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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

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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:
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 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 (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

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

31 October 2021



Congratulations to

Kim HARTLEY & Neil GOONETILLEKE

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

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 Kodusy, 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

John Gissane, Rosa Musso, Luciano Marson,
Phyllis Berkeley, Antonietta Sikora, Maria Blanda,
Emanuel Cutajar, Mary Portelli, Alan Wong,

Recently Deceased

And for those whose Anniversaries occur at this time

Samuel Zarb & Rosa Corso

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: Currently not available at this time.

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

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER

Intention for November
People Who Suffer from Depression

We pray that people who suffer from depression or burn-out will find support and a light that opens them up to life.

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—
w/e 6 November
St Benedict : Group B— PPC/Teachers
Therese's: Group A- Frances Group

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

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

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Ps 37:22-23

Forsake me not, O Lord, my God;
be not far from me!
Make haste and come to my help,
O Lord, my strong salvation!

First Reading Dt 6:2-6

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people: ‘If you fear the Lord your God all the days of your life and if you keep all his laws and commandments which I lay on you, you will have a long life, you and your son and your grandson. Listen then, Israel, keep and observe what will make you prosper and give you great increase, as the Lord God of your fathers has promised you, giving you a land where milk and honey flow.
‘Listen, Israel: The Lord our God is the one Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength. Let these words I urge on you today be written on your heart.’

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 17:2-4. 47. 51. R.v.2

(R.) I love you Lord, my strength.

1. I love you, Lord, my strength,
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.
My God is the rock where I take refuge;
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.
The Lord is worthy of all praise:
when I call I am saved from my foes. (R.)

2. Long life to the Lord, my rock!
Praised be to the God that saves me.
He has given great victories to his king
and shown love for his anointed. (R.)

Second Reading Heb 7:23-28

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

There used to be a great number of priests under the former covenant, because death put an end to each one of them; but this one, Christ, because he remains for ever, can never lose his priesthood. It follows, then, that his power to save is utterly certain, since he is living for ever to intercede for all who come to God through him. To suit us, the ideal high priest would have to be holy, innocent and uncontaminated, beyond the influence of sinners, and raised up above the heavens; one who would not need to offer sacrifices every day, as the other high priests do for their own sins and then for those of the people, because he has done this once and for all by offering himself. The Law appoints high priests who are men subject to weakness; but the promise on oath, which came after the Law, appointed the Son who is made perfect for ever.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!
All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.
Alleluia!

Gospel Mk 12:28-34

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him, ‘Which is the first of all the commandments?’ Jesus replied, ‘This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord you God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind,

and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.’ The scribe said to him, ‘Well spoken, Master; what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself, this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice.’ Jesus, seeing how wisely he had spoken, said, ‘You are not far from the kingdom of God.’ And after that no one dared to question him any more.

The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Communion Antiphon Cf. Ps 15:11

You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.

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November Mass Offerings

November is the month that we traditionally pray for all our deceased relatives and friends. November Mass Offering Envelopes are available in the pews of the church and at the doors of the church for those wishing to have their loved ones included in the November Masses. These offerings for the deceased will be offered as a collective Gregorian Mass.

Solemnity All Saints Day—Monday 1st November

Next Monday 1st November, we celebrate the Solemnity of All Saints Day. Mass times are as follows:

St Therese’s Church - 7am
St. Benedict’s Shrine - 9.15am and 7pm

Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed—Tuesday 2nd November

Next Tuesday 2nd November we celebrate the commemoration of All the Faithful Departed, known as All Souls Day. Mass times as follows:
St. Therese’s Church - 7am
St. Benedict’s Shrine - 9.15am and 7pm.

Indulgences for the Faithful Departed

There are many indulgences that can be obtained in the month of November for the souls in purgatory:

- Plenary Indulgence:
 - on any and each day from November 1st – 8th visit a cemetery and pray, if only mentally, for the faithful departed on All Souls’ Day (or on the Sunday preceding or following it, or on All Saints Day) devoutly visit a church or an oratory and recite an Our Father and the Creed.
- Partial Indulgence:
 - Devoutly visit a cemetery and at least mentally pray for the dead
 - Devoutly recite lauds or vespers from the Office of Reading or the “Eternal Rest” Prayer.

To gain the Plenary indulgence the faithful must be in a state of grace, free from mortal and venial sin, receive the sacrament of confession/ reconciliation, receive Eucharist and recite prayers for the intentions of the Pope.

Next Week: Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: 1 Kg 17:10-16; Heb 9:24-28; Mk 12:38-44



Reminder ~ Please Turn Off Mobile Phones

Please remember to turn off your mobile phones – or switch to silent – when entering the Church.

Return to Regular Church Liturgies

After nearly three months away from each other, we are pleased to say that we are “open for prayers” once again. This means that the Parish will return to its regular Mass timetable. Thank you for your patience as we prepared the church in readiness for our resumption of regular worship and particular thanks as we endured the lock-down.
At this stage other Parish activities such as Youth, Parish BBQ, FCI, etc. are not encouraged at this time and remain ‘on-hold’ pending further information. Apologies for this.

Keeping Everybody Safe

As part of our return to regular timetable there are a few government regulations that need to be followed:

- QR Code** on entry to Parish buildings. There are separate QR Codes for our Parish buildings (St. Benedict’s Shrine, Montefano Hall, Parish Office and St. Therese’s Church and St. Therese’s Hall, so please remember to QR Code on entry. Those who do not have the Services NSW App, you may still sign in manually.
- Face masks** must be worn whilst inside the buildings.
- Hand Sanitiser** is available. Please ensure you sanitise on entry to the building.
- Social distance** needs to be maintained. The pews of the church are labelled with a yellow X. Please sit where these are marked. Persons of the same household may sit together.
- The church needs to be cleaned after use, so if you could spare some time helping in this matter that would be appreciated.

First Friday—5 November

This Friday is the first Friday of the month, honouring the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Mass times as follows -

St Therese’s Church: 6.30am exposition and confession
7am Mass

St. Benedict’s Shrine: 9.15am followed by devotions
7pm Mass followed by devotions and confession

First Saturday—6th November

This Saturday is the first Saturday of the month, honouring the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Mass times as follows -

St. Therese’s Church: 7am exposition, rosary and confession
8am Mass

St. Benedict’s Shrine: 10am Family Rosary



Parish Patronal Feast—St Gertrude 16th November

The Parish Feast Day of St. Gertrude falls on Tuesday 16th November. As a Parish we will celebrate the Parish Feast on Sunday 14th November. Prayers will from the Votive Mass of St. Gertrude and Scripture Readings of the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Catholic Mission Appeal

The box for the appeal will be available at the entrances to our Churches.

Thank you for your support!



Congratulations Mary Bowler—Cardinal Gilroy Award (40 Years)

The Parish would like to extend our congratulations to Mary Bowler who will receive the Cardinal Gilroy Award in recognition of 40 years of service as a Catechist in our State Schools. This award will be presented at the Annual Catechist Mass which has been postponed until 30th January 2022. More information will come in future weeks. Please continue to pray for our Catechists and students.

Sacramental News!

Holy Communion Photo Collection: Postponed

Will be rescheduled when restriction have eased. Please wait for email advising collection date.

Confirmation:

- Reconciliation, Retreat, Rehearsals and Ceremony dates to be advised. These dates may be subject to change beyond our control.

- Confirmation Ceremonies: Tentatively booked for middle of February 2022 –more information will be provided at the end of November. Please refer to email sent out last week.

- Prayer Partners: Sacramental time is a special time of grace for all in our community. On the parish website there is an invitation for members of the Parish Community to pray for our Confirmation Candidates. To view the prayer and see the Candidate’s flame display please visit the Parish website: <https://www.stgertrude.org.au/confirmation-programme-2021/>

- Confirmation Saint Projects: The Confirmation Candidates have done a brilliant job researching their chosen Saints. The Candidate’s projects can be viewed on the Parish Website via this link: <http://www.stgertrude.org.au/confirmation-saint-projects/>
Enrolled families, please check your email regularly for updates.

First Reconciliation / First Holy Communion 2022:

Enrolments will be collected in November 2021. More information on how to enrol will be provided in the bulletin and on the parish website in the coming weeks.

For all enquiries please email:

sacraments@stgertrude.org.au or phone: 9725 4317 to leave a message.

Proposed Euthanasia Laws

Write to your local NSW MP to stop the proposed euthanasia laws is our State! Parishioners are encouraged to please contact your local NSW MP, expressing your opposition to the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021 proposed by Independent MP Alex Greenwich. The anti-euthanasia coalition, HOPE has developed an online tool that will allow you to send an email directly to your state MP and to all members of the NSW Upper House. More information including direct links and sample letters is available on the Parish Website. The tool is available at https://www.no euthanasia.org.au/petition_2108_ocp_nsw

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. 100001084

Thank you for your continued support and generosity . God Bless.