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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](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.

**Sacramental News!**

**IMPORTANT DATES FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**  
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 5 – Sunday 9th June

**SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION**  
The Sacrament of First Reconciliation will take place on **Tuesday, 11 June** at 6.30pm in St Benedict's Shrine.

**SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION ENROLMENTS**  
Enrolments for the Sacrament of Confirmation will open on **Sunday, 5th May**. Further details will be available on this date.

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

God bless Jodie

**FOLLOW ST GERTRUDE'S PARISH ON SOCIAL**

QR codes for Instagram and Facebook.

**THE ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION SMITHFIELD**  
Announce the Activities for the Month of MAY 2024

**\*\*\* Mothers Day Luncheon \*\*\***  
Friday 10<sup>th</sup> of May 12 pm (Noon) in the Parish Montefano Hall.  
**3 Course Lunch including Drinks, Coffee & Desert**  
Dancing + entertainment by MICHAEL RIVIERA  
{All Money Raised Given to local Charities }  
For Bookings Contact Tony ; 0409 908 424 or Gina ; 0417 203 90

**BINGO will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> of May**

**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**

# 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 SUDNAY OF EASTER, Year B

21 April 2024



### Welcome into our Parish

Xavier CLINTON, Bianca NGUYEN & Santiago SORCHANTTE  
Baptised this weekend

### 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 Kody, 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

Nathan Mitschuinig, Gina Longo, Vincenzo DiFrancesco, Br. Charles Kevin Barry, FSP, Frank Ebejer, Mary Vella, Rosa Papandrea, Maurice Wright.

### And for those whose Anniversary occur at this time

Dino DI FEDERICO, Thomas ZAMMIT & John DENNISS.

### 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

*W/E: 27th April*  
St Benedict: Group A: Frances  
St. Therese: Group A: Frances

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

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, Year B

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;  
by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

### FIRST READING Acts 4:8-12

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: 'Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence, today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved.'

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**(R.) The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.**

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,  
for his love has no end.  
It is better to take refuge in the Lord  
than to trust in men:  
it is better to take refuge in the Lord  
than to trust in princes. **(R.)**
2. I will thank you for you have given answer  
and you are my saviour.  
The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the corner stone.  
This is the work of the Lord,  
a marvel in our eyes. **(R.)**
3. Blessed in the name of the Lord  
is he who comes.  
We bless you from the house of the Lord;  
I will thank you for you have given answer  
and you are my saviour.  
Give thanks to the Lord for he is good;  
for his love has no end. **(R.)**

### SECOND READING 1 Jn 3:1-2

A reading from the first letter of St. John

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us,  
by letting us be called God's children;  
and that is what we are.  
Because the world refused to acknowledge him,  
therefore it does not acknowledge us.  
My dear people, we are already the children of God  
but what we are to be in the future has not yet been  
revealed;  
all we know is, that when it is revealed  
we shall be like him  
because we shall see him as he really is.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;  
I know my sheep, and mine know me.  
Alleluia!

### GOSPEL Jn 10:11-18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to St. John

Jesus said:

'I am the good shepherd:  
the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his  
sheep.  
The hired man, since he is not the shepherd  
and the sheep do not belong to him,  
abandons the sheep and runs away  
as soon as he sees a wolf coming,  
and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep;  
this is because he is only a hired man  
and has no concern for the sheep.  
I am the good shepherd;  
I know my own  
and my own know me,  
just as the Father knows me  
and I know the Father;  
and I lay down my life for my sheep.  
And there are other sheep I have  
that are not of this fold,  
and these I have to lead as well.  
They too will listen to my voice,  
and there will be only one flock  
and one shepherd.  
The Father loves me,  
because I lay down my life  
in order to take it up again.  
No one takes it from me;  
I lay it down of my own free will,  
and as it is in my power to lay it down,  
so it is in my power to take it up again;  
and this is the command I have been given by my  
Father.'

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Good Shepherd has risen,  
who laid down his life for his sheep  
and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

### HOLY HOUR FOR PEACE SUNDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 4.30-5.30PM

This Sunday the Parish will hold a "Holy Hour for Peace". This is one hour of Adoration to pray for peace in our globe. Everyone is invited to come and pray.



ANZAC DAY  
*Let us not forget*

### ANZAC DAY - THURSDAY 25TH APRIL

This Thursday we commemorate ANZAC Day. On this day we pray for all those who have served in the Australian Armed Forces in protecting the democracy and freedom. We also remember and pray for those who continue to serve their country.

Mass times:

St. Therese's Church: 8:00 am

St. Benedict's Shrine: 10:00 am

**Next Week: FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, YEAR B**  
**Scripture:** Acts 9:26-31, 1 Jn 3:18-24,  
**Gospel:** Jn 15:1-8.

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### 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



### PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO PENROSE PARK MONDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2024

The Parish is organising a Pilgrimage to Penrose Park for the May 13<sup>th</sup> Fatima Day celebrations. This year is a significant date as it is the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the establishment of the Pauline Community and Shrine at Penrose Park. You are invited to celebrate with the Pauline Fathers, past and present, this very joyous occasion, to give thanks to God for graces received and to ask our Blessed Mother for her continued intercession.

**Cost for the day is \$25.**

To book please see volunteer in the church foyer to add your name on the list or contact the parish office.



### PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING TUESDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> APRIL

The Parish Finance Committee are asked to attend a Finance meeting on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm in the St. Augustine Catechesis Centre.



### FR. PETER JAMES 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION FRIDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> MAY

To celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Ordination to Priesthood of Fr. Peter James, a Mass will be celebrated at St. Benedict's Shrine on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May at 7pm. Bishop Columba Macbeth-Green OSPPE DD, Bishop of Wilcannia-Forbes, will preside over the Mass. Following the Mass there will be a reception in the Parish Montefano Hall.



### PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES

Thank you to all who have returned their Project Compassion boxes and donation. This year as a Parish we have raised \$7546.45 for Caritas Australia.

A remarkable effort! Thank you all for your generosity.

This weekend will be the last weekend to return your boxes.  
Thank you again and may God bless you for your generosity.

### FR PETER JAMES ON LEAVE

Fr. Peter James will be on leave from the Parish for 2 weeks from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> – Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April. For all inquiries, please contact the Parish Office.

### 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.

### A time of Prayer, not revenge

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Over the last week we have been shocked and saddened by the reported stabbings at Westfield Bondi on Saturday and then on Monday the violence and consequent civil unrest on our own doorstep at Wakeley. Firstly, on behalf of the Parish of Smithfield I would like to offer to the victims of the Bondi stabbing and their families our sincere condolences and prayers of support. While as a community we were still trying to make sense of this act of violence, we then were confronted with the stabbing of Bishop Mar Mari Emmanuel and Father Isaac Royel in our own backyard of Wakeley. This act bringing with it the fact that it occurred at a place of worship against a cleric and his congregation.

Images of this attack were shared across several media and social media outlets. Needless to say that they were particularly confronting to many. The consequent events that occurred outside the church were equally as confronting as our emergency services were confronted with anger from a mob determined to exact revenge and to bring about civil and religious unrest. Violence of any kind is not to be supported and needs to be condemned as it undermines the fabric of our society. The only thing that violence accomplishes it that it breeds fear and suspicion which can only lead to more conflict. Rather than reacting in this way I encourage our Parishioners to use prayer as a way to peace.

Recently in our Sunday Scriptures we have heard how the Risen Christ has appeared to his Disciples. The disciples, locked up in that Upper Room out of fear, did not want to face the future, two of them even ran away from the city to find some solace. But it is the Risen Christ who seeks those broken, afraid and confused disciples. Then standing in the middle of them says "Peace be with You". The Risen Christ brought to the group a unity that was fractured by the violent act of crucifixion and it is the Risen Christ who brought courage in the midst of their own fear and confusion. It is the Risen Christ who seeks us also in our current situation and invites us to healing, unity and peace and commissions us to be makers of peace through prayer and forgiveness.

I join in support with our Archbishop Anthony Fisher in insisting that "every person in this country, be they bishop or priest, rabbi or imam, minister or congregant, should be able to worship in safety, without fear that they be subject to acts of violence while gathering in prayer". I would like to encourage all our Parishioners to be continue to pray both in our places of worship and in private and to avoid any acts of civil unrest. The misguided and misinterpreted ideology of the few should not be the cause of division, rather we should use love – caritas – as the means to unity.

May we continue to pray for peace in our globe and among our close neighbours.  
God bless you all and in the words of the Resurrected Christ "Peace be with You".

Fr. Peter James



### REMINDER ~ PLEASE TURN OFF MOBILE PHONES

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

### 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.