mass Offering Envelopes are also available for those who wish to give regularly. Thank you for your generosity, your sense of responsibility, and your commitment to the life of our parish.

Invitation to the Confirmation Night

With hearts full of joy and gratitude, we invite you to join us in celebrating a special milestone in the faith journey of our Confirmation candidates.

Date: Wednesday, 27th May 2026
Time: 6:30pm
Venue: St Thomas Aquinas Church, Springwood NSW



This sacred evening will be a time of prayer, reflection, and blessing as our candidates take another step in their commitment to Christ and His Church. Your presence will be a cherished gift of support and encouragement.

"Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful and kindle in them the fire of Your love."

ST THOMAS AQUINAS SPRINGWOOD GIFT SHOP

Our Parish Gift Shop is now open!

Located in the Parish Office building.
 The shop is open:
Tuesday to Friday: 9:00am – 3:00pm
Sunday: 9:00am – 11:30am



We offer a beautiful selection of Catholic gifts and seasonal items—from inspiring books and rosaries to religious art and meaningful keepsakes.
 Whether you are searching for a thoughtful gift or simply wish to browse, we warmly invite you to visit and discover what is available.

ST THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH SPRINGWOOD

ONLINE PARISH RAFFLE

Building Our Future

Supporting our new presbytery and essential parish works

APPROX. \$1.3 MILLION GOAL

DRAWN ONLINE 12:00PM SATURDAY, 15 AUGUST 2026

Dear Friends,
 Thank you for supporting the St Thomas Aquinas Parish, Springwood Raffle. Your generosity and willingness to share and promote this fundraiser helps support important parish projects and future development within our community. Please feel free to share the raffle link:

[RaffleTix | Raffles by St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church Springwood](https://raffletix.com.au/stthomasaquinas)

with family and friends. Every ticket purchased and every share genuinely helps. Thank you again for your support and prayers.

Fr Jack Elkazzi
 Parish Administrator
 St Thomas Aquinas Parish, Springwood

SCAN OR CLICK TO VIEW PRIZES
 100% ONLINE - EASY TO ENTER

Click or scan to view prizes and buy tickets

raffletix.com.au/stthomasaquinas

VIEW PRIZES & BUY TICKETS

NEW PRESBYTERY - TWO STOREY HOME \$1,300,000 PROJECT GOAL

A new presbytery and two storey home will provide a safe, comfortable and welcoming home for our priests, supporting spiritual leadership and pastoral care in our community.

"Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labour in vain." - Psalm 127:1

YOUR SUPPORT TODAY BRINGS OUR VISION TO LIFE

DONATE DIRECTLY

Support our parish project:

Name: STA Springwood
BSB: 067-950
ACC: 00000560
Reference: STA Projects

CONTACT

168 Hawkesbury Road,
 Springwood NSW
 Phone: 02 4754 1052
springwood@parracatholic.org
www.stchurchspringwood.org.au

raffletix.com.au/stthomasaquinas

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Donors will go into the draw to win prizes including a \$2,000 Visa Gift Card, iPad, framed jerseys, Catholic gifts, vouchers and more.

"God loves a cheerful giver."
 - 2 Corinthians 9:7

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 Masses: 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 - 4:45 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.

St Thomas Aquinas - Springwood

Gift Shop

Gifts of Faith for Every Occasion

Opening Hours

Weekdays: Tuesday - Friday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
 Saturday: Closed
 Sunday: 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Contact Us

Phone: (02) 4751 1052
 Email: springwood@parracatholic.org
 Instagram: [@stthomasaquinas_springwood.nsw](https://www.instagram.com/stthomasaquinas_springwood.nsw)
 168 Hawkesbury Rd, Springwood NSW 2777

Bulletin Reflection – Feast of Pentecost – Year A

Pentecost is not merely the remembrance of an event long ago. It is the revelation of what the Church truly is. The Apostles were afraid, hidden behind locked doors, uncertain of the future. Yet when the Holy Spirit descended like wind and fire, fearful men became fearless witnesses. The Spirit transformed them from within.

The Eastern Fathers often described the Holy Spirit not simply as a force, but as divine fire that illumines and transfigures the human person. St Basil the Great wrote that the Spirit restores paradise, raises us to heaven, and makes us "partakers of God." Pentecost is therefore not only about power for mission, but about communion with God Himself.

Pope Benedict XVI taught that Pentecost reverses the confusion of Babel. Humanity divided by pride is reunited through the language of divine love. The Spirit creates unity without destroying diversity. Every nation hears the Gospel in its own tongue.

Today the same Spirit is given to us. The Church does not live by human strength, strategy, or organisation alone. She lives because the breath of Christ continues to fill her. Pentecost reminds us that Christianity is not simply learned—it is lived through the transforming presence of the Holy Spirit.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for Us!

May God Bless you All +
 In Christ Jesus and Mary,
 Fr Jack Elkazzi

Bishop's Good Works Appeal

Our parish is proud to support the Bishop's Good Works Appeal.

Each day across our Diocese, people turn to the Church for care, hope, guidance and belonging. The Bishop's Good Works Appeal helps support the good works of our Church across several vital ministries, including Holy Spirit Seminary, Catholic Care, the Ephpheta Centre, and the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine.

This first Bishop's Good Works Appeal will support Holy Spirit Seminary at Harris Park, helping form the future priests our Diocese will need in the years ahead.

Your tax-deductible gift helps provide the education, spiritual formation, pastoral training and safe accommodation our seminarians need as they answer God's call. With your support, they can continue preparing to serve our parishes with faith, compassion and hope.

Please take an envelope from the back of the church at the table, or visit: parracatholic.org/appeal to donate today. Thank you for supporting the future priests of our Church.

The Vigil Mass

Entrance Antiphon Rm 5:5; cf. 8:11

The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Spirit of God dwelling within us, alleluia.

First Reading Ezekiel 37:1-14

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

Dry bones of Israel, I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live.

The hand of the Lord was laid on me, and he carried me away by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley, a valley full of bones. He made me walk up and down among them. There were vast quantities of these bones on the ground the whole length of the valley; and they were quite dried up. He said to me, 'Son of man, can these bones live?' I said, 'You know, Lord.' He said, 'Prophecy over these bones. Say, "Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. The Lord says this to these bones: I am now going to make the breath enter you, and you will live. I shall put sinews on you, I shall make flesh grow on you, I shall cover you with skin and give you breath, and you will live; and you will learn that I am the Lord."' I prophesied as I had been ordered. While I was prophesying, there was a noise, a sound of clattering; and the bones joined together. I looked, and saw that they were covered with sinews; flesh was growing on them and skin was covering them, but there was no breath in them. He said to me, 'Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man. Say to the breath, "The Lord says this: Come from the four winds, breathe on these dead; let them live!" I prophesied as he had ordered me, and the breath entered them; they came to life again and stood up on their feet, a great, an immense army.

Then he said, 'Son of man, these bones are the whole House of Israel. They keep saying, "Our bones are dried up, our hope has gone; we are as good as dead." So prophecy. Say to them, "The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks."

Responsorial Psalm Ps 103:1-2. 24. 27-30. 35. R. see v.30

(R.) Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

- Bless the Lord, my soul!
Lord God, how great you are,
clothed in majesty and glory,
wrapped in light as in a robe! **(R.)**
- How many are your works, O Lord!
In wisdom you have made them all.
The earth is full of your riches.
Bless the Lord, my soul. **(R.)**
- All of these look to you
to give them their food in due season.
You give it, they gather it up:
you open your hand, they have their fill. **(R.)**
- You take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth. **(R.)**

Second Reading Romans 8:22-27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The Spirit himself pleads for us in a way that could never be put into words.

From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free. For we must be content to hope that we shall be saved – our salvation is not in sight, we should not have to be hoping for it if it were – but, as I say, we must hope to be saved since we are not saved yet – it is something we must wait for with patience.

The Spirit too comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Alleluia!

Gospel John 7:37-39

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

From his breast shall flow fountains of living waters.

On the last day and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood there and cried out:

'If any man is thirsty, let him come to me!
Let the man come and drink who believes in me!'

As scripture says: From his breast shall flow fountains of living water.

He was speaking of the Spirit which those who believed in him were to receive; for there was no Spirit as yet because Jesus had not yet been glorified.

Communion Antiphon John 7:37

On the last day of the festival, Jesus stood and cried out: If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink, alleluia.

The Mass During the Day

Entrance Antiphon Wisdom 1:7

The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world and that which contains all things understands what is said, alleluia.

First Reading Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak different languages.

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 103:1. 24. 29-31. 34. R. v.30

(R.) Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

- Bless the Lord, my soul!
Lord God, how great you are,
How many are your works, O Lord!
The earth is full of your riches. **(R.)**
- You take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth. **(R.)**
- May the glory of the Lord last for ever!
May the Lord rejoice in his works!
May my thoughts be pleasing to him.
I find my joy in the Lord. **(R.)**

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13

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

In the one Spirit we were all baptised, making one body.

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

Sequence

Holy Spirit, Lord of light,
From the clear celestial height
Thy pure beaming radiance give.
Come, thou Father of the poor,
Come with treasures which endure;
Come, thou light of all that live!
Thou, of all consolers best,
Thou, the soul's delightful guest,
Dost refreshing peace bestow;
Thou in toil art comfort sweet;
Pleasant coolness in the heat;
Solace in the midst of woe.
Light immortal, light divine,
Visit thou these hearts of thine,
And our inmost being fill:
If thou take thy grace away,
Nothing pure in man will stay;

All his good is turned to ill.
Heal our wounds, our strength renew;
On our dryness pour thy dew;
Wash the stains of guilt away:
Bend the stubborn heart and will;
Melt the frozen, warm the chill;
Guide the steps that go astray.
Thou, on us who evermore
Thee confess and thee adore,
With thy sevenfold gifts descend:
Give us comfort when we die;
Give us life with thee on high;
Give us joys that never end.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Alleluia!

Gospel John 20:19-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

As the Father sent me, so I send you: Receive the Holy Spirit.

In the evening of 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.'

Communion Antiphon Acts of the Apostles 2:4,11

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.

