

## OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

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Parish Support - *If you need help with anything, please phone one of our members:*  
Gail Hall: 0412 311 586 Bernadette Franc: 0427 678 830

SUNDAY – 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Fourth Sunday of Easter- Year A Good Shepherd Sunday and Vocation Sunday

### DEATHS:

#### ANNIVERSARIES:

Connie Glenister, June Murphy, Mark Ryan, Mary Fitzpatrick, Sally Thain, Irene Walsh, Jack Mead, Moira Long, Bob Hirkpatrick, Judy Nugent, Bryan Lynch, Ron Flanagan, Ernie Daniels, Geoff Bruty & Heather Machin

#### PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Pat Byrne, Margaret MacDonald, Graeme Dawson, Blake Dridan, Shelagh Mulcahy, Fr Adrian McInerney, Graeme Trethowan, Bernie Duffy and all those in need of prayer.

#### ROSTER:

##### **Introduction & Reading**

Today: John Jess

May 7<sup>th</sup>: Sue Mahony

##### **Prayers of the Faithful**

Today: Charlie Franc

May 7<sup>th</sup>: Genevieve Johnston.

##### **Assembly Leaders**

May 7<sup>th</sup>: Carita Clancy & Angela Gerrard.

##### **Special Minister**

Today: Gail Hall

May 7<sup>th</sup>: Clarrie Johnston

##### **Music**

Today: Sue Mahony

##### **Church Cleaning, Linen, Flowers**

April 30<sup>th</sup> & May 7<sup>th</sup>: Colleen Briody & Genevieve Johnston

##### **Church Grounds**

April 30<sup>th</sup> & May 7<sup>th</sup>: Gerard Briody & Clarrie Johnston

##### **Newsletter**

April: Carmel Milenkovic 0407 320 759

#### MASS TIMES

May 7<sup>th</sup> LLA 10.00 am

### **Mission: One Heart Many Voices Conference 2023 – May 3-5, 2023**

The Mission: One Heart Many Voices conference, "Lead, Act, Now" will be held from May 3-5, 2023 in Sydney. Registration details, the program and more information is available at <https://2023.mohmv.com.au/>

Today is World Day of Prayer for Vocations, also known as "Good Shepherd Sunday." The purpose of this day is to publicly fulfill the Lord's instruction to, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). We remember young women and men throughout our country and diocese and pray they may be open to hear and respond generously to the Lord's call to marriage, the single life, the priesthood,

diaconate, religious life, societies of apostolic life or secular institutes.

#### **Vocations Prayer**

*Holy Spirit, stir within us the passion to promote vocations to the single and married life, consecrated life, societies of apostolic life, diocesan priesthood and permanent diaconate. Inspire us daily to respond to Your call with boundless compassion, abundant generosity, and radical availability. Help us to remember our own baptismal call to rouse us to invite the next generation to hear and respond to Your call. Inspire parents, families and lay ecclesial ministers to begin a conversation with young Catholics to consider how they will live lives of holiness and sacred service. Nudge inquirers and motivate discerners to learn more about vowed and associate commitment in apostolic life, cloistered life, evangelical life, lay ecclesial ministers, missionary life, monastic life and societies of apostolic life. Ignite our Church with the confident humility that there is an urgent need for all the baptised to live their vocation in solidarity with those who are poor, neglected, and marginalized. Amen.*

#### Good Shepherd Sunday

This fourth Sunday of the Easter season is sometimes called **Good Shepherd Sunday** because in each of the three lectionary cycles, the Gospel reading invites us to reflect on Jesus as the Good Shepherd. In each cycle the reading is from the tenth chapter of John's Gospel.

#### **Mass Counts start on weekend May 6-7- updated notice**

The Annual Diocesan Mass Count will take place over 4 weekends in May. Counting begins on May 6-7 and continues each weekend until the end of May.

#### **Taking it Home:**

- A sheep will recognize the voice of the shepherd out of all other voices that may be calling. Do you recognize Jesus' voice out of the many other things calling after you in this world? Are you listening? Do you follow Him as the good shepherd of your life? He will never lead you astray.
- Knowing that Jesus is the only means to salvation, how does that change the way you live? What priorities do you need to change to more faithfully seek after Jesus?

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

*I am the gate of the sheepfold.*

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly,

I am the gate of the sheepfold.

All others who have come

are thieves and brigands;

but the sheep took no notice of them.

I am the gate.

Anyone who enters through me will be safe:

he will go freely in and out

and be sure of finding pasture.

The thief comes

only to steal and kill and destroy.

I have come

so that they may have life

and have it to the full.'

### ■ The Gospel of the Lord.

#### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / A

30 APRIL 2023

## FULLNESS OF LIFE

The readings for today invite us to reflect on the death and resurrection of Jesus and its consequences for us. As Peter concludes his preaching on the day of Pentecost, he reminds the pilgrims gathered in Jerusalem that Jesus' brutal and wrongful death has been reversed by God raising him as Lord and Christ. That is not all, because the resurrection provides them with the possibility to think again and so accept the gracious forgiveness that God is unexpectedly offering. In the midst of human frailty, misunderstanding and violence God's love will find a way to bring life out of death.

In the second reading the focus shifts as Peter pays close attention to Jesus' manner of dealing with his own suffering and death as a model for disciples as we confront suffering and injustice. As the shepherd, Jesus goes before us carrying our weakness and brokenness on the cross, transforming them by the power of his healing love. In our turn, we are called to follow his example of forgiving and life-giving love.

The Gospel today invites us to accept Jesus as the Good Shepherd who calls, protects, and enlivens us. Jesus is the Shepherd who gave himself for the sake of the sheep, the one who still calls us to hear his voice and follow. He has come so we might have life and have it to the full. In Jesus, we have the sure hope that whatever struggles lie before us he will lead us safely home if we listen to his voice and follow where he leads.

Christopher Monaghan CP

## FIRST READING

Acts 2:14, 36-41

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*God has made Jesus both Lord and Christ.*

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.'

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.'

### ■ The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 22:1-6. R. v. 1

**R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. (or Alleluia!)**

1. The Lord is my shepherd; / there is nothing I shall want. / Fresh and green are the pastures / where he gives me repose. / Near restful waters he leads me, / to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**
2. He guides me along the right path; / he is true to his name. / If I should walk in the valley of darkness / no evil would I fear. / You are there with your crook and your staff; / with these you give me comfort. **R.**
3. You have prepared a banquet for me / in the sight of my foes. / My head you have anointed with oil; / my cup is overflowing. **R.**
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me / all the days of my life. / In the Lord's own house shall I dwell / for ever and ever. **R.**



## SECOND READING

1 Pet 2:20-25

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

*You had gone astray but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.*

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty.

This, in fact, is what you are called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

### ■ The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 10:14

**Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me. Alleluia!**