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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."

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



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SCAN ME

PARISH PLAYGROUP

When: Thursday 14th March 2024
Where: St. Augustine Catechesis Centre
Time: 10:00 am—12:00 pm



Playgroup will meet every Thursday during the school term. New and existing families are invited to attend. Hope to see you all there!



FCI – Italian Catholic Federation
Bingo Numbers called out in English & Italian
Next Bingo 10:00 am Friday, 15th March 2024.
Montefano Hall \$15 entry includes
Bingo Games, prizes; Morning Tea/Coffee and light lunch.
Come join us.



PARISH CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOLS OPEN DAYS



Patrician Brothers' College FAIRFIELD

OPEN DAY
Tuesday 12 March 2024
3.00pm–6.00pm



MARY MACKILLOP CATHOLIC COLLEGE WAKELEY

OPEN DAY
Tuesday 19 March
4.00–7.00pm

We warmly invite you and your family to come along and tour our college, Campus. Meet our wonderful students, teachers and see our State-of-the-Art Facilities. Please register your attendance via this link: <https://bit.ly/42zod7q>

ST GERTRUDE'S PARISH

St Benedict's Shrine

Corner Justin & Neville Street
SMITHFIELD

Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil 6:00 pm;
9:00 am (Italian); 10:30am; 6:00pm.

Weekday Masses:

9:15am Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday;
7:00 pm Wednesday

Weekday Public Holidays: 10:00am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament/Adoration:

Wednesdays after evening Mass with Novena to St Benedict until 8:30 pm; Saturday from 4:30pm—5:30pm; & Friday after the 9:15am Mass

First Friday of the Month:

9:15 am followed by Devotions
7pm Mass & Adoration followed by Devotions

Chaplet of St. Michael: Tuesday after Mass

Chaplet of Divine Mercy: Friday after Mass



Parish Priest

Fr Peter James Strohmayr OSPPE

Assitant Priest

Fr Casimir Zielinski OSPPE

St Therese's Church

Corner The Boulevard & Stella Street
FAIRFIELD WEST

Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm (Vietnamese);
7:30 am (English); 12 noon (Spanish); 6:00 pm (Syriac)

Weekday Masses:

Mon - Fri 7:00 am; Saturday 8:00 am

Weekday Public Holiday: 8:00 am

First Friday of the Month:

6.30 am Exposition & Confession; 7:00 am Mass

First Saturday of the Month:

7:00 am Rosary 8:00 am Mass

Chaplet of St. Michael:

Tuesday after Mass

Chaplet of Divine Mercy:

Friday after Mass

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT, Year B

10 March 2024



We pray for the sick of this Parish

Fr. Anthony David, OSPPE, Fr. Bob Bossini,
Fr Marek Dutkiewicz, OSPPE,
Josica Marotta, Dot Danecek, Michael Hyzy,
Aldo Girardi, Alyssa Ferreri,
Ray Wilson, Gino Mifsud, Adam Westwood,
Kartia Grace Russell, Ivy Fernandes,
Emile & Mary Kodsy, Joanne Portolesi,
George Jaksic & Lawrence Briffa.

Bless our sick today so that they may bear their illness in union with Jesus' sufferings and restore them quickly to health.

Recently Deceased

Rosa Papandrea, Maurice Wright,
George Dacoronia, Felice Palma Todaro,
Giuseppe Luppino, Giuseppe Tozzi,
Renato Pesavento.

And for those whose Anniversary occur at this time

Maria CHIAVAROLI, Cornelia BOSWERGER,
Salvatore RIPEPI, Sharron KASSOUTAS,
Salvatore MAUGERI.

PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Office:

22 Neville 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)

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Parish Council: Denise Namroud

Finance Chair: Robert Esposito

Andrew Maia: Work Health & Safety

Catechists: 9725 4317

Mimi Romeo: catechist@stgertrude.org.au

Sacraments:

Reconciliation/Eucharist/Confirmation

Contact: Jodie Micallef

Mob: 0412-804-465 (to leave a message)

sacraments@stgertrude.org.au

Liturgy: 9725 4317 Anna Kleibert

liturgy@stgertrude.org.au

Adult Sacraments (RCIA): Fr. Peter James

Every Sunday at 8:30 am in the

Crying Room (in front of St Benedict's)

Contact: Parish Office

Children's Liturgy: Currently not available at this time

Reconciliation:

Smithfield - Saturday 4:30 — 5:30 pm

Baptisms: Parish Office 9604 1199

Every 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month at 12:00 noon in St Benedict's Shrine Church Smithfield

Marriages: Parish Office 9604 1199

By appointment only (6 months required)

Sick Calls: 9604 1199 — Any Time

Safeguarding: psso@stgertrude.org.au (Parish Safeguarding Support Officers and all WWCC renewals)

Parish Youth:

2nd & 4th Sunday of the month following the 6pm Mass.

Contact: Fr. Peter James via Parish Office

Other: FCI (Italian Catholic Federation)

Tony Coiera 0409 908 424

Parish Playgroup: Thursday during school term. 10:00 am – 12:00 pm.

Our Schools

ST GERTRUDE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL SMITHFIELD



Boys & Girls: K-6: Ph: 9609-4144

Principal: Mrs Linda Katsibras

1-11 Justin, Street, Smithfield NSW 2164

www.stgsmithfield.syd.catholic.edu.au

www.facebook.com/stgertrudessmithfield

www.instagram.com/stgsmithfield/

MARY MACKILLOP COLLEGE

WAKELEY



Girls: 7-12: Ph: 9725 4322

Principal: Ms Janine Kenney

5 Carnarvon St, Wakeley NSW 2176

info@mmcwakeley.catholic.edu.au

mmcwakeley.syd.catholic.edu.au

PATRICIAN BROTHERS' COLLEGE

FAIRFIELD



Boys: 7-12: Ph: 9728-4488

Principal: Mr Peter Wade

268 The Horsley Drive, Fairfield NSW 2165

info@pbcfairfield.catholic.edu.au

www.pbcfairfield.catholic.edu.au

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER

For the new martyrs

We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

Novena to St Benedict

Wednesday after the 7:00 pm Mass with Rosary & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
Reconciliation is available during this time.

Church Cleaners

W/E: 16th March

St Benedict: Group E: Neo - Cats

St. Therese: Group D: Syriacs

Parish Office Hours: 9:00 am—4:00 pm
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday
(closed Wednesday)

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT, Year B

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

FIRST READING 2 Chron 36:14-16, 19-23

A reading from the second book of Chronicles

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy.

Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke through Jeremiah, 'Until this land has enjoyed its sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.'

And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: 'Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, "The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) *Let my tongue be silenced, if ever I forget you!*

- By the rivers of Babylon
there we sat and wept,
remembering Zion;
on the poplars that grew there
we hung our harps. (R.)
- For it was there that they asked us,
our captors, for songs,
our oppressors, for joy.
'Sing to us,' they said,
'one of Zion's songs.' (R.)
- O how could we sing
the song of the Lord
on alien soil?
If I forget you, Jerusalem,
let my right hand wither! (R.)
- O let my tongue
cleave to my mouth
if I remember you not,
if I prize not Jerusalem
above all my joys! (R.)

SECOND READING Eph 2:4-10

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ – it is through grace that you have been saved – and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus.

This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son,
that all who believe in him might have eternal life.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL Jn 3:14-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to St. John

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'The Son of Man must be lifted up
as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert,
so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.
Yes, God loved the world so much
that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost
but may have eternal life.
For God sent his Son into the world
not to condemn the world,
but so that through him the world might be saved.
No one who believes in him will be condemned;
but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already,
because he has refused to believe
in the name of God's only Son.
On these grounds is sentence pronounced:
that though the light has come into the world
men have shown they prefer
darkness to the light
because their deeds were evil.
And indeed, everybody who does wrong
hates the light and avoids it,
for fear his actions should be exposed;
but the man who lives by the truth
comes out into the light,
so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Jerusalem is built as a city bonded as one together.
It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,
to praise the name of the Lord.

CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION FOR EASTER THURSDAY 21ST MARCH

Confession in preparation for Easter will be held on Thursday 21st March at 7pm at St. Benedict's Shrine.

Please note that there are no confessions during the Easter Triduum

PALMS AND OLIVE BRANCHES FOR PALM SUNDAY

If you have any palms or olive branches in your gardens that can be used for blessing and distribution on Palm Sunday, please bring these during the next two weeks to St. Benedict's Shrine and leave them in the foyer in the baskets provided. Thank you for your continued support.

SHOUT OUT FOR VOLUNTEERS
We are looking for volunteers to join a roster to assist with the maintenance of the lawns & garden at St. Benedict's Shrine.
Please contact Rob on 0403 320 986 or the parish office to express your interest or if you have any questions.

HOLY WEEK CHOIR
We will rehearse at St. Benedict's Shrine on Mondays, starting 26th February at 7:30 pm.
Enter via the back door of Church through Justin Street opposite the school. Please email Anna at liturgy@stgertrude.org.au if you have any queries.

Next Week: FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR B

Scripture: Jer 31:31-34, Heb 5:7-9.

Gospel: Jn 12:20-30.

Lent

LENTEN PROGRAM 2024

LENTEN MEDITATION GROUPS

Lenten Meditation Groups will be held in the St. Augustine Catechesis Centre on:

Tuesday – following the 9.15am Mass

Thursday evening – beginning at 6.30pm

STATIONS OF THE CROSS & MASS EACH FRIDAY OF LENT

St. Therese's Church:

7am Mass followed by Stations of the Cross

St. Benedict's Shrine:

7pm Stations of the Cross followed by Mass

STATUE OF ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.

The Parish has recently purchased a statue of St. Michael the Archangel for the church and the Immaculate Conception for the front garden.

If any of our Parishioners would like to donate towards the statues please speak with the piety stall or contact the Parish Office.

Divine Mercy Raffle

Drawn Sunday 7th of April after 3pm Mass
\$2 each ticket or 3 for \$5 tickets



FIRST PRIZE:
Divine Mercy Tapestry
(59cm wide, 100cm tall)
\$50 VISA Voucher

SECOND PRIZE:
Divine Mercy Statue
(19cm Tall)
\$100 VISA Voucher

THIRD PRIZE:
"Understanding Divine Mercy"
Book
\$50 VISA Voucher

All proceeds go to maintenance of St Benedict's Shrine

YOUTH GROUP
THIS SUNDAY, 10TH MARCH
The Youth Group will be this Sunday in the **St. Augustine Catechesis Centre** following the 6pm Mass. High Schoolers and over 18s invited to attend. New members always welcome to attend.

Sacramental News!

FIRST RECONCILIATION LESSONS CONTINUE

First Reconciliation lessons are currently taking place from 8:45am to 10:15am in the Parish Montefano Hall.

Lesson 3 – Sunday 10th March
Lesson 4 – Sunday 17th March

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION IMPORTANT DATES

First Holy Communion lessons will take place on the following dates from 8:45am to 10:15am in the Parish Montefano Hall.

Lesson 1 – Sunday 5th May
No lesson – Sunday 12 May
Lesson 2 – Sunday 19th May
Lesson 3 – Sunday 26th May
Lesson 4 – Sunday 2nd June
Lesson 4 – Sunday 9th June

For all enquiries, please contact the Sacramental Office by emailing sacraments@stgertrude.org.au or text/phone 0412-804-465 to leave a message.

God bless
Jodie

St Gertrude's Parish MOVIE NIGHT

Monday 11th of March at 6:45pm

Join us at Hoyts Wetherill Park to watch 'CABRINI'

From Alejandro Monteverde, award-winning director of Sound of Freedom, comes the powerful epic of Francesco Cabrini, an Italian immigrant who arrives in New York City in 1889 and is greeted by disease, crime, and impoverished children. Cabrini sets off on a daring mission to convince the hostile mayor to secure housing and healthcare for society's most vulnerable. With broken English and poor health, Cabrini uses her entrepreneurial mind to build an empire of hope unlike anything the world had ever seen.

PG-13
PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED

\$20 A TICKET
This includes a serve of popcorn!

To book and pay, please see any volunteers at the piety store, or contact Lora on 0421 674 445. We ask that all payments for tickets are paid before the night.

PRIMARY KIDS YOUTH GROUP:
YRS. 3 - 6
NEXT FRIDAY 15TH MARCH 6:30PM
The Parish is starting a new youth group this year for our Primary School children in year 3 to year 6. This youth group will meet once a month on the third Friday of the month during school term at 6.30pm (and finish no later than 8pm) in the St. Augustine Catechesis Centre. All Primary Youth are welcome.