

Readings for next weekend — Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
1st reading: Isaiah 56:1, 6-7; 2nd reading: Romans 11:13-15, 29-32; Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28

Liturgy and Doctrine:

When Vatican II offered its historic statement on the church’s relationship with the Jewish people, in the declaration *Nostra Aetate*, the one Scripture passage it quoted directly was the same one we hear in today’s second reading. “The church,” the council taught, “keeps ever before its mind the words of the apostle Paul about his kin: “they are Israelites, and it is for them to be sons and daughters, to them belong the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promise; to them belong the patriarchs, and of their race according to the flesh, is the Christ” (Rom 9:4-5)” (4).
Nostra Aetate went on to insist that “the Jews remain very dear to God,” and that “neither all Jews indiscriminately at that time, nor Jews today, can be charged with the crimes committed during [Christ’s] passion.” The church “deplores all hatreds, persecutions, displays of anti-semitism levelled at any time or from any source against the Jews” (4).
It might be easy to forget, over six decades later, that all of this was absolutely revolutionary. It followed many centuries of antagonism, bigotry, and condemnation of the Jews by many Catholic popes, prelates, and theologians, based wholly on the idea that the Jewish people, as a whole, had killed Jesus, remained responsible for that act of deicide, and had therefore been rejected by God. Such an animus had permeated Catholic culture.
Nostra Aetate worked to change that, and was followed by historic comments by Pope Saint John Paul II, in a 1980 speech, that “God has never annulled” the covenant he established with the Jews. The same pope, on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 2000, placed a prayer of apology in the Western Wall in Jerusalem for past wrongs committed by Catholics against Jews. As we hear and reflect on Paul’s words today, it would be a good time to offer our own prayer of sorrow for past injustices against the Jewish people and to give thanks for the gifts God has offered them, which are also very much a part of our Christian heritage.
— *Living Liturgy 2026*

Parish & Diocesan News continued

Adult Confirmations 2026

The Office for Worship will host a Catechesis and Formation Day for those candidates (16+) interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this year. This will be on Saturday August 29th, 9.30am to 2.00pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre in Blacktown. A light lunch will be provided on the day. It is recommended that all sponsors attend the catechesis day. A contribution of \$40 is suggested from the candidates to assist in covering the Catechesis Day. The Confirmation will take place on Tuesday September 1st, 2026 at 7:30pm at the Cathedral. Please Note: Enrolment forms and a copy of Baptismal Certificates should be sent to OFW before Monday August 18th. For more information, please contact the Parish Office parishof@goodshepherd.org.au or (02) 9832 4461.

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 07/08/2026

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

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.*

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 23 August.** 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.

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

09 August 2026

1st Reading: 1 Kings 19:9, 11-13 2nd Reading: Romans 9:1-5
Gospel Reading: Matthew 14:22-33

Entrance Antiphon: Look to your covenant, O Lord,
and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever.
Arise, O God, and defend your cause,
and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.

GOSPEL Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!
I hope in the Lord,
I trust in his word.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord,
who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

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/](https://www.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.

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: Anna, Joseph, Ignatius & Jane Almeida, John Apap, Cristina Asuncion, Georgia Baldacchino, Francisca Cruz, Admund & Margaret D'Souza, Pedro Estil, Irene Santos Nimenzo, Edessa Reyes, Ruth Stanley, Antonio Vijungco and all the holy souls in purgatory

Healing / Good Health: Ginette, Jess, Karim, Armida Boncato, Antonio Borges, Ivan Correia, Peter Nathan, Solidaridad Pascua, Maria Perez, Joao Rosa and Lina Sutherland

Birthday / Thanksgiving / Special Intention: Scarlett Isabella Krogh and Marie Lambo

We also remember in our prayers our housebound brothers & sisters

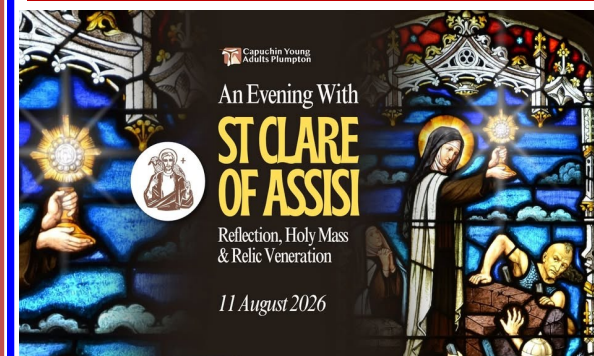
Yvonne, Victoria ABAO, Emanuela AGIUS, Belenor & Julian AGUILAR, Patricia ALLERDICE, John ANGEL, Mafalda ARACO, Raylina AURE, Christine BAPTISTE, John BARRETT, Margaret BIEDRZYCKA, Jacqueline CAMERON, Conception CAPIENDO, Anthony CARRUNA, Frances CARUANA, George CASSAR, Gwen & Robert CHAMBERS, Rita CLEARY, Clare DONOHOE, Matthew DORRAN, Paul DWYER, Mario FARRUGIA, Wayne & Audrey FERNANDEZ, Jean-Marie & Marie-Claude FREDERIC, Fololetina FRETTON, Louise GRECH, Eden & Ninoy JUCO, 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, 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

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary: August 15th

The Feast of the Assumption is a **Holy Day of Obligation** celebrated annually on **August 15th** that commemorates the bodily taking up of the Virgin Mary into heaven at the end of her earthly life. Mass celebrations are **Friday (Vigil) August 14th at 7:30pm** and **Saturday August 15th at 9:00am** with Morning Prayers at 8:00am.

An Evening with St Clare of Assisi: August 11th



As part of the Jubilee Year of St Francis, The Good Shepherd Parish will host the first class relic of St Clare of Assisi brought by the Poor Clare Sisters. Gather with CYAP for a special evening of prayer and devotion as we reflect on the life of St Clare of Assisi on her feast day. 7:00pm Talk | 7:30pm Mass & Veneration of First Class Relic | Concludes with fellowship. At the Good Shepherd Parish Plumpton Church 136 Hyatts Road, Plumpton NSW 2761.

Mass of Thanksgiving with Fr Jowel Jomarsus Gatus: August 20th

Join the Filipino Community as we welcome Fr Jomar Gatus – visiting from the Philippines – who will celebrate the Thanksgiving Mass on **Thursday August 20th 3:00pm at the Good Shepherd Parish Church**, 136 Hyatts Road, Plumpton.

St Carlo Acutis's Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition

Designed by St Carlo Acutis, the first millennial saint, this exhibition documents reported Eucharistic miracles from around the world, and it is touring parishes right across our Diocese. Next, it comes to Our Lady of the Angels, Rouse Hill, from 9-23 August. Students, teachers and parishioners are invited, entry is free and no bookings are required. To see where the exhibition is heading next across the Diocese, visit <https://parracatholic.org/iec2028/>

Diocese of Parramatta World Youth Day Seoul 2027 Launch: August 12th

Come and discover the pilgrimage to the 17th International World Youth Day in Seoul, South Korea (26 July – 11 August 2027), themed "Take courage! I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). Join us for an inspiring evening to learn about the pilgrimage, hear testimonies from past pilgrims, explore the faith and culture of the Korean Church, and enjoy fellowship with other young people. Date: August 12th 2026, Doors open at 6:30pm. Venue: Nagle College, 58A Orwell Street, Blacktown Register today at parracatholic.org/events/wyd27-launch/ We look forward to welcoming you!

Be The Witness Update

Be The Witness has now partnered with Aid to the Church in Need to bring you the Holy Shroud Exhibition as part of the incredible Be The Witness Experience. This remarkable exhibition detailing the intricacies of the Shroud of Turin will be on display at St Patrick's Cathedral from Sunday September 6th to Sunday September 13th.

Coming Events:

- Saint Clare Mass: Tuesday August 11th – 7.30pm in the Parish Church. St Clare talk at 7pm
- Feast of the Assumption (Holy Day of Obligation): Friday August 14th (Vigil) – 7:30pm Mass; Saturday 15th – 8:00am Morning Prayers and 9:00am Mass.
- Next Alpha begins Thursday September 24th.
- Saint Francis of Assisi Week: October 3rd to 10th – mark this week on your calendar!
- Parish-in-Council #2: Saturday November 21st – save the date!