



## 4th Sunday of Easter Year B 24 & 25 April 2021

Parish Priest:  
Fr Think Nguyen  
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Parish Secretary  
Dominique Hockey  
Amelia Younane

Parish Office Hours  
Tuesday - Friday 9am—3pm

Baptisms & Weddings  
Please contact the Parish Office.

### St Scholastica's Primary

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Principal: Jenny Rohan  
9808 7279  
[principal@ssbennettswood.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@ssbennettswood.catholic.edu.au)

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*Dear Parishioners and friends,*

This Sunday is the World Day of Vocations. Pope Francis' message for 2021 World Day of Vocations, entitled "Saint Joseph: The Dream of Vocation" says the following:

"God looks on the heart (cf. 1 Sam 16:7), and in Saint Joseph he recognised the heart of a father, able to give and generate life in the midst of daily routines. Vocations have this same goal: to beget and renew lives every day. The Lord desires to shape the hearts of fathers and mothers: hearts that are open, capable of great initiatives, generous in self-giving, compassionate in comforting anxieties and steadfast in strengthening hopes.

The priesthood and the consecrated life greatly need these qualities nowadays, in times marked by fragility but also by the sufferings due to the pandemic, which has spawned uncertainties and fears about the future and the very meaning of life. Saint Joseph comes to meet us in his gentle way, as one of 'the saints next door'. At the same time, his strong witness can guide us on the journey."

Let us pray for the young people in our community, and in our families and circle of friends. May our prayers help them to be open to the Lord's call to consecrated life or priesthood.

On this day, we also remember the soldiers of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps who landed and fought on the Gallipoli Peninsula in Turkey early on the morning of 25th April 1915 during the First World War (1914-1918).

We remember their bravery and sacrifice, many of them never returning home from the war. We also remember with gratitude all men and women who have fought and died in all wars. May their sacrifice never be forgotten and may we continue to cherish the freedom that they fought for. May leaders everywhere work for lasting peace, true justice and understanding among people. May they come to know that true peace is the peace of Christ.

With blessings  
*Fr Think Nguyen PP*



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**WEEKLY CALENDAR 2021**

**Monday 26 April**

No Service  
07.30pm Vinnies Meeting - GA

**Tuesday 27 April**

09.00am Mass followed Adoration/Rosary until 10am  
12.00pm Mass on Campus (Deakin University)  
7.00pm Prayer Group - GA

**Wednesday 28 April**

10.00am Novena  
10.20am Rosary and Benediction  
11.00am Mass  
01.00pm Legion of Mary  
06.30pm Seniors Ladies Dinner

**Thursday 29 April**

09.00am Mass followed Adoration/Rosary until 10am

**Friday 30 April**

09.00am Mass followed Adoration/Rosary until 10am

**Saturday 1 May**

09.00am Mass followed by Confession  
05.30pm Mass

**Sunday 2 May**

09.00am Mass  
11.00am Mass  
12.15PM Vietnamese Mass  
05.30pm Mass

**ROSTERS**

<u>Day</u>	<u>Mass Time</u>	<b>4th Sunday of the Month 24/25 April 2021</b>	
		<u>Readers/Musician</u>	<u>Special Ministers</u>
Saturday	5.30 pm	Paul Borg	Judith Silvina Hung Tran
		Pauline	
Sunday	9.00 am	April Lewis	Anna Gaetano Laurine Shane
		Judy	
	11.00 am	April Lewis Mario	Barbara Schobben Willard Lewis
	5.30 pm	Kristin Jabay	Michael Chan
		Henry	Netty Solomon

**ROSTERS**

<u>Day</u>	<u>Mass Time</u>	<b>1st Sunday of the Month 1/2 May 2021</b>	
		<u>Readers/Musician</u>	<u>Special Ministers</u>
Saturday	5.30 pm	Rachel Cordeiro	Mary Ann Borg Christine Wates
		Pauline	
Sunday	9.00 am	Juancho Natividad	Rosa Coniglio Sangeetha Thomas
		Judy	
	11.00 am	Clare Gately Dennis and Yong	Anna Marie Ziino Marie Serophim
	5.30 pm	Shenuk R Perrera	Marcia Nelson
		Rebecca	

**Remembering Our Community**

**Sick**

Fr Larry Nemer, Ian Holmes, Michael Yau, Rachel Bransby, Doris Gauci, Doris Sinclair, Fred Hillas, Joe Panetta, Fran Panetta, Natalie Balding, Rosemary Anderiesz, Maria Fonseca, Cheryl Coady, Marian McQuinn

**Anniversaries**

Rodney Simpson, Rose Giudice, Giuseppe Giudice, William Priest, Peter Leotta, Patrizia Santoro

**Recently Deceased**

Baby Mary Pauchnik

**Combined Catholic Car Raffle - LAST WEEK!!!**

This is the last week to be able to hand in your Combined Catholic Parishes Car Raffle tickets. If you still have book at home if you can please either bring it to mass and put it in the collection plate or bring it into the Parish Office. Every dollar from every ticket goes straight back to the Parish.



[permit no. 10110/21]

**Working with Children Checks & Safeguarding Code of Conduct**

We would like to thank all the parishioners/Volunteers who have returned their signed Code of Conduct letter and a copy of their current WWCC. We appreciate your understanding and support in this matter.

We urge you to please fill in/submit the forms at your earliest convenience if you haven't done so already. If you do not have a printer access, that's ok, please come into the parish office and we can print the documents for you and you can sign them here.

If you need any other help or assistance we are more than happy to help out with this - just drop into the parish office. Thank you.

**Thanksgiving envelopes**

Over the past few months due to the pandemic many of you, our parishioners, have opted to contribute online, directly into the church account.

If you wish to continue doing so please contact Dominique or Amelia at the parish office so that we can organise a new thanksgiving number and stop the physical envelopes from being issued in future.

If you would like the parish office to set up your direct debit please contact us or come and visit us. We would love to see you and assist in this matter. We thank you all for your ongoing support of our parish!

**Seniors Social Functions - All Welcome**

We would love to see you at our next Senior Social Function which we are now opening to all parishioners - not just the singles. We have decided change these monthly functions from night to lunchtime in the hope that this suits more parishioners. These lunches are a regular occurrence each month and are a perfect opportunity for you to enjoy the company of some fellow parishioners.

The May outings will be held at Glen Waverley RSL at 12:30pm. The dates for May are:

- Men's Lunch - Wednesday 19th May
- Ladies Dinner - Wednesday 26th May

All are welcome. If you require transport, please contact the parish office on 9808 1006

**St Scholastica's acknowledges that we gather, pray and live together on the land of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nations.**

**Justice of the Peace Bryan 9808 4813  
or 0428 883 462**





# NOTICEBOARD

## Communion to the sick

Do you know anyone who is sick or housebound, who would like to receive a visit from Father Think? Perhaps the sick/homebound person is feeling isolated from the parish community and would like to receive communion on a regular basis. Please phone the parish office on 9808 1006.



## Baptism at St Scholastica's

It is a requirement of the parish that a Baptism information night must be attended prior to having your child baptised. Contact the parish office on 9808 1006 to make a booking into one of the monthly sessions. Next session: Thursday 6 May 2021 at 7:30 pm in the Gathering Area.

## Help Required – Church Ministry

We need your help!! Would you like to join the AV Ministry. Could you operate the computer for Sunday mass? We need an operator for the 9am and one for the 5.30pm once a month. Basic computer skills required and training provided.

**Volunteers  
Needed!**



## Project Compassion

Please return at your earliest convenience boxes to parish office or through the collection baskets at Mass. Thank you



## St. Vincent de Paul Society: We are Recruiting!

New members are needed to continue the work of the Conference here at St. Scholastica's into the future. In the Gospel Jesus told us that we would always have the poor in our midst. He also told us that when we do something to help the poor, even just giving a glass of water, we are doing it for him. Vincentians have this great opportunity to live out the Gospel, in fact to represent Jesus in serving the poor. You will need to know what is involved to consider joining. Please ring Gil Muir on 0420 379 270 to register your interest.

## Piety Stall

The piety stall will re-commence offering a service for St Scholastica's parishioners on the first weekend of each month. The St Vincent de Paul Society members will operate the stall after the 5.30 pm Mass on Saturday 1st May and then after 9 & 11 am Masses on Sunday 2nd May.

## Gospel Reflection

From today's Gospel reading:  
Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd.  
A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."

## Reflection:

There are a lot of voices out there that can only distract and scatter us. Perhaps we've paid too much attention to them at times in our lives. Through hard experience we have learned that they don't have our best interests at heart and if we listen to them we are scattered. But the voice of the Shepherd, Jesus tells us, wants to gather us. His voice can help us keep our wits about us in an often misguided world.

## So we ask ourselves:

Can I name the "false shepherds" I have listened to?  
How did they mislead me?  
Where and how do I listen to the voice of the Good Shepherd?

## Plants, Books and Variety Sale - The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver

The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver will be holding a 'Plants, Books and Variety Sale' in their convent grounds, 154 Cotham Road Kew, on Saturday 15th May from 9 am – 2 pm. This will be their first function since the lockdown, and all are welcome to attend. Proceeds will be for the missions. For further information please telephone: 9817 3715.

## Palms Australia

Enquire Now! Share your skills to help develop the capacity of overseas organisations and the abilities of their people. Low-income communities seek sustainable solutions to poverty, not through money or gifts, but by building self-reliance. All trades and professions are called to assist this mission. Enquire now to properly prepare for a placement in 2022. Join our online InfoZoom on 2 May, visit [palms.org.au](http://palms.org.au), or call Palms now on 02 9560 5333

## Marriage Encounter Weekend

An opportunity to spend a weekend improving your communication. Come and learn how to keep/rekindle the passion in your relationship and how to keep your love growing! The weekend we offer is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome.

The next residential weekend is on 21 -23 May 2021 in Wantirna South (Book early to avoid disappointment). Information/Bookings: Phone Mercy & James 0409 183 676 or Email: [vicbookings@wwme.org.au](mailto:vicbookings@wwme.org.au) Website: [wwme.org.au](http://wwme.org.au)

## Corpus Christi College and Catholic Theological College

### Good Shepherd Sunday Appeal

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**ST. SCHOLASTICA'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL - BURWOOD**

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**ST. SCHOLASTICA'S SCHOOL**  
Principal – Jennifer Kuhn  
44 Stirling St.  
Burwood VIC 3125  
Ph: 9808 7275  
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**St Scholastica's Parish is committed to creating a child safe culture that safeguards children and young people including the safety, participation and empowerment of Aboriginal children and young people, children and young people with a disability, and those from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.**



# St Scholastica's Parish

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**Pray for  
the Unborn**



Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with Thee. Blessed art Thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.



**4th Sunday of Easter**  
**Year B - 24/25 April 2021**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Cf. Ps 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:** Acts 4:8-12

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*This is the only name by which we can be saved.*

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: 'Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence, today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved.'

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm:** Ps 117:1. 8-9. 21-23. 26. 28-29. R. v.22

(R.) The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end. It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in men: it is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes. (R.)

2. I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my saviour. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. (R.)

3. Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes. We bless you from the house of the Lord; I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my saviour. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; for his love has no end. (R.)

**Second Reading:** 1 Jn 3:1-2

A reading from the first letter of St John

*We shall see God as he is.* Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation:** Jn 10:14

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

**Gospel:** Jn 10:11-18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

*The good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep.*

Jesus said:

'I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep. The hired man, since he is not the shepherd and the sheep do not belong to him, abandons the sheep and runs away as soon as he sees a wolf coming, and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep;

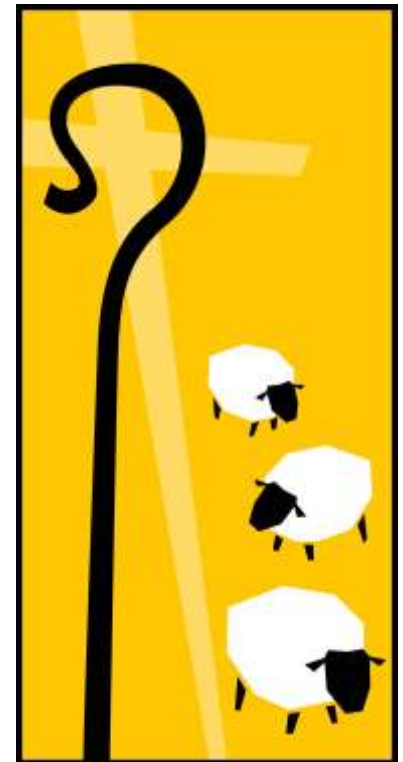
this is because he is only a hired man and has no concern for the sheep. I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for my sheep. And there are other sheep I have that are not of this fold, and these I have to lead as well. They too will listen to my voice, and there will be only one flock and one shepherd.

The Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me; I lay it down of my own free will, and as it is in my power to lay it down, so it is in my power to take it up again; and this is the command I have been given by my Father.'  
The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Communion Antiphon:**

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



**5th Sunday of Easter Year B**  
**1 & 2 May 2021**  
**First Reading:** Acts 9:26-31  
**Second Reading:** 1 Jn 3:18-24  
**Gospel:** Jn 15:1-8

## Scripture Commentary for the 4th Sunday of Easter - Year B

The Fourth Sunday after Easter is traditionally 'Good Shepherd' Sunday, with the Gospel reading taken from the long discourse in John 10 where Jesus presents himself in this attractive image.

The **First Reading** is taken, once again, from the early chapters of Acts, 4:8-12. It features Peter's defence before the authorities in Jerusalem following his arrest at their instigation. His appeal is based upon evidence that they cannot deny: the cure, through the power of the Lord Jesus, of a crippled man (3:1-10) who used to beg quite publicly. Hence Peter's conclusion: 'Let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth..., for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved' (4:10-12).

This text has been controversial in recent years since it has been used to argue that Christian faith alone is the path to salvation, to the exclusion of all other religions. This is to take this single text out of context and extract from it rather more than it can bear. What is at issue in the original context is an intra-Jewish debate (Peter and all the apostles were, of course, Jews) as to whether Jesus was or was not the Messiah. The Second Vatican Council, while upholding the position of Jesus as universal Saviour, nuanced this traditional belief in a more pluralist direction by acknowledging that other great faiths reflected 'a ray of that Truth (Jesus Christ) who enlightens all' (*Nostra Aetate* §2) – an insight that has undergone further development in the years since the Council.

In the **Second Reading** we have a truly attractive passage from the 1st Letter of John, 3:1-2. It features one of the clearest statements of the early Christian conviction that believers, through the union with Christ established by faith and baptism, have a share in the filial relationship that he has with God (see John 1:12; 20:17), and in the intimacy with God and hope of sharing God's eternal life that this entails. In the face of the world's hostility and contempt, believers can rest secure in the knowledge that this is how God regards us – as sons and daughters upon whom God has 'lavished love' (Jerusalem Bible translation). Secure in this conviction, we can be content at present to be quite 'agnostic' about the details of what the future (beyond death) holds. The central truth is that it will involve what is not presently available to us: direct vision of God and the transformation into the divine likeness that goes with that vision and leads to sharing God's eternal life.

This image of Christ as 'Good Shepherd' reaches right back to the tradition that the first king of the royal house of Judah, David, was originally a young shepherd. Instead of lording it over their subjects like the rulers of other peoples, Israelite kings, as successors of David, were meant primarily to be shepherds for the people. Few kings lived up to this standard. But the long awaited Son of David, the Messiah, was expected to be the 'Good Shepherd (King)' *par excellence*.

Today's **Gospel** (John 10:11-18) forms the centrepiece of the long sequence (chapter 10) devoted to this theme in the Fourth Gospel. Twice Jesus makes the solemn claim, 'I am the Good Shepherd'. The emphasis rests upon the initial 'I' and the adjective. In contrast to the authorities, who have proved to be negligent and mercenary, leading to the dispersal and ravaging of the people, *Jesus* is the 'good' Shepherd.

The claim rests upon two qualities. The first is that, in contrast to shepherds who run away at the sign of danger, Jesus is prepared to stay with the sheep and if necessary lay down his life to protect them. The second is that his relationship with the sheep is one of true knowledge – 'knowledge' in the biblical sense that implies deep intimacy. Moreover, Jesus continues, such knowledge is itself a projection of the knowledge and intimacy that exists between himself and the Father.

We believers of subsequent generations find a point of inclusion in the discourse when Jesus refers to 'other sheep,' not yet of this fold, who have to be brought in. Here the Good Shepherd, as living Lord of the Church, reaches out to us.

At the end of the passage Jesus reflects majestically upon his death. While outwardly life may seem to be taken from him, his surrender to death will be a supremely free act of love: the Good Shepherd giving his life to save his sheep. And the self-giving love that impels him to do this is simply an extension of the love of the Father that lies behind and energises his entire mission.

© Brendan Byrne SJ

Since returning from graduate studies in Oxford in 1977, Brendan Byrne has been Professor of New Testament at Jesuit Theological College in Melbourne, Australia, of which he was Principal (1992-97). He was Rector of Campion College, Kew (1979-84) and a delegate to the 33rd General Congregation of the Society of Jesus in 1983. He was a visiting professor at the Pontifical Biblical Institute, Rome, in 1993 and has also taught in East Asia and East Africa. He was a member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission (Rome) (1990-96) and President of the Melbourne College of Divinity (2000-01). He was elected a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities in 1999. Brendan Byrne is the author of nine books, edits the theological journal *Pacifica* and regularly gives workshops on scripture to clergy and parish communities.