

Readings for next weekend — First Sunday of Lent

First reading: Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7; **Second reading:** Romans 5:12,17-19; **Gospel:** Matthew 4:1-11

The Season of LENT:

This coming Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, a day of prayer and fasting for the Christian community. The law of fasting applies to those who have completed their eighteenth (18th) year, until the beginning of their sixtieth (60th) year; the law of abstinence (from meat) applies to all who have completed their fourteenth (14th) year.

Lent is a penitential season of prayer, self-denial and helping others (prayer, fasting and alms giving). In this way the whole church prepares for Easter along with those who are to be Baptised at the Easter Vigil. Catholics are obliged to receive holy communion at least once a year, in Australia and New Zealand between Ash Wednesday and Trinity Sunday.

This is special time for those preparing for Baptism at the Easter Vigil: on the first Sunday of Lent, those who have been approved for Baptism and expressed the desire for it, are presented to the Bishop at the Cathedral in what is called "The Rite of Election" – meaning they become the "Elect of God", meaning chosen for the sacraments of initiation at the Vigil.

On the third, fourth and fifth Sunday of Lent we celebrate the "Scrutinies" with the Elect, these are special moments of prayer asking God to strengthen the Elect in the last few weeks of preparation for the sacraments. You will notice some differences in the Sunday Masses during Lent, we will use the "I Confess" followed by a sung "Lord, have mercy" at the Penitential act of Mass, the Gloria will be omitted until Holy Thursday night, the "Alleluia" will be replaced by the acclamation "Praise to you, Lord Jesus", and the Mass setting being sung will be the "Mass of Glory and Praise" by Australian composer Paul Mason.

Project Compassion starts with Ash Wednesday – be sure to pick up your boxes! These are returned during the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday evening. Project Compassion is meant to be a 'sacrificial' offering – not the left-over spare change behind the sofa!

Gospel Reflection groups are starting (first one this coming Monday morning) sign up for a group or start your own – contact the parish office for books and CD. Anyone can run a group, you don't need a degree in theology!

Stations of the Cross will be celebrated each Friday evening at 7.30pm – followed by reconciliation (except on March 6th when Mass will follow the Stations).

Prayer, fasting and almsgiving run braided together through the Ash Wednesday readings. In the Christian tradition, these three practices are nearly inseparable, and they have long characterised the season of Lent. Each are in the service of repentance and conversion – turning away from sin and wholeheartedly towards God. May our Lenten practices, joining with those preparing for Baptism, bring us joyfully renewed to the Easter Celebrations.

— Fr Gerard O'Dempsey OFM Cap

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 13/02/2026

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.

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

15 February 2026

1st Reading: Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:6-10

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:17-37

Entrance Antiphon:

*Be my protector, O God,
a mighty stronghold to save me.
For you are my rock, my stronghold!
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.*

Responsorial Psalm:

Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

GOSPEL Acclamation:

*Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.
Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon:

*They ate and had their fill,
and what they craved the Lord gave them;
they were not disappointed in what they craved.*

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.

Congratulations for last Weekends' Baptism

Diego Jorge Moitino

"Jesus came to bring to fulfillment and to promulgate in a definitive way the Law of God, up to the last iota. He manifests its original aims and fulfils its authentic aspects, and he does all this through his preaching and, even more, with the offering of himself on the Cross." — Pope Francis

Please remember those for whom prayers have been requested

Death Anniversaries / In Memoriam: Filomena, Joyeeta, Eulalio Aquino, Sulpicio John Del Rosario, Balbino Dela Rea, Mary Rose Formosa, Theresa Gomez, Nestor Madlangbayan, Guce Mangubat, Romualdo & Sophia Babas Martin, Andre Marquez, Cyril Pereira, Joseph Clyde Pereira, Cornelio & Iluminada Rondario, Jacinta Sene, Romualdo Soriano and all the holy souls in purgatory

Healing / Good Health: Harvey Almeida, Anita Ayson-DeVera, Celine Cosme, Mila Dadat, Lionel Joseph Dado, Anne Miller, Peter Nathan, Jake Neria, Maria Perez, Michelle Reyes, Diana Rodriguez, Elijah, Ethan & Rayan Walter

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

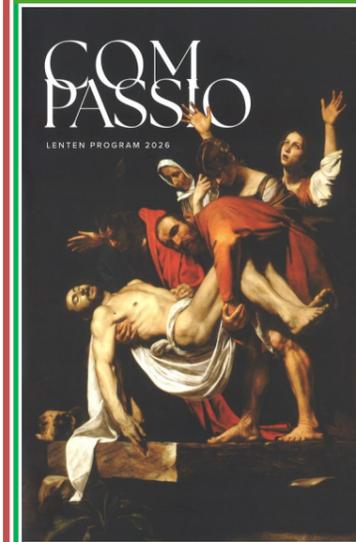
Lenten Gospel Reflection 2026 **COMPASSIO**

Each year during Lent, we offer an opportunity to come together to pray and reflect as a community. You are invited to join one of our reflection groups or offer your own, with an easy to follow booklet.

Beginning the week of 16 February
(sign-up sheets are available at the back of the Church)

- **Mondays** in the Meeting Room after the 9:00am Mass and morning tea.
- **Thursdays** in the Meeting Room with 7:00pm supper followed by the readings, reflections and discussions.

For more information or to register your own Lenten group contact the Parish Office. Phone: (02) 9832 4461, Email: parishof@goodshepherd.org.au



Rosary Making Workshops

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 the following days:

- Thursday February 26th at St Nicholas of Myra Parish, Penrith, from 7.00pm.
- Saturday March 7th at Holy Spirit Parish, St Clair-Erskine Park, from 2.00pm.
- Tuesday March 10th at Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown, from 7.00pm.

Costs are \$5.00 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>.

Waste Bins outside the Kitchen

There are several waste bins outside kitchen with different lid colours and labels. Green for food scraps **only**, yellow for **empty** bottles and cans, blue for **empty** coffee cups and black for general waste. Please make sure you **read the labels before throwing your rubbish**. If you are not sure where to throw your rubbish please use the red lid bins located close to the toilets. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

Coming Events:

- Thursday February 19th – Mass at Southern cross 10.30am
- Friday February 20th – the Friars will be away in the morning for a safeguarding workshop.
- Saturday February 21st – Senior Leadership Team, planning day at Baulkham Hills.
- Tuesday February 24th – 7.30pm Liturgy Committee
- Saturday March 7th – Table talk (following the 6.00pm Mass)