

Readings for next weekend — Sixth Sunday of Easter

First reading: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; **Second reading:** 1 Peter 3:15-18; **Gospel:** John 14:15-21

Eucharist: Bread of Life

The sacrificial nature of the Mass, solemnly asserted by the Council of Trent (1562) was reaffirmed by the Second Vatican Council, which offered these words about the Mass: 'At the Last Supper our Saviour instituted the Eucharistic Sacrifice of his Body and Blood, by which he would perpetuate the Sacrifice of the Cross throughout the centuries until he should come again, thus entrusting the Church, his beloved bride, the memorial of his death and resurrection.'

St. Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274) in a work on the Feast of Corpus Christi, writes: "No other sacrament has greater healing power; through it sins are purged away, virtues are increased and the soul is enriched with an abundance of every spiritual gift."

This profound and beautiful Eucharistic tradition implies that the Eucharist is there for us, not because we are pure and without sin, but precisely because we are not! At every Mass the celebrant says as he holds up the host: "Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world, blessed are those who are called the supper of the Lamb." And the congregation responds: "Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof...say the word and my soul shall be healed."

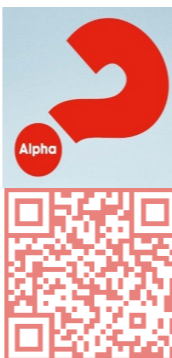
Thus, Pope Francis reminded us: "The Eucharist, although it is the fullness of sacramental life, is not a prize for the perfect, but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak." (Evangelii Gaudium, #47)... *To be continued next week.*

— Fr Gerard O'Dempsey OFM Cap

Parish & Diocesan News continued

What happens at Alpha?

Let's see if we can remove some of the mystery... each Alpha session begins at 7pm on a Monday night (beginning May 4th) with a **meal**. Yes, it begins with food – and comes at no cost (we have some very generous benefactors in our parish community). At approximately 7.30pm the video begins followed by some quiet reflection time and then some discussion. The evening concludes, usually, between 8.30pm and 9pm. Topics include: Who is God, what is the Bible, who is Jesus, who is the Holy Spirit, why should I pray...etc. Take the plunge and register. Also, you might know someone who is not Catholic yet, or a Catholic who no longer goes to church, you can extend an invitation and accompany that person to Alpha! This is what evangelization looks like! Make a friend, be a friend, bring that friend to Christ. Please scan the QR code to register or contact the parish office on 9832 4461. All are welcome.



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 01/05/2026

Donations \$31,896.00

Raffle tickets \$12,104.00

Legacy Donation \$57,000.00

Total Amount \$101,000.00

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 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.

5th Sunday of Easter (Year A)

03 May 2026

1st Reading: Acts 6:1-7

2nd Reading: 1 Peter 2:4-9

Gospel Reading: John 14:1-12

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.

GOSPEL Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord;
no one comes to the Father, except through me.
Alleluia!

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.

Baptism Seminar

The next seminar will be held on the **24th of May 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.

Congratulations for last Weekends' Baptism

Kaliyah Amari Vaoga

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION for MAY

That everyone might have food.

Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

Please remember those for whom prayers have been requested

Death Anniversaries / In Memoriam: Daniel Allegacoon, Oswald Haliburn, Bob Maxwell, Jerome Maragh, Dexie Marie Molijon, Sitani Nasio, David Pisani and all the holy souls in purgatory

Healing / Good Health: Hunter, Jaz, Juvy, Miki, Ken Ferreira, Reynald Fortinado, Peter Nathan, Maria Perez, Peter Politoni, Benedict Recto and Michelle Rowe

Anniversary / Birthday / Thanksgiving / Special Intention: Nicole, Esther Bautista, Jeffrey Escueta, Hmura family, Abby Reyes and Joselito Tandoc

We also remember in our prayers our housebound brothers & sisters

Mary, Russell, Yvonne, Belenor & Julian AGUILAR, John ANGEL, Mafalda ARACO, Raylina AURE, Christine BAPTISTE, Doris & 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, 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, Lynette STITT, Anthony & Natalina TEUMA, Raymond TOGHILL, Margaret TSENG, John VAIFALE, Sesilia VAVE, Augustina VELLA, Russell & Mary WICKRAMASINGHE, Joan WREN, Espedito & Kitty ZAMMIT

Parish & Diocesan News

Clapping at the end of Mass

It has been raised by a number of people if we could **end** this practice. The Liturgy, especially the music, is not entertainment – it is praise and worship of God, musicians and choir members do not expect adulation for their service... better to direct your thanks to God the creator of all good gifts.

RCIA Enquiry Process

If you know someone who might be interested in finding out more about the Christian Faith, perhaps it is someone who is not yet baptised, please direct them to the Alpha program which begins this Monday (May 4th) with a meal at 7.00pm and video at 7.30pm – finishing between 8.30pm and 9.00pm. **All are welcome.**

Parish-in-Council

We are replacing the former Parish council with a new model called: Parish-in-Council. It follows closely the Synodal way of being a listening church. Please set aside Saturday June 27th for this great event and opportunity to participate in the life of the parish community.

Commissioning Mass of Liturgical Ministers: May 12

All liturgical ministers – readers, servers, extra ordinary ministers are invited to join us for our Annual Commissioning Mass of Liturgical Ministers. Families and friends are also invited. This celebration will take place at 7:30pm on May 12th 2026, at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Liturgical ministers are asked to please arrive by 7:00pm and be seated by 7:15pm. Please register the number of guests and ministers attending by Thursday, May 7th. To register please contact ofw@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795.

Eucharist28 Update – Renewal has begun!

The International Eucharistic Congress in Sydney in 2028 ('Eucharist28') will be a global gathering of the Church centred on the Eucharist, the source and summit of our Christian lives, culminating in a Papal Mass with Pope Leo XIV. It will be a festival of faith, rich with worship, prayer, testimonies, art, music – a truly 'once in a lifetime' experience, and a transformative moment for our nation. But this is more than an event in Sydney. It is a national journey, an invitation to renewal for the whole Church, wherever we are. The journey begins now, in our own hearts, in our own parishes. Across the Easter weekend, thousands of catechumens and candidates throughout Australia were baptised and received into full communion with the Church. Our churches were alive with faith—pews filled, hearts renewed. It was a beautiful witness to what the Church is called to be every week, not only at Christmas and Easter. The great gift of the Eucharist is that it is not merely a story remembered over a few sacred days. At every Mass, we encounter the reality itself: we offer ourselves to God alongside Christ, truly present in our midst. How wonderful it would be to see our pews full every week—because people have truly encountered the living Lord in the Eucharist! For more information and regular updates, please **register** using the **QR code** or on the **website: eucharist28.org**

"We are an Easter people, and Alleluia is our song!" — Pope Saint John Paul II



Coming events in MAY:

- Throughout the month of May we will be conducting the annual Counting of Mass attendees for the Australian Catholic Bishops.
- Monday May 4th: Alpha begins – make sure you register either by QR code or by calling the parish office.
- Tuesday May 12th: Commissioning Mass for new ministers at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta, 7.30pm.
- Saturday May 23rd: Parish Leadership Summit at St. Joseph's Baulkham Hills 9.00am – 1.00pm.
- Sunday May 24th: Sausage Sizzle after the 6.00pm Mass.
- Sunday May 31st: 40th anniversary of the founding of the Parramatta Diocese – Mass 2.00pm in the Cathedral.