

Dear brothers and sisters,

Today's readings feature the 'Shepherd' image which goes back to King David who was a young shepherd before being anointed as king (1 Sam 16:11-13). Rather than lording it over their people Israel's kings were meant to be shepherds for the people. Few kings lived up to the ideal, but the Messiah, the Son of David, was to be the 'Good Shepherd'. Chapter 10 of John's Gospel elaborates this theme in relation to Jesus. The words of Jesus are very moving: 'I am the Good Shepherd' (v 11). Today's **Gospel** (Jn 10:1-10) develops this theme.

While we have lots of sheep in Australia, we now have few shepherds. Sheep in the time of Jesus grazed during the day on open hillsides under the watchful eye of the shepherd. At dusk they were taken for the night to large communal sheepfolds with one watchman looking after the mingled flocks. At daybreak the shepherds returned, and each called his sheep out. Recognising his voice, the sheep would follow their shepherd to the pastures. Sheep would not follow a stranger. Thieves could climb over the walls during the night to steal sheep, never going in through the gate.

Sheep in very large modern flocks are notoriously stupid. Friends of mine with sheep tell me that in small flocks sheep are actually very resourceful. There must be a right size, not too big and not too small for a flock to flourish. It is such small flocks that Jesus uses for his image of the close mutual knowledge between sheep and shepherd. The shepherd knows his sheep. So too his sheep know his voice, trust him and so follow him. The shepherd knows, cares for, and protects his sheep. As it is for Jesus, so it is for those who lead his flock (family/congregation/community) today: we are called to know, love, care for and protect the flock entrusted to us.

Jesus also uses the image of the gate of the sheepfold: 'I am the Gate of the sheepfold.' If sheep are to flourish, they have to come and go through the gate of the fold; if they stay within the fold, their condition will deteriorate for lack of fresh pasture. If they do not return to the sheepfold they are at greater risk. So, the gate is necessary for both the flock's protection and growth.

It is only through lively, on-going interaction with Jesus will we find life and growth. Our Gospel today concludes 'I have come that they may have life and have it to the full', (v. 10). That is more than mere existence but is 'eternal life'. That is, a share in the undying life of God.—*Blessings, Greg*



### BEREAVEMENT GROUP MEMORIAL MASS FOR MAY

**Tuesday, 9th May at 9am**

All welcome to join us at Mass in praying for all our deceased family members and friends.

### COMMUNION AT HOME - COORDINATOR NEEDED

**You do not have to be  
a Minister of the Eucharist!**



We need a person who can make the initial contact with people requiring communion at home and assign a minister to visit. It would also involve some record keeping and liaison with the parish office and priests. *Please contact Billie at the parish office if you wish to help or need more info on this role.*

### Safeguarding Induction for all Church workers

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has broadened safeguarding to include adults at risk. ALL church workers (volunteers or paid) are to attend a 1-hour safeguarding induction. A church worker is **anyone** in the parish in **any role** – paid or voluntary. **If you haven't attended the induction in the last 3 years, please register for the upcoming session.** To register online please visit: <https://safeguarding.perthcatholic.org.au/training/#induction> Or phone 9221 7762 to book in.

Also a **FREE Cyber Safety & Digital Wellness Webinar** will be held 7-9pm Tuesday 2 May. Register attendance at <https://safeguarding.perthcatholic.org.au/>

## PARISH ACTIVITIES - ALL WELCOME

≈ **CRAFT GROUP FOR UFO** (un-finished objects)

**Thursdays 9.30-11am parish library** - enjoy a morning working on your craft, knitting, crochet, other projects in the company of others and have a cuppa and biscuit on the house.

≈ **TAI CHI Tuesdays at 9.45am parish hall, starting this**

**Tuesday 2nd May.** Please bring a small water bottle and wear a supporting lace-up shoes. Enquiries to Billie on 9276 8500 in the parish office.

≈ **NOTE CHANGE - YOGA CLASSES with Marion Wayne Tuesday 2 May**

**CANCELLED.** New term classes will resume 23 May - 26 June from 9.30 - 10.30am in the Joseph Room. New term fees \$42 (\$7 per class for 6 sessions) to be paid in full at the first class 23 May.

≈ **INFANT JESUS PLAYGROUP Wednesdays 9.30am parish hall.**

Children aged 0-4 years are welcome. All children must be accompanied by their parent/guardian. Please bring your own children's morning tea. Donation towards consumables always welcomed. Enquiries to contact Lucy on 0411 362 080.

≈ **MEDITATION SESSIONS - Mondays 7pm OR Fridays (Please note**

**the change) at 9.30am** Directed half hour meditation sessions are held in the Joseph Room, Parish Centre. Everyone is welcome.

≈ **SUNDAY CHILDREN'S LITURGY—Sundays 9.30 Mass (except 3rd Sunday and school holidays).** The little children are invited to join a short organised activity learning about Jesus in a safe and fun environment.

≈ **HEALING MASS— 9am Mass on 2nd Wednesdays of the month— resuming Wednesday 10th May.**



**NEXT WEEKEND - 6 & 7 MAY  
NAME TAG SUNDAY**

Let's reconnect with those in the pews around us once again - say hello, get to know the names of the familiar faces at Mass and have a chat :)

## PARISH PRAYER CONCERNS

**Recently Deceased:** Donald Laidlaw, Margaret Erneste;

**Deceased:** Peter Meek, Caroline Scully;

**Anniversaries:** Winnie Lazaroo, Geoffrey Gomez, Gian Baoticita, Nguyen Duy Phat, Anna Nguyen Thi Duyen, Giosue D'Alessandro, Settimio D'Alessandro, Filomena D'Alessandro, Vincenzo Masciulli, Rosario Masciulli;

**The Sick of the Parish:** Philomena Piper and all who are in need of our prayers.

*"The Good Shepherd went before us through suffering and death."*

## An Introduction to Christian Meditation All are invited to talks at the Parish Centre Saturday 6 May, 10- 3pm

This is the most ancient form of prayer known in the Church that was developed by the Monks and Nuns in Egypt very soon after the Church was established. It still continues today around the world. Talks will give its history; its foundations in Scripture. plus practical lessons on how you can make this a part of your spiritual life. Morning tea and afternoon tea will be provided; please bring your own lunch. Any enquiries ring Terry on 0429 482 921.

## SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION FOR CHILDREN

All parents of children preparing for Confirmation this year should have received a letter with details of the enrolment process this past week. If you have not, please contact the parish office.



**Important dates for the program are as follows:**

**Parents Night:** Monday 8 May 7pm at the Parish Centre

**Commitment Masses:** Saturday 20 May 6pm & Sunday 21 May at 9.30am and 6.00pm

**Parent & Child Workshop:** Monday 22 May 7pm at the Parish Centre

**Retreat:** Friday 2 June (Friday) at the Parish Centre & Church

**Confirmation Masses:** Saturday 10 June at 11am OR 2pm

Please mark these dates in your calendar. Your participation in the program is of utmost importance as you would be walking with your child in their faith journey. Should you have any enquiries, please email the Sacramental Co-ordinator, [sacramental@infantjesusparish.org.au](mailto:sacramental@infantjesusparish.org.au)

## MAY - MONTH OF MARY



### PILGRIM STATUE

This week in the home of  
Alishia Sequeira—Ph: 0450 855 725

- **Online Rosary During May** with Catholic Mission in partnership with the Spirituality Hub in Kirup, offers the opportunity to be part of a Living Rosary group in the tradition of Blessed Pauline Jaricot. Details about the group and Zoom participation available from [deborahrobertson7@icloud.com](mailto:deborahrobertson7@icloud.com) or 0419 939 864
- **May pilgrimage at Schoenstatt Shrine** Sunday 7 May 2.30-4.30pm, 9 Talus Drive, Mt Richon. Rosary Procession, Benediction, Refreshments. See foyer board for more details or [www.schoenstattwa.org.au](http://www.schoenstattwa.org.au)

### See the foyer board for the following events:

- **Aim to Love** course starts this week at Willetton and Gosnells parish
- **'Dare to Dream!'**, via Zoom, 5x Wednesday, 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 May, 5.00-6.30 pm (AEST)
- **Mission: Transform Lives - theirs...and yours** with PALMS
- **New Norcia retreat opportunity** with Fr Robert Nixon, the Director of Benedictine Studies.
- **Granny Raffle**—Noranda Uniting Church, Saturday 20th of May at 2pm. See flyer in the foyer.

### GETTING READY TO 'ROLL OUT THE CARPET'

Our beautiful volunteers are in full-swing, getting ready to launch our first fundraising effort for the church's new carpet next weekend. Lots of lovely mother's day gifts for your loved ones. We have done all the work for you this year, so just bring some cash and you are set for Mother's Day. Please see next page for full information.



## OUR SPONSORS

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Starting the carpet roll with our  
**FIRST FUNDRAISING EVENT**  
**NEXT WEEKEND 6th & 7th MAY**



**NEXT WEEKEND**  
**AT ALL MASSES**

# Mother's day GIFT STALL

## **LOVELY GIFTS**

**for your Mum, Nonna or other wonderful women in your life.**

Beautiful succulent planters, gift boxed plants, hand made plant pot stands and other small timber items, hand made rugs, home made jams and preserves, hand made cakes and biscuits, flowers and more - AND a fabulous raffle!

## **CASH PREFERRED,**

**CREDIT FACILITY AVAILABLE (2% FEE)**

**LOVELY QUALITY GIFTS & SMALL GIFTS FOR CHILDREN TO BUY.**

**ALL PROCEEDS TO NEW CARPET IN OUR CHURCH.**

**Why the fundraising?** The carpet in our church is desperately in need of replacement as it has become a safety issue. We also need accessibility onto the sanctuary for wheelchair users and those with mobility issues.

## **ROLL OUT THE RED CARPET FUNDRAISERS - COLLECTION POINT**

Over the months ahead, we are planning few more fundraising events and we will be needing many items which you may have sitting at home unused or have a friend or contact who could help.

We need:

- **For Mother's Day Stall—donations of fresh flowers (Chrysanthemum, etc). Please deliver to the parish centre on Friday 5th May between 9 and 10am or Saturday 6th May between 8.30 and 9.30am.**
- \* mangoes, figs or other fruits for chutney/jam
- \* florist's boxes, gift wrap, ribbon, baskets and presentation boxes
- \* new or unused toiletries
- \* unused gift items suitable for silent auction/raffles
- \* ceramic pots for plants, succulent cuttings
- \* donations from local or family businesses

Donations may be brought to the parish office or arranged by phoning Billie on 9276 8500.