

DATE: 1ST AUGUST / 2ND AUGUST 2026	EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME		
MASS TIME: ACOLYTE	FIRST READING & RESPONSORIAL PSALM	SECOND READING & Prayer of the Faithful	MUSIC
Vigil 5:00 PM	Ian Miles	Shayna Jordaan	Andrew Wilson
8:00 AM	Marek Grus	Tanya Graham	
9:30 AM	Bernard Ellis	Anne Edwards	
Morning Tea:	St Vincent de Paul		
DATE: 8TH AUGUST / 9TH AUGUST 2026	EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME		
MASS TIME: ACOLYTE	FIRST READING & RESPONSORIAL PSALM	SECOND READING & Prayer of the Faithful	MUSIC
Vigil 5:00 PM	Phil Saville	Tanya Baldwin	Anthony Silvestrini
8:00 AM	Sebastian Cook	Loida Derbyshire	
9:30 AM	Ian Boncales	Margaret Hickey	

KID'S CORNER



17th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Jesus tells us that the Kingdom of God is so valuable that we ought to be prepared to give up everything for it. What are some things in your life that you would be prepared to give up or change in order to enter God's Kingdom?

Can you find the letters that spell the word **TREASURE** hidden in the picture below?

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field."



"The kingdom of heaven is also like a shop keeper looking for fine pearls. When he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it."

Mt 13:44-46

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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



SUPPORT US!
SCAN TO DONATE

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

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.



CELEBRATING THE FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

SATURDAY, 15 AUGUST, JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE THE SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY! 9:30AM MASS AND PROCESSION IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY'S ASSUMPTION. CELEBRATION BRUNCH TO FOLLOW. ONLINE RAFFLE DRAW AT 12 NOON — WINNERS ANNOUNCED LIVE. ALL PARISHIONERS AND FAMILIES WARMLY WELCOME. COME CELEBRATE THIS JOYFUL FEAST TOGETHER AS A PARISH COMMUNITY

To buy tickets or to share this raffles use this raffle link:

[RaffleTix | Raffles by St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church Springwood](#)

or scan the QR Code above.

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

BULLETIN REFLECTION: 18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY—YEAR A

Jesus withdraws to a lonely place to grieve the death of John the Baptist, and the crowds follow him anyway. Rather than sending them away, he is 'moved with pity' — and from five loaves and two fish, a multitude is fed with baskets to spare. It is one of the few miracles recorded in all four Gospels, as if the Church wants to be sure we don't miss it.

Isaiah's invitation, 'come to the water, all you who are thirsty,' echoes the same generosity: God's abundance is not rationed according to what we bring, but given freely to those who come empty-handed. St Paul's confidence that nothing 'will be able to separate us from the love of God' belongs to the same picture — a Father who feeds, and does not let us go.

Where in my life do I need to trust God's abundance rather than my own scarcity?

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for Us!
May God Bless you All +
In Christ Jesus and Mary,
Fr Jack Elkazzi

FUNERAL NOTICES

Please keep the family of the late Chris Wilson in your prayers as they prepare to commend their loved one to God's eternal care.

The Requiem Funeral Mass for **CHRIS WILSON** will be celebrated on **Wednesday, 5 August, at 11:00 am.**

Requiem Mass at St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Parish, Springwood.



Entrance Antiphon Psalm 69:2,6

O God, come to my assistance;
O Lord, make haste to help me!
You are my rescuer, my help;
O Lord, do not delay.

First Reading Isaiah 55:1-3

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Hasten and eat.

Thus says the Lord:

Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty;
though you have no money, come!
Buy corn without money, and eat,
and, at no cost, wine and milk.
Why spend money on what is not bread,
your wages on what fails to satisfy?
Listen, listen to me and you will have good things to eat
and rich food to enjoy.
Pay attention, come to me;
listen, and your soul will live.
With you I will make an everlasting covenant
out of the favours promised to David.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 144:8-9. 15-18. R. v.16

**(R.) The hand of the Lord feeds us:
he answers all our needs.**

1. The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. **(R.)**
2. The eyes of all creatures look to you
and you give them their food in due time.
You open wide your hand,
grant the desires of all who live. **(R.)**
3. The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
call on him from their hearts. **(R.)**

Second Reading Romans 8:35. 37-39

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

No creature can separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ.

Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, or being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked. These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us.

For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 4:4

Alleluia, alleluia!

No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 14:13-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

They all ate and were satisfied.

When Jesus received the news of John the Baptist's death he withdrew by boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But the people heard of this and, leaving the towns, went after him on foot. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them and healed their sick.

When evening came, the disciples went to him and said, 'This is a lonely place, and the time has slipped by; so send the people away, and they can go to the villages to buy themselves some food.' Jesus replied, 'There is no need for them to go: give them something to eat yourselves.' But they answered, 'All we have with us is five loaves and two fish.' 'Bring them here to me,' he said. He gave orders that the people were to sit down on the grass; then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven and said the blessing. And breaking the loaves he handed them to his disciples who gave them to the crowds. They all ate as much as they wanted, and they collected the scraps remaining, twelve baskets full. Those who ate numbered about five thousand men, to say nothing of women and children.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon Wisdom 16:20

You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven,
endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste.



Recently Deceased: Chris Wilson, Lisa Vaughan, Neil Kirby, Murdo Macarthur, Maureen Osmetti, Liz Miles, Mary Eileen Scarff, Bill Baldwin, Terry Hammond, Michael Hughes, Charles Hughes, Angelica Maria Suso, John Warner, Evelyn Robinson, 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, Marama Watson.
Commemorative Deceased: **Sick:** Janice Mills, Marlene Thomas.
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.

PARISH AND DIOCESAN NEWS

SUPPORTING OUR PARISH 'N' 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.

STA PARISH 2026 SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION PROGRAM

Please visit our website:

stachurchspringwood.org.au

click the Tab: **STA Sacramental Program**

to access our invitation, important dates to remember and enrolment form.

FOR ENQUIRIES: Call: 02 4754 1052 or

Email: sacramentssta@gmail.com

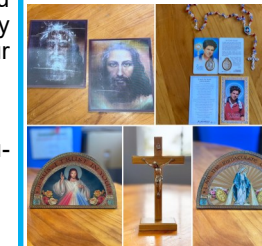


REMINDER TO PARENTS: CHILDREN MUST HAVE RECEIVED THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION FIRST BEFORE ENROLLING IN THE FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAM ENSURING THEY ARE PROPERLY PREPARED TO RECEIVE JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST.

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

Now Available
our exclusive
Saints' images
which are a unique
part of our parish
family. You can
now own and
purchase at our

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 we have to offer.

SPONSOR OUR PARISH BULLETIN: Promote your business while supporting the mission of our parish. A new sponsor page is coming soon - if you are interested in advertising your business,

We welcome Fr Chris, who is celebrating Mass in our Parish on this weekend at 8:00 am and 9:30 am. All are welcomed.

REQUEST A VISIT FROM FR JACK

Need a home blessing or pastoral visit? Please complete a **Priest Visit Request Form**, available at the back of the church or the

ST THOMAS AQUINAS READING GROUP WITH DR ANGUS BROOK - All are invited!

Sunday 3pm @ the St Thomas Aquinas Parish Centre, 3:00pm.

ST THOMAS AQUINAS YOUTH NIGHT

Friday 7th August 2026 from 6pm to 8pm. Listen to talks on the faith, have engaging conversation and play fun games. 7-12 Year Students all welcome!

Maria is currently enjoying a well-deserved two-week holiday. During this time, office staff will be limited. We sincerely appreciate your patience and look

2027 SAFEGUARDING REFRESHER TRAINING

All STA Parish volunteers, as well as volunteers from neighbouring parishes who require Safeguarding renewal or have incomplete training, are invited to attend the mandatory Face-to-Face Safeguarding Refresher Training. This training is required every two years and is provided free of charge. Volunteers who completed the Face-to-Face training at St Thomas Aquinas in 2025 are due to renew their training in 2027.

PLEASE FIND BELOW LINKS TO REGISTER FOR CYCLE 2 & 3 SAFEGUARDING TRAINING (AT SPRINGWOOD):

Saturday 20th February 2027 [Safeguarding Renewal Training Cycle 2 \(Module 4-5\) \(20 February 2027\) | Diocese of Parramatta](#)
Time: 10:00 am - 1:30 pm

Saturday 27th February 2027 [Safeguarding Renewal Training Cycle 3 \(Module 6\) \(27 February 2027\) | Diocese of Parramatta](#)
Time: 10:00 am - 11:30 am

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE ON 02 4754 1052 OR EMAIL SPRINGWOOD@PARRACATHOLIC.ORG.