Readings for next weekend — Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st reading: *Isaiah 55:6-9;* ***2nd reading:*** *Philippians 1:20-24, 27;* ***Gospel:*** *Matthew 20:1-16*

Season of creation – Ezekiel 47:9-12:

This year's theme is based on this piece of scripture and it's a powerful biblical vision of hope and ecological healing. It's set amid the Exile and image of "living water" flowing from God's sanctuary (Jerusalem Temple) reveals divine healing that renews land, water, biodiversity, and human responsibility towards the whole of creation.

It begins as a tiny stream which grows deeper and deeper and as it does so it brings life to dead areas and restores fertility to damaged or barren ecosystems. Through *living water* comes healing, but in order to receive new life we too must step into the water and become part of God's river of life, taking part in the healing of creation.

The context of this scripture passage is one of political, social, theological and national catastrophe. Jerusalem has been destroyed by the invading armies of Babylon. The Temple (built by King Solomon) has been razed to the ground. Most of the people of Israel have been taken off into exile in Babylon. (Psalm 137: By the rivers of Babylon they weep and lament).

Ezekiel's message (he was priest in the Temple) initially centres on God's judgement against Israel's idolatry and injustice, interpreting the fall of Jerusalem and the destruction of the temple as divine judgement. Yet, Ezekiel's message does not end in judgement: God has not abandoned his people. God remains WITH his people, and restoration is promised. So, the wonderful river described in Ezekiel 47 embodies this future renewal: when the Lord dwells again among his people, the land itself will be restored. *(to be continued)*

— Fr Gerard O'Dempsey

Parish & Diocesan News continued

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 Saint 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 now 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).*

Marriage Enrichment Retreat 1

The Couples for Christ Australia warmly invites all married couples to their Marriage Encounter Retreat, happening on ***September 19th to 20th 2026****, at the* ***Good Shepherd Primary School Library****. This retreat is a wonderful opportunity for couples to take a break from the busyness of everyday life, strengthen their relationship, and grow together in love and faith. All married couples are encouraged to join and make this special time for your marriage.*

Parish-in-Council 2: November 21st

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.*

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 **11/09/2026**

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.

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) **13 September 2026**

1st Reading: ***Ecclesiasticus 27:30 - 28:7*** **2nd Reading:** ***Romans 14:7-9***
Gospel Reading: ***Matthew 18:21-35***

Entrance Antiphon:
Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you,
that your prophets be found true.
Hear the prayers of your servant,
and of your people Israel.

Responsorial Psalm:
The Lord is kind and merciful;
slow to anger and rich in compassion.

GOSPEL Acclamation:
Alleluia, alleluia!
I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon:
How precious is your mercy, O God!
The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

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***

Good Shepherd Parish Profit & Loss Statement

Year End	June 2026	June 2025
Total Income	$703,403	$604,715
Total Expenses	$476,345	$345,092
Net Surplus	$227,058	$259,623

Average weekly revenue as at 30/06/2026: $7,805
Please contact the Parish Office for enquiries.

Legion of Mary Good Shepherd Praesidium

Meets every Saturday morning at 9.00am in the Parish Meeting Room. Please contact Christine on 0433 983 731 if you are interested.

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.*

Please remember those for whom prayers have been requested

Death Anniversaries / In Memoriam: *Cirilo & Rosalina Aclao, John Apap, Leonard Francis Burney, Maria Libia Febicoski, Celestino De Freitas, Domingo Escueta, Clara Maclennan; Domingo, Edwardson & Felicidad Mangaoang, Rosaline Pereira, Earl & Shirani Peris, Harold Psaltis, Basilio Vargas and all the holy souls in purgatory*
Healing / Good Health: *Karim, Mark, Michael & Tess, Beatriz Callaghan, Ivan Correia, Elizabeth Dioquino, Peter Nathan, Solidad Pascua, Bienvenido & Connie Recto, Lina Sutherland and Jess Valix*
Anniversaries / Birthday / Thanksgiving: *Jocelyn & Ryan, Mario Bocasan, Anselmo & Miriam Habito, T. Fernandes and R. B. Tobias*

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

Parish & Diocesan News

Thank you for supporting our WYD2027 Father's Day Raffle Fundraiser

Our 2027 World Youth Day pilgrims are one step closer to seeing Holy Father Pope Leo, all thanks to the generous support of everyone who contributed to our Father's Day Raffle this past weekend. A huge congratulations to Celine Benicarlo (1st prize), Ricky Su (2nd prize) and Priya Anto (3rd prize) for winning our Father's Day Raffle! Thank you to all who purchased a ticket and supported our raffle. We are truly blessed with a generous, warm and supportive community. Please stay tuned for more ways you can support their pilgrimage and keep them in your prayers as they journey to Seoul, South Korea.

An Evening with St Padre Pio: September 23

As part of the Jubilee Year of St Francis, our parish will host the relics of St Padre Pio, a beloved Capuchin Friar, stigmatist and mystic. Gather with CYAP for a special evening of prayer and devotion as we reflect on the life of St Padre Pio on his feast day, September 23rd. Special plenary indulgences are attached to this celebration. Confession will be available from 6.00pm , the evening begins with a 7.00pm talk, followed by 7.30pm Mass and relic veneration and concludes with fellowship. Please register for catering via the QR code.

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 are 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!!!!

Coming Celebrations:

We are pleased to announce that for our celebration of the Memorial of **St. Padre Pio** we will have a relic of the Saint with us at the evening Mass on **Wednesday Sept 23rd**. The night will begin with a short introductory talk about the saint at 7pm, followed by Mass at 7.30pm. After Mass there will be time to venerate the relic of St. Padre Po and to receive a blessing. Supper will be available for everyone afterwards.

Similarly, on **Sunday October 4th** we will be celebrating the Solemnity of **St. Francis** of Assisi, at all weekend Masses. We will have a relic of St. Francis at the 9am Mass that Sunday (with Bishop Vincent) – and again there will be an opportunity to venerate the relic of St. Francis after Mass and to receive a blessing.

Relics are small fragments of the body, or objects which have come in direct contact with the body, of Blesseds and Saints. Relics are preserved in sealed cases to protect the integrity of the Blessed/ Saint's remains or fragments. The Saints are not just holy men and women who lived heroic lives for Jesus Christ, but they're also our friends in Heaven who intercede for us! We ask the Saints and Blesseds to pray for us, for our loved ones, and to lift up our prayer requests in a special way, since they are closer to the Lord than we are on earth.

Coming Events:

- **Blessing of seeds, seedlings and plants**: will happen at all Masses next weekend. As part of our observance of the Season of creation, you are invited to bring seeds, Seedlings or small plants for a blessing at the end of all Masses next weekend.
- **Alpha** begins again on Thursday Sept 24th with 7pm Soup and 7.30pm video and discussion. Registration is important for catering purposes. Seats are filling up fast so don't miss out!
- **Parish Expo** – Sunday Oct 25th: This will coincide with our annual observance of the Anniversary of the Dedication of our Parish Church (38 years this year). There will be displays By the various groups and associations that operate within our parish, as well as displays by the various schools. This year there will be pony rides (even for adults!!!) And, of course, international food in the hall. The day costs nothing except your attendance! Fun begins after the 9.00am Mass on the Sunday Morning. More details in following bulletins.
- **Parish-in-Council 2**: November 21st at St. Francis, Glendenning. 12noon to 5.00pm.