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CATHOLIC Care Volunteer Program

The Archdiocese of Sydney is working alongside our social welfare agency Catholic Care to roll out a volunteer program to help the needy access groceries, cooked meals, medicines and other necessities at this difficult time. You are asked to nominate a volunteer coordinator (not your Parish Priest or parish secretary) and 5-10 people in your parish who are young and healthy enough to carry out these visits to the needy. Please provide their contact details to Laura Rahill at laura.rahill@sydneycatholic.org


FCI BINGO is BACK!
ALL Parishioners WELCOME.


Come, join us 10:00 am

Next Dates:
6 & 20 November;
4 & 18 December
in the Montefano Hall.
Only \$10 entry - includes
prizes, morning tea/coffee and light lunch.



Parish Catechesis for Adults and Young People

The Gospel today comes to us not only in words, but with power by the Holy Spirit! What makes it possible to truly "Love your neighbour"? **Christ, RISEN from the dead!** Christ loves you to the point of death and has forgiven all your sins, now how can we do the same for the other?

Come and listen! to a series of catechesis **this Sunday 25th Oct and every Monday and Thursday at 7:30pm.** Meeting in Montefano Hall Neville St, behind St Benedict's Shrine. Babysitting available and COVID safe plan in place.

For information please contact **Louisa on 0413 231 531**

Do you own a business? We would love to help you by letting everyone know. If you would like to advertise your business in our

Weekly Bulletin,
 Please contact the Parish Office on
 9604 1199.

Limited spaces available.
 Low and flexible rates apply.

Advertising Space Available - Beginning New Financial Year

Quarterly (No Easter Ads): \$330
 Half Year (26 Weeks - No Easter Ads): \$550
 Annually (No Easter Ads): \$990

- 10% discount for parishioners who are actively donating via the St Gertrude's Fund.

Contact Parish Office - 9604 1199
 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 10 am—2 pm

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

ABUSE IS A CRIME. THE APPROPRIATE PEOPLE TO DEAL WITH A CRIME ARE THE POLICE. IF YOU – OR ANYONE YOU KNOW – HAVE BEEN ABUSED, PLEASE CONTACT THE POLICE.

ALTERNATIVELY, YOU CAN CONTACT THE SAFEGUARDING AND MINISTERIAL INTEGRITY OFFICE AT (02) 9390 5810 OR SAFEGUARDINGENQUIRIES@SYDNEYCATHOLIC.ORG.

YOU MAY ALSO WANT TO SPEAK TO YOUR PARISH PRIEST WHO WILL BE ABLE TO PROVIDE SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE.

THE ARCHDIOCESE HAS A LEGAL OBLIGATION TO REPORT CRIMES TO THE POLICE.

ST GERTRUDE'S PARISH

St Benedict's Church
 Corner Justin & Neville Street
 SMITHFIELD

Sunday Masses:
 Saturday Vigil 6.00pm;
 9am (Italian); 10.30am; 6.00pm.

Weekday Masses:
 9.15am Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday;
 7pm Wednesday
Weekday Public Holidays: 10.30am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament/Adoration:
Wednesdays after evening Mass with Novena to St Benedict until 8.30pm; *Saturdays* from 4.45pm—5.45pm; & *Fridays* after the 9.15am Mass

First Friday of the Month:
 7pm Mass & Adoration

Chaplet of Divine Mercy: Tuesdays after Mass & Fridays after 9.15am Mass with Exposition.

St Theresa's Church
 Corner The Boulevard & Stella Street
 FAIRFIELD WEST


Sunday Masses:
 Saturday Vigil 5pm (Vietnamese);
 7:30am (English); 12 noon (Spanish); 6pm (Arabic)

Weekday Masses:
 Mon - Fri 7.00am; Saturday 8am
Weekday Public Holidays: 8.00am

First Friday of the Month:
 from 6.30am

First Saturday of the Month:
 7am Rosary 8am Mass


Chaplet of Divine Mercy:
 Tuesdays after Mass



Parish Priest
 Fr Jarek Zan OSPPE

Assistant Priests
 Fr Wojtek Sliwa OSPPE &
 Fr Peter James Strohmayr OSPPE

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
25 October, 2020




We pray for the sick of this parish
 Dorothy Vella, Fr Gabriel Taylor OSPPE,
 David Lazarus, Giuseppina Pignataro,
 Fr Anthony David OSPPE,
 Kevin Dicconson, Adam Westwood,
 Emile & Mary Kody, Kartia Grace Russell,
 Gino Mifsud & Ivy Fernandes.

Bless our sick today so that they may bear their illness in union with Jesus' sufferings and restore them quickly to health

Remember in your prayers
 Bertillo Marino De Biasi, Rosa Corso,
 Teena Mayer, Rose Farrugia, Cesarina Lando,
 Carmelina Oliveri, Ivan Stefulj, Vera Klish,
 Caterina Cassarino, Providenza Viteta,
 Giuseppe Busa, John Donnantuoni, Teresa Ianelli

Recently Deceased
And for those whose Anniversaries occur at this time
 Rosario Violi, Carmela Delle Coste,
 Gaetana Catania



PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Office:
 6 Justin St, Smithfield
 Phone: 9604 1199 Fax 9609 6585
 Email: office@stgertrude.org.au
 Website: www.stgertrude.org.au

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday (closed Wednesday)
 10am - 2pm

Parish Council: Denise Namroud

Finance Committee: Tan Do
 Andrew Maia: Work Health & Safety

Catechists: 9725 4317
 Mimi Romeo: catechist@stgertrude.org.au

Sacraments: 9725 4317 Helena Martin
sacraments@stgertrude.org.au
 Reconciliation/Eucharist/Confirmation

Liturgy: 9725 4317 Anna Kleibert
liturgy@stgertrude.org.au

Adult Sacraments (RCIA): Mariola Herbert
 Every Sunday at 8.30am in the Crying Room (in front of St Benedict's)
 Contact Mariola: 0421 944 051.

Children's Liturgy: Mariola Herbert

Reconciliation:
 Smithfield - Sat 4.45—5.45 pm
 (or by appointment)

Baptisms: Parish Office 9604 1199
 1st Sundays of the month during the 10.30am Mass at St Benedict's Church; & Every 3rd Sunday at 12noon St Benedict's

Marriages: Parish Office 9604 1199
 By appointment only (6 months required)

Sick Calls: 9604 1199
 Any Time

Other: FCI (Italian Catholic Federation)
 Tony Coiera 0409 908 424

*** COVID19 Safety Procedures—**
Please see Church Notice Boards

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER
Intention for October
The Laity's Mission in the Church
 We pray that by the virtue of baptism, the laity, especially women, may participate more in areas of responsibility in the Church.

Novena to St Benedict
 Wednesday after the 7pm Mass with Rosary & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
Reconciliation is available during this time.

Pope Francis's Prayer to Mary during Coronavirus Pandemic

O Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm. You, Salvation of Your People, know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do no disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen

Church Cleaners—October 31
Group D: Grace & Pina's Group (St Benedict's)
Group D: Syriacs (St Therese)

Parish Office Hours: 10am—2pm
 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday
 (closed Wednesday)

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON *Cf. Ps 104:3-4*

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

FIRST READING *Ex 22:20-26*

A reading from the book of Exodus

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.

All: 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 Thes 1:5-10*

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

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.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Jn 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 *Mt 22:34-40*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

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

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

COMMUNION ANTIPHON *Cf. Ps 19:6*

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

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Next Week: All Saints (Solemnity)

Readings: Apoc 7:2-4, 9-14; 1 Jn 3:1-3; Mt 5:1-12

Wednesday 28th October ~ Feast

Sts Simon and Jude, apotstles

OCTOBER ROSARY

It is a tradition in the Church that October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. The Rosary will be prayed each week day in our Parish.
St. Benedict's: 8.50am (before morning Mass)
St. Therese's: 7.00pm

You are most welcome to pray the rosary as a community for the intentions of our world.

ARCHDIOCESAN OCTOBER FAMILY ~ **ROSARY PILGRIMAGE**
The official Pilgrim Statue of **Our Lady Help of Christians** will be travelling through the parishes of the Archdiocese during the month of October. It will be visiting our parish **25th October. The Statue will remain in the Parish until Monday morning after the 9.15am Mass.**
Our Parish Family Rosary will commence at 7pm .

Please feel free to bring flowers as a gift to Our Lady during her visit to our parish

November Mass Offerings

During the month of November it is a tradition to pray for the souls of the Faithful Departed. November Mass Offering Envelopes are available this weekend at both St. Benedict's Shrine and St. Therese's Church. You can return these offerings by leaving them in the collection box or by leaving them in the Office letter box. Each day during the month of November the Mass will be offered for the collective intentions of the deceased at St. Benedict's Shrine and St. Therese's Church. On Sunday the 10.30am Mass at St. Benedict's Shrine will be offered for the Faithful Departed as well as the 7.30am Mass at St. Therese's Church.

Jasna Góra Monastery Poland Your prayers are asked for the Pauline community in Poland, especially at our Mother House and Monastery of Jasna Góra in Częstochowa where a Covid-19 outbreak has infected some members of the community, hospitalising four of our monks, one of whom is critical and in a coma. We pray through the Intercession of our Blessed Mother for a return to good health of those infected.

2020 HSC Exams The 2020 HSC Written Exams began Tuesday 20th October. It has been a particularly challenging year for our HSC students this year. On behalf of the Smithfield Parish we extend our prayers and best wishes to all the students who will sit these exams in the coming weeks, especially at Mary MacKillop College, Cerdon College and Patrician Brother's College Fairfield.

Church Doors Please be advised that access to the church via the main centre glass doors of St. Benedict's Shrine is unavailable at the current time. There has been some accidental damage to the doors which means that they cannot be used. Please use the other glass doors at the main entrance for the church.

New Church Regulations

As you may have heard during the week the NSW Government has amended the number of people able to attend a place of worship. The main change is that from this weekend, up to 300 people are permitted indoors, **subject to the 4m² rule**. This means that St. Benedict's Shrine will now have an increased capacity to **150 people**. St. Therese's church and Montefano Hall will continue with their current regulations (50 and 90 persons respectively). We are still awaiting confirmation about numbers able to attend funerals and weddings. Outdoor gatherings are limited to **30** people. The Archdiocese will be asking the NSW Government to reconsider this restriction with a view to Christmas celebrations. We will keep you updated as soon as any new information is given.

Overflow Mass 10.30am Sunday

In recent weeks it has come to our attention that the 10:30am Mass is a popular choice for our Parishioners. In order to follow NSW State guidelines and to ensure your access to celebrate Sunday Mass, there will be an overflow Mass in the Montefano Hall. Thank you for your patience and understanding in this matter.

NSW Health Recommendation: Wearing face Masks

Recently, the NSW Premier has now **recommended** that people wear masks when they are in crowded places and social distancing is not easy to maintain. She cites as examples public transport and places of worship. I thank our parishioners for their great efforts maintaining their social distance, but because people remain together there for 40 or more minutes, it would seem that masks will provide an **additional safeguard**. It is not compulsory in NSW but **strongly recommended**. The primary precautions remain hand sanitising and distance.

COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN

- ◇ **Contact Tracing:** Write your name and contact details on the sheets provided at the doors of St Benedict's, St Therese's, & Montefano Hall (these are kept for contact tracing and will be destroyed after 28 days)
- ◇ **Hand Sanitiser:** Use the hand sanitiser at the doors of the church. This is essential.
- ◇ **Sanitising the church:** After each service the churches and Montefano Hall are sanitised using commercial grade disinfectant detergent.
- ◇ **Seating:** Sit in the allocated seating. In both the churches there is an 'X' marked on the Pews, and in the Montefano Hall chairs placed at social distancing for you to be seated safely. Please **ONLY** sit where the Pew is marked. People living in the same household may sit together in the Pews.
- ◇ **Confession:** Confession times have resumed. Again, please only sit on the pews with the **yellow X**.
- ◇ **Sign of Peace** – with a nod, bow, smile or wave. No physical contact.
- ◇ **Receiving Holy Communion:** The recommended way of receiving Holy Communion is on the hand. Please remain in your pew and Holy Communion will be brought to you.
- ◇ **Planned Giving & Collections:** At ALL Masses, there are two boxes at the doors of the church for 1st and 2nd Collection. You can place your offering as you enter or leave the church. Alternatively, you may wish to make use of electronic transfer. Details are in the bulletin. Thank you for your continued support of your Parish and your priests.
- ◇ **Limiting exposure:** Health guidelines encourage us not to remain for unnecessary amounts of time in groups. It is essential to maintain social distancing.
- ◇ **At Risk Persons:** According to recommendations those at risk - **(those over 70 years of age, those with any symptoms, those with compromised immune or respiratory systems)**, are asked to consider carefully your health and safety when considering attending a Church Service. **If you show any symptoms, please refrain from attending church services at this time.** **The dispensation from Sunday Mass** is still in place by Archbishop. However, in his latest Pastoral letter the Archbishop states that *'those who are at low risk of infection and able...are exhorted to take all reasonable steps to attend Sunday Mass'*.

I understand that we may feel some frustration at this time around certain regulations and recommendations but know that we are working in the best interest of all in our community. *Thank you for your patience and understanding.*

Church use during COVID-19 Please take note that during the current Pandemic situation if a family has chosen a priest from outside the Smithfield Parish to preside at a wedding or funeral or other religious service, then it is a requirement that the family arrange for the church to be cleaned and sanitised. The Parish will only take responsibility for Parish events with our priests.

Parish Donations

First Collection (Priests) Account : Smithfield House – Order of St Paul the First Hermit
BSB 066711 Acct. No. 007392

Second Collection (Parish) Account : Smithfield Catholic Church
BSB: 062784 Acct. No. 6675001

Thank you for your continued support and generosity . God Bless.

Communion to the Sick will be given on a fortnightly basis. The next date is Tuesday 27th October.

Sacramental Programme

First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation preparation has been deferred to 2021. Children currently enrolled will be contacted when classes are ready to resume.

Enrolment information and any changes to the programmes will be published in the parish bulletin.

The Sacramental Office is currently closed. For all general enquiries, please email: sacraments@stgertrude.org.au.

Parental Petition – First Holy Communion

The Church has always held the view that parents are the first educators of their children in the Catholic Faith. Parishioners who attend weekly Mass, are known in our parish and to our parish priests, whose child is of age, and who feel that their child is suitably prepared to receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion, may contact the Sacramental Office to discuss eligibility for an individual ceremony. Upon contacting the Sacramental Office, a meeting may be organised with the Parish Priest to discuss your circumstances further and a decision will be made at the Parish Priest's discretion.

We congratulate Isabella Yida Arrigueti and her family as she receives her First Holy Communion this weekend.

Blessing of Pets 25th October - This weekend

Due to the ongoing health situation the decision has been made not to hold the Pet's Mass this year. However, you are invited to bring a picture of your pet to the **10.30am Mass this Sunday 25th October for a blessing.**

Parish Sign-In

Please ensure that when attending Parish events that ***you continue to sign-in*** with your name and contact details on the sign-in sheets provided at St. Benedict's Shrine, St. Therese's Church and Montefano Hall. This is a ***compulsory regulation by the NSW Government*** as part of our COVID-Safe Business Plan and will ensure that we can safely operate. This protocol is also a major factor in determining the easing of restriction in the future. Please also ensure that you sanitise your hands with the hand sanitisers provided.

Thank you for your cooperation.

SPAM Email

It has come to our attention that there are a number of SPAM Emails circulating in the community with the sender as Fr. Jarek Zan. Please note that it is policy of the Parish not to ask for money via email. If you receive any of these emails, please delete them immediately. This matter has been reported to the Police and the Archdiocese who are investigating.

Parish Maintenance

Over the past few months there has been a lot of activity in the church with maintenance projects. There are a number of maintenance projects that still need to be completed. Some have been put on hold due to Covid-19 but others are unavoidable and urgent. In particular: repairs to the roof at St. Benedict's Shrine. This work was completed during the week at a cost of \$12,000 to the Parish. Thank you for the anonymous donation of \$3,000 towards this project. Installation of CCTV security, due to occur in the next few weeks at a cost estimated at \$12,000. These works are only made possible by the generous donations of Parishioners and Benefactors. Thank you to those who have already contributed to our maintenance. If you are able and would like to make a contribution to our maintenance, please contact the Parish Priest via the Parish Office. *Thank you for your continued support of your Parish.*

Safeguarding: The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney have introduced new requirements for volunteers 18yrs and over. All volunteers must sign a **Volunteer Acceptance Form, a Code of Conduct for Working with Children** and complete a **Safeguarding Induction Training Course**.

The **ONLINE Induction Training Course** is available to new parish volunteers. Please register by following this link:-<https://goo.gl/forms/wSKRi3ZO6Pzkrfbo1>.

Additionally, some new volunteers are also required to attend an Interview. These include * Ministers of the Word, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Children's Liturgy, Catechists, Collectors, Acolytes etc.

Due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation, ALL Safeguarding Training will be postponed until the start of January 2021.

Thank you for your co-operation. Any concerns please contact psso@stgertrude.org.au. or the Parish Office on 9604 1199 .