

## Readings for next weekend — Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

**First reading:** Isaiah 62:1-5; **Second reading:** 1 Corinthians 12:4-11; **Gospel:** John 2:1-11

### Liturgy: WHY DO WE BOW TO THE ALTAR?

Bows and genuflections are two of a variety of bodily gestures used by human beings over the centuries to honour individuals and objects in religious as well as secular settings.

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal presents norms about the actions used to express reverence and respect at Mass, and includes directions about when to genuflect (n. 274) and when to bow (n. 275).

The GIRM (n. 298) reminds us of the ancient tradition of seeing the altar as representing Christ, the Living Stone (cf. 1 Peter 2:4). Because of this association, a bow of the body is prescribed as the normal gesture made toward the altar, as if toward Christ himself. In particular, all the ministers bow toward the altar when they arrive at the sanctuary at the beginning of Mass and at the end of Mass, before leaving the sanctuary. The priest or deacon also bows during other moments during the Mass, for example, when preparing to proclaim the Gospel. In addition, this “profound bow” is made by the entire assembly during the Creed at the words “by the power of the Holy Spirit . . . became man.”

The genuflection, seen as a sign of adoration, is reserved for the Eucharist as well as for the cross between its solemn veneration on Good Friday and the beginning of the Easter Vigil. The Psalmist exhorts us to “bow down in worship” (Ps 95:6) and St. Paul reminds us that “every knee should bend” at the name of Jesus (Phil 2:10). Genuflecting toward the tabernacle and bowing toward the altar are physical gestures that bring home to us that our religion is incarnational, and that since Christ became “like us in all things,” all aspects of our humanity should be involved in praising God.

— 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 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](http://www.goodshepherd.org.au)

#### New Parish Projects—Meeting room and Additional Toilets 10/01/2025

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

*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.

#### The Baptism of the Lord (Year C)

**12 January 2025**

**1st Reading:** Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11

**2nd Reading:** Titus 2:11-14,3:4-7

**Gospel Reading:** Luke 3:15-16,21-22

#### Entrance Antiphon:

*After the Lord was baptised, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered:  
This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.*

#### Responsorial Psalm:

*Oh, bless the Lord, my soul!*

#### GOSPEL Acclamation:

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
John said: He who is to come is mightier than I; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.  
Alleluia!*

#### Communion Antiphon:

*Behold the One of whom John said:  
I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.*

#### 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.

### 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**.

### 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 in February)

*"The Lord was Baptized, not to be cleansed Himself, but to cleanse the waters, so that those waters, cleansed by the flesh of Christ which knew no sin, might have the power of Baptism."*

— Saint Ambrose

### Please remember those for whom prayers have been requested

**Death Anniversaries / In Memoriam:** Anna, Maria, Martha, Peter, Cicily Abraham, John Apap, Antonio Aquino, Cecilia Bautista, Dave Andrew Culala, Stella Dabare, Ronald Fabian, Edwin Fernandes, Edward Haliburn, Joseph Sr & Joseph Jr Haliburn, Melchore Crisostomo Loreto, Augustino Melodia, Triposa Mirabueno, departed loved ones from the Nguyen family, Eugenio Parreno Jr and all souls in purgatory

**Healing / Good Health:** Mark, Michael, Tess, Matthew Caraica, Gervy Espino, Franklyn Foenander, Emiliana Lagasca, Tesa Mejo and Sr Julienne Santos

**Anniversary / Birthday / Thanksgiving:** J.M. Fernandes

### 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.

## Parish & Diocesan News

### Feast of the Holy Child Jesus – Sr. Santo Nino: 19 January

The Cofradia del Sr Santo Nino of Sydney Incorporated is celebrating the 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Fiesta Sinulog here in Sydney. You are invited to join the celebration on the **19th of January from 2:30 pm at the Good Shepherd Church**. Please refer to the posters on the notice boards for more details and for the schedules of the 9 days Novena.

### 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

### January:

1. Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>: 2:30 pm — Feast of the Holy Child Jesus - Sr Santo Nino
2. Saturday 25<sup>th</sup>: 6:00 pm Mass — 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Fr. Gerard's Ordination to the priesthood.
3. Sunday 26<sup>th</sup>: 6:00 pm Mass — Fr. Joseph Pham (formerly of this parish and Antioch group) recently ordained will celebrate a Mass of thanksgiving.
4. Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup>: 7:30 pm — Liturgy Committee meeting
5. Friday 31<sup>st</sup>: 9:00 am Mass — with the staff from the three schools of the parish (followed by morning tea)

### February:

1. Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup>: Pastoral Planning meeting.
2. Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup>: Finance Committee meeting
3. Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup>: Liturgy Committee meeting
4. Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>: Parish Council meeting
5. Friday 28<sup>th</sup>: Cantor's workshop (repeated Saturday March 1<sup>st</sup>)