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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

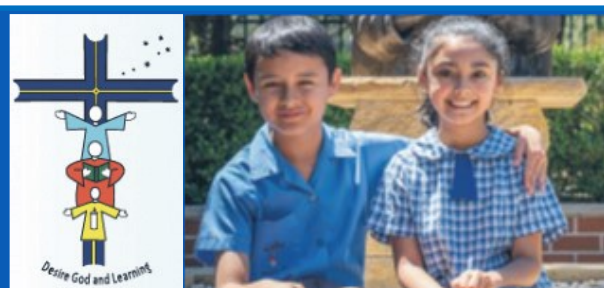
FAIRFIELD ACTIVE MALTESE SENIORS TUES 25 MAY @ 10AM
St Theresa's Hall, 129 The Boulevard, Fairfield Heights
Members & Friends welcome to join our Q&A Session with Mr Lawrence Buhagiar, Consul General of Malta in NSW
Contact Marisa on 0414 863 123
NB: Covid19 requirements in place.

FCI-Italian-Catholic-Federation

Thank you to all patrons who joined us for Mother's Day Lunch last week. Enjoyed by all.

Next FCI-Bingo is Friday 21 May 2021

10:00 am - Montefano Hall
\$10 entry Bingo Games
morning tea/coffee & light lunch included.



**ST GERTRUDE'S
ENROLLING NOW**

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

**MARY MACKILLOP
CATHOLIC COLLEGE WAKELEY**

**OPEN EVENING
PRINCIPAL-LED TOURS**
Tuesday 25 May 2021
Tour 1 @ 5.30pm Tour 2 @ 7.00pm
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Please contact Mrs Gerardis on (02) 9725 4322 or email rosemary.gerardis@syd.catholic.edu.au to secure a spot



**Patrician Brothers' College
Fairfield**

Enrolments closing soon
To request an enrolment pack click on

<https://www.pbcfairfield.catholic.edu.au/enrolment/download-an-enrolment-form>

Limited vacancies exist for Year 7 and 11 2022.
Accepting enrolments for Year 7 2023 and 2024.

(Current Year 5 and Year 4 students)

Contact the College on 9728 4488

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

The Ascension of the Lord

16 May 2021



Congratulations to

Nicole CACHIA & Adrian ESPOSITO

Married in our Parish
May God confirm them in their love.

We welcome the following

Sara Gregorace, Chiara Marie Piperapo,
Darcy Kaminski

Baptised in our Parish Community

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

Rina Spisso, Anthony Dimech, Giovanna Fedele;
Placy D'Souza, Mary Dicconson,

Recently Deceased

And for those whose Anniversaries occur at this time

Giuseppa Portolesi & Teresa Bordin

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 MAY

The World of Finance

Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.

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— 22 May
Group C : Wilson Family
(St Benedict's)
Group C: Spanish
(St Theresa's)

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

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

The Ascension of the Lord

Entrance Antiphon Acts 1:11

Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens? This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. ‘It is,’ he had said, ‘what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.’ Now having met together, they asked him, ‘Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?’ He replied, ‘It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.’ As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, ‘Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.’

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 46:2-3. 6-9. R. v.6

(R.) God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

- All peoples, clap your hands, cry to God with shouts of joy! For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, great king over all the earth. (R.)
- God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast. Sing praise for God, sing praise, sing praise to our king, sing praise. (R.)
- God is king of all the earth. Sing praise with all your skill. God is king over the nations; God reigns on his holy throne. (R.)

SECOND READING Eph 1:17-23

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him

from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Mt 28:19. 20

Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mk 16:15-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

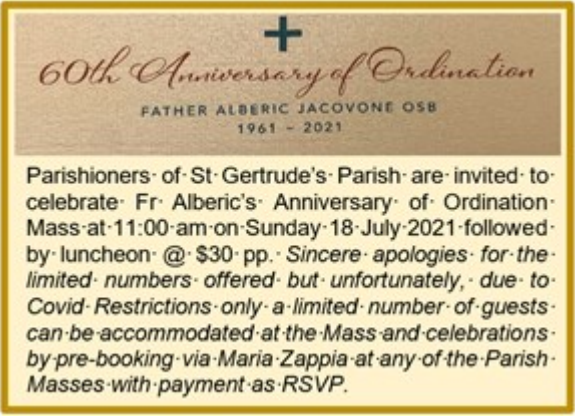
Jesus showed himself to the Eleven and said to them, ‘Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised is saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers: in my name they will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and be unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.’ And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Mt 28:20

Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, alleluia.

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Next Week: Pentecost Sunday Readings: Acts 2:1-11; 1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13; Jn 20:19-23

REGINA CAELI

Regina caeli, laetare, alleluia. Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia. Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia. For He whom you did merit to bear, alleluia. Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia. Has risen, as he said, alleluia. Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia. Pray for us to God, alleluia.

V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia. R. For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.

Let us pray. O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen

Month of May is Dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary



The Memorare Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that any-one who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

After each weekday Mass we will pray the Litany to the Blessed Virgin Mary



NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT 14TH-22ND MAY In preparation for Pentecost the Novena to the Holy Spirit will be prayed at Mass before the final blessing which began on Friday 14th May.

PENTECOST VIGIL MASS – SATURDAY 22ND MAY 6PM The Vigil of Pentecost will be celebrated on Saturday 22 May at 6pm. This liturgy reminds us of the first Mass of the Easter Season – the Easter Vigil, and like the Easter Vigil there will be several readings. These readings will focus on the instrumental role of the Holy Spirit.

FR. WOJTEK 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF PRIESTHOOD – SUNDAY 23RD MAY This year Fr. Wojtek will celebrate the 10th Anniversary of his Ordination to Priesthood. As a Parish we will celebrate this wonderful occasion on Sunday 23rd May at 10.30am Mass followed by a light reception in the Montefano Hall. There will also be a book available for you to write a message to Fr. Wojtek at St. Benedict’s Shrine over the next two weekends.

SOLEMNITY OF OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS – 24TH MAY St. Theresa’s Church 7am St. Benedict’s Shrine 9.15am; 7pm (also celebrated as the monthly Mass for the Spiritual Adoption of the Unborn)

REMEMBER TO ALWAYS SIGN IN AND SIGN OUT! Just a reminder that each time you enter St. Benedict’s Shrine or St. Theresa’s Church (either for a church service or for private prayer) or Montefano Hall, **YOU MUST SIGN IN**. It is preferred that you use the QR Code at the door. Those who cannot use the QR Code, then you can write on the sheets provided.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM NEWS: First Holy Communion: First Holy Communion lessons: Week 4 - 21/5, 22/5, 23/5 on your assigned day and time. This is the last week of classes. First Reconciliation will be celebrated on Thursday 20th May at 5 pm & 7 pm and on Tuesday 25th May at 7 pm. First Communion Rehearsals: Ceremony 1 & 3: Tues 18th May, 6:30 PM Ceremony 2: Thurs 27th May, 6:30 PM Ceremony4 & 5: Thurs 3rd June, 6:30 PM First Communion Ceremonies will take place on the following dates/time: Trinity Sunday Ceremony 1: 29th May, 2 PM Ceremony 2: 29th May, 6 PM Ceremony 3: 30th May, 2 PM Corpus Christi Ceremony 4: 5th June, 2 PM Ceremony 5: 6th June, 2 PM Please continue to pray for all the children and their families. For all enquiries, please email Helena – sacraments@stgertrude.org.au or call 9725 4317 and leave a message. Face-to-face meetings by appointment - please call/email to arrange a time.

MEN’S ROSARY GROUP – THURSDAY 27TH MAY The Men’s Rosary Group meets the last Thursday of every month at 7pm at St. Benedict’s Shrine. The group will next meet on Thursday 27 May. New members are always welcome to join.

PARISH YOUTH GROUP – SUNDAY 20TH JUNE The Parish Youth Group meets every third Sunday of the month. The next meeting will be on Sunday 20th June Join us for Mass at 6pm and following the Mass, youth meeting in the Parish Demountables. New members are always welcome to join.

CALLING FOR PARISH VOLUNTEERS The backbone of any Parish is the commitment and dedication of the numerous volunteers who give freely of their time to assist the community in so many ways. St. Gertrude’s Parish has always had wonderful volunteers who have supported their Parish joyfully and wholeheartedly. Now with the Parish heading towards some sense of normality, we have hit the “re-set” button and are calling for volunteers for our two churches; St. Benedict’s Shrine and St. Theresa’s Church. If you already are a volunteer and wish to continue in your role we welcome you back. For those who would like to help the Parish we would like to welcome you on board! There are a number of areas that you can help the Parish: collector, reader, cleaner, altar server, gardening and maintenance, etc. If you would like to volunteer please see our Pastoral Team after Mass or contact the Parish Office. Thank you and God Bless.

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. Theresa’s Church 100 people and Montefano Hall 180 people. 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.

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.