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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.

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.



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

The BAPTISM of the LORD

10 January 2021



We welcome the following

Jaxon Hedges
Baptised in our Parish Community

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

Adreana Attard, Giovanni Oliverio,
Maria Caltabiano Josephine Cachia,
Constantino Axiak, Therese Do, Dorothy Vella,
Joseph Fennech, Rocco Ferraro,

Recently Deceased

And for those whose Anniversaries occur at this time

Maria Sciglitano, Peter Capolupo,
Aldo De Gasperi

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 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— 16 January
Group E: Neo Catechumens (St Benedict's)
Group C: Spanish (St Therese)

Parish Office Hours: 10am—2pm
Monday, Thursday, & Friday
during January

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

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON *Cf. Mt 3:16-17*

After the Lord was baptized, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

FIRST READING *Is 55:1-11*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty; though you have no money, come! Buy corn without money, and eat, and, at no cost, wine and milk. Why spend money on what is not bread, your wages on what fails to satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and you will have good things to eat and rich food to enjoy. Pay attention, come to me listen, and your soul will live.

With you I will make an everlasting covenant out of the favours promised to David. See, I have made of you a witness to the peoples, a leader and a master of the nations. See, you will summon a nation you never knew, those unknown will come hurrying to you, for the sake of the Lord your God, of the Holy One of Israel who will glorify you.

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near. Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him,

to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways - it is the Lord who speaks. Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.

Yes, as the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Is 12:2-6. R. v.6*

(R.) You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.

- Truly, God is my salvation, I trust, I shall not fear. For the Lord is my strength, my song, he became my saviour. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. **(R.)**
- Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!

Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples! Declare the greatness of his name. **(R.)**

- Sing a psalm to the Lord for he has done glorious deeds, make them known to all the earth! People of Zion, sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. **(R.)**

SECOND READING *1 Jn 5:1-9*

A reading from the first letter of St John

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child that he begets. We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us; this is what loving God is—keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world -our faith. Who can overcome the world? Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God. Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness -since the Spirit is the truth—so that there are three witnesses, the Spirit, the water and the blood, and all three of them agree. We accept the testimony of human witnesses, but God's testimony is much greater, and this is God's testimony, given as evidence for his Son.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *See Mk 9:8*

Alleluia, alleluia!

The heavens were opened and the Father's voice was heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL *Mk 1:7-11*

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark

In the course of his preaching John the Baptist said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

It was at this time that Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptised in the Jordan by John. No sooner had he come up out of the water than he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit, like a dove, descending on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

COMMUNION ANTIPHON *Jn 1:32,34*

Behold the One of whom John said:

I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.

Next Week: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Readings: 1 Sam 3:3-10, 19; 1 Cor 6:13-5, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42

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~ Feasts ~

Friday 15th January
St Paul the First Hermit

Patriarch of the Pauline Order

Solemnity of St. Paul the First Hermit

St. Paul the First Hermit or Paul of Thebes is the Patriarch of the Pauline Order. The Solemnity of St. Paul will be celebrated on Friday 15th January. As a parish Community we will celebrate this important solemnity of the Pauline Fathers on Sunday 17th January at the 10.30am Mass, using the Votive Mass of St. Paul the First Hermit and readings of the day.

Blessing of Children: as is the custom for the Pauline Order, there will be a special blessing for children on the Solemnity.

Blessing of Fruits: we will also have the customary blessing of Palm Fruit (dates) at Mass.



Novena to St. Paul the First Hermit

In preparation for the celebration of the Solemnity of St. Paul the First Hermit the Litany to St. Paul will be prayed after all Masses from the 7th of January. A copy of the Litany has been placed on the Parish website and Facebook for you to pray at home as well.

Saturday 16th January
Our Lady Queen of Hermits.

Patroness of the Order of St Paul the First Hermit and yearly consecration to our Lady of the Pauline Fathers and brothers.

Christmas Crib Donations

This year all offerings at the Christmas Crib will be given to **Catholic Missions** to support their many projects and works. Thank you for your generous offerings and support for Catholic Missions. \$ 2,674.20 was given.

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 also been "capped" at 100, provided the 4m² rule is applied. As such, St. Benedict's Shrine can hold a maximum of 100 people, St. Therese's Church 50 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.

Christmas Fundraising Raffle Winners

The following prizes still need to be claimed, please check your tickets to see if you have won then contact the Parish Office on 9604 1199.

1st Religious Artwork: **Blue D60**

2nd Christmas Hamper ~~Green A25~~ *(Picked up)*

3rd Roses Art Work: **Orange B17** *(purchased from St Therese's)*

4th Teal Flowers: **Blue D29**

Communion to the Sick will be given on a fortnightly basis. The next date in January 2021: 19th

Parish Office Hours

Parish Office is now opened between 10am to 2pm on Mondays, Thursdays & Fridays during January
Thank you for your understanding.

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.

Christmas Offerings

For those who would like to make a Christmas Offering to our priests, Fr. Jarek, Fr. Wojtek and Fr. Peter James, there are **Christmas Offering Envelopes** in the pews of the church. You can place your offering in the envelope and place it in the First Collection. We understand that this has been a difficult year for many and thank you for your offering.

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.