Readings for next weekend — The Solemnity of Saint Francis

1st reading: *Ecclesiasticus 50:1,3-4,6-7;* ***2nd reading:*** *Galatians 6:14-18;* ***Gospel:*** *Matthew 11:25-30*

The Season of Creation: Ezekiel 47:9-12

In Israel's religious (and cultic) tradition, the sanctuary of the Jerusalem Temple was the place of sacrifice (on the temple altar), where blood – the bearer of life was shed for reconciliation between God's people and himself. Blood signified both judgement and mercy, reminding the people that life was both costly and fragile. (Something to think as you come to Holy Communion to consume the Precious Blood of Christ!)

But in Ezekiel 47, the dominant image is no longer blood flowing toward the altar but water flowing from the Temple threshold. Holiness is expressed through abundance. Divine presence does not consume life – it releases it!

This shift from blood to water is both theologically and ecologically significant. Blood belongs to the logic of survival within brokenness; water belongs to the logic of renewal and flourishing. Ezekiel is saying that reconciliation with God results not only in restored worship but in renewed land, healed ecosystems, and abundant life. Care for creation emerges as a direct consequence of a restored relationship with God. Hope for renewal and healing starts in the place of prayer, worship and sacrifice. The tiny drop of hope begins in our own lives, in our repentance and transformation.

— Fr Gerard O'Dempsey

A word about RELICS

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.

On Sunday October 4th we will have a relic of St. Francis of Assisi at the 9.00am Mass. There will be an opportunity to venerate the relic after Mass and again during the subsequent "Week of Saint Francis" – on the Thursday and Friday nights.

Parish & Diocesan News continued

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



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 **25/09/2026**

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 at 2:00 pm in the Parish meeting room or church. ***Next seminar is on 18th October in the Church.*** *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.

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) **27 September 2026**

1st Reading: ***Ezekiel 18:25-28*** **2nd Reading:** ***Philippians 2:1-11***

Gospel Reading: ***Matthew 21:28-32***

Entrance Antiphon:
All that you have done to us, O Lord,
you have done with true judgement,
for we have sinned against you
and not obeyed your commandments.
But give glory to your name
and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

Responsorial Psalm: ***Remember your mercies, O Lord.***

GOSPEL Acclamation:
Alleluia, alleluia!
My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;
I know them, and they follow me.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon:
Remember your word to your servant, O Lord,
by which you have given me hope.
This is my comfort when I am brought low.

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***

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.

Congratulations for last Weekends' Baptism

Atlas Theodore Lomibao

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION

for SEPTEMBER

For the care of water.

Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

Please remember those for whom prayers have been requested

Death Anniversaries / In Memoriam: *Agrepina, Anna, Dorine, Elsi, Georgia, Ignatius, Joachim, Joseph, Luca, Maria, Marceline, Matta, Maxwell, Phero, Stellio, Philomina & Rowland Bent, Tony Brineau, Maribeth Felipe, Phila Fernandes, Mary Hadfield, Jose Katipunan Sr, Patrick Lim, Aurea Martin, Aurora Mendoza, Rosario Pelias, Carmelo & Josephine Pisani, Cornelio & Iluminada Rondario, Norberto Ruiz Jr, Bernard Sequeira, Natividad Vergara and all the holy souls in purgatory*

Healing / Good Health: *Alicia, David, Kelly, Mark, Michael, Samuel, Tess, Beatriz Callaghan, Ivan Correia, Elizabeth Dioquino, Teresa Ganac, Peter Nathan, Bienvenido & Connie Recto, Jaimee Santos and Jess Valix*

Anniversaries / Birthday / Thanksgiving / Special Intention: *Jean, Nicole, Erlinda & Isolde Escueta and T. Fernandes*

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, Vicki SPITERI, 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

St Francis Week – 03 to 10 October

03 October Saturday:
- 10:30am – Confessions available
- 6:00pm – Solemnity of St Francis of Assisi (Vigil) Mass
- 7:30pm – Transitus of St Francis of Assisi with supper to follow

04 October Sunday:
- 9:00am – Solemnity of St Francis of Assisi Mass with Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv
- 4:00pm – Blessing of pets & animals in the courtyard
- 6:00pm – Solemnity of St Francis of Assisi Mass & blessing of HSC students
- 7:30pm – St Francis outdoor movie night

05 October Monday:
- 9:00am – Morning Mass & morning tea
- 11:30am – Visit to Fr Thomas McCarthy (1st Capuchin in Australia) Mortuary Chapel, St Patrick's Roman Catholic Cemetery, North Parramatta
- 12:30pm – Visit to Capuchin Lawn at Rockwood Cemetery
- 3:00pm – Parish Picnic at St Francis of Assisi Primary School playground

06 October Tuesday:
- 6:30pm – FaithLIFE Franciscan Spirituality with MET & CYAP and talk by Secular Franciscans

07 October Wednesday:
- 7:00pm – Talk on St Francis and his Marian devotion by Fr Matthew Timonera OFM Cap
- 7:30pm – Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

08 October Thursday:
- 7:30pm – Holy Hour with Confessions available

09 October Friday:
- 5:30pm – St Francis of Assisi in Art exhibition with medieval-themed live music, dinner and costumes

10 October Saturday:
- 7:00pm – Confessions available
- 7:30pm – Parish Action for World Homeless Day with testimonies and packages for Friars van

Parish Name Tags

We have started printing the parish name tags and they are available to collect at the back of the Church. Please check if your name tag is ready for collection.

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 5.00pm 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.*

Feast of St Pedro Calungsod

*The St Pedro Calungsod Devotees will be celebrating the 15th Feast Day in honour of St Pedro Calungsod on **Saturday, October 17th**. As part of the celebration, a nine-day novena will be held from October 8–16 at 7:00pm in different parishes within the Diocese of Parramatta. **The 7th day Novena will be held at Good Shepherd Parish Church on Wednesday, October 14th at 7:00pm**.*

Coming Events:

- Tuesday 29th September: 7.30pm Liturgy Committee
- Thursday-Friday-Saturday morning 1st, 2nd & 3rd October: Frs Gerard and John will be away at a conference. Morning Masses will continue as normal thanks to Frs Andrew and Paul.
- Thursday 1st October: ALPHA continues
- Saturday 3rd October: ALPHA Youth continues.
- Saturday 3rd October: 7.30pm Transitus of St. Francis (in the courtyard – weather permitting)
- Sunday 4th October: St. Francis of Assisi Solemnity
- Week of Saint Francis - see separate item.
- Tuesday 13th October: Pastoral Planning 7.30pm.