

Readings for next weekend — Third Sunday of Lent

First reading: Exodus 17:3-7; **Second reading:** Romans 5:1-2, 5-8; **Gospel:** John 4:5-42

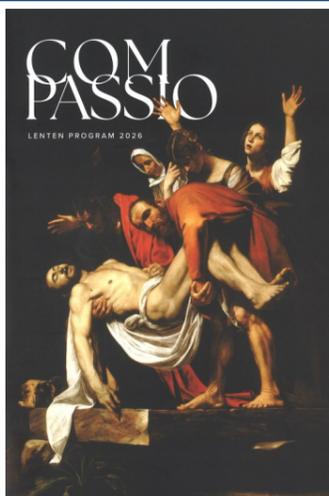
Transfiguration and Ecumenism

Every year on the Second Sunday of Lent, we hear the gospel account of the transfiguration of the Lord proclaimed at Mass, from each of the three Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke) through the three year cycle of the lectionary. This event has a central place in the life, Theology, and spirituality of the Orthodox Church. The reason for this is Orthodox Christianity's emphasis on the *glory* of Jesus.

One aspect of Orthodox faith and spirituality where we see this in a striking way is in its iconography. Icons have a central place in Orthodox spirituality and liturgy. In the Eastern spiritual tradition, an Icon is never simply a painting of Jesus or one of the saints. Through the method of its creation, its distinctive appearance, and the prayer of the iconographer, the icon is a window into heaven. It is an image that is lit from within, with divine light. The icon is an image transfigured. Theologian Nicu Dumitrascu says: "The icon communicates the divine beauty or glory through material means that are visible for the bodily eyes...in the icon, the greatness of God (incomprehensible by itself), becomes accessible in a finite image and offers itself as a way of communicating the glory of God".

As we hear the account of the transfiguration of Jesus proclaimed in today's liturgy, we might take a moment to reflect on the richness of the Orthodox tradition and to pray for our Orthodox brothers and sisters and for the unity of the church.

— Fr Gerard O'Dempsey OFM Cap



Lenten Gospel Reflection 2026 **COMPASSIO**

Each year during Lent, we offer an opportunity to come together to pray and reflect as a community. You are invited to join one of our reflection groups or offer your own, with an easy to follow booklet.

Sign-up sheets are available at the back of the church

3rd of the 6 Sessions (in the meeting room):

- **Monday** March 2nd after the 9:00am Mass and morning tea.
- **Thursday** March 5th at 7:00pm.

For more information or to register your own Lenten group contact the Parish Office. Phone: (02) 9832 4461, Email: parishof@goodshepherd.org.au

How to Support Our Parish Family Financially

If you would like to become an envelope subscriber please contact the parish office. We would also invite you to consider your level of giving. For people wishing to contribute by direct debit – forms are available from the parish office. You can also setup your own internet banking recurring payments to the following account:

BSB: 067 950 Account Number: 00000495

Account Name: Plumpton Catholic Parish Church

- Tap & go machines are available for people to use. These are in the Church.
- Those who wish to donate to the Capuchin Friars (Priests), please make the recurring payments to the following account:

BSB: 062-410 Account Number: 10136478

Account name: Capuchin Franciscan Friars



Phone: 02 9832 4461

After hours emergency #: 0493 969 440

Email: parishof@goodshepherd.org.au



The Good Shepherd Parish Plumpton

Or visit our website:

www.goodshepherd.org.au

New Parish Projects—Meeting room and

Additional Toilets 27/02/2026

Donations \$30,780.00

Raffle tickets \$12,104.00

Legacy Donation \$46,000.00

Total Amount \$88,884.00

Revised Target Amount \$100,000.00

THE PARISH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

130-136 Hyatts Road, Plumpton NSW 2761

Celebrating Our 37th Anniversary

Parish Vision:

a place where all people are welcomed...

a place where the gifts of the Holy Spirit are put to use...

a place where people are empowered to live the good news of Jesus.

Weddings

Please call the Parish office for appointment.

Arrangements should be made at least 12 months in advance.

Holy Communion for the Sick

Please call the parish office for date and time.

Anointing of the Sick

Please call the parish office to book a time and date.

Baptisms

Parents and godparents must attend a Pre-Baptism Seminar prior to scheduling the Baptism. The seminar is offered once a month on the 4th Sunday at 2:00 pm in the Parish meeting room.

Please collect registration form from the Parish office. Baptism dates will be booked after attending the seminar.

2nd Sunday of Lent (Year A)

01 March 2026

1st Reading:

Genesis 12:1-4

2nd Reading:

2 Timothy 1:8-10

Gospel Reading:

Matthew 17:1-9

Entrance Antiphon:

*Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face.
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face from me.*

Responsorial Psalm:

*Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.*

GOSPEL Acclamation:

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!*

Communion Antiphon:

*This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased;
listen to him.*

Acknowledgement

We show our respect and acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the Darug Country, Elders past, present and emerging, and extend that respect to all other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.

Parish Team:

Parish Priest	Fr Gerard O'Dempsey OFM Cap
Assistant Parish Priest	Fr John Nguyen OFM Cap
Business Manager	Mr Owens Reyes
Parish Musical Director	Mr Jacob Wielgosz
Parish Social Media Officer	Miss Catrina Bautista
Parish Council Chairperson	Mr Anthony Matthews
RCIA Co-ordinator	Mr & Mrs Bernie & Yeng Banta
Sacramental Co-ordinator	Mrs Priscilla Corpuz
Parish SRE Co-ordinator	Ms Therese Fuller
Finance & Bingo Operator	Mr Romy Balite
Safeguarding Champion	Mr Joseph Fenech

Daily MASS Times

Mon/Tue/Fri 9:00 am
Wednesday 9:00 am & 7:30 pm
Thursday 9:00 am & **7:00 pm (Vietnamese)**
First Friday 7:30 pm (with Adoration)
Saturday 8:00 am

Weekend MASS Times

Saturday Vigil 6:00 pm
Sunday 7:00 am, 9:00 am & 6:00 pm
12:00 pm **(Vietnamese)**
Spanish Mass Every 2nd Saturday of each month 7:30 pm

Reconciliation (Confession)

Saturday 10:30 to 11:30 am
Kindly ring Parish Office to book for other times during the week.

Baptism Seminar

The next seminar will be held on the **22nd of February 2026 at 2:00 pm** in the **Parish meeting room**. Please bring a copy of your child's **birth certificate**.

Congratulations for last Weekends' Baptism

Maya Camille Aberin
Perpetua Cirilla Talione Aloisio
Cohen Luke Meurs

Parish Based Youth Group – Antioch

Young people are empowered & nourished in their spiritual Journey and leadership. We have a youth group meeting every Sunday at 7:30 pm. We invite the youth for "Come and See" experience.

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION for MARCH

For disarmament and peace.
Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

Please remember those for whom prayers have been requested

Death Anniversaries / In Memoriam: Lucia Castellano, Remy Centino, Josephine Dominguez, Maria & Raymundo Ducusin, Joseph & Kathleen Haliburn, Gratia Mascarenhas, Teresa & Thomas Nathan, Machi Pacantes, Florita & Nilo Piczon, Petra Sajor, Sr Bernie Silva, Cyril Silva, Julie Wilkes, Stephen Woodhouse, Fe Zabala and all the holy souls in purgatory

Healing / Good Health: Gloria, Celine Cosme, Lionel Joseph Dado, Anne Miller, Peter Nathan, Jake Neria, Maria Perez, Diana Rodriguez, Elijah, Ethan & Rayan Walter

Anniversary / Birthday / Thanksgiving: Baby Amurao, Doris, Jay & John Barrett, Michelle Reyes

We also remember in our prayers our housebound brothers & sisters

Belenor & Julian AGUILAR, John ANGEL, Mafalda ARACO, Raylina AURE, Christine BAPTISTE, Doris & John BARRETT, Margaret BIEDRZYCKA, Jacqueline CAMERON, Conception CAPIENDO, Anthony CARRUNA, Frances CARUANA, George CASSAR, Gwen & Robert CHAMBERS, Rita CLEARY, Clare DONOHOE, Matthew DORRAN, Paul DWYER, Mario FARRUGIA, Wayne & Audrey FERNANDEZ, Jean-Marie & Marie-Claude FREDERIC, Fololetina FRETTON, Louise GRECH, Alamita HALA, Eden & Ninoy JUCO, John KNIGHT, Maureen KNIGHT, Nabil LABBAD, Malia LAVALU, Lima LEO, Francis LLOYD GOULD, Gwenda MCCARTHY, Rita & Victor MELI, Teresa MESSIANA, Anne MILLER, Kathleen MORRISSEY, Deidre MURRAY, Mary MUSCAT, Elsie NONEY, Pamela PEARSON, Marie PURCELL, Melecia REA, Gloria ROBERTS, Lilly SHAHOUD, Mary SIMMONS, Marian STEWART, Vivienne STEWART, Anthony & Natalina TEUMA, Raymond TOGHILL, Margaret TSENG, John VAIFALE, Sesilia VAVE, Augustina VELLA, Russell & Mary WICKRAMASINGHE and Joan WREN.

Easter Triduum

Holy Thursday 02 April 2026 (no morning Mass):

- Mass of the Lord's Supper – 7:30 pm
- Evening Prayer at the Altar of Repose – 11:00 pm

Good Friday 03 April 2026:

- Morning Prayer – 7:30 am
- Stations of the Cross (Parish Hall) – 10:00 am
- Liturgy of the Passion – 3:00 pm
- Vietnamese Liturgy of the Passion – 6:00 pm

Holy Saturday 04 April 2026:

- Morning Prayer – 7:30 am
- Reconciliation – 10:30 to 11:30 am
- Easter Vigil Mass – 7:30 pm

Easter Sunday 05 April 2026:

- 7:00 am
- 9:00 am
- 12 noon (Vietnamese)

Note: There will be no 6:00pm Mass on Easter Sunday

Parish & Diocesan News

Courtesy and Care in the Car-park

Last Sunday at the 9:00am Mass a parishioner's car was scratched by another – sadly the offending driver left no details! Perhaps a little less haste in being the first out of the car-park at the end of Mass, attention to one's driving, and most of all, a sense of honesty would not go astray!

Planned giving envelopes

There are planned giving envelopes still available at the entrance of the church.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS reenactment on Good Friday

For anyone interested in joining the parish reenactment of the stations of the cross please contact Andrea 0452020788 or Isaac 0407067080.

Safeguarding Training Dates for Deaneries

From this year, parishes within a Deanery will have the same Safeguarding Training Renewal and Refresher Dates. In 2026, the dates for those in a Deanery to update and complete their Training will be:

- Blacktown Deanery – April 2026
- The Hills Deanery – August 2026
- Cumberland Deanery – November 2026

The remaining Deaneries will renew in 2027. Online Training Modules are always available for those who are entering ministry. Face-to-face opportunities can be found at:

<https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>.

For further inquiries and to book in F2F Training dates at your Parish, please contact:

safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

Waste Bins outside the Kitchen

There are several waste bins outside kitchen with different lid colours and labels. **Green** for food scraps **only**, **yellow** for **empty** bottles and cans, **blue** for **empty** coffee cups and **black** for general waste. Please make sure you **read the labels before throwing your rubbish**. If you are not sure where to throw your rubbish please use the **red** lid bins located close to the toilets. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

Coming Events:

- Sign up NOW for the next "Table Talk" Saturday **March 7th** following the 6.00pm Mass. There will be soup and dinner – Fr. Gerard needs numbers for catering purposes. The topic this time is "Participation" – it's a reflection on how we participate in the life of the parish and in Christ's Mission.
- **Easter Triduum** – timetable is now available, make sure you mark your diary and your calendar and set aside the times of the liturgies for prayer and reflection. Triduum is the most sacred time in the church year – it's not "business as usual".
- Finance committee – next meeting: Tuesday March 10th 7.30pm in the parish office.