

Readings for next weekend — Fifth Sunday of Easter

First reading: Acts 6:1-7; **Second reading:** 1 Peter 2:4-9; **Gospel:** John 14:1-12

Jesus, gate and shepherd.

There is a lot going on in today's gospel reading: gates and gatekeepers, sheep and shepherds, thieves and brigands. Let's focus on one of the most important ones: "Jesus said, I tell you solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold...I am the gate (John 10:7 and 9)

This is the same gospel reading we hear proclaimed today is also the one provided for use in the church's Order for the Blessing of New Church Doors. The doors of a church represent Christ. And then there is a particular special Church door, the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican, opened only during holy years, ordinarily celebrated once every twenty-five years (just last year!) Referring to this door, citing John 10:9, the Vatican website explains: "The Holy Door represents Jesus, the Good Shepherd and gate of the sheep pen."

In the context of shepherds and sheepfolds, the gate has an important *protective* Function. Jesus protects us from spiritual threats and dangers. Jesus also says, "Whoever enters through me will find pasture. This adds an aspect of *nourishment* to the metaphor; through Christ our hearts are nourished and strengthened.

In the context of the church's liturgical life, to speak of Christ as a gate or door takes us first of all to the sacrament of baptism. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* refers to baptism as "the gateway to life in the Spirit...and the door which gives access to the other sacraments" (#1213). This is precisely the thought behind the location of the baptismal font in our church – located directly before the Altar and Ambo.

— Fr Gerard O'Dempsey OFM Cap

Parish & Diocesan News continued

Commissioning Mass of Liturgical Ministers: May 12

All liturgical ministers – readers, servers, extra ordinary ministers are invited to join us for our Annual Commissioning Mass of Liturgical Ministers. Families and friends are also invited. This celebration will take place at 7:30pm on May 12th 2026, at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Liturgical ministers are asked to please arrive by 7:00pm and be seated by 7:15pm. To register the number of guests and ministers attending please register by Thursday, May 7th. To register please contact ofw@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795.

Parish Registration

If you are a new parishioner, we ask you to complete a registration form. If you have not yet filled out a registration form, please do so as soon as possible and return it to the Church or parish office. Forms are available at the entrance of the Church.

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 24/04/2026

Donations	\$31,896.00
Raffle tickets	\$12,104.00
Legacy Donation	\$57,000.00
Total Amount	\$101,000.00
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.

4th Sunday of Easter (Year A)

26 April 2026

1st Reading: Acts 2:14, 36-41

2nd Reading: 1 Peter 2:20-25

Gospel Reading: John 10:1-10

Entrance Antiphon:

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

Responsorial Psalm:

*The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.*

GOSPEL Acclamation:

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

Communion Antiphon:

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

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-ordinators	Mr Bernie Banta & Mrs 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 **24th of May 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

Aleiya Kendra Fontillas
 Joshua Koen Malaihollo

HOLY FATHER’S PRAYER INTENTION for APRIL

For priests in crisis.
 Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

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.

Please remember those for whom prayers have been requested

Death Anniversaries / In Memoriam: Joseph, Martin Apap, Philomina Bent, Trinidad Caragdag, Francis Cozzo, Marvin Diokno, Cayetano Flestado, Aurea Martin, Gil Rivera, Nicanor Rocillo, Arce & Salud Samia and all the holy souls in purgatory

Healing / Good Health: Hunter, Jaz, Juvy, Miki, Ken Ferreira, Reynald Fortinado, Peter Nathan, Maria Perez and Michelle Rowe

Anniversary / Birthday / Thanksgiving / Special Intention: Fr George, Fr Jervis, T Fernandes, Xavier Francisco Flestado and Danny R

We also remember in our prayers our housebound brothers & sisters

Mary, Russell, Yvonne, 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, Lynette STITT, Anthony & Natalina TEUMA, Raymond TOGHILL, Margaret TSENG, John VAIFALE, Sesilia VAVE, Augustina VELLA, Russell & Mary WICKRAMASINGHE, Joan WREN, Espedito & Kitty ZAMMIT

Pope Leo’s Prayer for Peace, You might consider praying this as a family each day:

Lord Jesus,
you conquered death without weapons or violence:
you shattered its power with the strength of peace.
Grant us your peace,
as you did to the women filled with doubt on Easter Morning,
as you did to the disciples who were hiding in fear.
Send forth your Spirit,
the breath that gives life and reconciles,
that turns adversaries and enemies into brothers and sisters.
In spire us to trust in Mary, your mother,
who stood at the foot of your cross with a broken heart,
firm in the faith that you would rise again.
May the madness of war cease
and the Earth be cared for and cultivated by those who still
know how to bring forth, protect and love life.
Hear us, Lord of life! Amen.

Parish & Diocesan News

What happens at Alpha?

Let’s see if we can remove some of the mystery... each Alpha session begins at 7pm on a Monday night (beginning May 4th) with a **meal**. Yes, it begins with food – and comes at no cost (we have some very generous benefactors in our parish community). At approximately 7.30pm the video begins followed by some quiet reflection time and then some discussion. The evening concludes, usually, between 8.30pm and 9pm. Topics include: Who is God, what is the Bible, who is Jesus, who is the Holy Spirit, why should I pray...etc. Take the plunge and register. Also, you might know someone who is not Catholic yet, or a Catholic who no longer goes to church, you can extend an invitation and accompany that person to Alpha! This is what evangelization looks like! Make a friend, be a friend, bring that friend to Christ. Please scan the QR code to register or contact the parish office on 9832 4461.

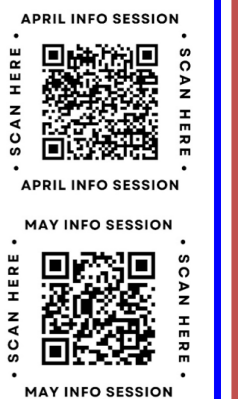


Thank you for supporting the Christian community in Bethlehem (Bethlehem Olivewood Sale)

The organisers of the Bethlehem Olivewood sale of handcrafted olivewood religious items would like to thank all our parishioners for your generous support. Your purchase will help support the Christian community in Bethlehem and preserve the Holy Sites in Bethlehem.

Palms International Volunteering: Two IMPACTFUL Sessions!

Develop sustained self-reliant futures in overseas communities! Join Palms International Volunteering for two special sessions where you’ll learn about our diverse assignments suited to your qualifications. In April meet past Palms volunteers and discover how skill-exchange makes a lasting impact in communities, or join our May session for a live crossing to Timor Leste and see how lives are changing today. **April Session: Discover Palms Online! Thursday April 30th 2026 7:00 – 8:30pm. May Session: Live from Timor Leste! Thursday May 21st 2026 4:00 – 5:30pm.** Scan the QR code of the session or see palms.org.au/events



This week:

- Monday April 27th: RCIA – Mystagogia 3 – parish meeting room.
- Tuesday April 28th: Liturgy Committee 7.30pm.