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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."

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

SIGN THE NO EUTHANASIA PETITION IN NSW

Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP is urging all Catholics to sign an e-petition to prevent the NSW parliament passing laws that sanction the killing of vulnerable human beings. There is never a good time to introduce laws such as this, but to do so in the middle of a pandemic and amidst lockdowns adversely affecting the lives and livelihoods of millions is unconscionable. It is a confusing message that on the one hand we are doing everything to save life and on the other trying to justify killing.

Please sign this petition, calling on the Government to keep us focused on the present challenges and once they have been met, let us focus on medicine at its best and not its most lethal.

https://www.no euthanasia.org.au/protect_life_nsw



**ST GERTRUDE'S
ENROLLING NOW**

(02) 9609 4144 / 1-11 Justin Street, Smithfield

Advertising Space Available - Beginning New Financial Year

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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:
9.15 am followed by Devotions
7pm Mass & Adoration followed by Devotions

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 Strohmayer 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:
6.30am Exposition & Confession; 7am Mass

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

Chaplet of Divine Mercy:
Tuesdays after Mass

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

29 August 2021



We pray for the sick of this parish

Alyssa Ferreri, 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

Emanuel Cutajar, Mary Portelli, Alan Wong, Pauline Sammut, Ermanno Brisa, Giovanni Moretti, Antonio Franco, Silvestro Sganga, Mary Doran, Gina Wilson, Marija Stefulj, Anton Jarkey, & Lawrence Cachia,

Recently Deceased

And for those whose Anniversaries occur at this time

Providenza Vitetta, Caterina Cassarino, Carmelina Oliveri, Ivan Stefulj

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: Currently not available at this time.

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

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

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER Intention for August The Church

Let us pray for the Church, that she may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.

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—
Due to Covid Lockdowns, church cleaning will be suspended until further notice.
Thank you

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

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

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON *Cf. Ps 85:3,5*

*Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.
O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of mercy to all who call to you.*

FIRST READING *Dt 4:1-2. 6-8*

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 14:2-5. R. v.1*

(R.) The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

1. Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?
He who walks without fault;
he who acts with justice
and speaks the truth from his heart. (R.)
2. He who does no wrong to his brother,
who casts no slur on his neighbour,
who holds the godless in disdain,
but honours those who fear the Lord. (R.)
3. He who keeps his pledge, come what may;
who takes no interest on a loan
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.
Such a man will stand firm for ever. (R.)

SECOND READING *Jas 1:17-18, 21-22, 27*

A reading from the letter of St James

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created. Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves. Pure, unspoiled religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Jas 1:18*

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the first fruits of his creation.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL *Mk 7:1-8. 14-15. 21-23*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees,

and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him,

'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:

This people honours me only with lip-service, while their hearts are far from me. The worship they offer me is worthless, the doctrines they teach are only human regulations. You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.'

He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'

The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

COMMUNION ANTIPHON *Mt 5:9-10*

*Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they shall be called children of God.
Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of
righteousness,
for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.*

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MASS FOR THE SPIRITUAL ADOPTION OF THE UNBORN—30TH AUGUST

The next Mass for the Spiritual Adoption of the Unborn will be on Monday 30th August at 7pm

FLORAL TRIBUTES IN HONOUR OF OUR BLESSED MOTHER

The fences of St. Benedict's Shrine and St. Therese's Church are adorned with floral tributes and images honouring Our Blessed Mother.

OFFERING OF GOLD ROSE TO OUR LADY OF JASNA GORA

On Thursday 26th August we celebrated the Solemnity of Our Lady Jasna Gora. To honour Our Blessed Mother, two gold roses were offered to her. These will be placed near the Icon in the church. Please continue to pray through Our Blessed Mother's Intercession for our Parish and our World.

THANK YOU

The Parish wishes to express our thanks to those who donated flowers for our celebrations of Our Lady of Jasna Gora. We would also like to thank Caterina Rosati who donated Holy Cards for the occasion. Your generosity and support of the Parish is very much appreciated. God bless you all.

PARISH CONDOLENCES

The Parish extends our condolences and prayers to Mrs. Linda Katsibris, principal of St. Gertrude's Catholic Primary School, on the recent death of her father. Please keep Linda and her family in your prayers.

Next Week: Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Readings: *Is 35:4-7; Jas 2:1-5; Mk 7:31-37*

LIVE STREAMING OF MASS

DURING THIS TIME OF STAY-AT-HOME ORDERS, THE PARISH WILL CONTINUE TO STREAM MASS VIA ZOOM. THE DETAILS ARE ON THE PARISH WEBSITE.

Mass Times:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

6pm: Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Rosary and Novena to St. Benedict and Benediction

7pm: Mass

Wednesday

7pm: Mass followed by Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Rosary and Novena to St. Benedict and Benediction

Friday

3pm: Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Stations of the Cross

Saturday

6pm: Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Rosary and Novena to St. Benedict and Benediction

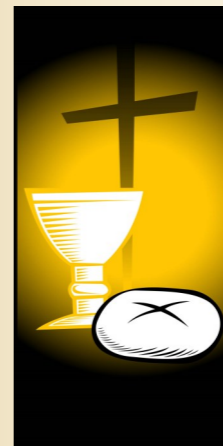
7pm: Mass

Sunday

10.30am: Mass

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. (Pause for a moment in silence and adoration).
I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen



PLEASE REACH OUT!

This time of stay-at-home can be very distressing and lonely for some people, especially the elderly and vulnerable. I encourage all our Parishioners to keep in regular contact with each other. The best way at this time is through technology – social media, various Apps on your phone, telephone, email, etc.

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY AND STATIONS OF THE CROSS ON FRIDAY AT 3PM

Each Friday Parishioners are invited to join us via Zoom to pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Stations of the Cross a Penitential Act during this time of Pandemic. The meeting and password is per our Mass details.

FATHER'S DAY: SUNDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER:

Next Sunday we celebrate Father's Day. Fathers will be given a special blessing at the Saturday Vigil and Sunday morning Mass. In this Year of St. Joseph, we particularly pray through the intercession of St. Joseph for all our fathers, biological and spiritual.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FR JAREK

The Parish would like to extend to Fr. Jarek our prayers best wishes as he celebrates his birthday. May God continue to bless you in the year ahead.

PLEASE SIGN THE EUTHANASIA PETITION—DETAILS AND LINK ON NEXT PAGE

CATECHIST NEWS

SRE CLASSES IN STATE SCHOOLS SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

Unfortunately owing to the continued restrictions in NSW all Catechist Classes have been suspended until further notice. Our Catechists continue to pray for all our children and their families during this time of Pandemic. Any families wishing to access learning from home SRE lessons, here is the link provided below:

<https://www.cress.org.au/learning-from-home-sre-lessons/>

May we continue to pray for each other during this time of Pandemic. We ask your Son Jesus, our Lord to grant our students and Catechists hope and patience, as they eagerly await the return of Scripture Classes.

SACRAMENTAL NEWS!

HOLY COMMUNION PHOTO COLLECTION: POSTPONED

Will be rescheduled when restriction have eased. Please wait for email advising collection date.

CONFIRMATION: Date to be advised.

- Zoom lessons finish this weekend:
 - > Group A: Saturday 4 pm to 5:30 pm.
 - > Group B: Sunday 9 am to 10:30 am.
- Reconciliation, Retreat, Rehearsals and Ceremony dates to be advised. These dates may be subject to change beyond our control.
- Enrolled families, please check your email regularly for updates.
- Confirmation Donations: Thank you kindly to the families who have generously donated extra towards the Sacramental Programme as a way of "paying it forward" for enrolled families who are struggling at this time.
- Prayer Partners: Sacramental time is a special time of grace for all in our community. On the parish website there is an Invitation for members of the Parish Community to pray for our Confirmation Candidates. To view the prayer and see the Candidate's flame display please visit the Parish website: <https://www.stgertrude.org.au/confirmation-programme-2021/>
- Confirmation Saint Projects: The Confirmation Candidates are busy researching their chosen Saints. The Candidate's projects are being shared on the Parish Website and can be viewed by clicking on this link: <http://www.stgertrude.org.au/confirmation-saint-projects/>

For all enquiries please email:

sacraments@stgertrude.org.au or phone: 9725 4317 to leave a message.

COMMUNION TO THE SICK—SUSPENDED

Please be advised that the regular Communion to the Sick (Tuesday) has been suspended at this time. However, if there is an emergency that requires the Anointing of the Sick, please contact the Parish in the usual way.

COVID Update

The NSW Government has announced further restrictions and regulations:

- Churches will remain closed at this time.
- Funerals can have a total of 10 people. (excluding those who are conducting the funeral)
- Baptisms, unless in case of emergency, are prohibited.
- Weddings are postponed pending further government announcements.

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. 100001084

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