


Mark Malone J.P.
 Director
 67B Brenan Street, Smithfield NSW 2164
 Ph: (02) 9727 0400 Fax: (02) 9727 0800 Mob: 0404 718 528
www.integrityfuneralsnsw.com.au


ADRIANO COLUCCIO
 FUNERAL SERVICES

 Adriano Coluccio Funerals is a family owned business and offers professional and affordable funeral services.
 Dedicated to helping families in the most difficult time of their lives.
 Our professional and caring staff are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
(02) 9604 9604
 Office: Shop 1, 639 The Horsley Drive, Smithfield
 Chapel: 10 Jane Street, Blacktown
www.acoluccios.com

LICENSED PLUMBER DRAINER GASFITTER
 ESTABLISHED SINCE 1980

 GAS AND ELECTRIC
 LEAKING TAPS
 NEW GAS SERVICE
 BLOCKED DRAINS
 SEWER RENEWALS
 CLEANING GUTTERS
 RAINWATER TANKS
 HOT WATER HEATERS
 LEAKING TOILETS
 GAS LEAKS
 BURST PIPES
 GUTTERING
 ROOF VENTILATION
 WATER SAVING DEVICES
E. MAGRI PLUMBING SERVICES P/L
STEPHEN MAGRI Mobile: **0412 926 185**
 Licence No L 11703 ABN 83 111 970 024
e.magriplumbing@bigpond.com Ph/Fax: (02) 9625 3353

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 safeguardinginquiries@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."

Italian Catholic Federation
 Welcomes all Parishioners to join us for the restart of
FCI 2021 BINGO at 10:00 am
Friday 5th & 19th March 2021
 in Montefano Hall
 \$10 entry includes Bingo Games, morning tea/coffee and light lunch.
 Come Join us for a morning of fun and prizes





Patrician Brothers' College
 FAIRFIELD

Open Day TUESDAY 23 MARCH 2021
 3.00pm-6.30pm
 P 9728 4488
pbcfairfield.catholic.edu.au

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

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

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

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.

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


Parish Priest
 Fr Jarek Zan OSPPE
Assistant Priests
 Fr Wojtek Sliwa OSPPE &
 Fr Peter James Strohmayr OSPPE

Second Sunday of Lent
28 February 2021


We welcome the following
 Maria Steward & Mason Van Dyke
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 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
 Rosalia Tirrito, Maria Frizzo, Joseph Cortez, Caesar Sammut, Adreana Attard, Giovanni Oliverio, Maria Caltabiano, Josephine Cachia,

Recently Deceased
 Maria Oliveri, Angel Mimoso, Bruno Dileo, Leslie Spagnol, Francesco Bruzzano, & Maria Torresan

And for those whose Anniversaries occur at this time
 Maria Oliveri, Angel Mimoso, Bruno Dileo, Leslie Spagnol, Francesco Bruzzano, & Maria Torresan

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 February
Universal Intention—Violence against women
We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

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—February 27
Group A—(St Benedict's)
Group D: Syriacs (St Therese)

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

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Cf. Ps 26:8-9

Of you my heart has spoken, Seek his face.
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face from me.

FIRST READING Gen 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18

A reading from the book of Genesis

God put Abraham to the test. ‘Abraham, Abraham,’ he called.’ Here I am’ he replied. ‘Take your son,’ God said ‘your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.’

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. ‘Abraham, Abraham’ he said. ‘I am here’ he replied. ‘Do not raise your hand against the boy’ the angel said. ‘Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.’ Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt offering in place of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. ‘I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of your enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.’

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 115:10. 15-19. R. 114:9

(R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord
in the land of the living.

- I trusted, even when I said:
‘I am sorely afflicted.’
O precious in the eyes of the Lord
is the death of his faithful. (R.)
- Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;
you have loosened my bonds.
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:
I will call on the Lord’s name. (R.)
- My vows to the Lord I will fulfil
before all his people,
in the courts of the house of the Lord,
in your midst, O Jerusalem. (R.)

SECOND READING Rom 8:31-34

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God’s right hand he stands and pleads for us.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION See Mt 17:5

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
From the shining cloud, the Father’s voice is heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL Mk 9:2-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. ‘Rabbi,’ he said ‘it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.’ He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.’ Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what ‘rising from the dead’ could mean.

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Mt 17:5

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased;
listen to him.

© 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.

The prayers are from the English Translation of the Roman Missal © 2010 I International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved.

Next Week: Third Sunday of Lent

Readings: Yr B Ex 20:1-17; 1 Cor 122-25; Jn 2:13-25

SPIRITUAL ADOPTION OF THE UNBORN CHILD: CELEBRATING THE MIRACLE OF LIFE

What is Spiritual Adoption

- It is a prayer for the child in the womb
- It is a prayer acknowledging the miracle and gift of life
- It is a prayer of encouragement for expectant parents
- It is a movement of life and fruitfulness inspired by the Holy Spirit

The Spiritual Adoption lasts for nine months. The prayer consists of praying one decade of the Rosary each day for nine months and a prayer for your adopted child. We will start this Spiritual Adoption on the Solemnity of the Annunciation – 25th March. More information will be given in the Parish Bulletin.

LITANY TO ST. JOSEPH.

As part of our Year of St. Joseph celebrations, during the month of March which is the month especially dedicated to St. Joseph, we will pray the Litany to St. Joseph after each Mass. The Litany is also available on the Parish website for you to pray at any time.

PARISH PILGRIM ICON

We will resume the Parish Pilgrim Icon this Wednesday 24th February. If you would like to take the Pilgrim Icon to your home, please indicate by placing your name on the booking sheet in the church foyer. The Pilgrim Icon is taken home at the Wednesday evening Mass and returned the following week.



LENT 2021

Project Compassion Boxes.

Please support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed “Be More”. Through your generosity and by aspiring to be more, you are assisting some of the world’s most vulnerable people build better futures for themselves, their families and their communities.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, or by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

Stations of the Cross: Friday during Lent

St. Therese’s Church following the 7.00am Mass
St. Benedict’s Shrine 7.00pm.

Lenten Program

Books & CD’s have sold out.

You can download /purchase from the following link for the Lenten Program: <https://www.dow.org.au/shop/>

Due to Covid we will not hold group sessions in the Parish but encourage you as a family to use these resources in your homes. A great way for the family to gather and pray together!

AUTUMN EMBER DAY – FRIDAY 5TH MARCH.

In Australia the first Fridays of Autumn and Spring (March and September) are observed as special days of prayer and penance. The aim of Ember Days is to connect our prayers for favourable weather and good harvests with our responsibility to care for the earth as stewards of the world’s resources. Fasting and abstaining from meat encourage us to be restrained in our exploitation of natural resources. A day of penance expresses our solidarity with those who are disadvantaged, especially those who suffer through famine and the inequitable distribution of the world’s goods.

MEN’S ROSARY GROUP – 25TH FEBRUARY

It’s back!! The Men’s Rosary group will meet the last Thursday of every month at 7.00pm at St. Benedict’s Shrine. New members are always welcome to join.

RENEWAL OF MARRIAGE VOWS

Those celebrating a wedding anniversary in March are invited to renew their vows on Sunday 21st March at the 10.30am Mass

PARISH YOUTH GROUP

A great start to our Parish Youth Group last weekend! Thanks to all who attended. The next Youth Meeting will be Sunday 21st March. Join us for Mass at 6pm and following the Mass, youth meeting in the Parish Demountables. This year there will be 2 groups: Kindergarten – Year 8; and Year 9 and above. New members and returning members are most welcome!

NEW ENVELOPES

The new set of Planned Giving Envelopes will be ready for collection this weekend from Smithfield and the following weekend at Fairfield West. Anyone wishing to join the Parish Planned Giving please contact the Parish Office. Thank you for your generosity and continued support of your Parish. For those who are opting to **direct debit**, please include your **envelope number in the reference section of your entry.**

SACRAMENTAL NEWS

- First Reconciliation classes begin this weekend. They will take place over 4 weeks.
- First Holy Communion Meeting for 2020 and 2021 cohorts: Tuesday 20th April at 7 pm in the Montefano Hall.
- Confirmation Enrolments will take place in March – more information coming.

Prayer Partners: Sacramental time is a special time of grace for all in our community. This weekend and next weekend, before or after the Masses, children preparing for First Reconciliation may ask members of the community to be “Prayer Partners”. Accepting an invitation to be a “Prayer Partner” involves taking the prayer card and praying for the candidate during the time leading up to their receiving the Sacrament. Should you be invited to become a “Prayer Partner” please accept the candidate’s invitation and reassure him/her of your support. If you do not receive a prayer card, please pray for all the children. For all enquiries please email Helena – sacraments@stgertrude.org.au or call 9725 4317 and leave a message.

ATTENTION LITURGY MINISTERS!

Please pick up the new Liturgy Roster in the Foyer. God Bless

FIRST FRIDAY & SATURDAY DEVOTIONS

First Friday – 5th March
St. Therese’s Church: 6.30am Exposition and Confession
7.00am Mass

St. Benedict’s Shrine: 9.15am Mass followed by devotions
Please note due to Stations of the Cross there is no 7.00pm First Friday Mass.

First Saturday – 6th March
St. Therese’s Church: 7.00am Exposition, Rosary and Confession
8.00am Mass

St. Benedict’s Shrine: 7.30pm Exposition and Rosary following the 6pm Vigil Mass

RIP BR. MARK KEVIN RYAN, FSP. 15/02/1934-21/02/2021

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the sudden death of Br. Mark Ryan on 21st February 2021. Br. Mark had just turned 87 a week ago and last year celebrated his 60th anniversary as a Patrician Brother. Br. Mark is a former Principal of Patrician Brother’s College Fairfield: 1987-1989. On behalf of the Smithfield Community we extend to the family of Br. Mark and to the Patrician Community our deepest sympathies, thoughts and prayers. Mass of Christian Burial for Br. Mark will be offered at Holy Cross College, Ryde on Tuesday 2nd March and 10.30am. Due to Covid restrictions, places are limited to 300 invitees only. However, a Livestream will be available at <https://tinyurl.com/bmarkryan>

ST. GERTRUDE’S PRIMARY NEWS

It is with mixed emotions that we announce that our Principal Mrs. Linda O’Regan will be leaving St. Gertrude’s Primary on the 19th March, and taking up a new role as Principal of St. Christopher’s, Holsworthy. Linda has been at our school for six years and has shown impeccable leadership, especially during the current Pandemic, and continued support of our Parish. Linda will be missed by staff, students and Parishioners. We thank Linda for her service and pray abundant blessings upon her as she moves to other pastures. As a Parish we will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving for Linda on Sunday 7th March at 10.30am.

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.

Unfortunately, congregational singing is still not allowed at this time.

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.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK (WWCC)

It has come to our attention that a number of Parish volunteers have expired WWCC. Due to Covid, the NSW granted a 6 month period of ‘grace’ until 15 September 2020. This time has now passed and all WWCCs must be current. **If your WWCC expired in 2020 it is imperative you renew your WWCC to continue with your Parish Ministry.** Failing to renew your WWCC will mean that you will have to re-do the application from start resulting in a NEW WWCC number. Once you have renewed your WWCC please email your documents to wwcc@stgertrude.org.au or contact the Parish office.

If you are having difficulties renewing, please contact the Parish Office for assistance.

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.

Where do my Collections Go?

In Australia there are two collections at Sunday Mass. The allocation of funds is as follows:

First Collection: to the Priests. This collection is used for the needs of the Parish Presbytery expenses for our priests.

Second Collection: to the Parish. This collection is used for the maintenance and repairs of Parish buildings and for expenses to the Parish such as utilities, staff wages, liturgical needs (bread and wine), etc.