

Franciscan Reflection:

Spring is now in the air! Seeds are being sown. Seedlings are emerging. Flowers are blossoming. Gardeners are occupied tending to their plants. Did you know that Saint Clare of Assisi often called herself the “Little plant of Saint Francis.” He was instrumental in starting her growth in religious life. He can’t take full credit though. Any growth in the Spirit she experienced was because she had cooperated with the Lord, not because any one person had made it happen.

This 'Little plant' became more like an oak tree that is common in Assisi. She is a strong humble woman, who served her cloistered sisters, Saint Francis and the brothers (friars) and the Church.

May we look after each other spiritually, similar to how we look after our plants! Happy gardening!

— Fr John Nguyen ofmcap

Parish & Diocesan News continued

MET FaithLIFE Spirituality Short Course: Starting 17 September

Searching for a deeper understanding of spirituality? Hoping to find renewed ways of expressing your faith? Wanting to further discern God’s call in your life? Sign up now for the 3-session FaithLIFE Spirituality short course with spiritual director Jeff Hood on Tuesdays 17th September, 24th September and 1st October! Registration and more dates and details via QR or get in touch with the team via met@parracatholic.org



Free English and Citizenship Classes

Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are offering English and Citizenship classes at Mamre House, 181 Mamre Rd, Orchard Hills, on a Tuesday and Wednesday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm during school terms. Free childcare is available. If you are interested in enrolling, please contact Mamre Crèche on (02) 8843 2506 or Nepean Community College (02) 4724 9000.

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 Envelopes for the new financial year 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 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

THE PARISH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Celebrating Our 35th Anniversary

130-136 Hyatts Road, Plumpton NSW 2761

Weddings

Please call the Parish office for appointment. Arrangements should be made at least 6 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.

New Parish Projects—Meeting room and Additional Toilets 06/09/2024

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| Donations | \$27,665.00 |
| Raffle tickets | \$12,104.00 |
| Legacy Donation | \$43,000.00 |
| Total Amount | \$82,769.00 |
| Revised Target Amount | \$100,000.00 |

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

08 September 2024

1st Reading: *Isaiah 35:4-7*

2nd Reading: *James 2:1-5*

Gospel Reading: *Mark 7:31-37*

Entrance Antiphon: *You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.*

Responsorial Psalm: *Praise the Lord, my soul!*

GOSPEL Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom
and healed all who were sick.
Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: *Like the deer that yearns for running streams,
so my soul is yearning for you, my God;
my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.*

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:

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|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 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)
1st & 2nd Friday 7:30 pm
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.

Parish Based Youth Group – Antioch

Young people are empowered and 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.

Baptism Seminar

The next seminar will be held on the **22nd of September 2024 at 2:00 pm** in the parish meeting room. Please bring a copy of your child's birth certificate.

“We can cure physical diseases with medicine, but the only cure for loneliness, despair, and hopelessness is love. There are many in the world who are dying for a piece of bread, but there are many more dying for a little love.”

— St Teresa of Calcutta

Please remember those for whom prayers have been requested

Death Anniversaries / In Memoriam: Anna, Joachim, Joseph, Mary, Natividad Catli, Paul & Mary Fenech, Lolinda Gawayon, Lorenza & Silvestre Gayo, Joseph Haliburn, Patrick Jackson, Thomas Nathan and all souls in purgatory

Healing / Good Health: Cornelius, Edgardo, Mark, Joana, Hnura family, Jerome Alipio, Amelia Bell, Erlinda Escueta, Martin Falk, Franklyn Foenander, T. Fernandes, Reynaldo Lobo, Anet & Tesa Mejo, Maribel Milag and Bal Valentin

Birthday / Thanksgiving: Christopher, Peter, Joseph Bergonia, Mark Diaz, T Fernandes, Arthi Kumar, Angela Montales and Ishaan Nathan

We also remember in our prayers our housebound brothers & sisters

John ANGEL, Raylina AURE, Christine BAPTISTE, Doris & John BARRETT, Maureen BARTLEY, Philomena BENT, Joseph BUTTIGIGE, Jacqueline CAMERON, Conception CAPIENDO, Frances CARUANA, Gwen & Robert CHAMBERS, Sr Gail COLQUHOUN, Clare DONOHOE, Paul DWYER, Wayne & Audrey FERNANDEZ, Jean-Marie & Marie-Claude FREDERIC, Foleletina FRETTON, Louise GRECH, Catherine HART, Eden & Ninoy JUCO, John KNIGHT, Nabil LABBAD, Francis LLOYD GOULD, 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.

Parish & Diocesan News

Blessing of Seeds and Seedlings—all weekend Masses: 7 & 8 September

Following the Prayer after Communion will be the blessing of seeds & seedlings.

Baptism at 9:00 am Sunday Mass: 15 September

Next Sunday, September 15, at the 9:00 am Mass we will celebrate the Baptisms of Essaiah Lucas Enriquez, Jahaan Kaur Mansfield, Saanjh Kaur Mansfield, Samantha Margaret O'Neill, Gabrielle Rose Rolls and Malachi John Rolls.

CFCA Christian Life Program

Sunday afternoons—6 October to 17 November (except 27 October) in the parish meeting room.

Bishop's Father's Day Appeal – Thank You for Caring for Our Retired Priests' Health & Wellbeing

Your generosity and love ensure they receive the care, comfort, and dignity they deserve during their retirement. If you haven't had a chance to donate, please visit parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal or scan this QR code. Thank you.



The Gift of the Stigmata of St Francis of Assisi

All are invited to join in the **Two Zoom Sessions** on the following dates:

- **17 September 7:00 pm AEST** — Week 1: Contemporary understanding and accounts of the stigmata. Zoom – <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85157219019> — Meeting ID: 851 5721 9019
- **24 September 7:00 pm AEST** — Week 2: What significance the stigmata might have for us today. Zoom – <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83840839185> — Meeting ID: 838 4083 9185

These sessions will be recorded if you would like a link for the recording, please email: franciscanfederationaustralia@outlook.com

Shape our future with our new Pastoral Plan for 2024 – 2028

The Diocese of Parramatta has recently launched our Pastoral Plan for a Synodal Church 2024–2028: ‘Behold, I am with you’. Our pastoral plan represents the culmination of our Synod journey, where we have come together to listen, discern, and envision a path forward for our diocese over the past 16 months. Together, we can use this plan to revitalise our local community and shape the future of our Diocese. To download a copy of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan, please visit parracatholic.org/synodality.

Diocesan Season of Creation Gathering: 14 September

You are invited to a Diocesan Season of Creation gathering on Saturday 14 September from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at Winbourne Retreat Centre, Mulgoa. This event is part of Catholic Earthcare's national Season of Creation Convocation from 12-14 September. Cost is \$50 for the Diocesan gathering only, or \$100 for the full Convocation (with days 1 and 2 online). For program details, please visit tinyurl.com/soc-gathering24. Register for the Convocation by 10 September at caritas.org.au/soc-convocation.

MET Worship Ministry to the Sick and Dying Formation: 19 October

Are you currently taking Communion to the Sick and Dying in the Diocese of Parramatta? If so, please join the Office for Worship for a day of ongoing formation to further your knowledge and understanding of this important topic. **Saturday 19 October from 9:30 am - 2:00 pm** at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. Morning tea and Lunch provided. For more information and to register before 14 October, please contact Hannah on hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org or 0488 000 211 or visit <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=office-for-worship>