

Readings for next weekend — Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First reading: *Isaiah 58:7-10*; Second reading: *1 Corinthians 2:1-5*; Gospel: *Matthew 5:13-16*

Gaudete et Exultate:

In 2018, Pope Francis released an apostolic letter called *Gaudete et Exultate*, “On the call to holiness in today’s world”. Probably because it’s not very controversial, it has remained one of Francis’ lesser known document. This is rather sad because it is beautiful and important statement about what is at the heart of living as a follower of Jesus: what the Second Vatican Council called the universal call to holiness.

The letter is made up of five chapters, and one of the chapters (#3) is devoted entirely to a reflection on the gospel we are reading at Mass today: the Beatitudes. Just twelve verses of all the gospels, but Francis found them important enough to devote quite a large portion of his apostolic letter to considering them.

Francis introduces the chapter by writing: “Jesus explained with great simplicity what it means to be holy when he gave us the Beatitudes. The Beatitudes are like a Christian’s identity card. So, if anyone asks ‘What must one do to be a good Christian?’, the answer is clear. In the Beatitudes, we find a portrait of the Master, which we are called to reflect in our daily lives.”

Francis then proceeds to consider each beatitude, one by one reflecting on what each says about what it means to be holy – not for some long-dead believer in some inaccurately imagined past, but in the real world, in the midst of our real lives, today.

— Fr Gerard O’Dempsey OFM Cap

Parish & Diocesan News continued

Diocesan World Day of the Sick: February 11th

A Mass for the World Day of the Sick, including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, will be held at 11:00am on February 11th 2026 at St Patrick’s Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. All are welcome, including those who may be sick, and those who care for the sick and dying and health care professionals.

To register, please visit parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-world-day-of-the-sick-mass/

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



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 30/01/2026

Donations	\$30,780.00
Raffle tickets	\$12,104.00
Legacy Donation	\$46,000.00
Total Amount	\$88,884.00
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 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 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.

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

01 February 2026

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

1st Reading: *Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13*

Gospel Reading: *Matthew 5:1-12*

2nd Reading: *1 Corinthians 1:26-31*

Entrance Antiphon:

*Save us, O Lord our God!
And gather us from the nations,
to give thanks to your holy name,
and make it our glory to praise you.*

Responsorial Psalm:

Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

GOSPEL Acclamation:

*Alleluia, alleluia!
Rejoice and be glad;
Your reward will be great in heaven.
Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon:

*Let your face shine on your servant.
Save me in your merciful love.
O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.*

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-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 **22nd of February 2026 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. Back on February 1st 2026.

Please remember those for whom prayers have been requested

Death Anniversaries / In Memoriam: Valerio Barcelon, Sr Catherine Bernard, Joseph Haliburn, Giovanni Iurato, Patrick Neil Lim, Teresita Macabuag, Mariecel Manuel, Aquilina Mapa, Cyril Pereira, Lilia A Ruiz, Marlon Ruiz, Norberto Ruiz Sr, Jose Sebastian, Andres Velasco Sr, Maria Joseph Vincent, Laurence Zammit and all the holy souls in purgatory

Healing / Good Health: Mark, Michael, Harvey Almeida, George Cheriyadan, Mila Dadat, Lionel Joseph Dado, Cecil Graycochea, Ann Gonsalvez, Rosalind Mahomet, Glicerio Manalang, Anne Miller, Peter Nathan, Jake Neria, Maria Perez, Michelle Reyes, Elijah, Ethan & Rayan Walter

Anniversary / Birthday / Thanksgiving: Fr Gerard, T Fernandes, Owens Reyes and Erlinda Sepp

We also remember in our prayers our housebound brothers & sisters

Belenor & Julian AGUILAR, John ANGEL, Mafalda ARACO, Raylina AURE, Christine BAPTISTE, Doris & John BARRETT, Margaret BIEDRZYCKA, Joseph BUTTIGIEG, 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, Alamita HALA, Eden & Ninoy JUCO, John KNIGHT, Maureen KNIGHT, 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, Marie PURCELL, Melecia REA, Gloria ROBERTS, Lilly SHAHOUD, Mary SIMMONS, Marian STEWART, Vivienne STEWART, Anthony & Natalina TEUMA, Raymond TOGHILL, Margaret TSENG, John VAIFALE, Sesilia VAVE, Augustina VELLA, Russell & Mary WICKRAMASINGHE and Joan WREN.

Parish & Diocesan News

Thank you

Joseph 'Joe' Fenech has retired from the ministry of Acolyte. We extend our thanks to Joe for his faithful service to the parish liturgies over many years. Joe has served the Altar of the Lord, in various places since 1973! Joe will continue as our Safeguarding Champion. **Thank you Joe.**

Candlemas – Feast of the Presentation of the Lord: February 2nd

Bring your candles at the 9:00am Mass on Monday February 2nd for the **blessing of candles**.

Lenten Gospel Reflection Groups

Why not gather a group of your friends and form a group, call the parish office for more details and for the ordering of books and CD.

Fundraising Project to help the building construction of Holy Rosary Church, Waga, Sri Lanka

A fundraiser will be held on **Sunday 8th February after the 9.00am Mass** and **Saturday 14th February after 6.00pm Mass** to raise funds for the building construction of Holy Rosary Church in Waga, Sri Lanka. Please check the **noticeboard** for further information or contact **Moira** on **0408 869 114**.

Rosary Making Workshop: February 9th

Come along for a fun evening of community and crafting rosary beads that will then be donated to the sick and dying in hospitals across our Diocese. The craft evening will be held on **Monday 9 February at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown**. Costs are \$5 per person – payable on arrival (includes all materials).

To register and for more information, please visit parracatholic.org/rosary-workshops

When should I complete my Safeguarding Training?

All Clergy, employees and volunteers in parish ministry are required by the NSW Children's Guardian Act 2019 to be **current and complete with Safeguarding Training**. Check with your Parish Office when you are due to update your Safeguarding Training.

- If you are new to ministry, you must complete the Introductory Modules 1-3 (Cycle 1).
- If you completed Cycle 1 modules two years ago, you must complete Renewal Modules 4 and 5 (Cycle 2)
- If you renewed your Cycle 2 two years ago, you must complete a Refresher Module 6 (Cycle 3)

Safeguarding Training Modules can always be completed online at: <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au/>.

Face-to-face training opportunities can be found at:

<https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>.

Coming Events:

1. Lenten Gospel Reflection groups – sign up sheets are available on the table at the back of the church. Let the office know if you'd like to form your own group, even families can form a group! Sign up and get involved!
2. RCIA restarts – Monday February 2nd 7.30pm in the Meeting Room.
3. Pastoral Planning Committee – first meeting for 2026, Tuesday February 3rd 7.30pm
4. Matthew's Gospel DVD and discussion returns this Thursday February 5th Supper at 7.00pm.
5. Farewell to the Immaculate Sisters – Saturday February 7th 6.00pm Mass followed by Refreshments.
6. Good Shepherd School Mass – Tuesday February 10th 9.00am.
7. Musicians' workshop – Saturday February 14th 9.00-11.00am in the church.
8. Ash Wednesday – Wednesday February 18th, Masses 9.00am and 7.30pm.