

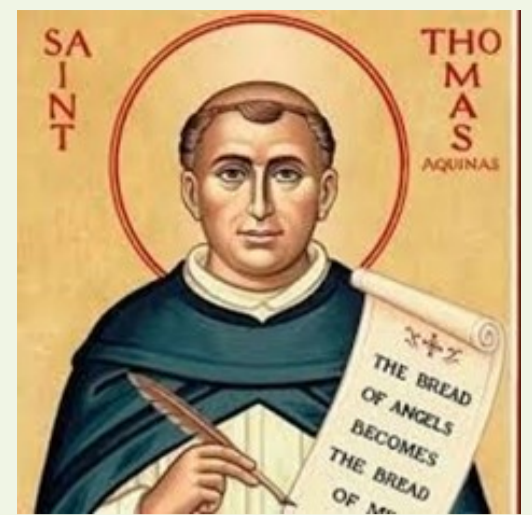
# St Thomas Aquinas Parish

Jubilee Year 1974 - 2024

## WEEKLY BULLETIN

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

28 July 2024



### Parish Vision

The Parish of St Thomas Aquinas seeks to maintain a strong, joyful, welcoming community. We strive to deepen our faith and spirituality, as individuals and as a community. We will live our faith more fully by carrying the message of the Gospel to all.

### MASS & SACRAMENTS

#### Sunday:

Vigil (Saturday) 6pm

Sunday 9am

#### Weekdays:

Mass: Tuesday-Friday 9.30am

Communion Service: Monday 9.30am

#### Reconciliation:

Saturday 5-5.30pm

#### Baptism:

Second Sunday of the month

#### Anointing of the Sick

Celebrated during Mass on the First Wednesday of the month at 10am followed by morning tea.

### *From the Pastor's Desk*

This Sunday we celebrate 'The Fourth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly'. Our parish school also celebrated Grandparents Day on Friday. This special Day which was introduced by Pope Francis – an elderly and grandfatherly figure himself. The Holy Father wishes to remind us that we are all held in the loving gaze of our God and that our dignity is not tied up with what we do but in who we are. Below is the opening paragraph of this year's message for World Day for Grandparents from Pope Francis.

*God never abandons his children, never. Even when our age advances and our powers decline, when our hair grows white and our role in society lessens, when our lives become less productive and can risk appearing useless. God does not regard appearances (cf. 1 Sam 16:7); he does not disdain to choose those who, to many people, may seem irrelevant. God discards no stone; indeed, the "oldest" are the firm foundation on which "new" stones can rest, in order to join in erecting a spiritual edifice (cf. 1 Peter 2:5).*

*Fr Gerard*

#### Parish Office

23 Lhotsky Street, Charnwood 2615  
6258 1563

**Pastor:** Fr Gerard McCormick MSC  
Gerard.McCormick@cg.org.au

**Parish Secretary:** Sharon Greaves  
Charnwood@cg.org.au

#### School

25 Lhotsky Street, Charnwood 2615  
6258 4077

Office.staquinas@catholic.edu.au

**Principal:** Mr Tim Cleary

<i>Rosters</i>		
	Saturday 6pm 3 Aug	Sunday 9am 4 Aug
<b>Acolyte</b>	Peter O	Maria
<b>Servers</b>	Nicholas, Aditya	Damyn, Evie
<b>Communion Minister</b>	Fran	Bernadette
<b>Readers</b>	Irene, Tanya	Grace, Annaliese
<b>Music/Screen</b>	Double J	Patrick
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>	28 July Monica, Catherine H	
<b>Morning Tea 11 Aug</b>	Marg Ellis, Gerri Bleaser, Irene Daly	



### *Prayers For the Sick & Deceased*

#### **For the Sick**

*We remember and pray for those who are ill at home or in hospital at this time.*

Maida Kajkic, Frederick Nield, Tom Roberts, Carolyn Holloway, Susie Purcell, Trish Jean, Bernard Tierney, Margie Paten, Christine Greenwood, David Holt., Margaret and Jim Peoples

#### **Recently Deceased: Fr Peter Gannan**

#### **Anniversaries**

Ysare Cao, Maryann Watson, Leo Langtry, James Norton, Veronica McGregor, Gaetano De Nicola, Leopoldine Platzer, Marcus Watson, Keith Perks, Eileen Thornton, Fay Ardaiz, Kevin Howe, Kevin Benson, Gerrit Vink, Michael Dixon, Maria Gioia, Catherine Triggs, Rex Cartwright, David O'Rourke, Julius Bor, Mario Signorini, Maria Melhado, John Daly, Kyle Biddle, Nelson Pinto, Robert Archer, Eileen Fisher, Domenico Barbaro, Susan Porter, Florence Carmichael, Nicholas Flaton and Alex Wallace

#### **Open Scripture Discussion Groups**

Wednesday following 9:30 am Mass.

Friday following 9:30 am Mass during school terms.

#### **Latte with Our Lady**

Rosary outside Charcoal Chicken every first Saturday of the month at 10:15 am. Praying for renewal and safety in our parish with coffee and a chat. Contact Julie 0412 337 367.

#### **Adoration & Exposition of Blessed Sacrament 5.30-6.30 pm every Thursday.**

All parishioners are invited to come and spend time with Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

#### **COLLECTION DETAILS**

**Collection During Mass** There is one collection during Mass at the time of the Offertory.

**Tap and Go Machine** next to the Collection Box to give people an opportunity to donate, should they wish to do so, when they aren't carrying cash.

**Direct Debit forms** available by contacting office.

**Electronic Funds Transfer** Bank account details are available on the website, or by contacting the office.

## **DIFFERENT VIEW**

### **A miracle of sharing**

*Some scripture scholars suggest that the real miracle of the feeding of the multitude was not so much a multiplication of meagre resources by Jesus but rather a personal response by individuals within the crowd. It is suggested that upon seeing the willingness of Jesus (and the small boy whose food it was) to share the small amount of food available, everyone dug into their pockets and pulled out the small amount of food they also had and shared it with one another. The miracle was a breaking through from selfishness and isolation to a spirit of sharing and community.*



*We welcome* the Children of the Parish who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion. They will be presented to the parish community this weekend. They will hand a prayer card to a parishioner asking them to pray for them. The Sacrament of First Holy Communion will take place over 4 masses on the weekends of 7/8 and 14/15 September.

**Tim Fischer Oration on Ethics in Public and Political Life 2024 | 7 August—6PM**  
**Speaker:** Professor Helen Alvare, Levy Endowed Chair in Law and Liberty at Antonin Scalia Law School, George Mason University **Q&A:** Chris Uhlmann, Political Journalist and TV Presenter *For more information & tickets visit [www.tfo.org.au](http://www.tfo.org.au)*

Anointing of the Sick within Mass  
 Wednesday 7 August 10:00am  
 followed by morning tea in the parish



**10 August | Christ Our Firm Foundation Retreat | 10AM**  
 Queanbeyan parish Retreat open to all. Queanbeyan parish Retreat. Men and women (ages +18 +) are invited to join the Dominican Sisters of Saint Cecilia. The day will focus on renewing the foundations of the spiritual life and will include Talks, a Holy Hour, Confession and a time of Fellowship.

**Cultural Competency | 31 August 10:00AM**  
 The Catholic Women’s Taskforce, Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn has a workshop on 31 August. Kylie Shea, a Ngunnawal woman will facilitate the sessions where we will learn about Ngunnawal culture.  
 Venue: Parish Centre Aranda

**Memorial Book**  
 Deceased loved ones are recorded in the parish Memorial Book which is on display at the back of the church. We ask that you contact the parish office to have your loved ones included in the book. Please do not write directly in the book.

**NEW PARISHIONERS BOOK**  
 New parishioners are invited to record your name and contact email address in the “New Parishioners” book located in the church foyer. The parish office will then send you a registration form and information about the parish.

**Feast of St Mary MacKillop Thursday 8 August 2024**  
 There will be a Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion at 9:30am as Fr. Gerard will be attending a Professional Standards Learning day.

**Annual Mary MacKillop Pilgrimage Eden NSW—Saturday 3rd August**  
 Join Archbishop Christopher Prowse as he leads the pilgrimage. The day will start with 7:30am Mass at St Christopher’s Cathedral and then travel to Eden. The day includes a pilgrim's walk, Mass and a parish lunch. more information and registration at <http://cg.org.au/pambula/Home.aspx>



**Archdiocesan Women's breakfast with Dr Helen Alvare—8 August**  
 Join us for the Women’s Breakfast with Dr Helen Alvare on Thursday, August 8th. In a relaxed conversation style, we will explore meaningful connections in marriage, family, career, mission, and community-building. 7:00 for 7:30 - 9:00 Canberra Room Hyatt. Tickets: \$30 - Students \$25. Purchase online at [www.tfo.org.au/women-breakfast/](http://www.tfo.org.au/women-breakfast/)

25 July Thursday	1st Formation Session for Parents Sacrament of the Eucharist
27/28 July Sat/Sun	Presentation Masses for children preparing for the Sacrament of the
1 Aug Thursday	2nd Formation Session for Parents Sacrament of the Eucharist
8 Aug Thursday	Feast of Mary MacKillop
15 Aug Thursday	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

# FOCUS ON THE WORD

When they had eaten enough he said to the disciples,  
'Pick up the pieces left over, so that nothing gets wasted.'

John 6:12



Today we are reminded of God's providence. We live in a world that feeds us and shelters us and supplies us with everything that we need to grow and to thrive, and all of this comes to us from the hand of God. It is usually when we are in desperate straits that we become painfully conscious of our dependence on God, but this dependence is always there. God does not merely intervene when we are helpless; God's providence operates in our lives at all times.

Living in a society that promotes individualism, we sometimes undervalue the communal dimension of life. God certainly cares passionately for each of us (not even a sparrow falls without God knowing it), but God's concern is for the whole people. We are first and foremost members of a people. We would never have seen the light of day, we would not endure

or develop, without others. As unique as we may be, we are a unique expression of a communal reality. God created a race; God formed a people; Jesus died for the world. By the grace of God, we belong to the community.

As members of the people of God, we are called to a way of life that is noble, not selfish. We are to live with each other in humility and gentleness, with patience. We are to bear with one another in love. Through baptism we all live by the same Spirit of Jesus; we are all united through the bond of God's love. The bread that we receive from the hand of God is the bread of full life, life in all its dimensions, life in Christ.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA.

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## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R.* The hand of the Lord feeds us;  
he answers all our needs.

All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,  
and your friends shall repeat their blessing.  
They shall speak of the glory of your reign  
and declare your might, O God. *R.*

The eyes of all creatures look to you  
and you give them their food in due time.  
You open wide your hand,  
grant the desires of all who live *R.*

The Lord is just in all his ways  
and loving in all his deeds.  
He is close to all who call him,  
who call on him from their hearts *R.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
A great prophet has appeared among us;  
God has visited his people.  
Alleluia!

## MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

We proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
And profess your Resurrection  
Until you come again