

DATE:	10 TH OCTOBER / 11TH OCTOBER 2026		TWENTY–EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	
MASS TIME:	ACOLYTE	FIRST READING & RESPONSORIAL PSALM	SECOND READING & Prayer of the Faithful	MUSIC
Vigil 5:00 PM	Ed Junis	Tanya Baldwin	Timothy Baldwin	
8:00 AM	Sebastian Cook	Ros Comfort	Kim Crawford	
9:30 AM	Shaun Keating	Katherine Mahns	Anne Ellis	Streeters

DATE:	17 TH OCTOBER / 18TH OCTOBER 2026		TWENTY–NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	
MASS TIME:	ACOLYTE	FIRST READING & RESPONSORIAL PSALM	SECOND READING & Prayer of the Faithful	MUSIC
Vigil 5:00 PM	Joseph Sukkar	Karen Sukkar	Felix Kobus	Anthony Silvestrini
8:00 AM	Joseph Tabone	Tanya Graham	Domhnall MacCormac	
9:30 AM	John Belfanti	Margaret Hickey	Matt Aldous	Clemens del Rosario
Morning Tea:	Communion to the Sick			



ST THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC PARISH

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO THE

INSTALLATION MASS

OF

Fr Jack Elkazzi

AS PARISH PRIEST OF

ST THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC PARISH, SPRINGWOOD

TO BE CELEBRATED BY

Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen
OFM Conv, STL, DD
Bishop of Parramatta

SUNDAY

25TH OCTOBER 2026

9:30AM

Mass followed by brunch

We look forward to celebrating this blessed occasion with you as a parish family.

SAVE THE DATE

YOUR SUPPORT NEEDED

To help make this a special occasion, we are asking parishioners who can contribute:

Financial Contribution to assist with the cost of the celebration

OR

Savoury finger food only to share with our parish community. Your generosity and support are greatly appreciated as we celebrate this wonderful milestone with Fr Jack. Please save the date – we look forward to celebrating together!

 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



THE 28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A, 11TH 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

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

We respect the Darua 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



Fr Jack's Reflection

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

The Invitation Is Personal

Isaiah gives us one of Scripture's most beautiful images of salvation: God preparing a rich banquet, destroying death and wiping away the tears from every face. Jesus takes up the image in the Gospel, describing the Kingdom as a wedding feast prepared by a king for his son.

The tragedy is that some invited guests are simply too busy to come. The invitation is extraordinary, but other things seem more urgent. This can happen spiritually. Faith is not always rejected dramatically; sometimes it is gradually crowded out by work, distractions, habits and the endless demands of life.

Our Heavenly Father continues to invite us. The Holy Spirit awakens the heart and reminds us that the deepest hunger within us cannot be satisfied by possessions, achievement or comfort. Saint Paul discovered the secret: in poverty or plenty, his strength came from Christ.

The Eucharist is already a foretaste of the heavenly banquet. We do not merely attend it; we are invited to be changed by it. God's invitation is free, but it is never trivial. He calls us to come, to be clothed in Christ, and to live as people who belong to His Kingdom

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for Us!

May God Bless you All +

In Christ Jesus and Mary,

Fr Jack Elkazzi

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

168 Hawkesbury Rd, Springwood NSW 2777

A WARM WELCOME BACK TO FR JACK

We are delighted to welcome Fr Jack back on Tuesday, 13th October! We look forward to having him back with our parish community and are grateful for his return. Let us keep Fr Jack in our prayers as we warmly welcome him back.

Entrance Antiphon Psalm 129:3-4

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?
But with you is found forgiveness,
O God of Israel.

First Reading Isaiah 25:6-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord will prepare a feast and will wipe away the tears from every cheek.

On this mountain,
the Lord of hosts will prepare for all people
a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines,
of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines.
On this mountain he will remove
the mourning veil covering all peoples,
and the shroud enwrapping all nations,
he will destroy Death for ever.
The Lord will wipe away
the tears from every cheek;
he will take away his people's shame
everywhere on earth,
for the Lord has said so.
That day, it will be said: See, this is our God
in whom we hoped for salvation;
the Lord is the one in whom we hoped.
We exult and we rejoice
that he has saved us;
for the hand of the Lord
rests on this mountain.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 22. R. v.6

**(R.) I shall live in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life.**

1. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. **(R.)**
2. He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. **(R.)**
3. You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. **(R.)**

Second Reading Philippians 4:12-14. 19-20

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

I am able to do all things in him who strengthens me.

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have
been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything
anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty.
There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One
who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to
share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all
your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can.
Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation See Ephesians 1:17-18

Alleluia, alleluia!
May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our heart
that we might see how great is the hope
to which we are called.
Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 22:1-14

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Whomsoever you find invite to the wedding.

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: ‘The
kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a
feast for his son’s wedding. He sent his servants to call those
who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent
some more servants. “Tell those who have been invited” he
said “that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and
fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready.
Come to the wedding.” But they were not interested: one
went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest
seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The
king was furious. He dispatched his troops, destroyed those
murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants,
“The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved
to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite
everyone you can find to the wedding.” So these servants
went out onto the roads and collected together everyone they
could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was
filled with guests. When the king came in to look at the
guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding
garment, and said to him, “How did you get in here, my
friend, without a wedding garment?” And the man was silent.
Then the king said to the attendants, “Bind him hand and foot
and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping
and grinding of teeth.” For many are called, but few are
chosen.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon Cf Psalm 33:11

The rich suffer want and go hungry,
but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.



Recently Deceased: Agnes Iverach, and all of the Faithful Departed

Sick: Brandon 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: 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 contributed towards covering the parish’s electricity bill. 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 \$30/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!

Keeping Our Parish Safe Together
SAFEGUARDING • SUPPORT • COMMUNITY

ALL STA PARISH VOLUNTEERS
who require Safeguarding renewal or have incomplete training are invited to attend the **mandatory Face-to-face Safeguarding Refresher Training.**
This is a requirement every 2 years and provided free of charge.

2027 Safeguarding Refresher Training
Register for cycle 2 & 3 Safeguarding training here at our parish.

Saturday 20th of February 2027 Safeguarding Renewal Training Cycle 2 (Module 4-5): 10.00am - 1.30pm	Saturday 27th of February 2027 Safeguarding Training Cycle 3 (Module 6): 10.00am - 11.30am
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For Further Information contact the parish office on **02 4754 1052** or email **springwood@parracatholic.org**

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. 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.

TUESDAY EVENING ADORATION & MASS: Please note that Tuesday
evening Adoration and Mass will be put on hold until November.
We look forward to recommencing our Tuesday evening schedule in
November.
Holy Souls Mass will still go ahead on Tuesday, 24 November, in the
evening.

We invite parishioners to join us and bring an image as we remember
and pray for our deceased loved ones.

**May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.**

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. Thank you for your support.

STA 2026 SACRAMENT OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAM

Enrolment is now on! Please visit: www.stachurchspringwood.org.au. Our
first Parent Information Session is on Wednesday 21st October at 7pm. It
is compulsory that parents and children attend all the Information Nights
and Practice Session. Please note children must have received the
Sacrament of Reconciliation prior to participating in the First Holy
Communion program. For enquiries call 02 4754 1052.

RCIA – RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Date previously published is cancelled. Future dates will be
announced soon. For more information or to register your interest,
please contact the Parish Office.

**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



PREPARING FOR ADVENT & CHRISTMAS WITH FR JACK As we prepare for
the seasons of Advent & Christmas, Fr Jack will be offering weekly
reflections to help guide and prepare us spiritually as we journey towards
the celebration of Christ’s birth. Fr Jack will be using the book: **Presence:
Advent & Christmas Daily Reflections 2026.** Further details will be
announced soon. Books are now available for pre-order at **\$10.00**. Please
see the Parish Office staff to pre-purchase your copy. All parishioners are
warmly invited to join Fr Jack as we journey together in faith & prepare
our hearts for the coming of Christ this Advent & Christmas.