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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



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CONTACT DETAILS

Parish Priest: Fr Dishan Candappa
Assistant Priest: Fr An Le
Deacon: Rev Poukasi Vaka'uta
 0423 659 605
(Chaplain of the Tongan Community)

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday: 10:00 AM – 2PM
Wed to Fri: 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

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

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:

Monday – Saturday:
 9:15 AM - Good Shepherd Church

ADORATION & BENEDICTION

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

MARIAN NOVENA

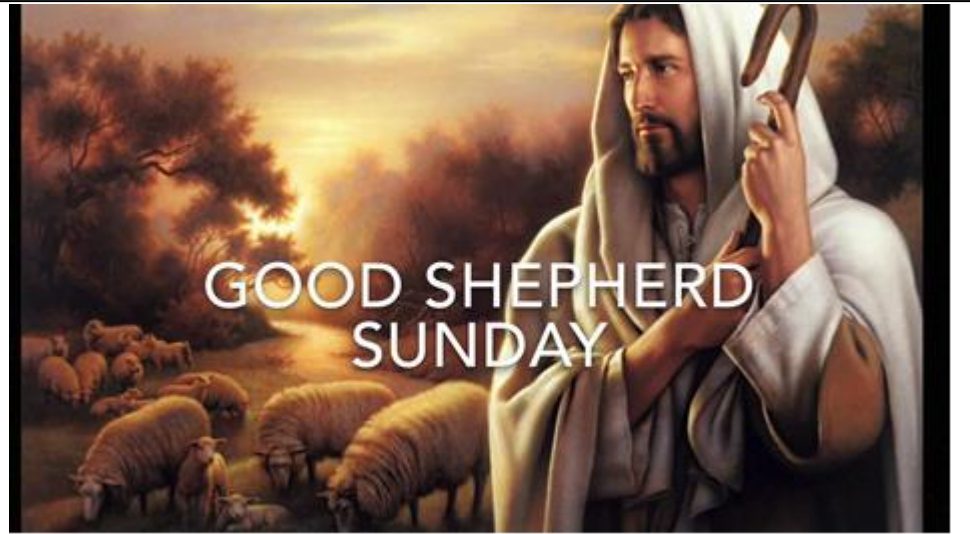
Wednesday at 6:30 PM preceded by Adoration/Confession at 6:00 PM

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.



This fourth Sunday of the Easter season is sometimes called Good Shepherd Sunday because in each of the three lectionary cycles, the Gospel reading invites us to reflect on Jesus as the Good Shepherd. In each cycle the reading is from the tenth chapter of John's Gospel. This chapter sets the framework for Jesus' teaching about himself as the Good Shepherd.

Today's reading falls between the stories of Jesus' healing of the man born blind and the raising of Lazarus. Both of these stories were proclaimed in the Gospels found in this year's season of Lent. Following the controversy that ensued when Jesus healed the man born blind, Jesus directs his allegory about the sheep and the shepherd toward the Jewish religious leaders of his time, the Pharisees.

Throughout John's Gospel the Pharisees fail to accept Jesus' ministry and teaching. They show themselves to be "robbers and thieves" because they try to lead the sheep without entering through the gate, Jesus. Through these metaphors, Jesus is telling his listeners that those who follow him and his way will find abundant life. He identifies himself both as the shepherd and the gate. The shepherds who are faithful to him are the ones whom the sheep (Jesus' disciples) should follow.

The relationship between the sheep and their shepherd is based on familiarity. Sheep recognize their shepherd and will not follow a stranger. At the end of the day, shepherds lead their sheep from pastures to a common gated area called a sheepfold. There, one shepherd protects all of the sheep until the next day when each shepherd returns to lead his own sheep to pasture. As shepherds move among the sheep, the sheep follow only their shepherd.

Today's Gospel also gives us the opportunity to reflect on Christian leadership. Jesus' words suggest to us that those who will lead the Christian community will be known by their faithfulness to Jesus. The leaders will recognize that Jesus is the gate for all of the sheep and that having a good relationship with Jesus is the primary characteristic of a Christian leader. Jesus' allegory also suggests that faithful Christian leadership requires a good relationship with the community: the shepherd knows his sheep, and they know him. Christian leaders follow the example of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, by being faithful to him and by being a good shepherd.

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