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

Rumi Marrie Hoang
Auriana Nafanua Upu

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION for OCTOBER — *For mental health ministry*

Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

Please remember those for whom prayers have been requested

Death Anniversaries / In Memoriam: *Gabriela Vergara, Anthony John Browne, Thelma Tate, Connie-Mae Vaughan, Sydney VanRoss and Brian Wilkinson, Rosario Pelias, Kathleen Haliburn, George-Nazzarene Zahra, Carmen Ciappara, Lorraine & Herman Pereora, Felino Tangson, Tevita Loukiniva Kite, Renee Valladares, Noreen Pinto, Rebecca Hengphonthana, the Laurencio Family, and all the holy souls in purgatory*

Healing / Good Health: *Riwal Panchal, Rogelio Ordinario, Georgette Semaan, Hazel Villavert, Virgilio Felipe, 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: *Ermie Flestado, Marcia Armada, Pablo, Nena, Dominga, Culia, Venus Salvador, Geronimo and Eveger Zaracoza and Ace Boncato*

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

Parish Expo: October 25th

*Join us in celebrating our 38th Year of Dedication on **Sunday 25th October**, after the 9am Mass. This year's theme focuses on '**Participation**'. There will be many activities for the whole family to participate in such as pony rides, music performances, stalls of our parish groups/ local initiatives, international food and raffle prizes. Bring along your family and friends— All are welcome!*

Feast of St Pedro Calungsod

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

Parish-in-Council 2: November 21st

*All are invited to our second Parish-in-Council, on **Saturday November 21st** 12noon to 5.00pm at St. Francis School, Glendenning. This is for anyone and everyone to attend – if you attended the first one in June, bring a friend this time! Each Parish-in-Council builds on the previous one. From our previous topic of 'belonging' and 'welcome', we now focus on '**participation**'. Registrations open soon.*

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



Coming Events:

- Saturday 3rd October: 7.30pm Transitus of St. Francis (in the courtyard – weather permitting)
- Sunday 4th October: St. Francis of Assisi Solemnity and Blessing of Pets & Animals at 4pm
- 5th to 10th October: St Francis Week Continues (see posters and Facebook page)
- Tuesday 13th October: 7.30pm Pastoral Planning Meeting
- Sunday 25th October: Parish Expo after 9am Mass at the Parish Hall

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

1st reading: *Isaiah 25:6-10;* ***2nd reading:*** *Philippians 4:12-14;* ***Gospel:*** *Matthew 22:1-10*

Season of Creation: Final reflection - Ezekiel 47:9-12

Today we come to the close of the Season of Creation and a final reflection on Ezekiel 47. Ezekiel's vision of water flowing from the right side of the temple, and bringing life wherever it flows is in sharp contrast to the reality of the water cris is many people face today. According to the United Nations, 1.7 billion people lack basic hygiene services at home and 2.1 billion people still lack access to safe drinking water (that is 1 in 4 people in the whole world).

As climate change intensifies and groundwater extraction increases, several countries are now reaching a so-called "point of water bankruptcy", that is a condition marked by irreversible losses of natural water.

Although access to drinking water is a human right for all, the multifaceted crisis disproportionately affects vulnerable communities, future generations, and animal/plant life that has no voice in political or economic systems. There are many challenges, some include:

- Impact of industrial discharge of chemicals into rivers.
- Increasing water consumption fuelled by data centres and energy production.
- Poor governance and corruption by companies and governments.
- Impact on food security through droughts, floods, storms and growth of desert areas.
- Violence over competition for scarce water supplies.

From a religious perspective, this crisis reflects broken relationships between humankind and God, within the human family itself, and between human beings and other living creatures. Ezekiel's vision is ultimately one of hope. As co-workers with God our creator, Christians' relationship with the rest of creation should be based in the biblical vision of creation as an interconnected community of life (see Genesis 9:8-17). Our relationship is that of a sacred partnership and mutual custodianship rather than domination. (Laudato si 67,68, 116)

Scripture repeatedly associates water with divine healing and renewal: Naaman dipping himself in the Jordan river is cured of leprosy (2 Kings 5). Ezekiel himself is immersed progressively deeper into the river, echoing baptismal imagery and symbolizing transformation.

What is that symbol on the altar frontal?



The "Franciscan Coat of arms" adorns the altar frontal for this weekend. The Franciscan coat of arms features two crossed bare and robed arms representing Christ and St. Francis of Assisi—set against the background of a cross or Tau cross.

Key Elements of the Symbol

- The Background Cross: Usually depicted as a simple Latin cross or a Tau cross, which St. Francis used as his personal signature and seal.
- The Crossed Arms: The bare, unclothed arm of Jesus Christ (with a nail wound in the hand) is positioned over the robed arm of St. Francis of Assisi (bearing the stigmata).
- The Meaning: The emblem symbolizes the complete spiritual conformity of St. Francis to Jesus Christ, representing God's love and the follower's dedicated response.

History

- First Appearance: The earliest known version dates back to 1499, carved into a stone wall at the Church of San Francesco al Deserto in Venice.
- Global Presence: Over the centuries, it became a universal symbol found on altars, plaques, and entryways of Franciscan churches and friaries worldwide.

— Fr Gerard O'Dempsey

THE PARISH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

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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

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.

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.

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) **04 October 2026**
Solemnity of St Francis of Assisi

1st Reading:	***Ecclesiasticus 50:1, 3-4, 6-7***
2nd Reading:	**Galatians 6:14-18**
Gospel Reading:	***Matthew 11:25-30***
Responsorial Psalm:	***O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup.***
GOSPEL Acclamation:	***Alleluia, alleluia!*** ***Francis poor and lowly enters heaven rich in virtue,*** ***greeted with celestial hymns.*** ***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.