

St Thomas Aquinas Parish Charnwood

A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish



WEEKLY BULLETIN

The Baptism of the Lord
12 January 2025

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Parish

is an inclusive, safe and respectful parish which is committed to the protection and support of children, young people and the vulnerable in the community.

Safeguarding Officer: Margie Hourigan
charnwood.safeguarding@cg.org.au

Parish Office

Administrator: Fr Tru Nguyen MSC
TruDuc.Nguyen@cg.org.au

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

Office Hours: Wednesday
8:00am – 4:30pm

23 Lhotsky Street, Charnwood 2615
6258 1563
Stthomasaquinascharnwood.com

St Thomas Aquinas Primary School

25 Lhotsky Street, Charnwood 2615
6258 4077

Office.staquinas@catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mr Matthew Garton
Matthew.Garton@cg.catholic.edu.au

MASS & SACRAMENTS

Sunday:

Vigil (Saturday)	6:00pm
Sunday	9:00am

Weekdays:

Wednesday & Thursday	9.30am
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Reconciliation:

Saturday	5-5.30pm
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Baptism:

Second Sunday of the month

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.

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.

PARISH GROUPS

Open Scripture Discussion Groups

Wednesday following 9:30 am Mass.
Friday at 10:00am 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.

ROSTERS

	Sat 6pm 18 Jan	Sun 9am 19 Jan
Acolyte	Peter	Stephen
Servers	Volunteers?	Nicholas, Aditya
Communion Minister	Terry, Alan	Lian, Josh
Readers	Brian H, Penny	Charles, Tanya
Music/Screen	Volunteer?	Eden
Children's Liturgy	School Holidays	
Morning Tea	9 February Helene Alexelby, Barbara Gaynor, Sylvie Osborne	



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, Bernard Tierney, Christine Greenwood, David Holt, Neil Ffrench, Michael Pitt

Recently Deceased: Raymond Porter

Anniversaries

We remember in prayer all those who have died.

Peter Ivory, James Watson, Jacob Johnson, Christian Reavley, Cecilia Wood, John Auguszczak, Scott Blacker, Phillip Gow, John Patrick Howe, James Howe, Joyce Paten, Collen Haigh, Paul Pistor, Terry O'Brien, Cesare DeFranceschi, Scott Blacker, Maria Tran, Steve Axelby, Dawn Merrill, Cecilia Wood, John Verrell

Deceased are listed in the Memorial Book at the back of the Church and names can be added to it if dates are provided.

Heart Spirituality

Mary shares in the work of redemption

The life of Jesus is marked by three solemn periods: his entry into the world, his public mission and his death on the cross. His mother is associated with these great events that bring about a whole new life. She is there as the sacrament of divine love, as the mysterious helpmate of the new Adam, in a new creation. She gives birth on Calvary to all peoples in God, made fruitful by the blood and grace flowing from his Sacred Heart. At Cana she obtains from her son the first of his miracles; she establishes the Apostles in faith and receives the assurance of the institution of the eucharist and other sacraments.

Jules Chevalier msc
OLSH, p. 85/ Issoudun, 1892

Stewardship

Servant Leadership

As we celebrate this feast of the Baptism of the Lord, we can study His actions at the Jordan River as a powerful example of servant leadership. We see in Jesus a type of leadership that is characterized by humility and leading by example.

Certainly, the sinless Saviour did not need a baptism of repentance! But Jesus humbly made Himself one with his people to draw us to Him and create a relationship with us so that we would be open to His teachings and influence.

Immediately after His baptism, we learn of the powerful affirmation of the Father who opens the heavens, sends the Holy Spirit upon Jesus in bodily form, and says audibly, "This is my beloved Son with whom I am well-pleased." Let us be filled with gratitude for our amazing God and be reminded that when we are grateful followers of Jesus and servant-leaders in imitation of Him, the Father will be well-pleased with us, too.

2025 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM REGISTRATION

Register your interest for your child/children for the 2025 Sacramental Program.



Use the QR Code to register.

Registration Night details will be advised soon

For students in Year 3 and 4 for the Sacraments of Penance and Eucharist and Year 6 for the Sacrament of Confirmation

For students attending non catholic schools who have not received these Sacraments from Year 3-6

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will recommence on Thursday 23 January.



27 Jan Mon	Australia Day Public Holiday
28 Jan Tues	Feast of St Thomas Aquinas
1 / 2 Feb Sat/Sun	The Presentation of the Lord Mass – blessing of the candles



The Presentation of the Lord
Blessing of the Candles
Bring your candles to be blessed
1/2 February
Saturday 6:00pm Vigil
9:00am Sunday



2025 JUBILEE YEAR
Pilgrims of Hope

"And hope does not disappoint us" (Romans 5)

Children's Liturgy urgently seeking volunteers

We are one of the few churches in the area lucky enough to have a liturgy for children during our Sunday morning mass. The liturgy sessions are run by volunteers, a leader and a helper - the liturgy used is from the Brisbane Diocese, they provide songs, a cartoon story of the gospel, prayers and an activity - it's all prepared and ready to go. Suits parents of young children, teachers, parents of older children, active grandparents and older teens.

Volunteers must hold a current working with vulnerable people card and willing to sign the STA code of conduct forms if not already done so. We have lost a number of volunteers, and people currently on the roster are feeling stretched. Please pray on this if you can assist, otherwise we will have to go to a monthly session.

Please email/text or speak to Megan Winter, meganewinter@yahoo.com.au and 0408662924, by the last week of January if you think this is something you can spare some time for.

INTRODUCTORY CPE COURSE

Introductory Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) course is being offered online using Zoom by the Southern Tablelands CPE Centre, a registered Centre with the NSW College of Clinical Pastoral Education Inc. This short 40-hour course will comprise of six sessions each. Commencing on January 29, 30, February 5,6 & 12, 13, 2025.

For more information please contact Barbara Hall [at](mailto:barbarahall1909@gmail.com) barbarahall1909@gmail.com or phone: **0418 413 731**

Part-time Parish Secretary

Part-Time Parish Secretary position for North Woden. This is a part-time permanent position (Monday 9am to 3.30pm, Wednesday 9am to 4.30pm and Friday 9am to 3.30pm). Details available from parish office at woden.north@cg.org.au

REFLECTION

Jesus' Baptism and Connections to Daily Life

Hearing God's Voice:

At Jesus' baptism, the Father affirms His identity: *"You are my Son, the Beloved."* We too are God's beloved sons and daughters, yet how often do we pause to hear this voice? In our daily lives, amidst the noise and busyness, God continues to speak words of love and affirmation to us.

Take a moment each day to quiet your heart and hear God say: *"You are my beloved."* How does this change the way you see yourself and others?

Living in Relationship:

The baptism event reveals God as a relationship of love—Father, Son, and Spirit. It invites us to reflect on our relationships with family, friends, colleagues, and our community.

Are there relationships in your life that need healing, reconciliation, or deeper connection? How might you imitate the gentleness of the Spirit, the humility of the Son, and the love of the Father in your interactions?

Walking Humbly Like Jesus:

Despite being the Son of God, Jesus enters the waters of baptism in humility, standing in solidarity with humanity. His example challenges us to walk humbly in our own lives.

In what ways can you embody humility and solidarity with others—perhaps by reaching out to those on the margins, offering encouragement, or being present to someone in need?

Reflecting the Trinity in Community:

God's Trinitarian nature teaches us that unity does not erase individuality. Just as the Father, Son, and Spirit are distinct yet united, we are called to build communities where diversity is celebrated and each person's gifts are valued.

How might you contribute to fostering unity in your family, workplace, or parish community?

A Closing Thought

While we may struggle to fully comprehend the Trinity, we are called to encounter it with hearts open to wonder. The baptism of Jesus is an invitation to dwell in God's love—a love that flows endlessly between Father, Son, and Spirit, and reaches out to embrace all of creation. May we carry this love into our daily lives, living as beloved children of God and sharing that love with others.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. Oh, bless the Lord, my soul!

Lord God, how great you are,
clothed in majesty and glory,
wrapped in light as in a robe!
You stretch our the heavens like a ten *R.*

Above the rains you build your dwelling.
You make the clouds your chariot,
you walk on the wings of the wind,
you make the winds your messengers
and flashing fire your servants. *R.*

How many are your works, O Lord!
In wisdom you have made them all.
The earth is full of your riches.
There is the sea, vast and wide,
with its moving swarms past counting,
living things great and small *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

John said: He who is to come is mightier than I; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

Alleluia!

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

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