DATE: *7TH NOVEMBER / 8TH NOVEMBER 2026* — *THIRTY SECOND 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	Marek Grus	Ros Comfort	Kim Crawford	
9:30 AM	Joseph Sukkar	Karen Sukkar	Anne Ellis	Streeters

DATE: *14TH NOVEMBER / 15TH NOVEMBER 2026* — *THIRTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME*

MASS TIME:	ACOLYTE	FIRST READING & RESPONSORIAL PSALM	SECOND READING & Prayer of the Faithful	MUSIC
Vigil 5:00 PM	Phillip Saville	Nelius Jordaan	Felix Kobus	Anthony Silvestrini
8:00 AM	Sebastian Cook	Mary Morris	Tanya Graham	
9:30 AM	Shaun Keating	Katherine Mahns	Matt Aldous	Clemens Del Rosario
Morning Tea:	Parish Choir			



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



THE 32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A, 8TH 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

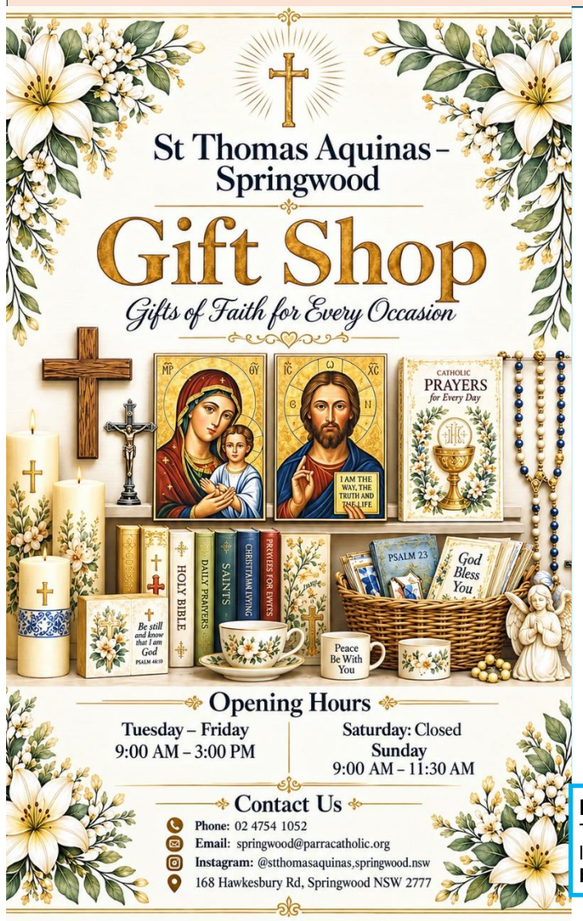
Parish Priest: Fr Jack Elkazzi
Office Hours: Tue-Fri 8:30 am – 3:30 pm
Parish Pastoral Council: springwoodparishpc@gmail.com
Sacrament Enquiries: sacramentssta@gmail.com

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.



Fr Jack's Reflection
32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

Keeping the Lamp Burning

The Gospel of the ten bridesmaids asks a question that reaches beyond the end of our lives: what are we doing with the time God has entrusted to us? All ten carried lamps, and all ten grew tired. The difference was not that the wise never struggled, but that they had prepared for the long wait. The oil reminds us of a faith nourished by prayer, the sacraments, repentance and practical charity. We cannot borrow another person's friendship with Christ. It must be cultivated in our own hearts, especially through the ordinary choices that nobody else sees. During November, when we remember the faithful departed, Saint Paul offers a profound consolation: Christian grief is real, but it is not without hope. Because Jesus died and rose again, death does not have the final word.

This week, make a little room for the Lord. Return to Confession if you need to; spend a few quiet moments in prayer; reconcile with someone; remember the dead at Mass. Such acts are not attempts to earn heaven. They are ways of opening our hearts to the Bridegroom who already comes seeking us.

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, 11 November 2026**. **Enrolments will no longer be accepted.** Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.



Entrance Antiphon Cf Psalm 87:3

Let my prayer come into your presence.
Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

First Reading Wisdom 6:12-16

A reading from the book of Wisdom

Wisdom is found by those who look for it.

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim.
By those who love her she is readily seen,
and found by those who look for her.
Quick to anticipate those who desire her,
she makes herself known to them.
Watch for her early and you will have no trouble;
you will find her sitting at your gates.
Even to think about her is understanding fully grown;
be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you.
She herself walks about looking for those
who are worthy of her
and graciously shows herself to them as they go,
in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 62:2-8. R. v.2

(R.) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;
   for you my soul is thirsting.
   My body pines for you
   like a dry, weary land without water. (R.)
2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary.
   to see your strength and your glory.
   For your love is better than life,
   my lips will speak your praise. (R.)
3. So I will bless you all my life,
   in your name I will lift up my hands.
   My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
   my mouth shall praise you with joy. (R.)
4. On my bed I remember you.
   On you I muse through the night
   for you have been my help;
   in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

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

Those who died as Christians, God will bring to life with Jesus.

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them, to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 24:42. 44

Alleluia, alleluia!
Be watchful and ready:
you know not when the Son of Man is coming.
Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 25:1-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Look, the bridegroom comes. Go out to meet him.

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five of them were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said, "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon Cf Psalm 22:1-2

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.

THIRTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A 8TH November 2026

Recently Deceased: Shirley Bell and all of the Faithful Departed
Sick: Richard Kemmis, 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

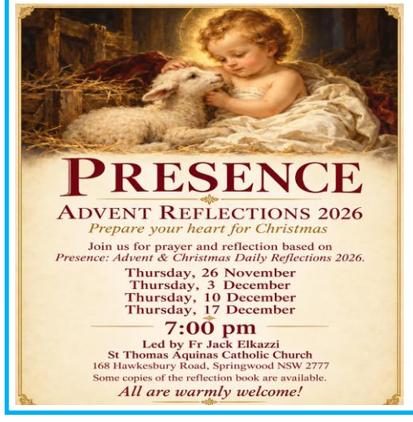
SUPPORTING OUR PARISH AND ITS MISSION

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 contributed towards the cost of the Eucharistic canopy, which has now been paid for & ready for our Christ the King celebration. We also greatly appreciate your support towards the steam cleaning of the windows & carpet in our Church & 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.

ST THOMAS AQUINAS READING GROUP WITH DR ANGUS BROOK meets every Sunday at the Parish Centre, 3:00-5:00 pm. All are 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 **Wednesday, 25 November**, in the evening at **7pm**.

BISHOP'S GOOD WORKS APPEAL – Help a young mother break the cycle of violence and homelessness. This Christmas, embrace the spirit of the Nativity story. Let the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ, inspire us to reach out to those in need – especially vulnerable homeless women & children. Your tax-deductible gift this Christmas can provide young mothers and their children with secure shelter, nourishing food, & the support they need to build a strong family life & hopeful future. Please give generously through the **Bishop Good Works appeal envelopes located at the back of our Church or at parracatholic.org/appeal.** Thank you for your generosity, Christian kindness & compassion.

2027 CALENDARS & DAILY REFLECTIONS

Now available at our gift shop!

- God's Word: $22 each
- Columban calendar: $11 each
- Franciscan calendar: $12 each
- Daily Mass Book: $40 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 +**

STA PARISH GIVING TREE – SPREADING LOVE AND HOPE

St Thomas Aquinas Parish is inviting our parish community to support our Giving Tree Appeal this December, helping women and children affected by domestic violence. We are seeking generous donations of gifts to bring a little joy, comfort & hope to children aged 5 months to 17 years this Christmas. Although our Giving Tree will be displayed in the church in December, we are accepting donations now to help us prepare for this special initiative. Every gift, big or small, can make a meaningful difference to a family in need. Let us come together as a parish community to share the love of Christ and remind these women and children that they are not forgotten. Your kindness can make Christmas brighter for a child in need.