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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

"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."



Blessed Easter & Buona Pasqua to ALL Parishioners from Italian Catholic Federation

April Bingo will be Friday 9 & 23 April 2021

in Montefano Hall at 10:00 am
\$10 entry includes Bingo Games, morning tea/coffee and light lunch.
Come Join us for a morning of Community friendship, fun and prizes



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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.



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 (Syriac)

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

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord B

28 March 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 Kodsy,
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

Debra Spencer, Bishop Bede Heather,
Ivan (John) Bakic, Roberto Bordin,
Caterina Nadalinni, Br Mark Kevin Ryan fsp,
Rosalia Tirrito, Maria Frizzo, Joseph Cortez,
Caesar Sammut, Adreana Attard

Recently Deceased

And for those whose Anniversaries occur at this time

Lorriane Mock, Domenica Ponzo,
Salvatore Piazza

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

Safeguarding:

wwcc@stgertrude.org.au (all WWCC renewals)
psso@stgertrude.org.au (Parish Safeguarding Support Officers)

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

Parish Playgroup: Thursday during school term. 9.30am - 11.30am

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER

Intention for March

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.

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— April 3
Group A: Frances' 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**

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD	
GOSPEL	<i>12: 12-16</i>
<i>A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.</i>	
<p>A great crowd who had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem.</p> <p>So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying, 'Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the king of Israel!'</p> <p>And Jesus found a young ass and sat upon it; as is written:</p> <p>'Fear not, daughter Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on an ass's colt.'</p> <p>His disciples did not understand this at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that this had been written of him and had been done to him.</p>	
FIRST READING	<i>Is 50:4-7</i>
<i>A reading from the prophet Isaiah</i>	
<p>The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.</p>	
<p>The word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.</p>	
RESPONSORIAL PSALM	<i>Ps 21:8-9. 17-20. 23-24. R. v.2</i>
(R.) My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> All who see me deride me. They curl their lips, they toss their heads. 'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him; let him release him if this is his friend.' (R.) Many dogs have surrounded me, a band of the wicked beset me. They tear holes in my hands and my feet. I can count every one of my bones. (R.) They divide my clothing among them. They cast lots for my robe. O Lord, do not leave me alone, my strength, make haste to help me! (R.) I will tell of your name to my brethren and praise you where they are assembled. 'You who fear the Lord give him praise; all sons of Jacob, give him glory. Revere him, Israel's sons.' (R.) 	
SECOND READING	<i>Phil 2:6-11</i>
<i>A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians</i>	
<p>His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are,</p>	

and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Phil 2:8-9*

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
 Christ became obedient for us even to death dying on the cross. Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL *Mk 14:1 – 15:47*

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

**PLEASE FOLLOW THE
PROJECTOR SCREEN FOR THE
GOSPEL READING**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON *Mt 26:42*

Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.

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Next Week: Sunday of the Resurrection
Readings: Acts 10:34, 37-43; Col 3:1-4 Jn 20:1-9

EASTER VIGIL CANDLES - BYO
 Due to COVID restrictions we are asking that Parishioners bring their own candles to the Easter Vigil this year. For the safety and the cleanliness of the church, please place some cardboard or aluminium foil around the candle to avoid any wax dripping onto the tiles in the church.

HOLY LAND APPEAL – GOOD FRIDAY
 The Holy Land Appeal helps Christians in the Holy Land. Your support helps the church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools and offer religious education. The Holy Land Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines. The wars, unrest and instability have been especially hard on Christians. In these times of crisis, the Holy Land Collection provides humanitarian aid to refugees. The annual Holy Land Appeal will take place on Good Friday – April 2nd. Envelopes will be made available for your use.

EASTER OFFERINGS
 Easter Offering envelopes are available in the pews of the church. These can be returned during the Easter Season. Thank you for your generosity to our priests.

Holy Week & Easter Services	
RECONCILIATION: 31 March	
◇ 6—8 pm (7pm Mass) St Benedict's Shrine	
HOLY THURSDAY: 1 April	
◇ 10:30 am St Mary's Cathedral (<i>with Blessing of Oils</i>) (There will be NO morning Parish Masses)	
◇ 7pm Mass of the Last Supper (St Benedict's Shrine) <i>After the Holy Thursday Liturgy there will be a procession to the Montefano hall for Adoration till 10pm</i>	
GOOD FRIDAY: 2 April	
◇ 10am Stations of the Cross (St Benedict's Shrine)	
◇ 3pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion (St Benedict's Shrine) <i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until midnight in the Montefano Hall.</i>	
* <u>Divine Mercy Novena will commence after the Liturgy in Montefano Hall</u>	
EASTER VIGIL: 3 April	
◇ 7pm Holy Saturday Liturgy and Mass (St Benedict's Shrine)	
EASTER SUNDAY : 4 April	
◇ 9am (Italian); 10.30am & 6pm (St Benedict's Shrine)	
◇ 7.30am & 9am (St Therese's Church)	
EASTER: MONDAY : 5 April	
◇ 10:30am (St Benedict's Shrine)	
◇ 8am (St Therese's Church)	
DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY: 11 April St Benedict's Shrine-	
◇ 6pm Vigil (Saturday 10 April)	
◇ 9am Italian; 10.30am; 3pm (<i>followed by devotion to the Divine Mercy</i>)	
◇ 6pm Mass	
St Therese's Church -	
◇ 7am	
NO MORNING MASSES WILL BE CELEBRATED ON HOLY THURSDAY, GOOD FRIDAY, AND EASTER SATURDAY	

ACOLYTE AND ALTAR SERVER REHEARSALS – TUESDAY 30TH
 There will be a rehearsal for acolytes and altar servers this **Tuesday 30th March at 7pm** in preparation for the Easter Triduum celebrations. It is important that all acolytes and altar servers attend.

PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES
 Project Compassion Boxes can be returned by leaving them in the baskets provided at St. Benedict's Shrine and St. Therese's Church. Thank you for your generosity.

SPIRITUAL ADOPTION OF THE UNBORN
 Thank you to those who have enrolled in the Spiritual Adoption of the Unborn. There was a tremendous response. Thank you to all those who helped in any way to prepare for this program.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME NEWS!

First Holy Communion (FHC)
 • Reconciliation lessons are complete. No lessons this weekend.

• FHC Meeting for Parents, 2020 and 2021 cohorts to attend: Tuesday 20th April at 7 pm in the Montefano Hall.

- Reconciliation Revision lessons and rehearsal to be held on 23/4 and 27/4 - please check your email for your assigned session.

- FHC lessons start 30/4, 1/5, 2/5

- Reception of First Reconciliation will take place on Thurs 20/5/21 at 5 pm & 7 pm and Tues 25/5/21 at 7 pm.

- Rehearsals for FHC to be advised.

- First Communion Ceremonies will take place on the Feasts of Trinity Sunday and Corpus Christi - 29/30 May and 5/6 June.

- Please continue to pray for the children and their families.

CONFIRMATION 2021 Enrolments – Children in Year 6 and above, who have made their Reconciliation and First Holy Communion, are eligible to enrol for the Confirmation Programme. Enrolment forms are available from the Church foyer or can be downloaded from the Parish Website: <http://www.stgertrude.org.au/ministries/sacramental-program/>
Enrolments were due back by 26/3/21 - if you missed the cut off date, enrolments will be accepted until the end of Term 1.

For all enquiries please email Helena – sacraments@stgertrude.org.au or call [9725 4317](tel:97254317) and leave a message. Face-to-face meetings by appointment - please call/email to arrange a time.

PARISH YOUTH GROUP – SUNDAY 18TH APRIL
 The Parish Youth Group meets every third Sunday of the month. The next meeting will be **Sunday 18th of April**. Join us for Mass at 6pm and following the Mass, youth meeting in the Parish Demountables. New members are always welcome to join.

MEN'S ROSARY GROUP – THURSDAY 29TH APRIL
 The Men's Rosary Group meets the last Thursday of every month at **7pm at St. Benedict's Shrine**. The group will next meet on **Thursday 29th April**. New members are always welcome to join.

COVID-19 UPDATE
 There have been some changes to the NSW Health directives in regards to places of worship: The wearing of masks is no longer mandatory. However, NSW Health does maintain that this is **strongly recommended**. The number of people attending church services has also changed. Under the new regulations, there is no longer a “cap” of people attending provided that the **one person per 2m² rule** is observed. As such, St. Benedict's Shrine can hold a maximum of 300 people, St. Therese's Church 100 people and Montefano Hall 180 people. This includes regular Mass, weddings, funerals and baptisms.

Dispensation Lifted
 Archbishop Anthony Fisher has lifted **the dispensation from our Sunday Mass obligation**. The Catholic faithful are once again obliged to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation when this is reasonably possible. Those who are of great age, have health conditions or are otherwise anxious about the risks of COVID-19 are free to remain at home and find another way of keeping the Sabbath holy.

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.