



Mark Malone J.P.
Director
67B Brenan Street, Smithfield NSW 2164
Ph: (02) 9727 0400 Fax: (02) 9727 0800 Mob: 0404 718 528
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A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

"A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney: Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes 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."

The Parish does not imply any endorsement for advertisements listed in this bulletin.



Italian Catholic Federation Committee & Members wish ALL Parishioners a Merry Christmas & safe and Blessed 2021 NEW YEAR.



Please join us for the restart of FCI 2021 BINGO on Friday 5th February 2021



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

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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 Strohmayer OSPPE

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

31 January 2021



We pray for the sick of this parish
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
Maria Frizzo, Joseph Cortez, Caesar Sammut, Adreana Attard, Giovanni Oliverio, Maria Caltabiano, Josephine Cachia, Constantino Axiak, Therese Do, Dorothy Vella,

Recently Deceased

And for those whose Anniversaries occur at this time
Maria Scigliano, Peter Capolupo, Aldo De Gasperi, Maria Grech

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 Mertin
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

Parish Playgroup: Thursday during school term. 9.30am - 11.00am

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER
Intention for January
Intention for evangelization - Human fraternity
May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

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—
February 6 Group C—Wilson Family (St Benedict's)
Group C: Spanish (St Therese)

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

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

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON *Ps 105:47*

Save us, O Lord our God!
And gather us from the nations,
to give thanks to your holy name,
and make it our glory to praise you.

FIRST READING *Dt 18:15-20*

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people: 'Your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. "Do not let me hear again" you said "the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die"; and the Lord said to me, "All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.'"

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 94:1-2. 6-9. R. v.9*

**(R.) If today, you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts.**

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. **(R.)**
2. Come in, let us kneel and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. **(R.)**
3. O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my
work.' **(R.)**

SECOND READING *1 Cor 7:32-35*

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

I would like to see you free from all worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world's affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world's affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Mt 4:16*

Alleluia, alleluia!

A people in darkness have seen a great light:
a radiant dawn shines on those lost in death.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL *Mk 1:21-28*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus and his followers went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the Sabbath came Jesus went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.

In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit, and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

COMMUNION ANTIPHON *Cf. Ps 30:17-18*

Let your face shine on your servant.

Save me in your merciful love.

O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.

Next Week: 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Readings: Job 7:1-4, 6-7; 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23;
Mk 1:29-39*

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Feast of The Presentation of the Lord

The Feast of the Presentation will be celebrated on Tuesday 2nd February. This feast marks 40 days since the joyful birth of Jesus. It is tradition in the Catholic Church to bless candles at this Mass. These candles then stay with the family during the year and are lit to remind them of Christ the light, especially during storms or placed in the hand of a dying person. You are invited to bring candles to be blessed on this day. Candles will be available for purchase at the Piety stall **this weekend** at all Masses.

Memorial of St. Blaise

On Wednesday 3rd February we celebrate the memorial of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr. Tradition tells us that while Blaise was being taken into custody, a distraught mother, whose only child was choking on a fishbone, threw herself at his feet and implored his intercession. Touched at her grief, he offered up his prayers, and the child was cured. Consequently, Saint Blaise is invoked for protection against injuries and illnesses of the throat. The blessing of throats will occur after 7am Mass.

CATECHIST NEWS:

Catechist Meeting – Friday 12th February

All catechists are invited to attend the first Catechist meeting for 2021 on **Friday 12th February following the 9.15am Mass at 10.15am in the Montefano Hall.** It's been a long time since we have been able to gather and it would be great to see as many catechists as possible in attendance.

Catechist Sunday Commissioning Mass – Sunday 14th February

Our Parish Catechist Commissioning Mass will be celebrated on **Sunday 14th February at the 10.30am Mass at St. Benedict's Shrine.** All catechists who are teaching will be commissioned and sent forth to bring the Word of God to the children in our State School System. May God continue to bless you as you bring the hope and joy of Jesus to the children you teach.

We will also celebrate those who have served our Parish for a number of years:

5 years: Kasia Serafin
15years: Josephine Carbone, Gloria Wilson.

We also thank and congratulate those who will receive certificates of service from the Archbishop at St. Mary's Cathedral at the annual Catechist Mass on Sunday 7th February:

25 years: Mary Andrew, Felicia Riviera.
20 years: George Andrew, Dee Vranjes

Well done, good and faithful servants. God bless you!

Due to Covid restrictions, attendance at the Annual Catechist Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral is via invitation only. All catechists are encouraged to participate in the Mass by viewing a live stream of the Mass at 2.30pm via St. Mary's Cathedral website: https://youtu.be/myqi2nC_SpQ

Playgroup is Resuming! Thursday 4th February

After a long absence due to Covid restrictions and the renovation of the parish demountables, we are excited to announce that the Parish Playgroup is resuming on **Thursday 4th February, starting at 9.30am** in the Parish Demountables. *Playgroup will then continue to meet each Thursday during the school term 9.30am to 11.30am.* New families are welcome to come along.

Sacramental Programme 2021

For information regarding the Sacramental programme for 2021 please visit: <http://stgertrude.org.au/sacramental-program/> Enrolment information and any changes will also 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.

Communion to the Sick will be given on a fortnightly basis. The next date in February 2021: 2nd & 16th

COVID-19 update

In keeping with NSW Health directives, anyone attending a church either for private prayer or for a service must wear a face mask. The only exemptions are those with a medical condition, where it is essential to remove a mask to carry out one's responsibilities (e.g. readers) or children under the age of 12. NSW Health can impose a \$200 fine on each individual failing to abide by this rule.

The number of people attending church services has been changed this week by the State Government. Under the new regulations there is no longer a "cap" of people attending, as long as the 4m² rule is applied. As such, St Benedict's Shrine can hold a maximum of 150 people, St. Therese's Church 50 people and Montefano Hall 90 people. This includes regular Mass, weddings, funerals and baptisms.

QR Codes

The NSW Government strongly recommends the use of QR Codes for contact tracing should the need arise. There are QR Codes at the doors of St. Benedict's Shrine, St. Therese's Church and the Montefano Hall. For those who are able, we ask that you use the QR code when entering the parish sites and to show the usher at the door your successful registration. For those who cannot use the QR Codes you are still able to 'sign-in' using the sheets at the doors of the parish buildings.

Working With Children Check (WWCC)

It has come to our attention that a number of Parish volunteers have expired WWCC. Due to Covid the NSW granted a 6 month period of 'grace' until 15 September 2020. This time has now passed and all WWCCs must be current. ***If your WWCC expired in 2020 it is imperative you renew your WWCC to continue with your Parish Ministry.*** Failing to renew your WWCC will mean that you will have to re-do the application from start resulting in a NEW WWCC number. Once you have renewed your WWCC please email your documents to wwcc@stgertrude.org.au or contact the Parish office. If you are having difficulties renewing, please contact the Parish Office for assistance.

FIRST FRIDAY AND SATURDAY DEVOTIONS

First Friday Devotions – 5th February

St. Therese's Church: 6.30am Exposition and Confession.
7.00am Mass.

St. Benedict's Shrine 7.00pm Mass followed by Adoration and Devotions and Confession.

First Saturday Devotions – 6th February

St. Therese's Church: 7.00am Exposition and Rosary and Confession.
8.00am Mass.

Please note that St. Therese's Church still has a restriction of 50 people.

Proclamation on National Sanctity of Human Life in US

"Every human life is a gift to the world. Whether born or unborn, young or old, healthy or sick, every person is made in the holy image of God. The Almighty Creator gives unique talents, beautiful dreams, and a great purpose to every person. On National Sanctity of Human Life Day, we celebrate the wonder of human existence and renew our resolve to build a culture of life where every person of every age is protected, valued, and cherished." (D.J. Trump 17 January 2021)

Full text available on following site (unfortunately the original document on the page of White House has been already been removed by new administration)

<https://kentuckytoday.com/stories/sanctity-of-human-life-declaration-one-of-trumps-final-acts-as-president.30175>

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.