



Gosford Parish

**The Communities of St Patrick's East Gosford,
St Francis of Assisi Somersby & Holy Trinity Spencer
Neighbourhoods of Grace, entrusted to the
care of the Salvatorians.**



WHAT IS ANZAC DAY

Anzac Day, 25 April, is one of Australia's most important national occasions. It marks the anniversary of the first major military action fought by Australian and New Zealand forces during the First World War.

WHAT DOES ANZAC STAND FOR?

ANZAC stands for Australian and New Zealand Army Corps. The soldiers in those forces quickly became known as Anzacs, and the pride they took in that name endures to this day.

WHY IS THIS DAY SPECIAL TO AUSTRALIANS?

The Australian and New Zealand forces landed on Gallipoli on 25 April, meeting fierce resistance from the Ottoman Turkish defenders. What had been planned as a bold stroke to knock Turkey out of the war quickly became a stalemate, and the campaign dragged on for eight months. At the end of 1915 the allied forces were evacuated from the peninsula, with both sides having suffered heavy casualties and endured great hardships. More than 8,000 Australian soldiers had died in the campaign. Gallipoli had a profound impact on Australians at home, and 25 April soon became the day on which Australians remembered the sacrifice of those who died in the war.

Although the Gallipoli campaign failed in its military objectives, the actions of Australian and New Zealand forces during the campaign left a powerful legacy. What became known as the "Anzac legend" became an important part of the identity of both nations, shaping the ways in which they viewed both their past and their future.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TODAY?

Australians recognise 25 April as a day of national remembrance, which takes two forms. Commemorative services are held across the nation at dawn – the time of the original landing, while later in the day, former and current servicemen and servicewomen, from all Australian and New Zealand services, meet to take part in marches through the country's major cities and in many smaller centres. Commemorative ceremonies are more formal, and are held at war memorials around the country. In these ways, Anzac Day is a time at which Australians reflect on the many different meanings of war.

<https://www.awm.gov.au/commemoration/anzac-day/traditions>

A CHRISTIAN APPROACH TO WAR AND DEFENCE

Professor Tom Frame [Director, Australian Centre for the Study of Armed Conflict and Society (ACSACS)] said when he joined the Navy at age 16, he didn't consider the ethics of his decision much, but thinks differently and deeply about it now.

"I've gone through phases," he said. "I've never been a militarist, where might is right and if you've got power you should use it."

"I did dabble with being a pacifist. But now, things like the genocides in Rwanda, Cambodia, and civil unrest in Somalia,



POPE FRANCIS' APRIL 2021 INTENTION

Fundamental Rights

We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

The good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep



Put your *Hope* in God!  Psalm 42: 5

[have made me] think that there are circumstances when it appears unjust not to act – and just to act.

"I feel we need to restrain people who are inflicting violence on others.

"My position would not be too much different from the classical just-war position, which says that you can use force in certain circumstances."

He believes Jesus would want Christians to test their motives.

"You ought not use force to pursue your interests. But if we see someone being beaten up, and restrain them, we might stop them committing murder and prevent someone from being killed."

He added that he believed empathy, kindness and listening could create a society where terrorism and violence were no longer a threat.

"I think Abraham Lincoln was right when he said, 'I destroy my enemy by making him my friend'."

Should Christians Commemorate Anzac Day?

Did you know that in the 1920s after World War I, the original Anzac Day services were very much Church-led?

According to Professor Frame, in those days they were much like an annual funeral service.

"The [national] sense of mourning and grief was so acute. It was the right thing for the Churches to take a leading role in helping people come to terms with their grief.

"A lot of what sustained the Anzacs was the Christian story of suffering, redemption and resurrection – that there is a possibility that when bad things happen they can be redeemed for good.

"If Christian churches aren't able to put a good message in this context then I think a great opportunity has been overlooked."

<https://hope1032.com.au/stories/faith/christian-living/2015/do-faith-and-anzac-day-mix-heres-what-3-christians-think/>



ST PATRICK'S PARISH GOSFORD

PASTORAL CARE

Fr Grzegorz [Greg] Skulski SDS

Parish Priest

Email: greg@sds.org.au

Fr Paul Tran SDS

Assistant Priest

email: paulduongsds@gmail.com

SALVATORIAN

Society of the Divine Saviour

http://www.sds.org.au

PARISH OFFICE

Secretary:

Colleen Kirk Mon – Thurs: 8:30am – 4:30pm

Friday: 8:30am – 1:00pm

Bursar: Darren Fitzgibbon

Sacramental Programme

Coordinator: Frances Mathey

Email: franceshanna@yahoo.com

Catechists' Coordinator: Raelene O'Connor

Email: saintpatcccd@acs.net.au

Wed: 9:00am – 1:00pm

Thurs: 9:30am – 1:30pm

Youth Ministry: Jaimi-Lea Andrews

Ph: 0452 480 112 Email: jaimilea.andrews@gmail.com

Media Coordinator: Tom Croll

Thursday: 9:00am – 2:00pm

Email: tcroll@photom.com.au

Phone: 0411- 962 122.

VOLUNTEER ROLES

Office Admin:

Friday: Denise Jay 9:00am – 3:30pm

AV Presentation: Peter McLean

Caretakers:

Baptism Co-ordinator:

All bookings must be made through the parish office.

Gardeners: Trevor Byrne

Joyce Byrne

Victor Camilleri

Barbara McCarthy

Ph: 4322 0250

Seniors' Ministry: Hilary Pope

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

If you see any activities involving children or

vulnerable adults that worries you, please email

Hilary Pope, our Safeguarding Officer at

hilary.p1@optusnet.com.au

School Principals

St Patrick's Primary: Mrs Cheryl Walsh 4325 1159

St Joseph's College: Mr Tony McCudden 4324 4022

St Edwards College: Mr Mark Bonnici 4321 6400

St Peter's College: Mr Tim Hilderbrandt 43512344



CHURCH OPEN DAILY 8:30AM – 4:30PM.

STANDARD WEEKDAY MASSES

GOSFORD, 76 YORK STREET EAST GOSFORD

Mon: 9:00am **Wed:** 11:30am **Fri:** 12:00pm

Tue: 9:00am **Thu:** 9:00am **Sat:** 9:00am

Adoration and Confession 30 minutes before each weekday Mass.

WEEKEND MASSES INCL CONFESSION 30 BEFORE EACH MASS

GOSFORD, 76 YORK STREET EAST GOSFORD

Sat Vigil: 5:00pm **Sun:** 7:30am, 9:30am & 6:00pm

SOMERSBY, 30 LUTANA RD

Sat Vigil: 5:30pm

SPENCER, 4,200 WISEMANS FERRY RD

4:00pm 2nd Saturday of Month

ADORATION IN OUR CHURCH

Before the Blessed Sacrament

Mon 8:30 - 9:00am Wed 11:00 - 11:30am Fri 12:30 - 3:00pm

Tue 8:30 - 9:00am Thu 8:30 - 9:00am Sat 8:30 - 9:00am

ROSARY

Mon, & Thu 8:05am to 9:00am

Tuesday 8:05am "Right to Life"

Wednesday 10:30am to 11:00am

Fridays 11:35am to 12:00pm

Saturday 8:05am until 9:00am: 1st Priests & Religious
2nd Mothers & Babies
3rd Persecuted Christians

Sunday 7:05am

BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL, AT THE ADMIN CENTRE, CHAPEL LANE

Mon to Thu: 8:30am to 3:30pm **Fri:** 9:00am to 3:30pm

ST PATRICK'S GROUPS MEETINGS

Cancer Prayer Group After 9:00am Mass, 4th Tuesday of the Month, in the Jordan room.

Craft Group 9:30am to 12:00pm Every Friday of School Terms

Grief & Loss Support 2:00pm 1st Thursday of the month, in the Jordan room.

MenAlive 7:00pm 1st Tuesday of the month. Mass followed by meeting in the Jordan room.

Prayers for Christian Unity 9:30am 3rd Monday of the Month

Prayer Group DVDs 9:30am 1st Monday of the Month

Prayer Group & Bible Discussion 9:30am 2nd, 4th and 5th Monday of the Month

Bible Study - Monday night 7:00pm to 9:00pm Monday, in the Jordan Room, all are welcome!

Youth Group Sunday, in Jordan room after 6:00pm Mass

Salvatorian Collaborators After 9:00am Mass, 1st Thursday of the month, in the Jordan room.

Womens Faith Circle 2nd and 4th Thursday of the Month in the Jordan Room 9:00am to 11:00am

Pint Sized Paddies Children, Yrs 5 & 6 2nd & 4th Friday of the month during School Terms. In the School Hall 7:00 pm

Family Group Meet monthly as per details advertised in the Bulletin venue and times may vary to suit the occasion.

NATIONAL CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP STANDARDS

LEADERSHIP, MONITORING & IMPROVEMENT

STANDARD 1 – COMMITTED LEADERSHIP, GOVERNANCE & CULTURE

KEY ELEMENTS OF STANDARD 1:

- † A COMMITMENT TO SAFEGUARDING
- † PROMOTING A SAFEGUARDING CULTURE
- † SAFEGUARDING POLICIES
- † CODE OF CONDUCT

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

HILARY POPE

If you see any activities involving children or vulnerable adults that concerns you, please email Hilary Pope, our Safeguarding Officer at hilary.p1@optusnet.com.au

BEATIFICATION OF FR FRANCIS MARY OF THE CROSS JORDAN

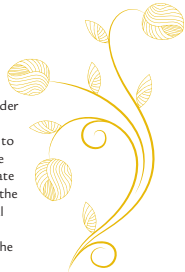
CANONIZATION:

4 Steps to Becoming a Saint

Being named a saint in the Catholic Church is a very high honor. It means the saint's name is added to the official catalogue of saints, and that Masses and feast days can be celebrated in his or her honor. Churches can then be dedicated in the saint's memory, and his or her name can be used in public prayers, such as litanies. What does it take for someone to be named a saint? The process is called *canonization* and it involves 4 major steps.

1 REQUEST FOR CANONIZATION

At least five years after a person's death (unless a special exception is made by the pope), a formal request is made to consider him or her for sainthood. The people making the request are usually from the candidate's church or religious community. They submit their request to the bishop of the diocese where the person died. The request tells how the person lived a life of holiness and lists reasons for considering the candidate for sainthood. If the bishop believes there is enough evidence to consider the person for sainthood, he asks the Vatican for permission to open a special tribunal. Witnesses are then called to attest to the candidate's goodness, holiness, devotion to God, and other virtues. If a person passes this step, he or she is named a "Servant of God."



2 DETERMINATION

The bishop sends a formal report and request to Rome where it is reviewed by the Congregation for the Causes of the Saints. Nine theologians read the material and determine whether there is enough cause to pass it to the entire Congregation. If so, the candidate's writings and other aspects of his or her life are studied to make sure there is nothing that goes against the teachings and practices of the Church. As part of this investigation a person called a "devil's advocate" raises questions and objections to the candidate's sainthood. This is to make sure the final decision is complete and fair, and all evidence of the candidate's saintliness is assured. Once a candidate has been determined to be virtuous and heroic in his or her faith, he or she is declared "Venerable."



3 BEATIFICATION

The next step is beatification. If the candidate was a martyr, someone who died for their faith, he or she may be beatified and named "Blessed." Otherwise, a miracle brought about by the intercession of the saint must occur and be verified by the Congregation. Once the person is beatified and named "Blessed," he or she can be venerated, or officially honored, in his or her city, diocese, region, or religious community.



4 CANONIZATION

After being beatified, another miracle is required for the person to be canonized and officially declared a saint. Once again, the miracle must have occurred as a result of the person's intercession. The Prefect of the Congregation then sends the cause for canonization to the pope who makes the final decision. Once a person is canonized, he or she is officially declared a "Saint." The pope declares this in an official way at a special Mass in honor of the new saint.



VENERABLE FRANCIS JORDAN

Father Francis Mary of the Cross Jordan – founder of the Salvatorian Family was born as John Baptist Jordan on



June 16, 1848, in Gurtweil, Germany, a small town in the Black Forest area of the southwestern part of the country, just a

few miles from the border of Switzerland.

Although he felt called to serve as a priest as an early age, the poverty of the family did not allow him to do the required studies. Instead he became an itinerant laborer and painter.

While working as a laborer and painter-decorator traveling throughout his homeland, Jordan became keenly aware of the difficult spiritual situation of the people in his homeland. Because the Church had been limited in its mission by the government (in what became known as the Kulturkampf) people were turning away from God and the practice of their faith. This only strengthened Jordan's faith and he began to sense a call to the priesthood.

He initially had private lessons from local clergy and then attended a secondary school in Constance. Despite his struggle with the sciences, he developed a talent for foreign languages. For his graduation examination, he presented one essay in eight European languages and another one in four other languages. Having successfully completed his initial studies, he then proceeded to enroll at the Albert-Ludwigs University in Freiburg to do his higher studies in the fields of theology and philology. After receiving his degree from the university, he enrolled in the nearby St. Peter Seminary

On July 21, 1878, he was ordained a priest in Freiburg, Germany, and because he had a talent for languages, his bishop sent him to Rome, and later to the Holy Land, for advanced studies. Jordan became fluent in many languages, including Syrian, Aramaic, Coptic, Arabic, Hebrew and Greek.



FR FRANCIS JORDAN SDS

"Love and serve God with all your might. He is Most High and all Holy. In Him alone you will find true peace..."
SD 1/125

But Jordan was sensing that something else was in store for his future. He began thinking about ways to combat the growing disinterest in spirituality and religion. In September 1880, Jordan met privately with Pope Leo XIII in the Vatican, where he outlined his plan to begin a society devoted to spreading the teachings of the faith. The Pope gave Jordan his blessing to begin creating such an organization. On December 8, 1881, Father Jordan and two others professed private vows as members of the new foundation. They were soon joined by Therese von Wüllenweber, now known as Blessed Mary of the Apostles since her beatification in 1968. Membership in the new foundation grew, structures changed, and missionaries were sent out to all corners of the globe. In time, Father Jordan's and Mother Mary's communities evolved into the three branches that make up the Salvatorian Family: the priests and brothers of the Society of the Divine Savior, the Congregation of the Sisters of the Divine Savior, and the International Community of the Divine Savior (Lay Salvatorians).

The name "Salvatorian" comes from the Latin word < Salvator > meaning "Savior." With a bold, unique and forward-looking vision within the Church, Salvatorians – men and women, religious and laity – work together in mission to bring the Gospel of the Savior to all people throughout the world.

Father Jordan and Mother Mary fostered within their followers an unshakable trust in Divine Providence – that God would be with them and guide them in their variety of ministries. That trust remains strong in us still!

The Motherhouse of the Society is just down the street from St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. The Motherhouse of the Sisters is nearby, atop one of the great hills of the city. Globally today, more than two thousand Salvatorians – priests, sisters, brothers, and lay members – work to

continue the mission of Father Francis and Mother Mary:
"To proclaim the goodness of kindness of Jesus, the Savior, by all ways and means the love of God inspires."

Fr. Francis Jordan died in Tafers, Switzerland, on September 8, 1918, and was buried in the local church. In 1956, his body was transferred to Rome and is now entombed in a special chapel in the Motherhouse of the Society. On March 19, 1999, Pope John Paul II visited the community and prayed at the tomb of Father Jordan.

In 2011, the Vatican published the Decree on the Heroicity of His Virtues and declared Father Jordan "Venerable." On June 19, 2020, Pope Francis declared that a miracle in Brazil, gained through the intercession of Father Jordan, was authentic and his beatification was approved. As of May 15, 2021, he is "Blessed Francis Jordan."

Next week in the Bulletin we will give further insight in to the three branches of the Salvatorian community.

"BECOME GREAT BEFORE GOD" -

THE LIFE OF FRANCIS MARY OF THE CROSS JORDAN." – Highly recommended viewing.

To see the video click on the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IMxIEe88GUw>

The link above will take you to the documentary movie and it is a very interesting and worthwhile experience to see the extent of Fr Jordan's life, achievements and his devotion to the cause of bringing the word of Jesus to everyone.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP

TO ALL THE FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE AND ALL WHO HELPED.

The Community Markets held at the St Patrick's school playground was a huge success. The Markets were full of people all day, despite some rain during the morning.

CHURCH TOILETS

WE APOLOGISE FOR ANY INCONVIENCE.

For some time now, we have had some unfortunate episodes in the church toilets. Including deliberate vandalism, and last week we had both hand-wash dispensers stolen from the toilets. As a result, the toilets will not be left open outside of Mass times. They are a popular alternative to the council car park toilets, but as we constantly battle theft of the sanitary items we place there, this decision is necessary.

If you hold one of the keys to the church, please do not open the toilets outside of Mass times. We are sure you understand this decision.

MOTHERS DAY FUNDRAISER



SUN MAY 9
Cookies will be
for sale



SATURDAY MORNING COFFEE SHOP

We thank our soon-to-be retiring Saturday Morning Coffee Shop baristas and organisers, Lucy & Gerard Price & Joscelyn & Neil Murphy for their eight or so years of not only providing a great social occasion for parishioners, but donating their profits to charity. It has been a huge effort and we all are deeply appreciative.

Fr Greg would like to see this opportunity for parishioners to gather by continuing the coffee shop and would like to hear from people who may be interested in being barista trained and being on a roster to keep it going.

Please contact the Parish Office if you'd like to know more.

CATECHIST; CUPPA, CAKE AND CHAT

9.30 AM FRIDAY 7TH MAY IN THE PARISH OFFICE

Come along before Mass on Friday and have a Cuppa, Cake and a Chat with one of our existing Catechist.

Check out the Teacher Manuals, student activity books and available class times

AN INVITATION TO YOU

Our Parish Catechist team, invite parishioners to join our Ministry, in a Relief teaching capacity to support our existing Catechists.

Relief teaching would typically require a once a term commitment. We also have available a teaching position for Year 4 @11.35am Thursday at Kariong. I look forward to hearing from Parishioners available for this commitment.

All inquiries please call Raelene 0499 995 292.



SENIORS GROUP

IN MAY THE MONTHLY GET-TOGETHER

is on **Wednesday May 5**

Bamboo Buddha Nursery & Café, Holgate & the Chocolate & Nougat Factory at West Gosford.

All meals at your own expense

Booking is essential, please call to book.

Barbara - 4322 0250.

Eunice - 4365 1857.

POSITION VACANT

PARISH ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT WOY WOY CATHOLIC PARISH

Part-time, 12 hours per week

2 days (8.30am - 3.00pm) Wednesday and Friday

Can you see yourself as a welcoming face of Woy Woy Catholic Parish?

The Parish is seeking an Administrative Assistant for our busy office. The role provides administrative support in the areas of visitor and telephone reception, communications, records and archives maintenance, general administration, meeting and event organisation, compliance and simple financial processes such as credit card and direct debit processing.

If you have previous office administration experience and this role interests you, please email a cover letter and CV to recruitment@bbcatholic.org.au. For further information please email recruitment@bbcatholic.org.au or see the full advertisement at: www.bbcatholic.org.au/people/positions-vacant

Applications close Friday, 7 May 2021

This role will be subject to a WWCC and National Police History Check.



Good Shepherd Sunday

CATHOLIC
VOCATIONS
BROKEN BAY

World Day of Prayer for Vocations

I am the gate of the sheepfold. Anyone who enters through me will be safe. Jn 10:1-10

April 25, 2021

Vocation Sunday

vocations.ministry@bbcatholic.org.au

<https://www.facebook.com/BrokenBayVocationsMinistry/>

ph: 0418 522 449

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS - GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

2021 marks the 58th Anniversary of the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, which is held on Sunday 25 April.

World Day of Prayer for Vocations is an opportunity to celebrate vocations to ordained ministry and religious life in all its forms. While it is a chance to appreciate all vocations, the Church concentrates its attention this day on vocations to the ordained ministries (priesthood and diaconate).

On this day we hear Jesus saying "When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice" (John 10:4). Jesus has already called each one of you by name and you responded to his call. But his call is not simply something from the past and neither is your response simply a one-time decision that you have made. Rather he continues to challenge us to continue to follow his voice every day.

His voice is not always as loud and as clear as we may want it to be. In the words of Pope Francis "God comes silently and discreetly, without imposing on our freedom" (Message for World Day of Vocations), which means that one of the biggest challenges of our times is being able to hear that quiet, gentle voice of the Lord, especially when there is so much distraction competing for our attention.

This one day of the year is an excellent opportunity for you to inspire parents, families, and lay ecclesial ministers to really listen to the voice of the Lord by simply beginning a conversation with your young Catholic Parishioners and asking them to consider how they will live lives of holiness and sacred service. An opportunity to nudge (virtually or via telecommunications) inquirers and motivate discerners to learn more about living out God's invitation to be holy through ordained and religious life.

For your convenience the Vocations Team has put together the attached resources as a tool to assist you in observing this day in your parish.

Vocations Prayers: World day of Prayer for Vocations

Prayer of Intercessions: Good Shepherd Sunday

How to make your Parish Vocations Friendly

Homily Points: Good Shepherd Sunday

**Please note the suggested Bulletin Insert, in the 'How to make your Parish Vocations Friendly document', which can also go on your parish websites.

Please pray for the 8 seminarians in Broken Bay and the three men that are preparing for Ordination to the Priesthood.

Please pray, on this Vocations Sunday, that the Lord will bless the Diocese of Broken Bay with more vocations.

AWAKE
ST PATRICK'S PARISH GOSFORD PRESENTS
ADORATION
Encounter and worship Our Lord in the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. All young adults welcome to join us at Elanora for dinner afterwards.
GUEST SPEAKER: FR GREG (+ JESUS!)
IN THE JORDAN ROOM + CHURCH
FRIDAY, APR 30 @ 7PM
FOR YOUNG ADULTS AGED 18-35



SALVATORIAN FORMATION DONATION CODE.

If you would like to support future Salvatorian priests please go to the link. Just scan with your QR Code Reader on your phone.

https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=FHE9UKNMLYLQA

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

CF. PS 32:5-6

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

FIRST READING

ACTS 4:8-12

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

This is the only name by which we can be saved.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: 'Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence, today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PS 117:1. 8-9. 21-23. 26. 28-29. R. V.22

(R.) The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in men: it is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes.

(R.) The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.

I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my saviour.

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.

This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.

(R.) The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.

Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes.

We bless you from the house of the Lord; I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my saviour.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; for his love has no end.

(R.) The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.

SECOND READING

1 JN 3:1-2

A reading from the first letter of St John

We shall see God as he is.

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are.

Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us.

My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

JN 10:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

JN 10:11-18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

The good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep.

Jesus said:

'I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep.

The hired man, since he is not the shepherd and the sheep do not belong to him, abandons the sheep and runs away as soon as he sees a wolf coming, and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep; this is because he is only a hired man and has no concern for the sheep.

I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for my sheep.

And there are other sheep I have that are not of this fold, and these I have to lead as well.

They too will listen to my voice, and there will be only one flock and one shepherd.

The Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again.

No one takes it from me; I lay it down of my own free will, and as it is in my power to lay it down, so it is in my power to take it up again; and this is the command I have been given by my Father.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY

BY DIANNE BERGANT CSA

The story in Acts follows a familiar biblical pattern: someone faces a challenge; at first the challenge is not met; a miraculous event occurs; a second chance is given. Here, the claims made by Jesus constitute the trial; the rejection is at the hands of the leaders of the people; the wonder is the healing of the crippled man; although rejection calls down judgment, God's judgment never precludes ultimate salvation. At the heart of Peter's message is the fundamental gospel formula: 'whom you crucified, God raised from the dead.' Jesus' resurrection became the fountain from which springs salvation of every kind. For the crippled man, salvation

took the form of healing; for others, it can take the form of spiritual transformation.

The psalmist reminds a group of believers of God's faithfulness and calls them to give thanks. Two proverbs in the 'better ... than' form insist that trust in God far exceeds trust in mere human beings, even powerful princes. Next is a testimony of God's goodness addressed to the community. In it, God's attentiveness and saving intervention are acknowledged. In a reversal of fortune, the rejected stone becomes the most important stone. The psalmist claims that the one who comes in the name of the Lord is blessed or happy, regardless of what the surrounding society may think. The psalm ends with the summons to give thanks. The goodness of God has been profited. Gratitude is the only fitting response.

The point of the short reading from the Letter of John is the love that God has for believers. This love (agápe) is generative; it makes believers children of God. As God's children, they are a new reality; they no longer belong to the world, the old reality. The implications of this are clear. Believers should be prepared for the same kind of rejection, even persecution and death, that befell Jesus. A second theme, eschatological fulfilment, flows from the first. As a consequence of God's love, believers have already been reborn as children of God. However, their transformation is dependent upon a future manifestation. The 'now but not yet' of Christian eschatology is clearly seen.

With words that suggest some kind of divine revelation, ('I am' ego eimi [cf. Exod 3:14]), Jesus identifies himself as the 'good shepherd'. He sketches the external behaviour of a good shepherd, and then he explains the reason for such unselfish attention. This becomes quite clear in the second section. Jesus is not like the shepherds condemned by the prophets (cf. Ezekiel 34). They failed their responsibilities and actually took advantage of their charges. On the other hand, Jesus is willing to protect his flock even to the point of risking his own life for them. The universality of Jesus' shepherding is clearly stated. He is willing to care for and die for other sheep who, though they are not yet included in his flock, are nonetheless his.

© Dianne Bergant CSA

Dianne Bergant CSA was a Professor of Biblical Studies at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, where she taught from 1978 to 2014.

THIS WEEK

THE FOURTH WEEK OF EASTER

Mon, 26 St Mark, evangelist.

Wed, 28 St Peter Chanel, priest, martyr

Thu, 29 St Catherine of Siena, virgin, doctor

NEXT WEEKS READINGS

THE FIFTH WEEK OF EASTER

1st: Acts 9:26-31
2nd: 1 Jn 3:18-24
Gospel: Jn 15:1-8

| YOUR ROSTER - MAY 2 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| MASS | VIGIL 5:00 | 7:30am | 9:30am | 6:00pm | Somersby - 5:30 | |
| DATE | 01.05.21 | 02.05.21 | 02.05.21 | 02.05.21 | Function | 01.05.21 |
| Audio/Visual | Johann Fernandes | Peter McLean | Greg McBride | Rayden Gomez | Audio/Visual | Michael Xuereb |
| Acolytes | Johnson Fernandes Robert Biviano | Eunice Dal Busco Sheila Evans | Katrina Pratt Peter Cho | Patrick Nicholls Joseph Nicholls | Altar Society | Charlene Xuereb |
| Commentator | Maisie Tenev | Ron Begg | Frances Mathey | Cheryl Walsh | Commentator | Joanne Comensoli |
| Lectors | Jan Blanch Val Dibben | Peter O'Neill Regina Fong | Ellen Antonino Carol Bailey | Youth Rick Llìge | Lectors | Antoinette Xuereb Michael Bigeni |
| Extraordinary Ministers of The Eucharist | Anita Fernandes | Cecilia Coughlin | Keith Quinn | Nora Koleszar | Cleaning | Alyce Chin |
| Altar Servers | Alvita Fernandes Annette Fernandes | Amelia Eager Laura Eager | Yuna Iwasaki Shiho Iwasaki Esther Mathey Jude Mathey Denny Paget | Vito De Toffol Remi De Toffol Luca De Toffol Xavier Werder | Altar Servers Flowers | Dylan Xuereb Carmel Xuereb |
| COUNTERS 26/04 Gary Smith Margaret Hunter Neryl Tyrell 03/05 Eunice Dal Busco Fiona Eaton Joyce Byrne | ALTAR LINEN P/up Apr 26 Aimee Sands Ret'n by Apr 30 | ALTAR SOCIETY Sat 01/05 Eunice Dal Busco Kerryl McGrath Mabel Kan Rita Chao | CHILDREN'S LITURGY Sunday 02/05 John Van Lierop Danielle Camilleri | PARISH BUS 02/05 Driver: John Moriarty Helper Ros Moriarty | <i>We need more people to help with Children's Liturgy Roster for 9:30 am Sunday Masses. Please contact the Parish Office if you can help.</i> | HOSPITAL VISITATION 09/05 Eunice Dal Busco Nora Koleszar <i>Don't forget the washing of hands and changing gloves between patients.</i> |

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SERIOUSLY ILL MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY:

Nancy Fitzgerald, Angela Gibbs, Peter Allman, Peter Gloss, Pat Lowe, Maria Keisellis, Pam O'Malley-Jones, Megan McGowan, Judith Wennerbom, Marie O'Donovan, Frank McGuinness.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

John Maidment, Fran Drinan, Jean Newton, Lucy Gammon, Unborn Babies, Glenn Mills, Accamma Mathappan, Clare Wong, Ken Goodworth, Helen Heinrich, Patrick Horan, John Burg.

ANNIVERSARIES:

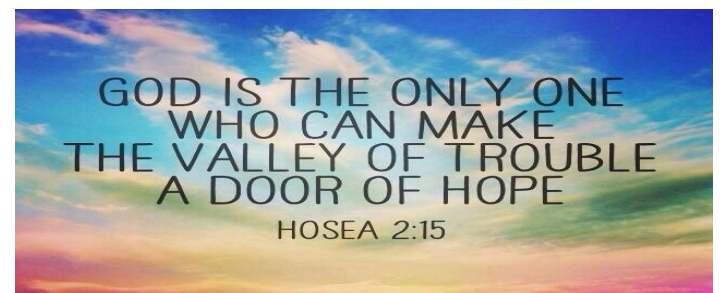
Jim Hastings, Rick McGuire, Eileen Moffat, Kevin Caves.

REMEMBRANCES:

Colleen Cartner, Fabria Ghazi, Keanu Campbell, Val & Eric Neilson.

CONDOLENCES:

Our sincere condolences to all the families, and loved ones of the recently deceased. May god keep the souls of those recently deceased in the palm of his hands.



MASSES AND INTENTIONS FOR THE COMING WEEK

| Date | Mass | Intention |
|-----------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Sat 24/04 | 9:00am Gosford | 50TH Birthday Blessings SCOTT RYAN |
| Sat 24/04 | 5:00pm Gosford | Recently Deceased FRAN DRINAN |
| Sat 24/04 | 5:30pm Somersby | Recently Deceased JEAN NEWTON |
| Sun 25/04 | 7:30 am Gosford | Thanksgiving Mass DINGLE-RUDD FAMILY |
| Sun 25/04 | 9:30 am Gosford & on line | ANZACS |
| Sun 25/04 | 6:00 pm Gosford | PARISH INTENTIONS |
| Mon 26/04 | 9:00am Gosford | Recently Deceased JOHN MAIDMENT |
| Tue 27/04 | 9:00am Gosford | Recently Deceased JOHN BURG |
| Wed 28/04 | 11:30am Gosford | + Remembrance KEANU CAMPBELL |

| Date | Mass | Intention |
|-----------|--------------------------|--|
| Thu 29/04 | 9:00am Gosford & on line | + Remembrance FARIBA GHAZI |
| Fri 30/04 | 12:00pm Gosford | Birthday Blessings ANITA FERNANDES |
| Sat 01/05 | 9:00am Gosford | + Birthday Remembrance COLLEEN CARTNER |
| Sat 01/05 | 5:00pm Gosford | |
| Sat 01/05 | 5:30pm Somersby | |
| Sun 02/05 | 7:30am Gosford | |
| Sun 02/05 | 9:30am Gosford | PARISH INTENTIONS |
| Sun 02/05 | 6:00pm Gosford | |

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