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Good Shepherd Catholic Parish



A. 88 South Circular Road, Gladstone Park PO Box 2400 T. (03) 9338 2840
 E. gladstonepark@cam.org.au

CONTACT DETAILS

Parish Priest: Fr Dishan Candappa
Assistant Priest: Fr An Le
Deacon: Rev Poukesi Vaka'uta
 0423 659 605 (*Tongan Chaplain*)

OFFICE HOURS
 Tuesday - Friday: 10:00 AM – 2PM

PARISH SCHOOLS

School of the Good Shepherd
 PO Box 2400
 88 South Circular Road
 Gladstone Park Vic 3043
Principal: Carmela D'Amato
Tel: 9338 7686 **Fax:** 9335 2586
 E. principal@sogsgpark.catholic.edu.au

St Carlo Borromeo
 5 – 9 Drummond Street
 Greenvale Vic 3059
Principal: Kevin Gleeson
Tel: 9333 2572 **Fax:** 9333 2187
 E: principal@scgreenvale.catholic.edu.au

Mary Queen of Heaven
 75 French Road
 Greenvale Vic 3059
Principal: Renae Gentile
Temporary No. 0458 548 234
 E: principal@mqhgvale.catholic.edu.au

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:
Monday – Saturday:
 9:15 AM - Good Shepherd Church

WEEKEND MASS TIMES:
Saturday: 6:00 PM - Good Shepherd
Sunday: 9:00 AM - St Carlo Borromeo
 11:00 AM - Good Shepherd
 5:00 PM - Good Shepherd

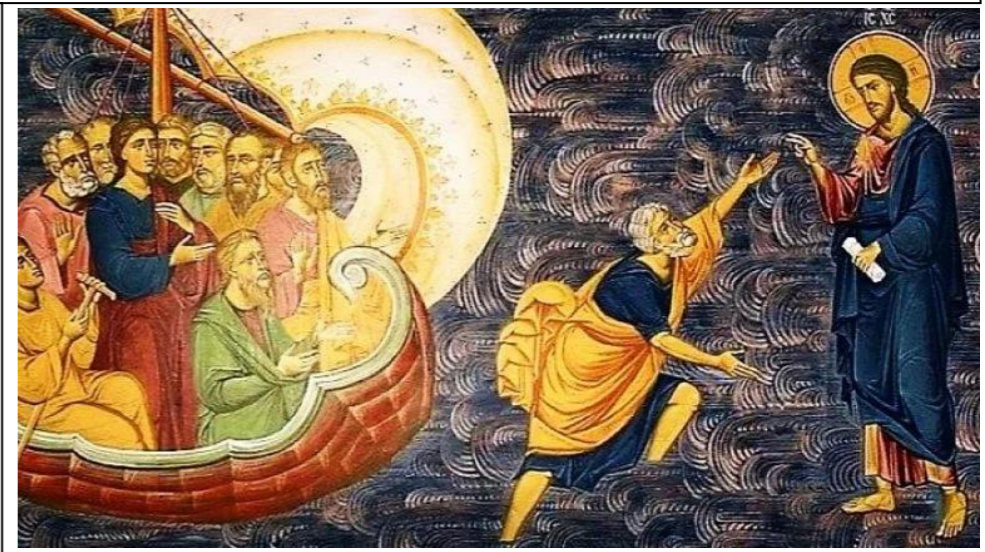
ADORATION & BENEDICTION
 The first Friday of the month after the morning Mass at Good Shepherd Church.

MARIAN NOVENA
 Wednesday at 6:30 PM preceded by Adoration/Confession at 6:00 PM

CONFESSION & RECONCILIATION
Wed-Fri: 8:40 AM - 9:00 AM
 Wed: 6:00 PM – 6:20 PM
Saturday: 9:45 AM & 5:30 PM , or by appointment.

BAPTISM PREPARATION
 2ND & 4TH Tuesdays of the month at 6:00 PM.
Bookings essential.

WEDDING PREPARATION
 Bookings to be made 6 months prior to wedding date. Book through Parish Office.



Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

This Sunday's Gospel passage speaks of **Jesus walking on the water of the stormy lake**. After feeding the crowds with five loaves and two fish – as we saw last Sunday – Jesus commands the disciples to get into the boat and return to the other shore. He dismisses the people and then climbs the hill, alone, to pray. He immerses Himself in communion with the Father.

During the crossing of the lake by night, the disciples' boat is hindered by a sudden windstorm. This is normal on a lake. At a certain point, they see someone walking on the water, coming toward them. Upset, they think it is a ghost and cry out in fear. Jesus reassures them: **"Take heart, it is I; have no fear"**. Then Peter – Peter who was so decisive – answers: **"Lord, if it is you, bid me come to you on the water"**. A challenge. And Jesus tells him: **"Come"**. Peter gets out of the boat and takes a few steps; then the wind and waves frighten him, and he begins to sink. **"Lord, save me"**, he cries, and Jesus grasps him by the hand and says to him: **"O man of little faith, why did you doubt?"**.

This Gospel narrative is an invitation to abandon ourselves trustingly to God in every moment of our life, especially in the moment of trial and turmoil. When we have strong feelings of doubt and fear and we seem to be sinking, in life's difficult moments where everything becomes dark, we must not be ashamed to cry out like Peter: **"Lord, save me"**. To knock on God's heart, on Jesus's heart. **"Lord, save me."** It is a beautiful prayer! We can repeat it many times. **"Lord, save me."** And Jesus's gesture, who immediately reaches out His hand and grasps that of His friend, should be contemplated at length: this is Jesus. Jesus does this. Jesus is the Father's hand who never abandons us, the strong and faithful hand of the Father, who always and only wants what is good for us. God is not in the loud sound, God is not the hurricane, He is not in the fire, He is not in the earthquake – as the narrative about the Prophet Elijah also recalls today that says God is the light breeze – literally it says this: He is in the **"thread of melodious silence"** – that never imposes itself but asks to be heard. Having faith means keeping your heart turned to God, to His love, to His Fatherly tenderness, amid the storm. Jesus wanted to teach this to Peter and the disciples, and to us today. In dark moments, in sad moments He is well aware that our faith is weak – all of us are people of little faith, all of us, and that our faith is weak our journey can be troubled, hindered by adverse forces. But He is the Risen One.

www.catholicstrivingforholiness.org
 (Picture & text(Pope Francis Reflection))

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Please contact the Parish office for more information on 9338 2840.