

Readings for next weekend — The Epiphany of the Lord

First reading: Isaiah 60:1-6; Second reading: Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6; Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

Liturgy

Christmas, more than December 25th! Now that the retail world has had its sales they've moved on to the next 'retail' moment – Valentine's day (chocolates) and Easter (hot cross buns). But for Christians, the Christmas season has only just begun. The doctrine of the incarnation (remember the quiz from a few weeks ago) lies at the heart of the Christmas celebration – a season of awe and wonder at the "great exchange" when eternity merges with time, the eternally begotten one (Jesus Christ) is born, the author of all life is subjected to death, *the very Word of God becomes flesh and dwells among us.*

In our remembering of Christmastide (all the way up to the Epiphany), we make present Christ's coming once again as we wonder at his entrance into our lives and the world, and we rightly respond: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.

— Fr Gerard O' Dempsey ofmcap

Parish & Diocesan News continued

Epiphany Pilgrimage and Fiesta: 2-9 January 2025

Commit the first fruits of your new year to Christ with the 2025 Epiphany Pilgrimage. Enjoy 7 days of bushwalking, fellowship and prayer as we journey from Emu Plains to the top of the Blue Mountains, experiencing the wonderful hospitality of parish communities along the way. Day 1 is a family-friendly day, with the option for a children's pilgrimage finishing with the Finnies Fiesta at St Finbars, Glenbrook. For more information and to register for all or part of the journey, visit www.epiphanypilgrimage.org.

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 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



The Good Shepherd Parish Plumpton

Or visit our website:

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 27/12/2024

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

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (Year C)

29 December 2024

1st Reading: *1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28*

2nd Reading: *1 John 3:1-2, 21-24*

Gospel Reading: *Luke 2:41-52*

Entrance Antiphon: *The shepherds went in haste,
and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.*

Responsorial Psalm: *How happy they who dwell in your house, O Lord.*

GOSPEL Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!
Open our hearts, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.
Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: *Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.*

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.

Parish & Diocesan News

Parish Office Closures

The parish office will be closed from the 30th of December 2024 and will reopen on the 2nd of January 2025.

Liturgical Ministry Course returns in 2025

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence in 2025 in Blacktown and Penrith. This free formation is open to anyone in the Diocese interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. **Enrolment forms are available from the sacristy after Mass or from the parish office. Registrations close 28th January 2025 but spaces are limited so enrol now to avoid disappointment.** For more information please contact the parish office on **9832 4461** or email parishof@goodshepherd.org.au.

Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities

The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Training will be held on Saturday 29 January at St Andrew the Apostle Parish Marayong for Cycle 1 (Module 1). More training opportunities will be available throughout January and February. Please register directly for this training or for other convenient dates and locations by following this link on the training event: <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>. For more information, please email: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

Free English and Citizenship Classes

Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are offering English and Citizenship classes at Mamre House, 181 Mamre Rd, Orchard Hills, on a Tuesday and Wednesday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm during school terms. Free childcare is available. If you are interested in enrolling, please contact Mamre Crèche on (02) 8843 2506 or Nepean Community College (02) 4724 9000.

Parish Secretary needed at Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown

Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown is seeking a dedicated and enthusiastic Parish Secretary to join the parish team on a part time basis, working from the Parish Offices at Saint Patrick's Church, 51-19 Allawah Street, Blacktown. This position is for 4 days per week, Tuesday to Friday, with working hours from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. This role offers a unique opportunity to support the mission of the Church in Western Sydney. For job description and details, please email: admin@mqqofblacktown.org.au

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

Amelia Grace Sinsay



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: Primitiva Costes, Francisco Dakila, Remegio Deligero, Leah D'Souza, Henry & Xavier D'Souza, Jose Estoya, George Icholchar, Dante Jambalos, Joyce Littlemore, Reynaldo Lobo, Jose Salvacion Macabuag, Phyllis McHatton, Javed Perviaz, Jenny Lopa Pilia'e, Antonia Rea and Lionel Swift

Healing / Good Health: Matthew Caraica, Gervy Espino, Franklyn Foenander, Emiliana Lagasca, Iki Nasio, Bienvenido & Connie Recto, Helen Recto, Ethan & Ryan Walter

Anniversary / Birthday / Thanksgiving / Special Intention: Fernandez family, Rolando Lobo, Gliceria Manalang and Emanuel Refalo

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.

Upcoming events:

1. Friday January 3rd 7.30 pm Carols in the Church courtyard to celebrate the Epiphany (the revelation of Christ to the nations). Bring a blanket to sit on. Refreshments available afterwards.
2. Santo Nino Fiesta: January 19th.
3. Saturday January 25th 6:00 pm Mass: 30th Anniversary of Fr. Gerard's ordination to the priesthood. Refreshments after Mass.
4. Tuesday January 26th 6:00 pm: Mass of thanksgiving celebrated by newly Ordained Fr. Joseph Pham. Fr. Joseph's family live in our parish and Joseph is a vocation from our parish (and from our Antioch group!). Refreshments after Mass.