

Readings for next weekend — Second Sunday of Lent

First reading: Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18; **Second reading:** Philippians 3:17 - 4:1; **Gospel:** Luke 9:28-36

Living Lent

The Lenten practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving are not things we do for God, but it is God who desires to do something for us through these practices.

Prayer is simply conversation with God. We listen to God and discern where he is leading us. We respond with total vulnerability, and we share our honest reactions and deepest longings. When we are in love, we tend to do what makes our partner happy and avoid doing things that make them unhappy. Out of love, we recognise that union with God in prayer will transform our minds and hearts.

Fasting, too, is a tool that can conform us to Christ. Whether it be “giving up” particular foods, drinks, behaviours or the internet, going without creates a space for us to set with our deepest appetites. What is holding me back from surrendering totally to Christ? In the end, we recognise that fasting is not about a diet-plan so much as becoming more like Jesus by creating intentional space for the Lord to dwell.

Almsgiving, is a complement to fasting... its not simply a season to give things up; we also share what we have with others. From God’s abundance, we have received, and in a spirit of charity, we generously show the same mercy and love to our brothers sisters through Hi-Five for Lent and Project Compassion.

Prayer, fasting and almsgiving are all remedies for sin. Like the Spirit that leads Jesus out into the desert, we too, mindful of our own Baptism, are drawn into these Spiritual practices and a time of intentional reflection so that we might live for God alone. God desires to accomplish his work in each of us.

— Fr. Gerard O’Dempsey ofmcap

Parish & Diocesan News continued

The FaithFeed: 29 March

Have questions about life & faith? Join with others on the search at The FaithFeed live studio audience - hosted by Baulkham Hills Parish in the Hills Deanery. The FaithFeed will be held on Saturday 29 March. Doors open 7:00 pm for a 7:30 pm start. The night will feature faith stories, live music, activities and great conversation. RSVP via parracatholic.org/events-faithfeed

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

Parish Planned Giving Envelopes for the next four months are available for subscribers to collect from the Entrance of the Church. 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. People wishing to contribute by direct debit – forms are available from the parish office. You can also setup your own internet banking recurring payment to:

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 07/03/2025

Donations	\$28,365.00
Raffle tickets	\$12,104.00
Legacy Donation	\$43,000.00
Total Amount	\$83,469.00
Revised Target Amount	\$100,000.00

THE PARISH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

130-136 Hyatts Road, Plumpton NSW 2761
Celebrating Our 36th 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 live the good news of Jesus.*

Weddings

Please call the Parish office for appointment. Arrangements should be made at least 12 months in advance.

Holy Communion for the Sick

Please call the parish office for date and time.

Anointing of the Sick

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

Baptisms

Parents and Godparents (2) must attend a Pre-Baptism Seminar prior to scheduling the Baptism. The seminar is offered once a month on the 4th Sunday in the Parish meeting room.

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

1st Sunday of Lent (Year C)

09 March 2025

1st Reading:	<i>Deuteronomy 26:4-10</i>
2nd Reading:	<i>Romans 10:8-13</i>
Gospel Reading:	<i>Luke 4:1-13</i>
Entrance Antiphon:	<i>When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.</i>
Responsorial Psalm:	<i>Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.</i>
GOSPEL Acclamation:	<i>Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!</i>
Communion Antiphon:	<i>One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.</i>

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 Council Chairperson	Mr Anthony Matthews
RCIA Co-ordinator	Mr & Mrs Bernie & 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.

Baptism Seminar

The next seminar will be held on the **23rd of March 2025 at 2:00 pm** in the **parish meeting room**. Please bring a copy of your child's **birth certificate**.

Parish Based Youth Group – Antioch

Young people are empowered & nourished in their spiritual Journey and leadership. We have a youth group meeting every Sunday at 7:30 pm. We invite the youth for “Come and See” experience.

“Lent is like a long 'retreat' during which we can turn back into ourselves and listen to the voice of God, in order to defeat the temptations of the Evil One. It is a period of spiritual 'combat' which we must experience alongside Jesus, not with pride and presumption, but using the arms of faith: prayer, listening to the word of God and penance.”

— Pope Benedict XVI

Please remember those for whom prayers have been requested

Death Anniversaries / In Memoriam: Cayetano & Rebecca, Jonny & Shane, Cirilo & Rosalinda Aclao, John Apap, Amber Daniels, Mary Rose Formosa, Emanuel Refalo, Aurora Villabroza and all souls in purgatory

Healing / Good Health: Pope Francis, Rainer Cruz, Thea & Hope Edades, Baby Hajar and Billy Mitchell

Anniversary / Birthday / Thanksgiving: Mila Dadat, Rosa Sharp and Mariana Uro

We also remember in our prayers our housebound brothers & sisters

John ANGEL, Mafalda ARACO, Raylina AURE, Christine BAPTISTE, Doris & John BARRETT, Philomena BENT, Joseph BUTTIGIGE, Jacqueline CAMERON, Conception CAPIENDO, Frances CARUANA, George CASSAR, Gwen & Robert CHAMBERS, Rita CLEARY, Sr Gail COLQUHOUN, Clare DONOHOE, Paul DWYER, Wayne & Audrey FERNANDEZ, Jean-Marie & Marie-Claude FREDERIC, Fololetina FRETTON, Louise GRECH, Eden & Ninoy JUCO, John KNIGHT, Maureen KNIGHT, Nabil LABBAD, Malia LAVALU, Francis LLOYD GOULD, Donald MCKECHNIE, Kathleen MORRISSEY, Deidre MURRAY, Mary MUSCAT, Elsie NONEY, Pamela PEARSON, Marie PURCELL, Gloria ROBERTS, Mary SIMMONS, Marian STEWART, Vivienne STEWART, Anthony & Natalina TEUMA, Mary THEVATHASAN, Raymond TOGHILL, Margaret TSENG, John VAIFALE, Sesilia VAVE, Augustina VELLA, Margaret VELLA, Aida WALCOTT, Russell & Mary WICKRAMASINGHE and Joan WREN.

Catechumens – Rite of Sending / Rite of Election

Today at the 9:00 am Sunday Mass we formally recognise that our catechumens are in the final stage of preparation for Baptism at the Easter Vigil. They will be presented to Bishop Vincent at St. Patrick's Cathedral this (Sunday) afternoon and he will declare them to be “Elect” that is ready for the Easter Sacraments of initiation.

This marks the end of their formal catechesis and that they now enter a time of special spiritual preparation for Baptism. We mark this stage by a series of Rites called “The Scrutinies” which will occur on the 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of Lent. Please keep our “Elect” in your prayers over the Lenten season.

Parish & Diocesan News

First Holy Communion Classes

Reminder that the 1st holy communion classes will resume on Sunday, March 16 at 10:30 am.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS reenactment on Good Friday

Any youth aged 15 - 20 years old interested in taking part in the stations of the cross in Good Shepherd this year may **contact RoseVi on 0416245254 as soon as possible**. Send her a text with your full name, age, and parent's name. Practices will start soon.

Caritas Project Compassion

Project Compassion 2025 shares three stories from around the world. We'll meet Toefuata'iga - (Toy-foo-ah-tah-ing-ah) from Samoa, Lam from Vietnam and Irene from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Each of this year's stories reflects diverse challenges, yet they are united by the shared determination to overcome adversity and create better futures for themselves and their communities. You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes and envelopes available at the back of the Church or by scanning the **QR code**, or online at caritas.org.au/project-compassion. Thank you for standing with us, as we Unite Against Poverty this Lent.

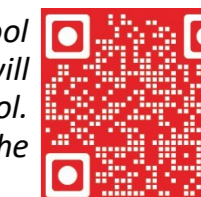


HIGH FIVE FOR LENT

Thank you for your continued generosity and compassion towards those seeking protection—refugees, migrants, and families in vulnerable situations who have been left behind. Your charity is a reflection of God's love in action. As many of you know, the demand for food bank services continues to rise. Financial stress and the increasing cost of living have made it harder for struggling families to put food on the table. The House of Welcome (HoW) has become a vital lifeline for many. This Lent, we invite you to deepen your Lenten journey through acts of love and service. We are continuing our partnership with HoW and asking for your support. Over the five weeks of Lent, we will focus on collecting five essential food items simple yet crucial staples for families living hand to mouth. Let us walk together this Lent, not only in prayer and reflection but also in action, extending Christ's love to those most in need.

St Clare's Catholic High School Open Day: 12 March

We would love you and your family to join us for St Clare's Catholic High School Hassall Grove's Open Day on 12 March 3:00 to 5:00 pm. Our dedicated teachers will be ready to answer your questions and share more information about how to enrol. We can't wait to meet you and show you around. Register to attend by scanning the **QR code** or visit <https://info.parra.catholic.edu.au/open-day/clarehassallgrove>



Join the Diocese of Parramatta's Jubilee Youth Pilgrimage

Young people (18-35) across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are invited to embark on an 18-day pilgrimage to the Jubilee of Youth in Rome from 19 July – 5 August 2025. The journey includes a visit to Greece, tracing the footsteps of Saint Paul, before heading to Rome for the celebration. Express your interest today at parracatholic.org/jubileeyouth2025