
Granville

Catholic Church Record

Vol. II. No. 17.

April 26, 2026

4th Sunday of Easter, Year A

The Official Bulletin of Holy Cross Parish



The Shepherd's Voice and the Labourer's Heart

The fourth Sunday of the Easter season is traditionally known as Good Shepherd Sunday. Across the world, the faithful gather to contemplate the tender image of Our Lord as the Shepherd who knows His sheep by name. While we often focus on the comfort of being led to restful waters, this day carries a profound urgency. It is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, a time to reflect on how the voice of the Shepherd continues to echo in the modern world through the Priesthood and Religious life. In the silence of the heart, God speaks. A vocation is not a career choice; it is a supernatural invitation from the Creator to a creature. In a world filled with noise, hearing that still, small voice requires a particular kind of stillness and a willingness to listen beyond the clamour of the everyday.

For the young man called to the Priesthood, this invitation is a summons to participate in the one Priesthood of Jesus Christ. The Priest is called to be an alter Christus—another Christ—standing at the altar to offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

and acting as a bridge between heaven and earth. Through his hands, the sacraments are dispensed, and through his lips, the words of absolution restore weary souls to grace. Similarly, the call to Religious life—for both men and women—is a radical witness to the reality of the Kingdom of God. By embracing the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity, and obedience, religious sisters and brothers remind us that our ultimate home is in eternity. Their lives are a living prayer, offered for the salvation of souls and the sanctification of the Church.

However, the duty to respond to the Shepherd does not rest solely on those in collars or habits. Every parishioner is called to be an active participant in the life of the Church, rather than a mere spectator in the pews. When Our Lord commanded us to pray that the Master send labourers into His harvest, He was calling for a community that is itself hard at work. A parish thrives when the laity recognise that they are the soil from which vocations grow. By offering our time in service—whether

through assisting with the liturgy, maintaining the beauty of our church, or supporting parish works of mercy—we create a vibrant body that makes the invitation to service visible. When a young person sees a congregation truly alive in its faith, the path to a life of service becomes a noble aspiration.

We must ask ourselves: are our homes fertile soil for these seeds? A vocation is born in a family that prays together and speaks of God with reverence. The domestic church is the primary school of discipleship. To support vocations, we need a return to the fundamentals: regular Eucharistic Adoration and a deep devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. On this Good Shepherd Sunday, let us pray for our seminarians and those in formation. By embracing our role as labourers in the vineyard, we ensure that the Shepherd's voice is heard by the next generation. May we follow the Shepherd with a steady heart, trusting that where He leads, we shall find our true peace, guiding us toward the heavenly pastures prepared for those who love Him.

THE PARISH OFFICE

Address

200 The Trongate,
South Granville, N.S.W. 2142

T 0497 190 444

E granville@parracatholic.org

Tuesday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Parish Administrator

Rev. Fr. Galbert Albino

Assistant Priest

Rev. Fr. Joseph Nguyen

Business and Projects Manager

John Portelli

Sacraments and Youth Co-ordinator

Rosette Chidiac

Catechist Co-ordinator

Lana Leatherby

Piety Shop

Claudette Takchi and Annette Wirz

Holy Family Primary School

T (02) 8633-8200

Holy Trinity Primary School

T (02) 8633-8500

Delany College

T (02) 8633-8100

DONATIONS

BSB: 067-950

Account: 00007247

Name: Granville Catholic Parish

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

Holy Mass

Tuesday, 9:15 a.m.

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, 9:15 a.m.

Friday, 9:15 a.m.

Saturday, 9:15 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Confessions

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, 4:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Nigerian Community Mass

Second and fourth Sunday of the month,
11:00 a.m.

Rosters

Church and Toilets Cleaning

Narelle Khoury, Claudette Takchi,
Moona Wehbe

Flower Arranging

Samira Elias, David Elias, Juliet Nakhoul

SOCIAL MEDIA



holycrossgranville.org.au



HolyCrossGranville



Holy Cross Parish App



@holycrossgranville

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Holy Mass

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, 8:15 a.m.

Thursday, 8:15 a.m.

Friday, 8:15 a.m.

Saturday, 8:15 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

Confessions

Saturday, 5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.

Holy Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

Holy Mass in Latin

First Thursday of the month, 6:00 p.m.

Ghanaian Chaplaincy Mass

Second and last Sunday of the month,
11:30 a.m.

Vietnamese Chaplaincy Mass

Sunday, 5:00 p.m.

Rosters

Church Cleaning Group 1:

D.Portelli, L.Toman, W.Krasinski, J.Galea,
A.Quinlan, N. Begley

Readers

Vigil Rebecca Hanson, Sisters, Rosette
Chidiac

10:00 a.m. Armani Barakat, Jasmine
Miranda

Children's Liturgy

Elmo and Shanthi Xavier

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Joseph Akkary, Janelle Allan, John Anjoul, Marlene Ashton,
John Augustus, Antonio Bifulco, Ann Blesson, John Borg,
Vincenzo Colosimo, Lucy Farrugia, Carmello Gioenco,
Evangeline Grabato, Thomas Hayek, Elizabeth Hicks, Peter
Higgins, Terese Jones, Therese Khalil, Jacob Lee, Josephine
Magro, Zoe Mrzljak, Sid Morgan, Scott Moulton, Ben
Nursoo, Sarah-Joy O'Connor, Don Provest, Ricardo
Tognini, Sam Wardan, Anthony Vella, Gerard Watts.



Lord Jesus Christ, our Redeemer,
by the grace of your Holy Spirit
cure the weaknesses of your servants,
and mercifully restore them to full health.

IN MEMORIAM

Victor Azzopardi, Joseph Baini, Carmen Bonello, Charlie
Bonello, Dick Cahill, Gwen Cahill, Vincent Cahill, Albert
Camilleri, Les Camilleri, Tessie Camilleri, Christine Derwin, Joe
Paul Fehir, Alan Frost, Carmen Galea, Maria Gambin, John
Graham, Joe Grech, Mary Grech, Sam Grech, Melissa Irons,
Salim Karaki, Paul Karam, Chini Maya Kc, Nouhad Khoury,
Kaye King, Thomas Lam, Rustica La Rosa, Laurie Lowe, Mouna
Malkoun, Roy McDonald, Aileen McIntyre, Jack McIntyre,
Nancy McIntyre, Marie McDonald, Giovanna Mondello, Santo
Mondello, Anthony Newell, Jessica Nguyen, Vincent Nguyen,
Michael O'Brien, Peter Olsen, Zackary Orenshaw, Doris
Pickering, Edward Pidgeon, Robert Pidgeon, Sheila Pidgeon,
Anna Pham, Flory Pinto, Peter Robertson, Grace Saliba, Louis
Saliba, Garry Smith, Carlito So, Noel So, Emanuel Tabone, Alex
Taktak, John Toyey, John Vella, Peter Van Duc Vu, Graham
Wales, Carmel Watts, Phyllis Webb, Mershed Wehbe, Yesmine
Wehbe, William Yott, Dib Zaiter, Laila Zaiter, Jessie Zammit

Important Notice Regarding Receiving Holy Communion

There has been an unfortunate increase in Sacred Hosts being dropped when receiving Holy Communion. Whilst these are accidents, we all have a responsibility to ensure that the Sacred Host—the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Our Lord, Jesus Christ—is guarded and protected.

When receiving Holy Communion, please do not step to the side to consume the Sacred Host, and under no circumstances, turn away from facing the altar before you consume the Sacred Host. Please ensure that you consume the Sacred Host whilst still facing the altar and the Priest or the Extraordinary Minister.

A Call to Action: Your Parish Needs You!

Are you inspired to serve, or are you waiting for others to step forward? Our parish community cannot thrive—or even function—on the efforts of a few alone. We are currently at a critical point where we urgently seek volunteers for vital ministries, including altar serving, reading, cleaning, music, hospitality and children's liturgy.

We must move beyond being a congregation of spectators. To be a living body of Christ, every member is called to active participation, not just attendance. Sharing your unique gifts is not merely an option; it is a vital responsibility to help build our parish and honour God through tangible, generous service. A parish is only as strong as the people who sustain it.

Please do not leave the work to someone else. We need your hands and your heart to ensure our mission continues. If you are ready to commit, please contact the parish office. Your service is essential. Use this Easter season to jump-start your vital parish service.



**Make frequent visits to Jesus
in the Blessed Sacrament
and the devil will be
powerless against you.**

—*St. John Bosco*

WEDNESDAYS

Holy Family Church at 6:30 p.m.



FIRST FRIDAYS

Holy Trinity Church at 7:30 p.m.

First Friday Mass, Rosary and Adoration

Join us this Friday at Holy Trinity Church for our regular First Friday of the month devotions in honour of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in reparation for the sins of humanity.

Confessions will be heard from 6:15 p.m., the Rosary will be prayed at 6:30 p.m., Holy Mass will be offered at 7:00 p.m. followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 7:30 p.m.

Take the time to join us for this final First Friday Devotion for 2025 and begin this Advent season by placing Our Lord at the centre of your preparations for Christmas.

Paschal Precept

The Paschal Precept, or Easter Duty, is the law of the Church obligating the faithful to confess their sins at least once every year and to receive Holy Communion during the season of Easter (CIC *nn.* 920, 989). There are three times each week scheduled for the Sacrament of Penance by which you can make your confession. The times are Saturdays from 5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. at Holy Trinity Church, Sundays from 4:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. and Wednesdays from 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Holy Family Church.

Holy Trinity Church Audio System Upgrade Appeal

For over twenty-five years, the audio system at Holy Trinity Church has been the backbone of our communications during Holy Mass. However, the equipment is now frequently malfunctioning and in need of upgrading. This essential upgrade is a continued part of our long-term refurbishment and restoration program, which has been effectively improving both parish churches for many years.

To ensure that every parishioner can hear the prayers and the Word of God with absolute clarity, we are embarking on this project to install a modern, professional-grade system throughout the building. This work will provide vastly improved sound coverage, ensuring no member of our community is excluded due to poor acoustics. We are seeking major sponsors and significant donations to fund this vital work for the glory of God.

While we understand current cost of living pressures may make it difficult for some to contribute, we invite those in a position to do so to consider a significant financial contribution. Please contact the Parish Office or speak with Fr. Galbert directly.



THE VOICE *of the* SHEPHERD *and the* GATE

On the Fourth Sunday of Easter, traditionally known as Good Shepherd Sunday, the Church turns its attention to the protective care of the Risen Lord. In the Year A cycle, the Gospel of John presents Jesus not only as the Shepherd but also as the "Gate for the sheep." This imagery provides a profound meditation on the nature of divine authority and the security of those who belong to the flock of Christ. In an age of conflicting voices and spiritual confusion, the image of the Shepherd offers a grounding truth: we are known, loved, and led toward the green pastures of eternal life.

The relationship between the shepherd and his sheep in the ancient world was one of intense familiarity. Unlike modern farming, where animals are often driven from behind, the ancient shepherd walked ahead, and the sheep followed him because they recognised his voice. This personal bond is the heart of the Christian life. Jesus does not coerce us into obedience; He calls us by name. Our task during this Easter season is to refine our spiritual hearing, learning to distinguish the gentle, persistent whisper of the True Shepherd from the "thieves and robbers" who seek to lead the soul astray.



THE GATE OF THE SHEEPFOLD

By identifying Himself as the "Gate," Jesus emphasises that He is the sole point of entry to a life of

grace. This is not a statement of exclusion, but one of safety and purpose. In the ancient sheepfold, the shepherd would often lie across the opening of the enclosure at night, literally becoming the door. Nothing could reach the sheep without passing through him, and the sheep could not wander into danger without his notice.

In our personal lives, we often look for security in material wealth, social status, or the approval of others. These are "gates" that eventually fail under the weight of human frailty. Christ, however, is the Gate that remains open to the repentant soul and closed to the powers of darkness. When we "enter through Him," we find the freedom to move in and out of the world's challenges with a peace that the world cannot give. We are protected from the predatory influences of despair and sin because we rest under His watchful eye.



HEARING THE VOICE IN THE SILENCE

The greatest challenge for the modern Catholic is the volume of noise that competes for our attention. Secular ideologies, digital media, and our own interior anxieties often drown out the Shepherd's call. Good Shepherd Sunday is a call to return to the silence of prayer and the clarity of the Church's teaching. The "voice" of Christ is consistently heard in the Sacraments, the lives of the Saints,

and the Magisterium.

To follow the Shepherd requires docility—a willingness to be led even when the path seems steep or the valley dark. We must trust that the Shepherd knows the terrain better than the sheep. If we find ourselves feeling lost, it is usually because we have stopped listening and started wandering. The beauty of the Resurrection is that the Shepherd has already conquered the most dangerous valley—death itself—and has returned to lead us home. By staying close to Him, we ensure our steps are firm and our destination is secure.



THE MISSION OF THE FLOCK

We are called to embody Christ's sacrificial love within our community. As the flock, we pray for vocations and seek out those who have wandered away. By reflecting the Shepherd's kindness, we help others hear His voice and find safety.



A CALL TO ACTION

Spend time in silent adoration this week, asking the Lord to help you distinguish His voice from the distractions of the world. Pray specifically for our parish priests and for an increase in vocations to the service of the Church. Trust that the Shepherd is leading you toward the peace of His kingdom, even when the road ahead appears uncertain. Through every trial, Our Lord remains our constant and faithful guide.



AN EVENING WITH THE LORD

6:15pm - 6:45pm: Confession

6:30pm: Holy Rosary

7:00pm: Holy Mass followed by Adoration

FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

Holy Trinity Church
Cnr. Randle St. and Bennalong St. Granville



HOLY CROSS PARISH

Easter Appeal

YOUR DONATION WILL ASSIST WITH THE CONTINUED
UPKEEP OF OUR PARISH CHURCHES AND FUNDING OF
FUTURE PROJECTS.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY.



SCAN QR CODE TO MAKE AN
ONLINE DONATION

Saints & STUFF

St. Mark

The feast of St. Mark, is honoured whose on 25 April, and holds a double significance as it coincides with Anzac Day. Just as we honour the bravery and sacrifice of our servicemen and women, St. Mark's Gospel serves as a powerful testament to the courageous "action" required to follow Christ.

Mark was not one of the original twelve Apostles, but he was a close companion of St. Peter. In fact, many scholars believe his Gospel is essentially a record of Peter's eyewitness accounts. Because Mark's narrative is the shortest and moves at a rapid pace—frequently using the word "immediately"—it captures the urgency of the Resurrection message. St. Mark reminds us that the Good News is not something to be kept quiet; it is a call to active discipleship.

His traditional symbol is the Winged Lion. This imagery comes from the opening of his Gospel, which describes John the Baptist as "a voice crying out in the wilderness"—a sound as bold and arresting as a lion's roar. St. Mark is the patron saint of notaries, stained-glass artists, and the city of Venice. For our parish, he stands as a reminder that the Resurrection is a "roaring" truth that transforms our lives and demands to be shared with the world.

CATECHISM of the CATHOLIC CHURCH

Christ the Shepherd

754 The Church is, accordingly, a sheepfold, the sole and necessary gateway to which is Christ. It is also the flock of which God himself foretold that he would be the shepherd, and whose sheep, even though governed by human shepherds, are unfailingly nourished and led by Christ himself, the Good Shepherd and Prince of Shepherds, who gave his life for his sheep.

1548 In the ecclesial service of the ordained minister, it is Christ himself who is present to his Church as Head of his Body, Shepherd of his flock, high priest of the redemptive sacrifice, Teacher of Truth. This is what the Church means by saying that the priest, by virtue of the sacrament of Holy Orders, acts in *persona Christi Capitis*:

It is the same priest, Christ Jesus, whose sacred person his minister truly represents. Now the minister, by reason of the sacerdotal consecration which he has received, is truly made like to the high priest and possesses the authority to act in the power and place of the person of Christ himself (*virtute ac persona ipsius Christi*). Christ is the source of all priesthood: the priest of the old law was a figure of Christ, and the priest of the new law acts in the person of Christ.

CATHOLIC Trivia

4 Pillars of Western Theology

While the Church now recognises 37 Doctors, the title officially began with four towering figures named by Pope Boniface VIII in 1298.

These influential men provided the essential intellectual scaffolding for Western Christianity, blending deep scholarship with holy lives.

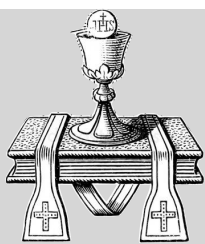
St. Ambrose: The eloquent Bishop of Milan was a fearless defender of orthodoxy. He famously mentored and baptised St. Augustine, proving that a brilliant mind is often won over by an even more brilliant teacher.

St. Jerome: A scholarly priest known for his sharp wit and academic rigour, Jerome's greatest feat was the Vulgate. By translating the Bible into Latin, he made the Scriptures accessible to the common person for many centuries.

St. Augustine: Often called the "Doctor of Grace," his seminal theological works bridged Classical philosophy and Christian faith, fundamentally shaping the entire Western world.

St. Gregory the Great: Pope Gregory stabilised the Church during immense social turmoil. He reformed the liturgy and promoted Gregorian chant, leaving a profound musical legacy that still resonates in cathedrals throughout 2026.

These scholars prove that faith and reason are the two vital wings for the human spirit.



MASS MATTERS

The Veneration of the Altar

After the entrance procession, the priest venerates the altar with a kiss. This significant act is far more than a greeting; it is an ancient sign of reverence for the "Table of the Lord." In the early Church, Mass was often celebrated over the tombs of martyrs, a tradition continuing today through the placement of sacred relics within the altar.

By kissing the altar, the priest acknowledges it as a symbol of Christ—the living "Cornerstone." The altar is where the sacrifice of Calvary is made present, serving as the bridge between Heaven and earth. This gesture reminds us that we are entering a holy space. When we bow toward the altar, we join in this veneration, honouring the heart of our sanctuary and our sacred pilgrimage.

4th Sunday of Easter, Year A

The Readings

Introit

(Cf Psalm 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

The Acts of the Apostles

(Acts of the Apostles 2:14. 36-41)

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 your 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.

Responsorial Psalm

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

℟. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

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. ℟.

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. ℟.

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. ℟.

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. ℟.

Second Reading

First Letter of St Peter

(1 Peter 2:20-25)

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 were 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.

Gospel Acclamation

(John 10:14)

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

Gospel

The Gospel of John

(John 9:1. 6-9. 13-17. 34-38)

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.'

Communion

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

*Take a copy of this bulletin home with you
for important news and information.*