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Director

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SMASH REPAIRER FOR ALL MAJOR LEADING INSURANCES

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

Parish Catechesis for Adults and Young People

COURAGE

The Lord is preparing a wedding feast for us and yet often we find our faith is heavy and a burden.
JESUS CHRIST IS INVITING US TO THE FEAST
BUT TO BE ABLE TO ENTER AND CELEBRATE WE NEED TO TAKE OIL.

Come and listen to the catechesis in the Montefano hall Monday and Thursday at 7:30pm.

THE LORD WANTS TO MEET YOU THERE!

And warmly invites all young adults from 13 to 93yrs
Even babysitting is made available so that you may listen freely

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



FCI BINGO is BACK!
ALL Parishioners WELCOME.

Come, join us 10:00 am

Next Dates:
20 November;
4 & 18 December
in the Montefano Hall.

Only \$10 entry - includes prizes, morning tea/coffee and light lunch.



FCI – Organising

Cherry Picking Bus Trip to Orange
Saturday: 12 December 2020

ALL PARISHIONERS WELCOME

Cost: \$40 pp:

(Payment to be made at time of booking
non-refundable. No reserved seating)

Morning Tea Provided
Lunch at Orange RSL at own expense

*Bus departs St Benedict's Church Smithfield at 6:15 am sharp!
Returning approximately 5:30 pm
Fun day with Raffles & prizes.

Be quick – only 50 seats available

Contact: Tony Coiera 0409 908 424 or
Gina Morosin on 0417-203908



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 10am—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.



Parish Priest
Fr Jarek Zan OSPPE

Assistant Priests

Fr Wojtek Sliwa OSPPE &
Fr Peter James Strohmayr OSPPE

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

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

15 November, 2020



Congratulations to

Simone STEPHO & Michael NATOLI
Married in our Parish

May God confirm them in their love.

We welcome the following

Alexander Michael; Ellena Bagala,
Santino Reitano, Kiara Savona
Baptised in our Parish Community

We pray for the sick of this parish

Josephine Cachia, 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

Joseph Fennech, Rocco Ferraro,
Bertillo Marino De Biasi, Rosa Corso,
Teena Mayer, Rose Farrugia, Cesarina Lando

Recently Deceased

And for those whose Anniversaries occur at this time
Luigi D'Elia, Vincenzo Bruno, Richard Stanzione,
Luigia Noemi Bordin, Cosimo Blanda

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

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER

Intention for November
Universal prayer intention—Artificial Intelligence

We pray that the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve humankind.

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 not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen

Church Cleaners— 21 November
Group B: PCC/Teachers Group (St Benedict's)
Group A: Frances/Margaret (St Therese)

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

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

33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Jer 29:11,12,14

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

FIRST READING Prv 31:10-13. 19-20. 30-31

A reading from the book of Proverbs

A perfect wife – who can find her? She is far beyond the price of pearls. Her husband’s heart has confidence in her, from her he will derive no little profit. Advantage and not hurt she brings him all the days of her life. She is always busy with wool and with flax, she does her work with eager hands. She sets her hands to the distaff, her fingers grasp the spindle. She holds out her hand to the poor, she opens her arms to the needy. Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty; the woman who is wise is the one to praise. Give her a share in what her hands have worked for, and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

The word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 127:1-5. R. v.1

(R.) Happy are those who fear the Lord.

- O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways! By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be happy and prosper. (R.)
- Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive, around your table. (R.)
- Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord. May the Lord bless you from Zion in a happy Jerusalem all the days of your life. (R.)

SECOND READING 1 Thes 5:1-6

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

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about ‘times and seasons’, since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, ‘How quiet and peaceful it is’ that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it.

But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

The word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Jn 15:4. 5

Alleluia, alleluia!
Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mt 25:14-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave

five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out. The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. “Sir,” he said “you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made.” His master said to him, “Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master’s happiness.” Next the man with the two talents came forward. “Sir,” he said “you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made.” His master said to him, “Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master’s happiness.” Last came forward the man who had the one talent. “Sir,” said he “I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back.” But his master answered him, “You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.”

The Gospel of the Lord
All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Ps 72:28

To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

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Next Week: Our Lord JESUS CHRIST, KING of the Universe
Readings: Ezek 34:11-12; 15-17; 1 Cor 15:20-26,28; Mt 25:31-46

Monday 16 November ~ Patronal Feast of our Parish
St Gertrude

We will celebrate this feast in our churches during this weekend
14/15 November.

Saturday 21 November ~ Memorial
The Presentation of Blessed Virgin Mary

Mass 8am St Therese’s Church Fairfield West

Weekend of 21/22 November ~ Solemnity
Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Special Collection November CWF ~ This Weekend 14/15 November

The Charitable Works Fund (CWF) is a centralised fund that supports the charitable and pastoral activities of the Archdiocese of Sydney.

Donations of \$2 or more are tax-deductible—Please use envelopes and fill

November Mass

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.

New Church Regulations

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). **Funerals are limited to 100 persons and weddings 150 persons**. Outdoor gatherings are limited to 30 people. The Archdiocese will be asking the NSW Government to reconsider outdoor restrictions 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.

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.

Wedding Anniversary Blessings –

Next Anniversary Blessing will be Sunday 27 December—Feast of the Holy Family

Communion to the Sick

will be given on a fortnightly basis. The next date in November will be 24th.

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.

Sacramental Programme 2021

Children who will be in Year 3 or above (in 2021), are eligible to enrol for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. Enrolment forms will be available from the church foyers and parish website. To download a copy please visit: <http://stgertrude.org.au/sacramental-program/>

Enrolment forms are due by the 15th November 2020 either by email or dropping them off to the Parish office.

The families already enrolled for 2020 who had their Sacraments postponed, will be contacted via email, with more information regarding these Sacraments for their children.

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

The Sacramental Office is currently closed. For all enquiries, please email: sacraments@stgertrude.org.au or call 9725 4317 to leave a message.

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 Jeanelle Taala and her family as she receives her First Holy Communion this Weekend.

St Gertrude’s School Kindergarten Enrolments still continuing for 2021—

Please contact school on 9609 4144.

Thanksgiving Mass for all Volunteers

Wednesday 2 December at 7:00 pm St Benedict’s Shrine Smithfield

Parish Working Bee and Christmas Decorations of both Churches

Monday 14 December from 4:00 pm

Your help is needed even if only for 1 hour.

Be proud - contribute to Decorating YOUR Parish for The Birth of Jesus. Bring your tools

Thank You

The Parish would like to extend our thanks to the generosity of our Parishioners who have been donating cleaning products and hand sanitisers. This is a great help to the Parish and ensures that the environment is kept clean and as safe as possible.

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. We pray through the Intercession of our Blessed Mother for a return to good health of those infected.

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:

During COVID 19 The Working with Children Checks were extended for 6 months by the Kids Guardian. However, now that it has been longer than 6 months there are some Parish Volunteer WWCC now expired. To keep your current WWCC No: it is essential that all Volunteers re-new their application. To do this simply go online. If you need assistance to renew your WWCC please contact the Parish Office and make an appointment for Mimi on any Tuesday between 10:00 - 2:00 pm. If you need transport to attend Service NSW office Tony Coiera has kindly offered to drive people to and from Service NSW. To renew you will need **4 ID documents** from different categories: **Category 1:** Current Australian Passport, Birth Certificate or Citizenship Certificate **Category 2:** A drivers Licence or ID Card **Category 3:** Medicare No: **Category 4:** Utilities Bill with your name on it e.g. Telephone, Electricity, Gas

Please Note: all the original documents you use as evidence MUST be presented to Service NSW