



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.'

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

In the regions where Jesus was an itinerant preacher, three or four flocks could be kept in a communal sheepfold for safety. In the morning, the shepherds would come and, as each called out, the sheep attuned to the sound of his voice would follow to life-giving pasture.

We are surrounded by hundreds of voices clamouring for our attention. We are bombarded by messages, social media incessantly chattering. Jesus invites us to get attuned to *his* voice, listening for the distinctive sound of it so that, even if it is faintly heard in a cacophony, we immediately turn toward it so that we can follow it in a life-giving direction.

How do we get attuned to that voice? By reading the gospels. A Chinese student once told me that the Chinese character for gospel is 'happy sounds'. I like the plural. Jesus' gospel voice is not a monotone but a polyphony sounding in different ways in different situations.

As disciples, we have to get onto the same wavelength as that voice so that we can echo it in our own lives. We become reverberations of Christ's voice in many different situations, helping him to lead others to life-giving pastures.

We could take a moment to pray for better listening so that we might recognise the gospel voice of Jesus Christ, especially at the moment of death. Then we may hear the one voice we need and long for: 'Today you will be with me in paradise.'

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The Living Word

Fourth Sunday of Easter, Year B

21 April 2024

First Reading Acts 4:8-12

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.

or:

(R.) Alleluia.

1. 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.)
2. 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.)

3. 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.)

Second Reading 1 Jn 3:1-2

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

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.



HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC PARISH, North Ryde

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Under the care of the Congregation of St. Michael the Archangel
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Michaelite Community:

Fr Stan Kluk CSMA PP

Fr Anthony Casamento CSMA

SUNDAY MASS:

Saturday 5:00pm, Sunday 8:30am, 10:00am & 5:00pm.

Spanish Speaking Mass 12:30pm;

Filipino Mass monthly 4th Sunday at 12:15pm

WEEKDAY MASS:

Mondays - Church open for private prayer

Tuesday 7pm, Wednesday - Saturday 8:30am

Reconciliation:

Saturday after morning Mass or by appointment.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Monday to Friday - 9:00am to 3:00pm

ST VINCENT DE PAUL REGIONAL HELP CENTRE: 9809 2757

Next week 5th Easter: Acts 9:26-31; 1 John 3:18-24; John 15:1-8.

Fr Stan writes ...

Today, the fourth Sunday of Easter is also known as Good Shepherd Sunday. The concern of a good shepherd for his sheep is part of the shepherd's job. Jesus says, however, that the actions of the good shepherd are based upon the relationship that develops between the shepherd and the sheep. This is at the heart of the difference between the good shepherd and the hired shepherd. The good shepherd knows the sheep and therefore acts out of love. For the Good Shepherd, this is never simply part of a job; this love-in-action is integral to his identity. On this Sunday we particularly pray for vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life. We also give thanks to God for all those priests and religious that have ministered to us during our lives and pray that others will follow them and answer the call to work in the vineyard of the Lord.

Fr Janusz Bieniek CSMA, former Parish Priest of Holy Spirit North Ryde, on this coming Thursday 25th April, will be celebrating the 40th anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood. We congratulate Fr Janusz, who is on leave in Poland at present, and thank God for his priestly ministry. Let us remember to keep Fr Janusz in our prayers.

A Prayer for Priestly Vocations

Loving God, Lord of the harvest, we ask you to bless our world with many priests who will love you fervently, and gladly and courageously spend their lives in service to your Church under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

We pray that their lives may be always centred on our Eucharistic Lord, that they may be always faithful to the Holy Father, and that they may be devoted Sons of Mary, our Mother, in making you known and loved.

Bless our families and our children and choose from our homes those whom you desire for this holy work. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.



On Sunday, 19th May we celebrate PENTECOST!

OUR PARISH FEAST DAY

We will once again celebrate this day with a special Mass at 10:30am (one morning Mass ONLY, evening Masses as usual), followed by an International Food Fair in our Parish/School Hall. **If you can donate an international dish or dessert or help set up the day before, please contact Jason on 0421 059 858**

Are you interested in becoming a Catholic? Or know someone who is thinking about it?

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) offers the opportunity to respond and grow in the Catholic faith and develop a deeper desire for God. We use Adult resources, have weekly sessions and over an 8-9 month period, we walk towards the Sacraments of Initiation - Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. If you or a friend/family member are interested, enquire now, as 2024 sessions begin in July. Contact Cathy on hsnrccia@gmail.com for further information OR pick up the brochure "Becoming Catholic" in our church foyer.



ANZAC DAY MASS

THURSDAY, 25TH APRIL

8:30am



The Sydney Archdiocese Committee, of the World Apostolate of Fatima invite you to our May Celebration in St. Mary's Cathedral on **Saturday 4th May** honouring our Lady and intercede for peace in the World and the welfare of Australia. To commence at 11.30am with entrance procession (inside the Cathedral) with the Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima (with the Immaculate Heart) Rosary, Litany of Loreto & Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary followed by Holy Mass at Noon. We look forward to you joining us in Prayer. For enquiries please contact us on - 0403 578 994.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING: Teresa Talarico, Vianney Brown, Greg Forrester, Joseph Papandrea, Vic & Avonia Moran, Jenny Scully Callaghan, Andrew Chan.

PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF: Denis O'Neill, Frank Woodley, Wil Wilson, Theresa Boyle recently deceased.

Also, Giuseppe Petrollo, Frank & Edgar Falzon, Angelo & Carmela & Angelo Scicluna, Albert Khoshaba, George Maiolo, Frank Ientile, Maria Ientile, John, Annarita, Antonio Ientile, Natale & Teresa Papandrea, Tony Bietola, Giovanni & Santina Bietola, John & Robyne Bietola, Sam Tedesco, Papandrea, Ientile, Cessario families, Vincenzo & Caterina Cincotta, the Escalante & Venal families, Frank & Edgar Falzon, Carmela, Angelo, Paul Scicluna, Ignazio (Jim) Torrissi, Charlie & Melina Bietola, Dr Raphael Panetta, Rosina & Michele Panetta, Rosa & Raffaele Fazzolari, Mary & Sam Bietola, Angelo Fazzolari & Fazzolari family, Fortunato & Rosa Galluzzo & Galluzzo family, Mario & Dirce Gualdi, Gianni & Angelina Gualdi, Antonino, Tindara & Vincenzo Caravello, Alberto Tanzini, Angelina & Antonino Rando, Giuseppe & Maria Caterina Pupo, Baby Cove Rose Pupo, Albert Koshaba, Fr Kevin O'Grady, Edgar J Szabo, Eleno & Estrello Etor, Michael Ellis, Antonio Fonti, Grazia Fonti, Onofrio Casamento, Domenica Casamento, Joseph Casamento, John Kooyman, Blasko Lucic, Denis Wonderley, Marie & Jim Hyde, Paul Hicks and the deceased members of the Romagos, Moniks, Collado, Acosta families.

message from the Archdiocese of Sydney: Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding & Ministerial Integrity Office 9390 5810/ safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.