

**BLESSING OF HOMES DURING EASTERTIDE**

**LEADER:** Let us praise God, who fills our hearts and homes with peace. Blessed be God forever.  
**R/:** Blessed be God forever.

**LEADER:** The Word became flesh and made his dwelling place among us. It is Christ, risen from the dead, who is our source of hope, joy, and comfort. May all who enter this home find Christ's light and love.

Listen to the words of the holy Gospel according to Luke: 24:28-32

As the disciples approached the village to which they were going, Jesus gave the impression that he was going on farther. But they urged him, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the scriptures to us?"

**LEADER:** The Son of God made his home among us. With thanks and praise let us call upon him.

**R/.** Stay with us, Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, through you every dwelling is a temple of holiness: build those who live in this house into the dwelling place of God in the Holy Spirit. We pray: **R/.**

Lord Jesus Christ, the disciples recognized you in the breaking of the bread: grant that the members of this family may be open always to the presence of Christ in Word and sacrament. We pray: **R/.**

Lord Jesus Christ, you appeared to the frightened Apostles and said, "Peace be with you": grant that your abiding peace may remain with the members of this family. We pray: **R/.**

**ALL:** Our Father

**LEADER:** Lord, we rejoice in the victory of your Son over death: by rising from the tomb to new life he gives us new hope and promise. Bless all the members of this household and surround them with your protection, that they may find comfort and peace in Jesus Christ, the Paschal Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

**R/.** Amen.

*Move through house sprinkling Holy Water*

**PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES**

Please leave your Project Compassion boxes in the baskets at the front of church.

**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](mailto: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.*

**EASTER TABLE PRAYER**

Creator God and Lord of Life, You who call forth from the darkness of death all those who love You, we rejoice, on this Easter Sunday, in the resurrection from the dead of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Visit our home and this table with Your bright blessing of peace and life.

We pause in the midst of this prayer to remember all the holy dead of our family who live now in You and who await the final and glorious resurrection of the dead.

*Pause for silent reflection to remember those who have died.*

May they and we, because of our faith in You, our God, taste in the victory of life over death.

May the Risen Christ, our Lord and Saviour, be our guest as we celebrate His resurrection with this Easter Sunday dinner.

Bless those whose work to prepare this meal has truly been a work of prayer, and bless all of us who shall share it with Easter love and joy.

May You, then, bless this table and this food, and each of us in Your holy name.

Amen.

*\*Edward Hays, "Prayers for the Domestic Church: A Handbook for Worship in the Home"*



*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

**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 Strohmayer 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

**EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECION OF THE LORD, Year B**

**31 March 2024**



**PARISH INFORMATION**

Parish Office:

22 Neville St, Smithfield  
 Phone: 9604 1199 Fax 9609 6585

Email: [office@stgertrude.org.au](mailto:office@stgertrude.org.au)

Website: [www.stgertrude.org.au](http://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](mailto:catechist@stgertrude.org.au)

**Sacraments:**

*Reconciliation/Eucharist/Confirmation*

Contact: Jodie Micallef

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

[sacraments@stgertrude.org.au](mailto:sacraments@stgertrude.org.au)

**Liturgy:** 9725 4317 Anna Kleibert

[liturgy@stgertrude.org.au](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 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:** [pssso@stgertrude.org.au](mailto:pssso@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](http://www.stgsmithfield.syd.catholic.edu.au)  
[www.facebook.com/stgertrudessmithfield](https://www.facebook.com/stgertrudessmithfield)  
[www.instagram.com/stgsmithfield/](https://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@mmwakeley.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@mmwakeley.catholic.edu.au)  
[mmwakeley.syd.catholic.edu.au](http://mmwakeley.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](mailto:info@pbcfairfield.catholic.edu.au)  
[www.pbcfairfield.catholic.edu.au](http://www.pbcfairfield.catholic.edu.au)

**THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER**

**For the role of women**

We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.

**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**

*WE: 6th April*  
 St Benedict: Group C: Wilson Family  
 St. Therese: Group A: Frances

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



## EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD, Year B

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The Lord is truly risen, alleluia.  
To him be glory and power  
for all the ages of eternity, alleluia, alleluia.

### FIRST READING Acts 10:34. 37-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**(R.) This is the day the Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad.**

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,  
for his love has no end.  
Let the sons of Israel say:  
'His love has no end.' (R.)
2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed;  
his right hand raised me up.  
I shall not die, I shall live  
and recount his deeds. (R.)
3. The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the corner stone.  
This is the work of the Lord,  
a marvel in our eyes. (R.)

### SECOND READING 1 Cor 5:6-8

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Corinthians  
You must know how even a small amount of yeast is enough to leaven all the dough, so get rid of all the old yeast, and make yourselves into a completely new batch of bread, unleavened as you are meant to be. Christ, our passover, has been sacrificed; let us celebrate the feast, then, by getting rid of all the old yeast of evil and wickedness, having only the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

### SEQUENCE

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise.  
The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb;  
and Christ, the undefiled,  
hath sinners to his Father reconciled.  
Death with life contended: combat strangely ended!  
Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign.  
Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way.  
The tomb the Living did enclose;  
I saw Christ's glory as he rose!  
The angels there attesting;  
shroud with grave-clothes resting.  
Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee.  
That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know.  
Victorious king, thy mercy show!

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;  
let us feast with joy in the Lord.  
Alleluia!

### GOSPEL Jn 20:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to St. John

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia;  
therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread  
of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.

### 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.  
*He 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



### END OF DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

A reminder that Daylight Saving Time ends next weekend. Our clocks are wound **back one hour** at 3am on Sunday morning.

**Next Week:** DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY, YEAR B  
**Scripture:** Acts 4:32-35, 1 Jn 5:1-6,  
**Gospel:** Jn 20:19-31.

### EASTER SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Mass times for Easter Sunday will be as per the usual Mass Timetable with the exception that the Easter Vigil (Saturday) will begin at 7pm and no evening Mass on Easter Sunday. We are anticipating large attendances at our Masses so please be patient, be prepared and be welcoming.

### EASTER WATER

Blessed Easter water will be available next weekend. Please bring an empty bottle to take home extra water.

### EASTER MONDAY MASS TIMES

St. Therese's Church 8:00 am  
St. Benedict's Shrine 10:00 am



### PASCHAL CANDLE DONATION

Thank you to **Chris Malone** from **Integrity Funerals** who very kindly donated the Paschal candles for both St Benedict's Shrine and St Therese's Church.

**Thank You**



### FIRST FRIDAY - 5TH APRIL 2024

Mass times as follows:

**St Therese's Church:**

6:30 am exposition and confession

7:00 am Mass followed by Stations of the Cross

**St. Benedict's Shrine:** 9:15 am Mass followed by devotions.

7:00 pm Stations of the Cross followed by Mass

### FIRST SATURDAY - 6TH APRIL 2024

Mass times as follows:

**St Therese's Church:** 7:00 am Exposition and Confession

8:00 am Mass

**St. Benedict's Shrine:** 10:00 am Rosary

### DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

The Divine Mercy Novena began on Good Friday and will conclude Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April on the eve of Divine Mercy Sunday.

### DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> APRIL.

There will be a special afternoon of prayer beginning at 1pm and including rosary, a spiritual talk by Fr. Damian Mosakowski, exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet, then concluding with Mass at 3pm. Images of Divine Mercy will be blessed following the Mass. These can be purchased at the Piety Stall. Tea & Coffee in the Montefano Hall following Mass.

## Thank You

*A BIG THANK YOU to all our parishioners who gave so generously of their time and talents to ensure our Easter celebrations were beautiful and holy.*

*May the Lord bless you a hundredfold for all that you have given to build our parish faith and life.*

### EASTER OFFERINGS

Easter Offerings **help support our priests.**

Easter Offering envelopes will be available in the Church pews from the Easter Vigil and throughout the Easter Season. Thank you for your continued support of our parish priests.

## Easter Message 2024

**And very early in the morning on the first day of the week they went to the tomb, just as the sun was rising. They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?' But when they looked they could see that the stone - which was very big - had already been rolled away. (Mark 6:2 - 4)**

The women who went to the tomb early on that first Easter morning were concerned with rolling the stone away from the tomb. They had just experienced a very traumatic event in their lives. They had seen someone whom they loved very deeply killed in a most horrific and inhumane manner. Moreover, the burial of Jesus was done in haste. There was no time to properly anoint the body, or arrange the body of Jesus. The women wanted to complete their ritual of honouring the body buried in the tomb. In other words, they were still concentrating on the past events of the passion and death of Jesus.

As the Resurrection account continues we see the women encounter "a young man in a white robe", an angel. The young man then engaged them in conversation. He pointed out the empty tomb and told them that they needed to tell Peter and the other disciples to go to Galilee to meet the resurrected Christ. If you notice in this Resurrection account, it is the presence of the "young man" more than the empty tomb that is the focus for the women. The empty tomb falls, as it were, into the background and the focus is the instruction of the angel. These words change everything, because they instruct the women to look to the future and not to the past. The angel was telling them that there was something new here, a new beginning, a new life and a new way of discipleship.

Our Lenten Pilgrimage has brought us to this point and with the days of Lent over the message of the angel to the women is the same message that we are given at the empty tomb. With the Resurrection of Christ, we have something new; a new beginning, a new life and a new relationship with God as an Easter People. Christ calls us to look to the future and not to the past, to concentrate on where we are going, and not where we have been. Our world at the moment is crying out for the message of Easter. Just as the women are told at the tomb "go and tell", so we are told "go and tell". We are being asked to be Missionary Disciples looking towards the future with hope.

This Easter when you gather around the Easter Table to celebrate Christ risen from the dead, give thanks to God for the gift of each other and be sure to encourage one another to be missionary disciples.

On behalf of Fr. Casimir and Fr. Damian thank you for your prayers and your presence at our Liturgies, not only at Easter but always and may you all have a blessed Easter.

Christ is Risen! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Indeed he is Risen! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Fr. Peter James*

### FOLLOW ST GERTRUDE'S PARISH ON SOCIAL MEDIA



### 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.**