

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

FIRST READINGBar 5:1-9

A reading from the prophet Baruch

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress,  
put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever,  
wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you,  
put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head:  
since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven,  
since the name God gives you for ever will be,  
'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'.  
Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights  
and turn your eyes to the east:  
see your sons reassembled from west and east  
at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them.  
Though they left you on foot,  
with enemies for an escort,  
now God brings them back to you  
like royal princes carried back in glory.  
For God has decreed the flattening  
of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills,  
the filling of the valleys to make the ground level  
so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God.  
And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade  
for Israel at the command of God;  
for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory  
with his mercy and integrity for escort.

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALMPs 125. R. v.3

(R.) The Lord has done great things for us;  
we are filled with joy.

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,  
it seemed like a dream.  
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,  
on our lips there were songs. (R.)

2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels  
the Lord worked for them!'  
What marvels the Lord worked for us!  
Indeed we were glad. (R.)

3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage  
as streams in dry land.  
Those who are sowing in tears  
will sing when they reap. (R.)

4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,  
carrying seed for the sowing:  
they come back, they come back, full of song,  
carrying their sheaves. (R.)

SECOND READINGPhil 1:3-6. 8-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy,  
remembering how you have helped to spread the  
Good News from the day you first heard it right up  
to the present. I am quite certain that the One who  
began this good work in you will see that it is  
finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God  
knows how much I miss you all, loving you as  
Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love  
for each other may increase more and more and  
never stop improving your knowledge and  
deepening your perception so that you can always  
recognise what is best. This will help you to  
become pure and blameless, and prepare you for  
the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect  
goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the  
glory and praise of God.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATIONLk 3:4. 6

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his  
paths:  
all people shall see the salvation of God.  
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Lk 3:1-6

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign,  
when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod  
tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the  
lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch  
of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and  
Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of  
Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the  
whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of  
repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is  
written in the book of the sayings of the prophet  
Isaiah:  
A voice cries in the wilderness;  
Prepare a way for the Lord,  
make his paths straight.  
Every valley will be filled in,  
every mountain and hill be laid low,  
winding ways will be straightened  
and rough roads made smooth.  
And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

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

Next Week: THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
Readings: Zeph 3:14-18; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass ©1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved.

ST GERTRUDE'S PARISH

St Benedict's Church

Corner Justin & Neville Street  
SMITHFIELD

Sunday Masses:  
Saturday Vigil 6.00pm;  
8.00am (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



Parish Priest  
Fr Jarek Zan OSPPE

Assistant Priest  
Fr Wojtek Sliwa OSPPE

St Theresa's Church

Corner The Boulevard & Stella Street  
FAIRFIELD WEST

Sunday Masses:  
Saturday Vigil 5pm (Vietnamese);  
7.30am & 9.00am; 12 noon (Spanish); 5pm (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

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9th December, 2018



Congratulations to  
Antonietta SCOTTO & Phillip PANUCCIO  
Married in our Parish  
May God confirm them in their love.

We welcome the following  
Beatrix Mertin  
Baptised in our Parish Community

We pray for the sick of this parish  
John Denniss, Santina Ponili, Kartia Grace Russell,  
Gino Mifsud, Rina Favotto, Ivy Fernandes,  
Alina Przewoznik, Philomena Greenwood,  
Bless our sick today so that they may bear  
their illness in union with Jesus' sufferings and  
restore them quickly to health

Please remember in your prayers  
Mario Micallef, Zofia Jarzyna, Betty Stepkovitch,  
Antonio Mammone, Carmela Stivala, Vita Blanda,  
Achille (Frank) Pavone,  
Giuseppe Brunetta, Pasquale Berardinelli,  
Domenic Lagudi, Allanah Cassar Falappi,  
Immacolata Carioti

Recently Deceased

And for those whose Anniversaries occur  
at this time :  
Carmelo Cordina, Liliana Raisa.

PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Office:  
6 Justin St, Smithfield  
Tuesday-Friday 10am - 2pm  
Phone: 9604 1199 Fax 9609 6585  
Email: office@stgertrude.org.au  
Website: www.stgertrude.org.au

Parish Council:  
Denise Namroud

Finance Committee:  
Tan Do

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)

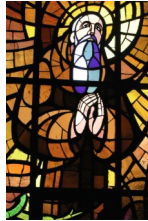
Baptisms: Parish Office 9604 1199  
1<sup>st</sup> Sundays of the month during the  
10.30am Mass at St Benedict's Church; &  
Every 3rd Sunday at 12noon St Benedict's

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

Sick Calls: 9604 1199  
Any Time

Novena to St Benedict

Every Wednesday after the 7pm Mass  
with Rosary & Exposition of the  
Blessed Sacrament



Reconciliation is available during this time.  
Everyone is encouraged to  
participate!

LIVING the gospel

Make way!

Today's gospel is a reminder to us that  
Advent is a season of preparation. In  
this case, the preparation is all about  
making way for the love of God in our  
lives. The love of God surrounds us  
all the time. It's like a rapidly flowing  
stream and sometimes we have  
placed boulders in the stream that  
send the water flowing around us.  
The call to make a way for the Lord  
is a call to clear the rocks out of the  
stream; to remove the obstacles that  
are directing the love of God around  
us and allow it instead to flow directly  
through us.

Church Cleaners

Week ending 15th December ~  
Group A- Edith/Jane/Francis/Jean/  
Kathryn



**Weekend Parish Collections Week- Ending 02/12/2018**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Collection \$1,626.70** goes to Fr. Jarek & Fr Wojtek as well as the upkeep of their Order of St Paul the First Hermit.  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: Envelopes and/or Credit Card payments: \$2,048.85 and \$1,011.40 Loose Money.**  
*Thank you for your generous support & May God Bless you all!*

# Advent



*New liturgical year begins:  
Sunday cycle C,  
weekday cycle 1*

ADVENT has a twofold character, for it is a time of preparation for the Solemnities of Christmas, in which the First Coming of the Son of God to humanity is remembered, and likewise a time when, by remembrance of this, minds and hearts are led to look forward to Christ's Second coming at the end of the time. For these two reasons, Advent is a period of devout and expectant delight.

**School Mass for The IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**  
Monday 10 December 9:30am St Benedict's

**~ Reconciliation Before Christmas ~**



**St Benedict's Shrine, Smithfield**  
Wednesday 12 December at 7:00pm &  
Saturday 15 December 4.45pm – 5.45pm

## Christmas Mass Times



**St Benedict's Church**

**Christmas Eve 24 December**

5pm Carols (Children)  
6pm Christmas Vigil (Children/Family)  
11.00pm Carols

**Christmas 25 December**

Midnight Mass (12 am)  
8am (Italian)  
10.30am

**Christmas Octave & Public Holidays**

10.30am

**St Theresa's Church**

**Christmas 25 December**

7.30am & 9am  
11am (Spanish); 6pm (Syriac)

**Christmas Octave & Public Holidays**

8am



## SACRAMENT NEWS!

Thank you so much to the dedicated group facilitators who generously donated their time during 2018 to help the parents prepare their children for the Sacraments of Confirmation, Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. Your support is greatly appreciated.

### HOLY COMMUNION PHOTO COLLECTION

**EVENING:** Holy Communion Photos can be collected from the Montefano Hall on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December from 6 pm to 8:30 pm. **ALL ENQUIRIES PLEASE CONTACT MARIA FROM TRACES OF TIME - 0407 662 535**

### FIRST RECONCILIATION / FIRST HOLY

**COMMUNION ENROLMENTS 2019:** Enrolments are now complete. The Parent Information Evening will be held on: **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2019.**

**SACRAMENTAL OFFICE:** Please be advised the **Sacramental Office is now closed. It will re-open in February 2019.** For all enquiries please email: [sacraments@stgertrude.org.au](mailto:sacraments@stgertrude.org.au) or call 9725 4317 and leave a message. If you wish to see Helena face-to-face, please email/call the Sacramental Office to make an appointment. Thank You.

**Choir Rehearsals** for Christmas continues every Monday at 7:30pm. All welcome.

### YOUTH GROUP ~ MUSIC REHEARSALS

Monday 10 December at 7.30pm Group 1  
*(Second Monday of the Month)*

Monday 31 December at 7.30pm Group 2  
*(last Monday of the Month)*

### ST GERTRUDE'S SCHOOL END OF YEAR CHRISTMAS CONCERT

On School grounds  
Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December  
6:30pm – 7:30pm  
*Everyone is invited*

### YOUTH GROUP CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December ~ Starting at 3pm.  
Children and parents are warmly invited to celebrate together.

### ~ Attention all Altar Servers, Acolytes & Readers ~

In preparation for the Christmas Liturgies will **Altar Servers** please meet on **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December** between **4.30pm - 5.15pm** and **Acolytes and Readers** will meet between **5.30pm – 6pm.**

### 2018 PARISH FACILITY BOOKINGS

(Smithfield & Fairfield West Church & Hall)  
Attention ALL groups wanting to use the above facilities for 2019, please book your dates and times, in writing, to the parish office as soon as possible. Thank you

## Holy Family Sunday

Couples who celebrated their Jubilee Anniversary this year (i.e. 1<sup>st</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> etc) are invited to celebrate and renew their vows at the 10:30am Mass on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> December ~ St Benedict's Church.

### Working Bee Thank You

Thank you to all who volunteered their time to help with the working bee this weekend.  
Your help in preparing the Church look beautiful for Christmas is very much appreciated.

### ~ DONATION THANK YOU ~

**A big Thank you** to the **Catholic Italian Federation (FCI)** For their very generous donation of \$8000 to our parish of St Gertrude's, which was raised through their various fund raising events throughout the year.

*Thank you  
Jurgen Martin has stepped down from his involvement in the parish as the family have now moved outside of the parish. We wish to thank him for the years of service to this parish when he served on the Parish Council and Finance Committee.*

### House for Rent

The property next to the Church Carpark on Neville Street, will be available for rent in 2019. Please direct any interest to the parish office.

### St Gertrude's Parish Playgroup

When: Thursday (during school term)  
Time: 10 am - 12 pm  
Where: Demountable behind the hall on the paddock.  
Contact: [playgroup@stgertrude.org.au](mailto:playgroup@stgertrude.org.au)

### SAFEGUARDING NEWS

The Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office, in conjunction with the Parish Support and Development Team, has identified the following require a Working with Children Check (WWCC): Youth ministers, children's liturgy, children's choir, Catechists, Sacramental group leaders, readers, acolytes, senior altar servers, extra-ordinary ministers of Holy Communion, Parish counters & **collectors** and ministers to the homebound. **Please note that some ministries that did not previously require a WWCC, now need one, please visit the RMS before the end of November to obtain a WWCC, otherwise you will need to cease your ministry until this requirement is met.**

Volunteers who have not yet completed a Code of Conduct please visit the Parish ASAP.

If you have not attended Safeguarding induction training, please speak to Maria or Helena to arrange a time – safeguarding induction training is mandatory for all volunteers. The training can also be completed online, please contact us to ask us how!

**All volunteers – please check the expiration date of your WWCC. If it is due for renewal please visit the RMS. Once renewed please notify the Parish Office.**

Thank you for your continued co-operation to ensure our Parish meets Safeguarding requirements. For more information, please contact the Parish Office or email [pss@stgertrude.org.au](mailto:pss@stgertrude.org.au)

## The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Safeguarding Office

If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Archdiocese of Sydney we invite you to contact us. We will listen to you respectfully; offer support and discuss the options you have available to you. Please contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office on ph 02 9390 5812.



*Integrity Funerals*

**Mark Malone J.P.**  
Director

**67B Brenan Street, Smithfield**  
**Ph: (02) 9727 0400 Fax: (02) 9727 0800**  
[www.integrityfuneralsnsw.com.au](http://www.integrityfuneralsnsw.com.au)

*Serving our community for almost 30 years with dignity and compassion*

## Adriano Coluccio

### Funeral Services

**Adriano Coluccio**  
Managing Director  
0414 524 860

**Giovanni Rosati**  
Arranger/Conductor  
0420 905 092

*Professional, Experienced & Compassionate Funeral Directors*  
**Office: (02) 9604 9604**  
*Always With You*

## TRAZTAND Pty.Ltd

### WESTFIELD

**AUTO BODY REPAIRS**  
ABN 65 002 201 961 - Lic. MVRL45341  
[www.westfieldsmash.com.au](http://www.westfieldsmash.com.au)

**FRANK SPAGNOLO**  
Managing Director

20 - 22 Tangerine Street  
Fairfield East NSW 2165  
P.O. Box 206 Villawood, NSW 2163  
Email: [frank@westfieldsmash.com.au](mailto:frank@westfieldsmash.com.au)

**Ph: (02) 9726 8866**  
**Fax: (02) 9726 2381**  
**Mob: 0412 305 506**  
**24 Hr Towing 9757 2666**

## NEED A PLUMBER

### PROFESSIONAL PLUMBING

GAS AND ELECTRIC  
LEAKING TAPS  
NEW GAS SERVICE  
BLOCKED DRAINS  
SEWER RENEWALS  
CLEANING GUTTERS  
RAINWATER TANKS ( 35 YEARS EXPERIENCE )

HOT WATER HEATERS  
LEAKING TOILETS  
& REPAIRS GAS LEAKS  
BURST PIPES  
GUTTERING  
ROOF VENTILATION  
WATER SAVING DEVICES

**E. MAGRI PLUMBING SERVICES P/L**  
**STEPHEN MAGRI 0412 926 185 9625 3353 MALTESE SPOKEN**  
Lic- No L 11703 ABN 83 111 970 024 e.magriplumbing@bigpond.com **Free Quotes**

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