

|               |                                              |                                    |  |                                   |                                         |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| DATE:         | 24 <sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER / 25TH OCTOBER 2026 |                                    |  | THIRTIETH 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                      |  | Tamsyn Baldwin                    |                                         |
| 8:00 AM       | Marek Grus                                   | Ros Comfort                        |  | Mary Morris                       |                                         |
| 9:30 AM       | Ian Boncales                                 | Karen Sukkar                       |  | Peta Sparkes                      | Streeters                               |

|               |                                                          |                                    |  |                             |                                         |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| DATE:         | 31 <sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER / 1 <sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER 2026 |                                    |  | SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS DAY |                                         |
| MASS TIME:    | ACOLYTE                                                  | FIRST READING & RESPONSORIAL PSALM |  |                             | SECOND READING & Prayer of the Faithful |
|               |                                                          |                                    |  |                             | MUSIC                                   |
| Vigil 5:00 PM | Phil Saville                                             | Ellie Johnson                      |  | Nelius Jordaan              |                                         |
| 8:00 AM       | Sebastian Cook                                           | Georgia Cook                       |  | Domanall Maccormack         |                                         |
| 9:30 AM       | Joseph Tabone                                            | Anne Edwards                       |  | Brian Edwards               |                                         |
| Morning Tea:  | Church cleaners                                          |                                    |  |                             |                                         |

WELCOME BISHOP VINCENT & SUPPORTING  
FR JACK’S INSTALLATION MASS

We warmly welcome Bishop Vincent to our parish as he celebrates the installation Mass of Fr Jack. This is a special and joyful occasion for our parish community as we come together to celebrate this wonderful milestone with Fr Jack.

We invite parishioners who are able to do so to make a financial contribution to assist with the cost of the celebration. We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has already generously donated money and food to help make this occasion possible.

**A BIG THANK YOU** to everyone who has 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.

🙏 *May God Bless Bishop Vincent, Fr Jack and our parish community. Thank you for your continued support of our parish.*

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!

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

THE 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A, 25TH OCTOBER 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

MASS & SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

**Weekend Masses:** Sat Vigil 5:00 pm | Sun 8:00 am & 9:30 am  
**Weekday Masses:** Tue 9:30 am | Wed-Sat 9:30 am  
**Adoration:** Tue 8:15 am | Wed-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:** 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

Fr Jack’s Reflection  
30th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

Love Begins with the Person Before Us

When Jesus is asked to name the greatest commandment, He gives an answer that cannot be divided: love God with your whole heart, and love your neighbour as yourself. Our relationship with God must shape the way we treat other people.

The first reading makes this wonderfully concrete. God commands His people not to oppress the stranger, the widow, the orphan or the poor. Their cries matter to Him. True charity therefore begins by noticing those whose needs are easily overlooked.

We can be faithful to religious practices and still struggle with impatience, resentment or indifference. Sin narrows the heart; the Holy Spirit enlarges it. The Father who loves us first gives us the grace to love beyond our convenience and our preferences.

Pope Benedict XVI reminded us that prayer and love of neighbour belong together. Our encounter with Christ must change the way we see others.

At the Eucharist, Jesus gives Himself entirely to us. As we receive His love, we are sent to make it visible: through forgiveness at home, kindness to the lonely, and practical help for those in need.

*Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for Us!*

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

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE — FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAM

The First Holy Communion preparation program has commenced. Next lesson is **Wednesday, 28 October 2026**. Enrolments will no longer be accepted. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.



Entrance Antiphon Cf Psalm 104:3-4

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice;  
turn to the Lord and his strength;  
constantly seek his face.

First Reading Exodus 22:20-26

A reading from the book of Exodus

*If you are harsh with the widow or the orphan, my anger will rage against you.*

The Lord said to Moses, ‘Tell the sons of Israel this, “You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

“If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

“If you take another’s cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity.”

The Word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 17:2-4. 47. 51. R. v.2

(R.) I love you, Lord, my strength.

1. I love you, Lord, my strength,  
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.  
My God is the rock where I take refuge;  
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.  
The Lord is worthy of all praise:  
when I call I am saved from my foes. (R.)

2. Long life to the Lord, my rock!  
Praised be the God who saves me.  
He has given great victories to his king  
and shown his love for his anointed. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

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

*You turned away from idols to serve God and await his Son.*

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

The Word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation John 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,  
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.  
Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 22:34-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.*

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, ‘Master, which is the greatest commandment of the law?’ Jesus said, ‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.’

The Gospel of the Lord,

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Communion Antiphon Cf Psalm 19:6

We will ring out our joy at your saving help  
and exult in the name of our God.



**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.

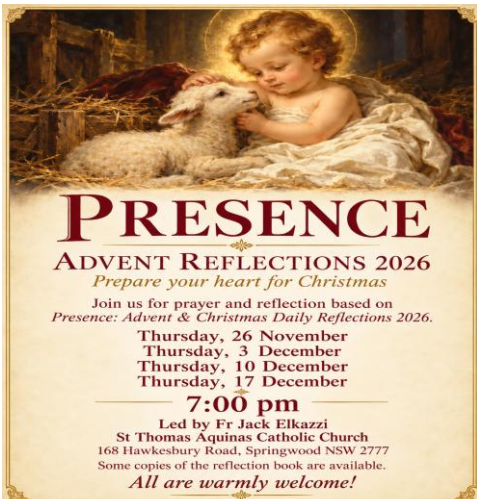
**Second Collection** directly supports our parish—covering essential costs, i.e. insurance and wages, maintaining our facilities, and enabling our ministries and programs.

**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 the steam cleaning of the windows and carpet in our Church and parish office, as well as the costs associated with the Eucharistic canopy. Your willingness to help ensure that we can keep things running smoothly. Your generosity, every contribution, large or small is truly appreciated.

**ALL HALLOWS’ EVE CELEBRATION** – Saturday **31 Oct 2026 from 1:30pm to 4:30pm** at St Thomas Aquinas School Hall, Cost: \$5/person (capped \$20/family). Come and join us to celebrate the life of our Saints who are in Heaven and still inspire us today. We will start with prayers and a procession; followed by an afternoon tea and a party. To book:<https://www.trybooking.com/DPWQD>  
Enquiries: Shayna 0433 686 362 For more information, please see our STA Notice Board. We look forward to seeing you for this celebration in your favourite Saint costumes!

**ST THOMAS AQUINAS YOUTH** next meeting is scheduled on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2026. Listen to talks on the faith, have engaging conversation and play fun games. 7-12 Year students all welcome!



**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.

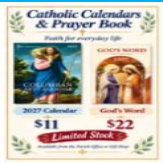
**TUESDAY EVENING ADORATION & MASS:** Please note that Tuesday evening Adoration and Mass will be put on hold until further notice. However, Mass for the Holy Souls will still go ahead on **Tuesday, 24 November**, in the evening at **7pm**.

**EUCCHARISTIC CANOPY APPEAL:** As we prepare for our upcoming Christ the King Procession, we are seeking donations towards the purchase of a Eucharistic Canopy, costing \$3,500. The canopy will provide a dignified and reverent covering for the Blessed Sacrament during the procession. Any contribution, large or small, would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to support this project, please contact the Parish Office. And for those who already made a donation, thank you for your generosity; we truly appreciate your continued dedication to our cause.

**RCIA (RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS):** Those who have already registered their interest & spoken with Fr Jack, as well as anyone wishing to be baptised, confirmed, or receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist, are kindly asked to contact the Parish Office to arrange or reschedule an appointment with Fr Jack before the official group meeting on **29<sup>th</sup> November following the 9:30am Mass.** Please bring a form of identification or a birth 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.

- God’s Word: \$22 each
- Columban calendar: \$11 each



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!