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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

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

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:
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

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

29 November, 2020



Congratulations to

Mary-Anne MAZZEO & Jamie RIZZERI
Married in our Parish

May God confirm them in their love.

We pray for the sick of this parish

Therese Do, Josephine Cachia,
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

Dorothy Vella, 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,
Lucia (Lucy) Branca

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— December 5
Group D : Grace & Pina
(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**

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
ENTRANCE ANTIPHON <i>Cf. Ps 24:1-3</i>
<i>To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.</i>
FIRST READING <i>Is 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8</i>
<i>A reading from the prophet Isaiah</i> You, Lord, yourself are our Father, Our Redeemer is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you? Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance. Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down – at your Presence the mountains would melt. No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him. You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind. You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you. We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing. We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind. No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you. For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins. And yet, Lord, you are our Father; we the clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your hand.
The word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.
RESPONSORIAL PSALM <i>Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19 R. v.4</i>

- (R.) Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face
and we shall be saved.*
- O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help. *(R.)*
 - God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. *(R.)*
 - May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name. *(R.)*

SECOND READING <i>1 Cor 1:3-9</i>
<i>A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians</i> May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace. I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of

our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has
joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

The word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION <i>Ps 84:8</i>
<i>Alleluia, alleluia!</i> Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. <i>Alleluia!</i>

GOSPEL <i>Mk 13:33-37</i>
<i>A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark</i> Jesus said to his disciples: ‘Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!’ The Gospel of the Lord All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

COMMUNION ANTIPHON <i>Ps 84:13</i>
<i>The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.</i>
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Next Week: SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT <i>Readings: Is 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Pet 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8</i>


CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES
St Benedict’s <u>24th December</u> 5.30pm Carols 6pm Family Mass 11.30pm Carols
25th December 12am Midnight Mass 9am (Italian) 10.30am Mass 12pm Mass
St Therese’s <u>25th December</u> 7.30am & 9am Mass
Reconciliation: Before Mass on Sundays; 7.30pm Wednesday (after Mass); and Saturdays between 4.45—5.45pm Smithfield.

Advent ☆☆☆☆☆☆
<i>New Liturgical Year begins: Sunday cycle B, weekday cycle 1</i>
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 time. For these two reasons, Advent is a period of devout and expectant delight. THE ADVENT WREATH One of the major symbols of the Advent season is the wreath. The encircling wreath is symbolic of God without beginning or end and the green foliage represents our hope in God. There are usually five candles in the wreath, a central white candle representing the light of Christ that came into the world and then four outside candles that are usually purple and rose coloured. The first candle is generally symbolic of Hope and Expectation. The third candle – the rose or pink candle – celebrates the Joy that is anticipated in the coming of Christ. The progressive lighting of the candles marks the journey towards the Nativity.

Advent Program “Adore” will be available this week, the cost is \$5. We are inviting our parishioners to reflect on Nativity of Our Lord with there families during this holy time of Advent.

"2019-2020 Parish Finance Briefing"
The PFC will be presenting its annual report on this weekend 28/29 November.

Christmas Fundraising Raffle All money raised will go towards awnings to be installed for both St Benedict’s & St Therese’s Church. Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. 1st Prize: Religious artwork; 2nd Prize: Christmas Hamper; 3rd Prize: Roses artwork; 4th Prize: Teale Floral Design artwork. 5th Prize: APOLOGIES—THIS ARTWORK WAS NOT FOR RAFFLE. <i>All 3 artworks were lovingly made and donated by parishioner Annick Mifsud, with much thanks!</i>

Thanksgiving Mass for all Volunteers

In appreciation for all the dedication and contributions to our Parish of St Gertrude's, all Parish Volunteers are invited to attend Thanksgiving Mass on 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

Communion to the Sick will be given on a fortnightly basis. The next date in December will be 8th & 22nd
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Attention Liturgy Ministers —Please pick up the new roster available at the church doors.

Church Regulations The NSW Government has amended the number of people able to attend a place of worship. Up to 300 people are permitted indoors, subject to the 4m² rule . This means that St. Benedict's Shrine has the capacity to have 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 . From Sunday 29th November up to 500 people are allowed outdoors.

Church use during COVID-19 Please take note that during the current Pandemic situation if a family has chosen a priest from out- side 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.
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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. We congratulate Neve Hanson and her family as she receives her First Holy Communion this Weekend.
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Wedding Anniversary Blessings – <i>Next Anniversary Blessing will be Sunday 27 December—Feast of the Holy Family</i>
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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.

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.

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 renew their application. Please contact the Parish Office and make an appointment for Mimi on any Tuesday between 10:00 - 2:00 pm.

EYE OPENER "This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth...The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with how Satan works. He will use all sorts of displays of power through signs and wonders that serve the lie, and all the ways that wickedness deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved." (1 Timothy 2:3-4, 9-10) or read in full (1 Timothy 2:1-10) The sources below are not designed to answer your questions, they should only inspire you to search more deeply for the truth. Do your homework and let the Lord do His part. The so called NEW NORMAL should be never allowed to be NORMAL. For us Catholics there is only one Truth and it is Jesus Christ and His Gospel. Please continue to pray that Truth will triumph in Australia and around the world and if you wish do not hesitate to contact me. Fr Jarek Suggested sources of information: The Epoch Times, Newsmax, Church Militant, One America News Network, NTD (ntd.com) On YouTube: Crowder Bits, Front Page, Larry Elder, America Uncovered, NTD, 700 Club, Facts Matter, Dr Shiva Amit Sengupta (especially Understanding Modern Political Scenario by Tomas Schuman)
