

DATE:	31 ST OCTOBER / 1 ST NOVEMBER 2026	
MASS TIME:	ACOLYTE	FIRST READING & RESPONSORIAL PSALM
Vigil 5:00 PM	Phil Saville	Shayna Jordaan
8:00 AM	Sebastian Cook	Georgia Cook
9:30 AM	Joseph Tabone	Anne Edwards
Morning Tea:	Church cleaners	

SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS		
SECOND READING & Prayer of the Faithful	MUSIC	
Nelius Jordaan	Elie J & Tamsyn B	
Domanall Maccormack		
Brian Edwards	Clemence Del Rosario	

DATE:	7 TH NOVEMBER / 8 TH NOVEMBER 2026	
MASS TIME:	ACOLYTE	FIRST READING & RESPONSORIAL PSALM
Vigil 5:00 PM	Ed Junis	Tanya Baldwin
8:00 AM	Marek Grus	Ros Comfort
9:30 AM	Joseph Sukkar	Karen Sukkar

THIRTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME		
SECOND READING & Prayer of the Faithful	MUSIC	
Timothy Baldwin		
Kim Crawford		
Anne Ellis	Streeters	



ST THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH
SPRINGWOOD

SAVE THE DATE

Eucharistic Procession
Solemnity of Christ the King
Sunday, 22 November 2026
9:30 am

Commencing at St Thomas Aquinas Primary School
Led by Scottish bagpipes, the Eucharistic procession will make its way from the school to the church.

Procession into the church, Benediction and Holy Mass
All parishioners, families and children are warmly invited.

Come, let us adore Christ our King!

SAVE THE DATE – FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING
YOUR SUPPORT IS NEEDED – THANK YOU!

To help make this a special occasion, we invite parishioners who are able to do so to make a **financial contribution** to assist with the cost of the celebration. Your generosity and support are greatly appreciated as we celebrate this wonderful feast of Christ the King. **Please save the date – we look forward to celebrating this special feast together!**

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who generously donated towards the celebration of Fr Jacks installation Mass.

We sincerely thank all those who have worked tirelessly, given their time, and helped in so many ways over the past few weeks. We are truly grateful for your hard work, patience, sacrifices and generosity.

🙏 *God bless and thank you for your continued support of our parish.*

TOGETHER, WE CAN
KEEP OUR PARISH STRONG

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES EVERYTHING POSSIBLE

Our parish is more than a building — it is a living community of faith, hope and love. From daily Mass and sacraments to pastoral care, outreach, youth ministry, and maintaining our church and facilities, your generosity keeps our parish thriving.

HOW YOUR SUPPORT HELPS

- ≈ Maintain our Church and parish buildings
- » Support the building of our new presbytery
- » Faith formation and sacramental preparation
- » Support our children, youth and families
- » Create a welcoming and safe environment for all

WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT

- ◇ **MAKE A DONATION**
Every gift, big or small, makes a real difference.
- ◇ **GET INVOLVED**
Volunteer your time and talents in our ministries.
- ◇ **JOIN OUR PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM**
Invite family and friends to support our parish.

THANK YOU!

Your generosity is a blessing that benefits so many. Thank you for standing with our parish.

GOD BLESS YOU AND YOUR FAMILY!

SUPPORT LOCAL
SUPPORT OUR PARISH

Are you a local business owner?

St Thomas Aquinas Parish is inviting local businesses to join our Parish Business Sponsors Page.

By advertising with us, you can promote your business to our parish community while also helping to support the ongoing life, ministries and projects of our parish.

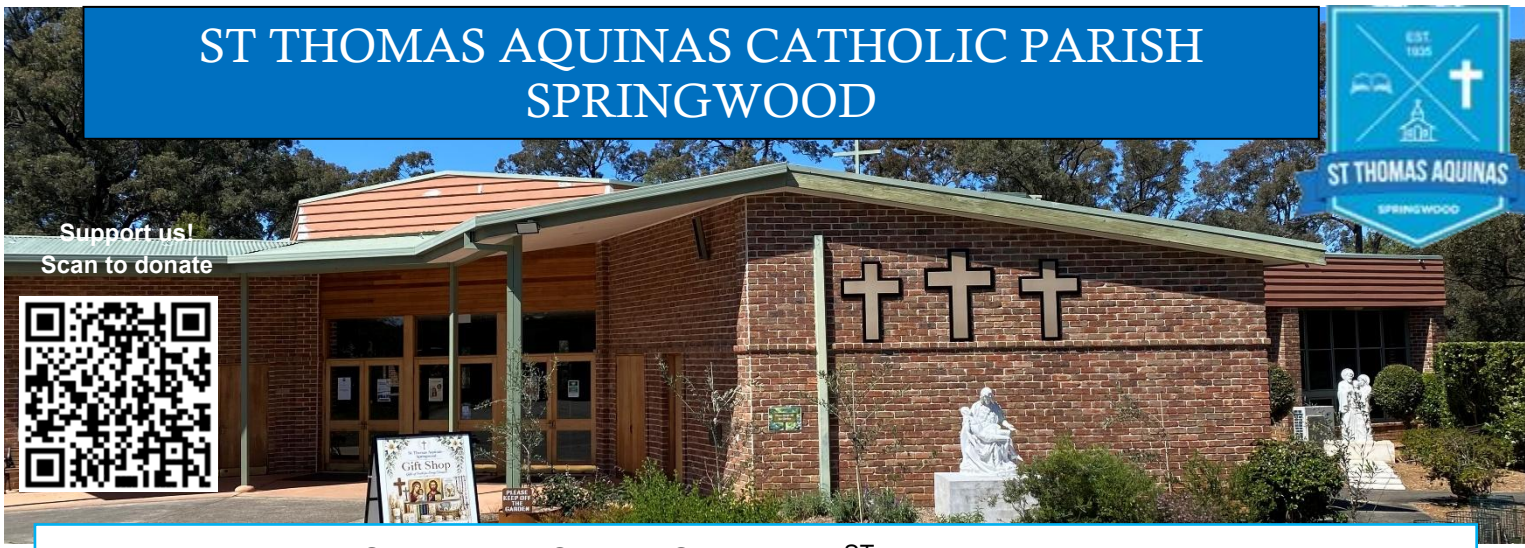
It's a wonderful opportunity for our parishioners to support the local businesses that support our parish.

Interested in becoming a sponsor?

Please contact the Parish Office for further information.

- **SUPPORT LOCAL • BUILD COMMUNITY**
- **SUPPORT OUR PARISH**

ST THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC PARISH
SPRINGWOOD



Support us!
Scan to donate



SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS – 1ST NOVEMBER 2026

168 Hawkesbury Rd, Springwood NSW 2777

PO Box 4410, Winmalee NSW 2777

(02) 4754 1052 | 0474 631 168

springwood@parracatholic.org

www.stachurchspringwood.org.au

Facebook: St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Community, Springwood

Instagram: stthomasaquinas_springwoodnsw

Parish Priest: Fr Jack Elkazzi

Office Hours: Tue-Fri 8:30 am – 3:30 pm

Parish Pastoral Council: springwoodparishpc@gmail.com

Sacrament Enquiries: sacramentssta@gmail.com

MASS & SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

Weekend Masses: Sat Vigil 5:00 pm | Sun 8:00 am & 9:30 am

Weekday Masses: Tue - Sat 9:30 am

Adoration: Tue - Sat 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: Sat after 9:30 am & 4:00 pm-4:45 pm before the Saturday Vigil Mass

Baptism: 2nd & 4th Sundays 11:00 am or by appointment

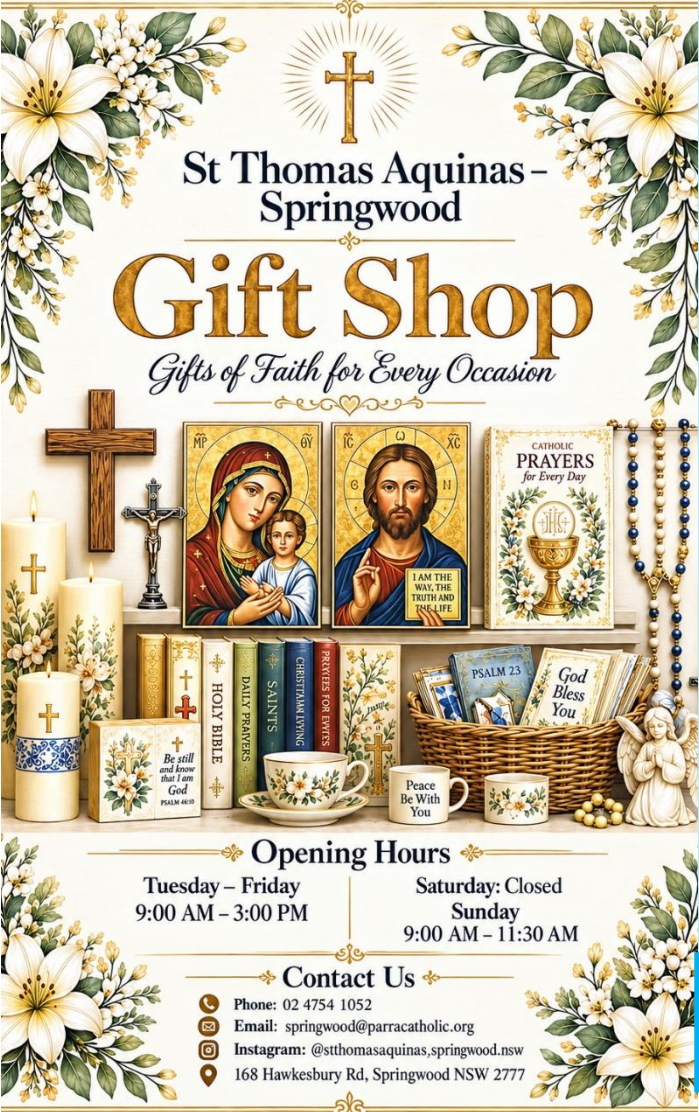
Weddings: By appointment (6–12 month notice)

Funerals: Contact 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.

St Thomas Aquinas –
Springwood

Gift Shop
Gifts of Faith for Every Occasion



Opening Hours

Tuesday – Friday
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Saturday: Closed
Sunday
9:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Contact Us

Phone: 02 4754 1052
Email: springwood@parracatholic.org
Instagram: @stthomasaquinas.springwood.nsw
168 Hawkesbury Rd, Springwood NSW 2777

Fr Jack's Reflection
Solemnity of All Saints

All Saints: Holiness Has Many Faces

The Solemnity of All Saints reminds us that holiness is not reserved for a few extraordinary people. It is the vocation of every baptised person. The saints were different in temperament, background and circumstance, but they shared one essential desire: to belong completely to Christ.

In the Beatitudes, Jesus describes the life that grows from that belonging. The poor in spirit know their need of God. The merciful refuse to let bitterness rule their hearts. The peacemakers take the difficult path of reconciliation. Such holiness is often hidden: in a parent who perseveres, a carer who serves with tenderness, or a person who chooses forgiveness over resentment.

Today we honour the saints in heaven and ask for their prayers. Tomorrow, on All Souls' Day, we entrust the faithful departed to God's mercy. Together, these days remind us that the Church is a communion extending beyond what we can see. At the Eucharist, Christ nourishes us for the same journey towards the Father's house. May the saints encourage us to begin again, with confidence in God's grace

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for Us!

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE — FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAM

The First Holy Communion preparation program has commenced. Next lesson is **Wednesday, 4 November 2026**. **Enrolments will no longer be accepted.** Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Entrance Antiphon

Let us all rejoice in the Lord,
as we celebrate the feast day in honour of all the Saints,
at whose festival the Angels rejoice
and praise the Son of God.

First Reading Revelation 7:2-4. 9-14

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

I saw an immense crowd, beyond hope of counting, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language.

I, John, saw another angel rising where the sun rises, carrying the seal of the living God; he called in a powerful voice to the four angels whose duty was to devastate land and sea, ‘Wait before you do any damage on land or at sea or to the trees, until we have put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.’ Then I heard how many were sealed: a hundred and forty-four thousand, out of all the tribes of Israel. After that I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. They shouted aloud, ‘Victory to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!’ And all the angels who were standing in a circle round the throne, surrounding the elders and the four animals, prostrated themselves before the throne, and touched the ground with their foreheads, worshipping God with these words, ‘Amen. Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and strength to our God for ever and ever. Amen.’ One of the elders then spoke, and asked me, ‘Do you know who these people are, dressed in white robes, and where they have come from?’ I answered him, ‘You can tell me, my Lord.’ Then he said, ‘These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb.’

Responsorial Psalm Ps 23:1-6. R. see v.6

(R.) Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

1. The Lord’s is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm. **(R.)**
2. Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things. **(R.)**
3. He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob. **(R.)**

Second Reading 1 John 3:1-3

A reading from the first letter of St John

We shall see God as he really is.

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us,
by letting us be called God’s children;
and that is what we are.
Because the world refused to acknowledge him,
therefore it does not acknowledge us.
My dear people, we are already the children of God
but what we are to be in the future has not yet been
revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall
be like him because we shall see him as he really is. Surely
everyone who entertains this hope must purify himself,
must try to be as pure as Christ.

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 11:28

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened,
and I will give you rest, says the Lord.
Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 5:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat
down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to
speak. This is what he taught them:

‘How happy are the poor in spirit:
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Happy the gentle:
they shall have the earth for their heritage.
Happy those who mourn:
they shall be comforted.
Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:
they shall be satisfied.
Happy the merciful:
they shall have mercy shown them.
Happy the pure in heart:
they shall see God.
Happy the peacemakers:
they shall be called sons of God.
Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute
you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my
account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great
in heaven.’

Communion Antiphon Matthew 5:8-10

Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called
children of God. Blessed are they who are
persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is
the kingdom of heaven.



Recently Deceased: Agnes Iverach, and all of the Faithful Departed
Sick: Brendan Church, Patricia Hughes, Auntie of Finley Donaghey, Marie Medlin, Marlene Thomas, Angelica Maria Suso, John Warner, 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.
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: STA 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.



BIG THANK YOU We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has generously contributed towards cost of the Eucharistic canopy, which has now been paid for and ready for our Christ the King celebration. We also greatly appreciate your support towards the steam cleaning of the windows and carpet in our Church and parish office. Your willingness to help ensure that we can keep things running smoothly. Your generosity, every contribution, large or small is truly appreciated.

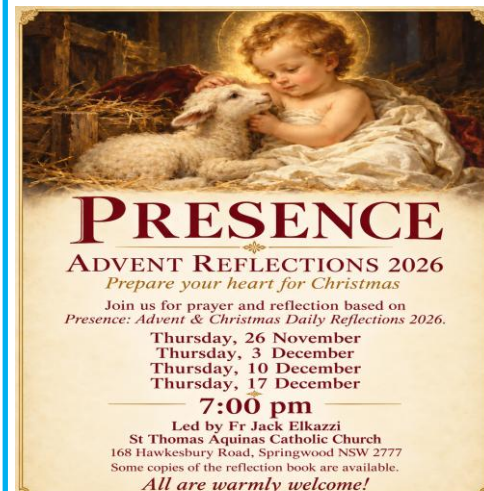
RCIA (RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS): Those who have already registered their interest, spoken with Fr Jack, or wish to be baptised, confirmed, or receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist, are kindly asked to contact the Parish Office to arrange an appointment with Fr Jack before the official group meeting on **29th November following the 9:30am Mass**. Please bring a form of identification, birth certificate and/or Baptism Certificate with you. Thank you & we look forward to accompanying you on your faith journey.

GOD’S WORD DAILY REFLECTIONS 2027 AND COLUMBAN ART CALENDAR – now available at our gift shop. Please note there is limited stock.



PREPARING FOR ADVENT & CHRISTMAS WITH FR JACK

Fr Jack will be offering weekly reflections to help guide & prepare us spiritually as we journey towards the celebration of Christ’s birth. He will be using the book:
Presence: Advent & Christmas Daily Reflections 2026.
Available for pre-order at **\$10.00.**



ST THOMAS AQUINAS SPRINGWOOD GIFT SHOP

Our Parish Gift Shop is now open!

Located in the Parish Office building.



Giftshop Hours::
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 Catholic Gift Shop.

We offer a beautiful selection of Catholic gifts and seasonal items— from inspiring books and rosaries to religious art and meaningful keepsakes.

The season of joy and giving is upon us, and our Parish Gift Shop is brimming with beautiful treasures to help you share the true spirit of Christmas. You’ll find something special for every loved one sure to warm hearts and brighten homes.

Visit us and explore our festive displays. Let your Christmas gifts reflect faith, hope, and love.

ALL SOULS’ DAY — MONDAY 2 NOVEMBER
MASS WILL BE CELEBRATED AT 9:30AM

On All Souls’ Day, we remember our departed loved ones and pray for all the faithful departed, entrusting them to God’s mercy and love. Throughout November, we are especially encouraged to offer Masses and prayers for the souls in purgatory.

Plenary Indulgence: On 2 November, a plenary indulgence, applicable only to the souls in purgatory, may be gained by devoutly visiting a church and praying the **Our Father and the Creed**. A plenary indulgence may also be gained each day from 1–8 November by visiting a cemetery and praying for the departed, even silently. The usual conditions apply: **sacramental Confession, Holy Communion, prayer for the Pope’s intentions, and complete detachment from all sin, even venial sin.** Only one plenary indulgence may be gained per day.

TUESDAY EVENING ADORATION & MASS: Please note that Tuesday evening Adoration and Mass will be put on hold until further notice. However, Mass for the Holy Souls will still go ahead on **Wednesday, 25 November**, in the evening at **7pm**.

THANK YOU, MARIA, AND WELCOME, CHANTELLE

Maria has concluded her role in our parish office. In her incessant request in keeping with her wish to leave quietly, her departure was not announced beforehand. On behalf of our parish community, I sincerely thank Maria for her dedication and service to our parish. We wish her every blessing for the future and keep her in our prayers. We also warmly welcome Chantelle into her new role in the parish office. Please join me in offering her your support and encouragement as she begins this work of service to our community. May Our Lord and Our Blessed Mother guide and bless both Maria and Chantelle in this next chapter.
– God Bless, Fr Jack Elkazzi

NOVEMBER MASSES FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Throughout November, Masses will be offered for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed. November Mass offering envelopes will be available at the church entrance. Please write the names of your deceased loved ones clearly. The list of names will be updated weekly. As a parish family, let us remember those who have died and commend them to God’s mercy. **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them +**

ST THOMAS AQUINAS READING GROUP WITH DR ANGUS BROOK
meets every Sunday at the Parish Centre, 3:00-5:00 pm.
All is welcome to attend!