

## The Baptism of the Lord

### UNDERSTAND

It's a cliché, but true, that to finish well depends on making a "good beginning."

A month or so ago we heard "the beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God," proclaimed on the Second Sunday of Advent. Those words sound like a title—and, in a way, they are Mark's "title" for his Gospel. All that will follow—from Christ's Baptism to the announcement that he is risen—is, for Mark, the "beginning" of the Good News about Jesus. The continuation of the story is up to us who have received this Good News.

As the liturgical season of Christmas ends, we begin to reflect on a weekly basis on what it means to live the Good News that Jesus Christ has been revealed as Son of God. Much of our reflection will come from Mark's Gospel.

He presents the dramatic scene in the waters of the Jordan River, as Jesus is baptized by John. The Spirit descends on Jesus, and a heavenly voice claims him: "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

From the Jordan, Jesus will begin a mission of healing and exorcism. Just as the Spirit hovered over the primeval waters at the dawn of Creation described in the Book of Genesis, so now the Spirit is at work in Jesus—and in each of us, become new creations in Christ through our own Baptisms.

by Father Greg Friedman OFM

### ACT

Water is a very important part of our lives. In fact, it's essential. Think of all the ways you use water in your life on a daily basis and then think of ways that you could conserve some of that water.

Ask a family member to show you pictures from your Baptism.

Write a note to your godparents, if possible, thanking each of them for being a model of faith for you.

— (Franciscan Media)

### Parish Financial Audit Report for Year 2023

If anyone would like to get information regarding the Parish audit report for year 2023 please feel free to visit the Parish Office. The office is open Monday to Friday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

### 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

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 05/01/2024

Donations	\$21,196.00
Raffle tickets	\$12,104.00
Legacy Donation	\$42,000.00
Total Amount	\$75,300.00
Revised Target Amount	\$100,000.00

# THE PARISH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

*Celebrating Our 35th 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 Epiphany of the Lord

07 January 2024

**1st Reading:** *Isaiah 60:1-6*

**2nd Reading:** *Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6*

**Gospel Reading:** *Matthew 2:1-12*

**Entrance Antiphon:** *Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.*

**Responsorial Psalm:** *Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.*

**GOSPEL Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia!  
We have seen his star in the East;  
and have come to adore the Lord.  
Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:** *We have seen his star in the East,  
and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.*

### 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.

<b>Parish Priest</b>	<b>Fr Vincy D'Costa OFM Cap</b>	<b>Daily MASS Times</b>
<b>Assistant Parish Priest</b>	<b>Fr Bollar Barreto OFM Cap</b>	Mon/Tues/Thur/Fri 9:00 am Wed 7:30 pm Sat 8:00 am
<b>Business Manager</b>	<b>Mr Owens Reyes</b>	
<b>Parish Musical Director</b>	<b>Mr Jacob Wielgosz</b>	<b>Weekend MASS Times</b>
<b>Parish Council Chairperson</b>	<b>Mr Anthony Matthews</b>	Saturday Vigil 6:00 pm Sun 7:00 am/ 9:00 am & 6:00 pm 12:00 pm (Vietnamese) <b>Spanish Mass</b> Every 2nd Saturday of each month 7:30 pm
<b>RCIA Co-ordinator</b>	<b>Mr &amp; Mrs Bernie &amp; Yeng Banta</b>	
<b>Sacramental Co-ordinator</b>	<b>Mrs Priscilla Corpuz</b>	
<b>Parish (SRE) Co-ordinator</b>	<b>Ms Therese Fuller</b>	<b>Reconciliation (Confession)</b>
<b>Finance &amp; Bingo Operator</b>	<b>Mr Romy Balite</b>	<b>Saturday 11:00 am-12 noon</b> Kindly ring Parish Office to book for other times during the week.

### **Baptism Seminar**

The next seminar will be held on the **28th of January 2024 at 2:00 pm** in the **parish meeting room**. Please bring a copy of your child's **birth certificate**.

"Dear young people, do not bury your talents, the gifts that God has given you! Do not be afraid to dream of great things!" — Pope Francis

### **Congratulations for last Weekend's Baptism**

Savannah Maya Pindoria

### **Death Anniversaries: We Remember**

Allwyn & Daisy Assey, Cecilia Bautista, Jameson Bautista, Mario Cruz, Francisco Dakila, Fr Alban D'Souza, Rosey Fernandes, Silvestre Gayo, Lucena Gloria, Sue Morrissey, Taniela Prescott, Emanuel Refalo, Ernesto Senia, Rose Skaf, Mr & Mrs Eliseo Tandoc, Olga & Patrick Thomas and Theresa Thomas

**May perpetual light shine upon them, O Lord. Amen †**

### **Parish Based Youth Group –**

#### **Antioch**

Young people are empowered and 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.

### **We remember in our prayers our housebound brothers & sisters**

John ANGEL, Raylina AURE, Doris & John BARRETT, Maureen BARTLEY, Philomena BENT, Carmen & Mario BIFFA, Therese BRODERICK-TAYLOR, Jacqueline CAMERON, Conception CAPIENDO, Gary FERNANDEZ, Frances CARUANA, Gwen CHAMBERS, Sr Gail COLQUHOUN, Paul DWYER, Jean-Marie & Marie-Claude FREDERIC, Edward GALEA, Louise GRECH, Catherine HART, Maureen JACKSON, Eden & Ninoy JUCO, John KNIGHT, Nabil LABBAD, Francis LLOYD GOULD, Marie MELITO, Kathleen MORRISSEY, Deidre MURRAY, Elsie NONEY, Pamela PEARSON, Marie PURCELL, John RILEY, Gloria ROBERTS, Aida SADSAD, Antonia SCHEMBRI, Mounira SHUKRALIA, Mary SIMMONS, Vivienne & Marian STEWART, Anthony & Natalina TEUMA, Raymond TOGHILL, Margaret TSENG, John VAIFALE, Rita VAUGHN, Augustina & Margaret VELLA, Sesilia VAVE, Aida WALCOTT & Joan WREN.

**For Good Health:** Amelie Abeelack, Doris Barrett, Francisca Cruz, Sandra & baby Josip Luburic, Shanida Macabuag, Jo Murray, Andrew Nashwan, Michael Pascal, Austin Michael Politono, Helen Recto, Joao Rosa, Felicidad Senia, Eric Siale, Lita Stacey, Marvin Torres & Mercedes Valix.

## **Announcements**

### **Welcome back Father Gerard!**

Fr Gerard O'Dempsey will be taking over as Parish Priest of The Good Shepherd Parish Plumpton from the **12th of January 2024**.

### **Farewell for Fr Vincy and Fr Bollar**

Fr Vincy and Fr Bollar will be moving to their new parishes by the middle of January 2024. They will be coming back for a farewell dinner with the Parish Community on the **9th of February 2024 at 7:00 pm in the Parish Hall (Bingo Hall)**. No RSVP needed. Everyone is invited.

### **The Good Shepherd Junior Choir CD Project**

The Junior Choir CDs are **still available** to purchase at the Parish Office at **\$15.00 each**. **Thank you for your support.**

### **Sto Nino Fiesta**

The **Triduum Masses** in preparation for the **Sto Nino Fiesta** will be celebrated on the **17th, 18th & 19th of January 2024 at 7:00 pm** in The Good Shepherd Church. The **Sto Nino Fiesta Mass** will be celebrated on the **21st of January Sunday at 2:30 pm**.

### **ATTENTION! To Everyone Enrolled in the Legacy Program**

We are currently updating the list of everyone who has donated or has pledged to donate to the Legacy Program for the construction of the new meeting rooms and toilets. Please contact or visit the parish office as soon as possible to confirm your enrolment and update your details. Thank you. Email: [parishof@goodshepherd.org.au](mailto:parishof@goodshepherd.org.au); phone: **02 9832 4461**. Thank you.

### **Be Part of Our Synod Journey: Diocesan Synod Report Now Available**

The Diocesan Synod Report is now available for download. The newly released Diocesan Synod Report offers a summary of our first Diocesan Synod assembly, held from 13-15 October 2023, its preparatory stages, in-depth details of the proceedings, and insights from delegates. Download your copy from the **Parramatta Synod website** now: <https://parracatholic.org/synod2023/>

### **NEW Diocesan website launched**

The new [parracatholic.org](https://parracatholic.org) website is now here with exciting new features and functionality including a comprehensive 'Find a Mass' function which includes Daily and Weekend Masses, Reconciliation and Adoration times; a centralised event calendar; Daily Mass readings and different ways you can contribute to the Church in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains. Check it out today!

## **INFORMATION**

The New Capuchin Provincial and Council in Australia have made the following changes in Plumpton for the next Triennium.

- 1) Fr. Gerard O'Dempsey has been assigned as the Parish Priest.
- 2) Fr. John Nguyen as the Assistant Priest.
- 3) Fr. Paul Poovathingal ( Our Lady of Consolation Home )
- 4) Br. Gerard O'Brien ( Capuchin Outreach Ministry )

Fr. Vincy D'Costa has been assigned to Sts. Peter and Paul, South Melbourne as the Parish Priest

Fr. Bollar Barreto has been assigned as the Assistant Priest at St. Fiacre Church, Leichhardt

The Transfers will come into effect in January 2024