Readings for next weekend — Mass for the Care of Creation

First reading: *Wisdom 13:1-9;* ***Second reading:*** *Colossians 1:15-20;* ***Gospel:*** *Matthew 6:24-34*

Liturgy and Scripture:

In today's first reading the words of the prophet Jeremiah offer a nit of caution to those who seek a relationship with God. Rather than 'buyer beware' or even 'believer beware', knowing God intimately often results in an irresistible need to share that experience with others – even when the message is not necessarily welcome!

Jeremiah writes in language that is intense, personal and bold: "You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced." For the prophet Jeremiah, the experience of God is one of irresistible intensity and power. Jeremiah is taken up by God and compelled to proclaim the word he hears from God, because it "seemed to be a fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones."

So, he does proclaim it, even though the response to this proclamation by those around him is negative: "The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long."

Interestingly, in today's responsorial psalm, we see that the psalmist's experience of God has a similar intensity, and his/her response to it is like Jeremiah's. The psalmist writes of their flesh thirsting and their soul pining for God, "like a dry, weary land without water." This thirst has been quenched; the psalmist says they have gazed on God in the sanctuary (of the Jerusalem Temple) and has seen God's power and glory. And the psalmist's response to this experience is also intense: "my lips will speak your praise."

So yes, seek God. The prophet and the psalmist can tell you the experience of God is unlike anything else in this life. But they might also warn you: you will long to **share that experience with others**, like good news that you simply can't keep quiet about.

A great way to do that in our parish is through the Alpha program. It's a great way to Nourish our own faith – but also to bring along those who have not yet embraced Christianity, or who have fallen away from the practice of their faith. Now is the time to extend that invitation to bring someone, you know, to Christ. Make a friend, be a friend, bring that friend to Christ.

— Fr Gerard O'Dempsey

Parish & Diocesan News continued

Name tag Sunday:

Thank you to everyone who has ordered a parish name-tag, if you have not yet done so, you can use the QR code at the back of the church or call into the Paish Office during the week. The provision of Name Tags is part of the response to our first Parish-in-Council (the next one is Saturday November 21st). The name tags assist the priests of the parish in getting to know you – with 1,400 people passing through our doors every weekend it is impossible to 'learn' every name – but the name tag is a great way to help. It also helps to build community – if we can address one another by our first names it helps to strengthen those bonds of community.

Production of the new name tags is underway – our new 3D printer is hard at work – thank you to Catrina and James for getting this up and running.

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



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 share the Good News of Jesus with others.

Phone: 02 9832 4461
After hours emergency #: 0493 969 440
Email: parishof@goodshepherd.org.au

Find us on Facebook
The Good Shepherd Parish Plumpton

Or visit our website:
www.goodshepherd.org.au

New Parish Projects—Meeting room and Additional Toilets **28/08/2026**

Donations	**$31,896.00**
Raffle tickets	**$12,104.00**
Legacy Donation	**$58,000.00**
Total Amount	**$102,000.00**
Revised Target Amount	**$100,000.00**

Weddings

Please call the Parish office for appointment. Arrangements should be made at least ***twelve*** *months in advance.*

Holy Communion for the Sick

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

Anointing of the Sick

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

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 or church. ***Next seminar is on 27 September.*** *Please bring a copy of your child's birth certificate.*

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

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) **30 August 2026**

1st Reading: ***Jeremiah 20:7-9*** **2nd Reading:** ***Romans 12:1-2***
Gospel Reading: ***Matthew 16:21-27***

Entrance Antiphon:
Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.
O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of mercy to all who call to you.

Responsorial Psalm:
My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

GOSPEL Acclamation:
Alleluia, alleluia!
May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our heart,
that we might see how great is the hope
to which we are called.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon:
How great is the goodness, Lord,
that you keep for those who fear you.

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.

Capuchin Young Adults Plumpton

We're the young adults of The Good Shepherd Parish Plumpton! Seeking lives of simplicity, service, prayer and community with St Francis of Assisi. Find us on Instagram: ***instagram.com/capuchinyoungadultsplumpton/***
Email: ***social.media@goodshepherd.org.au***

October 2026 Baptism Seminar

*Due to our Parish Expo 2026 celebration on October 25th, the Baptism seminar has been **moved to October 18th** at 2:00pm in the Church.*

Congratulations for last Weekends' Baptism

Andreus Manuel Buan

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION

for AUGUST

For evangelization in the city.
Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

Please remember those for whom prayers have been requested

Death Anniversaries / In Memoriam: *Domingo, Frank, Jocelyn, Dave Andrew Culala, Calogero Di Dio, Richard Fernandez, Mary Hadfield, Erestina Khokhar, Maria Teresa Resurreccion and all the holy souls in purgatory*

Healing / Good Health: *Jess, Karim, Antonio Borges, Ivan Correia, Peter Nathan, Solidad Pascua, Maria Perez, Joao Rosa, Lina Sutherland and Jess Valix*

Birthday / Thanksgiving / Special Intention: *Greg & Yvonne Champion and Vanessa L*

We also remember in our prayers our housebound brothers & sisters

Yvonne, Victoria ABAO, Emanuela AGIUS, Belenor & Julian AGUILAR, Patricia ALLERDICE, John ANGEL, Mafalda ARACO, Raylina AURE, Christine BAPTISTE, 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, Eden & Ninoy JUCO, Nabil LABBAD, Malia LAVALU, Lima LEO, Francis LLOYD GOULD, Gwenda McCARTHY, Rita & Victor MELI, Teresa MESSIANA, Anne MILLER, Deidre MURRAY, Mary MUSCAT, Elsie NONEY, Pamela PEARSON, Philip PORKETT, 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, Espedito & Kitty ZAMMIT

The SEASON of CREATION

This season of the Church year begins on the 1st of September and runs through to the Solemnity of St. Francis (patron saint of ecology). We will mark the season by celebrating (with the rest of the Parramatta Diocese) Care of creation Sunday on the weekend of September 5/6 at all the Masses. Special readings and prayers will be used.

This year we will be guided by the vision of the prophet Ezekiel (47:1–12): a river flowing from the temple of God, which grows without stopping and brings life where everything seems barren.

Water heals, restores, and makes creation flourish. But it also challenges us: to recognize ecological damage, to embrace our interconnectedness, and to immerse ourselves in the responsibility of caring for and restoring our Common Home.

May this Season of Creation be a path for the healing of the Earth and human well-being to flourish together.

Parish & Diocesan News

Alpha at the Good Shepherd Parish

*Our next Alpha is about to start – Thursday **September 24th** (the day after Padre Pio), registration is now available – use the QR code which is also on the posters around the church and meeting room area. Book early to avoid missing out. This is an opportunity for you to grow and strengthen your faith and to bring in those who are not yet part of our Church…. perhaps you have a friend or work colleague who might be interested… ask them! Make a friend, be a friend, bring that friend to Christ!* ***Registration is important so that Fr. Gerard knows how much soup he has to prepare!!!!***

Parish-in-Council 2

*Preparations are already underway for our next Parish-in-Council, to be held on **Saturday November 21st** 12noon to 4.30pm at St. Francis School, Glendenning. Registration will open soon – and more information will be coming in the weeks ahead – for now just mark your diary.*

St Nicholas Festa event for Vinnies: September 20th

*Join the St. Nicholas Festa Committee for a fun-filled afternoon on **Sunday, September 20th** from **12:00pm** at **The Good Shepherd Parish (Bingo) Hall**. Bring your family and friends to support **St Vincent De Paul Society Plumpton Conference** while enjoying live music! There will be fantastic prizes to win and plenty of delicious food and drinks for purchase, including BBQ, Pastizzi, and Hobz biz-zejt. Entry is a **$10 donation** (kids under 12 are free). Let's come together, enjoy great music, and make a difference! For details, contact Emanuel Vella (0405 677 064) or Stella Vella (0414 188 226).*

Toongabbie (and Blacktown) Legal Centre—TLC

*Toongabbie Legal Centre (TLC) volunteers will be **selling raffle tickets** at all Masses this weekend, along with some merchandise items. All proceeds will directly **support their FREE legal clinic** provided for over 17 years to disadvantaged, marginalised and vulnerable people of Western Sydney. Tickets are $2.00 each or $20.00 for a book of 10 tickets with ten prizes.*

Coming Events this September:

- **1st**: Liturgy Committee (Tuesday) 7.30pm.
- **5th/6th**: Care for Creation Sunday.
- **7th**: Fr John returns form annual leave.
- **8th**: Finance committee (Tuesday) 7.30pm.
- **10th**: Training for the next Alpha 7.00pm.
- **17th**: Confirmation Mass 7.00pm with Bishop Vincent.
- **19th/20th**: Blessing of seeds and seedlings at all Masses.
- **23rd**: Feast of St. Padre Pio – 7.00pm talk, 7.30pm Mass.
- **24th**: Alpha begins (Thursday nights) 7.00pm.
- **27th**: Sausage Sizzle after 6.00pm Sunday Mass.