Readings for next weekend — Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st reading: *Ecclesiasticus 27:30 - 28;* ***2nd reading:*** *Romans 14:7-9;* ***Gospel:*** *Matthew 18:21-35*

Season of creation 2026: LIVING WATER:

This year's **theme**, "Living Water", explores Ezekiel 47:9-12 as a powerful biblical vision of hope and ecological healing. Set amid exile and loss, the image of *living water* flowing from God's sanctuary reveals divine healing that renews land, water, biodiversity, and human responsibility towards the whole creation.

The symbol pictures flowing water from the Temple of God – at first a tiny stream which grows deeper and deeper and as it does so it brings life to dead areas and restores fertility to damaged or barren ecosystems. Through living water comes healing, but in order to receive new life we too must step into the water and also become part of God's river of life, taking part in the healing of creation.

Our symbol for 2026 – Immersion in Living Waters – is a symbol of renewal and birth: water flowing from the Temple as a sign of God's caring and healing for us. We are invited to step into the water, until we are so deep that we must depend on God's grace to sustain us. Those who receive this water are invited to become sources of life for others, allowing God's love to flow through them into the world. And thus, the water of God will become in us "a spring of water welling up to eternal life" (John 4:14).

The symbol also urges us to dive into the "tears" of creation (Romans 8:22-23), by allowing our hearts to be touched by the suffering of our brothers and sisters. Indeed, the Season of Creation is also an appropriate time for fraternal closeness and solidarity with the vulnerable and the poor, chiefly those who suffer from environmental degradation.

— Fr Gerard O'Dempsey

Parish & Diocesan News continued

Bishop's Father's Day Appeal

We give thanks for the fathers, grandfathers, mentors and spiritual fathers who have guided us with love, wisdom and faith. Among them are our priests, who have devoted their lives to serving God's people. They have celebrated the Sacraments with us, prayed with us, accompanied our families and helped bring us closer to Christ. After a lifetime of faithful service, many of our senior priests now need practical care and support as they face the challenges of ageing, illness and retirement. Your generous tax-deductible gift will help care for our retired and unwell priests and ensure they can live with the dignity, care and support they deserve. ***Donation envelopes are available this weekend - September 05/06 - at the Church pews****. Please give generously. You can also donate by visiting* ***parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal*** *or scan the QR code.* ***Thank you*** *for caring for those who have spent their lives caring for us.*

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



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 share the Good News of Jesus with others.

Phone: 02 9832 4461
After hours emergency #: 0493 969 440
Email: parishof@goodshepherd.org.au

Find us on Facebook
The Good Shepherd Parish Plumpton

Or visit our website:
www.goodshepherd.org.au

New Parish Projects—Meeting room and Additional Toilets **04/09/2026**

Donations	**$31,896.00**
Raffle tickets	**$12,104.00**
Legacy Donation	**$58,000.00**
Total Amount	**$102,000.00**
Revised Target Amount	**$100,000.00**

Weddings

Please call the Parish office for appointment. Arrangements should be made at least ***twelve*** *months in advance.*

Holy Communion for the Sick

Please call the parish office to book a date and time.

Anointing of the Sick

Please call the parish office to book a date and time.

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 or church. ***Next seminar is on 27 September.*** *Please bring a copy of your child's birth certificate.*

Please collect registration form from the Parish office. Baptism dates will be booked after attending the seminar.

Mass for the Care of Creation — 06 September 2026

1st Reading: ***Wisdom 13:1-9***
If they can weigh up the world, how have they still not found its Master?

2nd Reading: ***Colossians 1:15-20***
All things were created through him and for him.

Gospel Reading: ***Matthew 6:24-34***
Do not worry about tomorrow.

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-ordinators	***Mr Bernie Banta & Mrs 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.

Capuchin Young Adults Plumpton

We're the young adults of The Good Shepherd Parish Plumpton! Seeking lives of simplicity, service, prayer and community with St Francis of Assisi. Find us on Instagram: ***instagram.com/capuchinyoungadultsplumpton/***
Email: ***social.media@goodshepherd.org.au***

October 2026 Baptism Seminar

*Due to our Parish Expo 2026 celebration on October 25th, the Baptism seminar has been **moved to October 18th** at 2:00pm in the Church.*

Congratulations for last Weekends' Baptism

Kaiden Von Declaro
Elodie Rosealee Lyons

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION

for SEPTEMBER

For the care of water.
Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

Please remember those for whom prayers have been requested

Death Anniversaries / In Memoriam: *Anna, Joseph, Maria, Jefferson Casagan, Noemi Cubillo, Cayetano Flestado, Elpidio & Roberta Garcia, Lorenza & Silvestre Gayo; Florante, Francisca & Magdalino Laus, Val O'Dempsey, Benjamin Recto Junior, Demetrio Rosales, Arce & Salud Samia, Mary Rita and Seiveththi Thevathasan. Crisanto Uru, Reynaldo Yatco and all the holy souls in purgatory*

Healing / Good Health: *Jess, Karim, Antonio Borges, Ivan Correia, Peter Nathan, Solidad Pascua, Maria Perez, Bienvenido & Connie Recto, Joao Rosa, Lina Sutherland and Jess Valix*

Anniversaries / Birthday / Thanksgiving: *Maria Theresa Edades and T. Fernandes*

We also remember in our prayers our housebound brothers & sisters

Yvonne, Victoria ABAO, Emanuela AGIUS, Belenor & Julian AGUILAR, Patricia ALLERDICE, John ANGEL, Mafalda ARACO, Raylina AURE, Christine BAPTISTE, Margaret BIEDRZYCKA, 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, Eden & Ninoy JUCO, Nabil LABBAD, Malia LAVALU, Lima LEO, Francis LLOYD GOULD, Gwenda McCARTHY, Rita & Victor MELI, Teresa MESSIANA, Anne MILLER, Deidre MURRAY, Mary MUSCAT, Elsie NONEY, Pamela PEARSON, Philip PORKETT, Marie PURCELL, Melecia REA, Gloria ROBERTS, Lilly SHAHOUD, Mary SIMMONS, Marian STEWART, Vivienne STEWART, Lynette STITT, Anthony & Natalina TEUMA, Raymond TOGHILL, Margaret TSENG, John VAIFALE, Sesilia VAVE, Augustina VELLA, Russell & Mary WICKRAMASINGHE, Espedito & Kitty ZAMMIT

Parish & Diocesan News

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary: September 8th

There will be morning tea after the 9:00am Mass provided by the Legion of Mary. All are welcome.

Alpha at the Good Shepherd Parish

*Our next Alpha is about to start – Thursday **September 24th** (the day after Padre Pio), registration is now available – use the QR code which is also on the posters around the church and meeting room area. Book early to avoid missing out. This is an opportunity for you to grow and strengthen your faith and to bring in those who are not yet part of our Church…. perhaps you have a friend or work colleague who might be interested… ask them! Make a friend, be a friend, bring that friend to Christ!* ***Registration is important so that Fr. Gerard knows how much soup he has to prepare!!!!***

Parish-in-Council 2: November 21st

*Preparations are already underway for our next Parish-in-Council, to be held on **Saturday November 21st** 12noon to 4.30pm at St. Francis School, Glendenning. Registration will open soon – and more information will be coming in the weeks ahead – for now just mark your diary.*

St Nicholas Festa event for Vinnies: September 20th

*Join the St. Nicholas Festa Committee for a fun-filled afternoon on **Sunday, September 20th** from **12:00pm** at **The Good Shepherd Parish (Bingo) Hall**. Bring your family and friends to **support St Vincent De Paul Society Plumpton Conference** while enjoying live music! There will be fantastic prizes to win and plenty of delicious food and drinks for purchase, including BBQ, Pastizzi, and Hobz biz-zejt. Entry is a **$10 donation** (kids under 12 are free). Let's come together, enjoy great music, and make a difference! For details, contact Emanuel Vella (0405 677 064) or Stella Vella (0414 188 226).*

Marriage Enrichment Retreat 1

*The Couples for Christ Australia warmly invites all married couples to their Marriage Encounter Retreat, happening on **September 19th to 20th 2026**, at the **Good Shepherd Primary School Library**. This retreat is a wonderful opportunity for couples to take a break from the busyness of everyday life, strengthen their relationship, and grow together in love and faith. All married couples are encouraged to join and make this special time for your marriage.*

Events, happenings this week:

- Monday September 7th: Fr. John returns from holidays.
- Tuesday September 8th: 7.30pm Finance committee.
- Thursday September 10th: Training for the next Alpha 7.00pm.
- Saturday September 12th: Confirmation Rehearsal.

Looking ahead:

- The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated here on Thursday September 17th 7.00pm with Bishop Vincent.
- At all Masses on the weekend of September 19/20 we will celebrate the blessing of seeds and seedlings. Bring along to church whatever you intend to plant in your garden for a blessing.
- Wednesday September 23rd: Padre Pio feast – 7.00pm Talk followed by Mass and supper.
- The next Alpha begins on Thursday September 24th 7.00pm. Registration is important as it gives an indication for how much soup Fr. Gerard has to prepare!
- Workshop for Welcomers – Friday September 25th 7.00pm – this is in response to our first Parish-in-Council.