

## Readings for next weekend — Third Sunday of Advent

*First reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18; Second reading: Philippians 4:4-7; Gospel: Luke 3:10-18*

### **CHRISTMAS:**

Christmas is universally recognised by a tree decorated with tinsel – a northern hemisphere evergreen decorated with symbolic sparkling snow!

The feast of Christmas appears in the early 4<sup>th</sup> century and it coincided with a pagan feast of the Sun (Saturnalia), celebrated on the shortest day of the year. This was considered an appropriate time to celebrate the birth of Christ, Sun of Justice (Malachi 4:2) and Light of the world (John 8:12).

The liturgy of Christmas is structured around the dawn with special Mass texts (including Scripture readings) for ‘the vigil’, ‘during the night’, ‘dawn’ and ‘day’. The texts are filled with references to the dawn when the great sun breaks into the darkness of night, “O God, who have made this most sacred night radiant with the splendour of true light...as we are bathed in the new radiance of your incarnate Word, the light of faith, which illumines our minds... just as Christ was born a man and also shone forth as God...”

The glorious sun, so brilliant we cannot look at it, mysteriously giving life and warmth to the world – here is a symbol capable of bearing the weight of the mystery of the incarnation.

— Fr. Tom Elich, *Liturgy News* September 1989

### Parish & Diocesan News continued

#### **An opportunity to reflect on Advent in our Parish:**

You are invited to reflect on the Sunday Readings for Advent 2024, using the book *Hope Reigns*.

**Face to face Monday 10:00 am – 11:00 am in the Parish meeting room:**

**Please register using the signup sheet at the entrance of the Church**

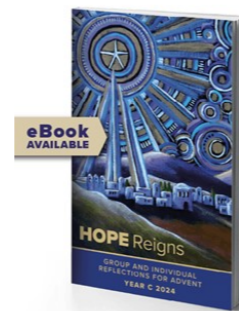
- Monday 9 December
- Monday 16 December

**On Zoom Wednesday night 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm**

- Wednesday 11 December
- Wednesday 18 December

For the **Zoom Link**, please contact the Parish Office on:

[parishof@goodshepherd.org.au](mailto:parishof@goodshepherd.org.au)



#### 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](mailto:parishof@goodshepherd.org.au)



*The Good Shepherd Parish Plumpton*

Or visit our website:

[www.goodshepherd.org.au](http://www.goodshepherd.org.au)

# THE PARISH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

*Celebrating Our 36th 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 06/12/2024

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

#### Second Sunday of Advent (Year C)

08 December 2024

1st Reading:

*Baruch 5:1-9*

2nd Reading:

*Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11*

Gospel Reading:

*Luke 3:1-6*

Entrance Antiphon:

*O people of Sion, behold,  
the Lord will come to save the nations,  
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard  
in the joy of your heart.*

Responsorial Psalm:

*The Lord has done great things for us;  
we are filled with joy.*

GOSPEL Acclamation:

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:  
all people shall see the salvation of God.  
Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon:

*Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,  
and behold the joy which comes to you from 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:**

**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.

**Baptism Seminar**

The next seminar will be held on the **26th of January 2025 at 2:00 pm** in the parish meeting room. Please bring a copy of your child’s birth certificate.

**Congratulations for last Weekend’s Baptism**

Kehlani Emelia Vaoga

“The coming of Jesus at Bethlehem brought joy to the world and to every human heart. May His coming this Christmas bring to each one of us that peace and joy that He desires to give.”

— St Teresa of Calcutta

**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.

**Please remember those for whom prayers have been requested**

**Death Anniversaries / In Memoriam:** Cristina, Maria, Phero, Toma, Sister Leona, Mario Boncato, Issac George, Antonette Haliburn, Primrose & Owen Ohi, Greta Sapon, Kelly Standen, Bernadette Tecson, Petelo Tuivai and Frank Zammit

**Healing / Good Health:** Frances Apap, Bernardino Leopoldo Duran Dado, Franklyn Foenander, Iki Nasio, Emilia Aurora Rodriguez, Lala Ronquillo and John Tabone

**Birthday / Thanksgiving / Special Intention:** Gimil Abraham, Joseph Bergonia, Christopher Nathan, Anna, Fia & Petelo Taateo

**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, 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, 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**

**Death of Br. Lawrie Sweeper ofmcap**

We received news (Wednesday) of the passing of Br. Lawrie, he had been resident at Nazareth House, Brisbane for over a year. Br. Lawrie was assigned here at Plumpton in the mid to late 2000s and was a staff member at Clare High School, Hassall Grove. May he rest in peace.

**THANK YOU from Catholic Mission**

The Catholic Mission would like to thank all parishioners of the Good Shepherd Parish for your generosity which is going towards supporting the Church in Mongolia and House of Mercy. Thanks to your kindness, people like Chuluunbaatar will have access to the support they need to help them get back on their feet. The total amount raised by the our parish was \$4,250. Thank you also for welcoming Margaret Vella to speak at the parish over the weekend.

**Bishop’s Christmas Appeal for Catholic Care’s Houses to Homes**

This Christmas, will you help homeless mothers and children find a safe place to call home and rebuild their lives? Your kind-hearted gift and prayers will help Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains provide homeless mothers and their children with practical and emotional support, and a safe haven to call home. Please give generously to the Bishop’s Christmas Appeal at [parracatholic.org/appeal](http://parracatholic.org/appeal) or scan the QR code to give your gift of a new beginning today. Thank you.



**Christmas Gifts from Palms Australia**

Merry Christmas! Are you looking to give something really special this year? Something that makes a tangible difference? Whether it be a GIFT directly supporting our overseas development program, or some unique Timorese GIFTS for your loved one’s home, you’ll find that perfect GIFT here! Just scan the QR or visit: [palms.org.au/donate/palms-gift-shop](http://palms.org.au/donate/palms-gift-shop)



**This ADVENT:**

1. Please consider asking someone who doesn’t normally come to Church to come with you for Christmas. Pray for that person now.
2. Carols: this year we will mark the Solemnity of the Epiphany with Carols in the courtyard in front of the Church on FRIDAY January 3<sup>rd</sup> 2025 7:30 pm – refreshments will be provided.
3. Tuesday Dec 10<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm – First Reconciliation.
4. Thursday Dec 12<sup>th</sup> 7:30 pm – Pastoral Planning meeting.

**January 2025:**

1. New Year’s Day Mass 9:00 am only (Wednesday January 1<sup>st</sup>).
2. Carols 7:30 pm Friday January 3<sup>rd</sup> (no evening Mass that day).
3. Feast of Santo Nino – Sunday January 19<sup>th</sup>.
4. Saturday January 25<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm: Fr. Gerard’s 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of priesthood.
5. Friday January 31<sup>st</sup> 9:00 am Mass: Staff from the three schools of the parish.