

Readings for next weekend — First Sunday of Lent

First reading: Deuteronomy 26:4-10; Second reading: Romans 10:8-13; Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

LITURGY and LENT:

The season of Lent begins this Wednesday with the imposition of Ashes as a sign of our desire to repent and to turn away from sin. The focus of Lent is our preparation for Easter when we will renew our baptismal promises. The prayer, fasting and almsgiving (charity) are the means by which we recall what it means to be baptised, a member of Christ's family, the Church. And the obligations that go along with being a member of the Church.

There are a variety of means of doing this – there are Gospel discussion groups, (including a zoom version), there will be Stations of the cross on Friday evenings, extra opportunities to celebrate reconciliation, High-Five for Lent, and Project Compassion. Make good use of the opportunities God sets before you.

When it comes to the liturgy – it is not “business as usual”. Each Sunday we will use the alternative penitential act; “I confess..” and a sung “Lord, have mercy”. The Alleluia and the Gloria are given a rest until Easter. The gospel acclamation becomes “Praise to you, Lord Jesus” throughout the season. One of the hymns we use in this season speaks clearly of what the background to Lent is all about: “Now is the acceptable time, now is the day of salvation...” (Joel 2:12) Repentance Is NOW, not sometime in the distant and foggy future.

Ash Wednesday (March 5th) is a day of **FAST and ABSTINENCE**: The law of fasting applies to those who have completed their 18th year, until the beginning of their 60th year. (One full meal and two lighter ones). Abstinence (not eating meat) applies to all those who have completed their 14th year. Fridays of Lent are days of penance (but not Abstinence – in Australia). That penance might include no internet for the day, (no you-tube or computer games!!!) doing an act of charity for someone, helping a neighbour when you'd rather be doing something for yourself.

On the third, fourth and fifth Sundays of Lent we will celebrate the Scrutinies with our Elect as they prepare for Baptism at the Easter Vigil. This will occur at the 9:00 am and 6:00 pm Masses on those Sundays and we will be using the Year “A” readings at those Masses.

— Fr. Gerard O'Dempsey ofmcap

Parish & Diocesan News continued

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 Planned Giving Envelopes for the next four months 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 also 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

New Parish Projects—Meeting room and Additional Toilets 28/02/2025

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

THE PARISH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

130-136 Hyatts Road, Plumpton NSW 2761
Celebrating Our 36th 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 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.*

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

02 March 2025

1st Reading:	<i>Ecclesiasticus 27:4-7</i>
2nd Reading:	<i>1 Corinthians 15:54-58</i>
Gospel Reading:	<i>Luke 6:39-45</i>
Entrance Antiphon:	<i>The Lord became my protector. He brought me out to a place of freedom; he saved me because he delighted in me.</i>
Responsorial Psalm:	<i>Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.</i>
GOSPEL Acclamation:	<i>Alleluia, alleluia! Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life. Alleluia!</i>
Communion Antiphon:	<i>I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me, sing psalms to the name of the Lord Most High.</i>

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)
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 **23rd of March 2025 at 2:00 pm** in the **parish meeting room**. Please bring a copy of your child's **birth certificate**.

Congratulations for last Weekends' Baptism

Tsai Ioane Lagaia
Amara Sabine Mendoza
Eliana Jodie Valimento

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.

"The ultimate test of your greatness is the way you treat every human being." — St. John Paul II

Please remember those for whom prayers have been requested

Death Anniversaries / In Memoriam: Ezalita, Ivy, Judith, Peter, Emma Barrion, Joseph Camilleri, Remy Centino, Jorge Cusi Sr, Alfredo & Lily Dimaano, Maria & Raymundo Ducusin, Owen Robert Gaffey, Aurea Martin, Tina Pascau, Florita & Nilo Piczon, Petra Sajor, Sr Bernie Silva, Cyril Silva, Marina Tonel, Laurence Zammit and all souls in purgatory

Healing / Good Health: Pope Francis, Thea & Hope Edades, Bernardino Leopoldo Dado, Baby Hajar, Billy Mitchell and Julius Uru

Anniversary / Birthday / Thanksgiving: Alyssa & Joseph

We also remember in our prayers our housebound brothers & sisters

John ANGEL, Mafalda ARACO, Raylina AURE, Christine BAPTISTE, Doris & John BARRETT, 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, Eden & Ninoy JUCO, John KNIGHT, Maureen KNIGHT, Nabil LABBAD, Malia LAVALU, Francis LLOYD GOULD, Donald MCKECHNIE, 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

ASH Wednesday

We have a later start to Lent and Easter this year – Ash Wednesday falls on Wednesday March 5th
Easter Triduum: Holy Thursday – April 17th, Good Friday – April 18th, Easter Vigil – April 19th.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS reenactment on Good Friday

Any youth aged 15 - 20 years old interested in taking part in the stations of the cross in Good Shepherd this year may **contact RoseVi on 0416245254 as soon as possible**. Send her a text with your full name, age, and parent's name. Practices will start soon.

Caritas Project Compassion

This Lent, we are called to Unite Against Poverty through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. By taking home a Project Compassion donation box or envelope, you'll be answering the Gospels' call to care for our global family and walk alongside the most vulnerable. Your generous support this Lenten season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to communities facing poverty, food insecurity, lack of education, and water shortages, while building resilience against future challenges. Together, through faith and action, we can bring compassion and opportunity to those most in need. You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes and envelopes available at the back of the Church or by scanning the **QR code**, or online at caritas.org.au/project-compassion. Thank you for standing with us, as we Unite Against Poverty this Lent.



HIGH FIVE FOR LENT

Thank you for your continued generosity and compassion towards those seeking protection—refugees, migrants, and families in vulnerable situations who have been left behind. Your charity is a reflection of God's love in action. As many of you know, the demand for food bank services continues to rise. Financial stress and the increasing cost of living have made it harder for struggling families to put food on the table. The House of Welcome (HoW) has become a vital lifeline for many. This Lent, we invite you to deepen your Lenten journey through acts of love and service. We are continuing our partnership with HoW and asking for your support. Over the five weeks of Lent, we will focus on collecting five essential food items simple yet crucial staples for families living hand to mouth. Let us walk together this Lent, not only in prayer and reflection but also in action, extending Christ's love to those most in need.

Help Needed for Transport of the Sick

A mother and her sick child are seeking help with transportation from their home at Hassall Grove to Westmead Public Hospital. If anyone is able to assist please contact the Parish Office on (02) 9832 4461 or email parishof@goodshepherd.org.au. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

Join the Diocese of Parramatta's Jubilee Youth Pilgrimage

Young people (18-35) across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are invited to embark on an 18-day pilgrimage to the Jubilee of Youth in Rome from 19 July – 5 August 2025. The journey includes a visit to Greece, tracing the footsteps of Saint Paul, before heading to Rome for the celebration. Express your interest today at parracatholic.org/jubileeyouth2025

The FaithFeed: 29 March

Have questions about life & faith? Join with others on the search at The FaithFeed live studio audience - hosted by Baulkham Hills Parish in the Hills Deanery. The FaithFeed will be held on Saturday 29 March. Doors open 7:00 pm for a 7:30 pm start. The night will feature faith stories, live music, activities and great conversation. RSVP via parracatholic.org/events-faithfeed