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Good Shepherd Catholic Parish

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

CONTACT DETAILS

Parish Priest: Fr Dishan Candappa
Assistant Priest: Fr Samuel Pearson
Deacon: Rev Poukesi Vaka'uta

OFFICE HOURS:
Tuesday: 10:00 – 1:00pm
Wednesday - Friday: 10:00am – 2:00pm

PARISH SCHOOLS
School of the Good Shepherd
 88 South Circular Road
 Gladstone Park Vic 3043
Acting Principal: Elizabeth Sarpa
Tel: 9338 7686
E: principal@sogsgpark.catholic.edu.au

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

Mary Queen of Heaven
 75 French Road
 Greenvale Vic 3059
Principal: Renae Gentile
Tel: 7379 5600
E: principal@mghvale.catholic.edu.au

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES
Monday – Saturday:
 9:15am - Good Shepherd
WEEKEND MASS TIMES
Saturday: 6:00pm - Good Shepherd
Sunday: 9:00am - St Carlo Borromeo
 11:00am - Good Shepherd
 5:00pm - Good Shepherd

ADORATION & BENEDICTION
 At Good Shepherd Church on the first Friday of the month after morning Mass & Wednesday at 6:00pm.

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

CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION
Wed-Fri: 8:45am - 9:05am
Wed: 6:00pm - 6:30pm
Saturday: 9:45am - 10:15pm
 5:15pm - 5:50pm

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

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

Corpus Christi

This Sunday we celebrate a second solemnity during this period of Ordinary Time in the liturgical calendar. Today is the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. This day was once called *Corpus Christi*, which is Latin for “Body of Christ.” In the revised Lectionary the name for this day is expanded to reflect more completely our Eucharistic theology.

Today’s Gospel is taken from the Gospel according to John. The reading is part of a discourse between Jesus and a crowd of Jews. The discourse comes shortly after the miracle of Jesus’ multiplication of the loaves and fishes. In John’s Gospel, miracles such as this are identified as “signs” through which people come to believe that Jesus is the Son of God. These signs are followed by dialogue, or discourse that interprets and explains the miracle. In John’s Gospel, Jesus’ multiplication of the loaves is said to have occurred near Passover, thus linking it to the Exodus story and God’s saving action toward the Israelites.

Having seen Jesus multiply the loaves and fishes, the crowd pursues him, perhaps seeking more food but also looking for another sign. Jesus tells the crowd that he is the bread of life. He explains that just as God gave the Israelites manna to sustain them in the desert, so now God has sent new manna that will give eternal life. It is in this context that Jesus repeats those words in today’s Gospel and tells them again that he is the living bread that came down from heaven.

Jesus’ words are not well understood by the crowd; they argue that Jesus is not from heaven but born of Mary and Joseph. The crowd also has trouble understanding how Jesus could give them his flesh to eat. Jesus tells them that when they eat his flesh and drink his blood, they will remain forever connected to him. These are difficult words, but they are important because they seek to show us our intimate connection with Jesus.

This is the mystery that is at the heart of our Eucharistic theology. In the elements of bread and wine, Jesus’ Body and Blood are truly present. When we share in the Body and Blood of Christ, Jesus himself comes to dwell within us. This communion with the Lord makes us one body, brings us eternal life, and sends us forth to be Christ’s Body in the world.

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