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Office Hours: Tues-Fri, 9am-4pm



3rd May 2020
Fourth Sunday of Easter
~Good Shepherd Sunday~

Acts 2:14, 36-41
1 Peter 2:20-25
John 10:1-10

**"LISTEN FOR GOD'S VOICE IN EVERYTHING YOU DO AND EVERYWHERE YOU GO;
HE IS THE ONE THAT WILL KEEP YOU ON TRACK"**

- Proverbs 3: 6

Today is the 4th Sunday of Easter and it is commonly known as "Good Shepherd Sunday," a day in which the Church recalls the relationship between God and His people as described in the image of Shepherd and Sheep. Each year, the Gospel Reading of today is chosen from Chapter 10 of St. John's Gospel, where Jesus speaks of himself as the "Good Shepherd." In recent times, this day has also become known as "Vocations Sunday," a day when our Church prays especially for new shepherds and pastors to lead the Christian communities.

The image of a shepherd brings home a few strong messages: As described in the Old Testament, a shepherd spends his whole life with his sheep, taking care of them, raising them, loving them, healing them and most of all, protecting them from all harm. These are the qualities of an original shepherd. As Jesus claims that He is the good shepherd, we can instantly identify the above qualities in Him and there is no doubt that He is the Good Shepherd par excellence.

I would like to focus today on the responsibility of the 'sheep' in reply to what the good shepherd does to them. What stands out is 'listening to the voice of the good shepherd and not to the voice of the fake ones. The sheep are easily taught and conditioned to listen only to their master. They learn the voice of their shepherd as it was a common practice for shepherds to regularly speak to their sheep as most of us do to our pets today. Once the sheep become used to the shepherd's voice, they would turn and follow him whenever he called and wherever he led them. So, it is with us. If we are familiar with the voice of God speaking to us in various ways, we would be able to follow Him even unknowingly.



Two old acquaintances, who hadn't seen each other for years, were walking down the street together, renewing old times.

"Just a minute," said one, "I think I hear something," and turning a loose paving stone over he liberated a cricket which was chirping merrily away.

"Why, that's astounding. Of all the people on the street at this hour, hurrying from work, you alone hear the cricket above all the traffic noises."

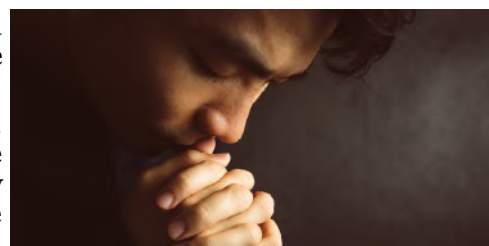
"My friend," said the first. "I learned a long time ago that people hear in life only what they want to hear. Now, the noise of traffic has neither increased nor decreased in the past few moments, but watch." And as he finished speaking, he let a silver half dollar fall from his pocket to the sidewalk. Everyone within an amazingly large hearing distance stopped and looked around"- Anonymous

This begs the question, "what are we most familiar with?" As we spend time with God in praying and reading the Scriptures and learning His language, tone, and voice every day, we will be able to hear and listen to His voice even in the midst of the hums and drums of our lives. We can be busy with our daily chores, and still recognise His voice and follow him. The truth is that He speaks to us not only at prayer and worship, but also through our family members, friends, colleagues, officemates, co-workers, strangers, nature, even through Covid19 in simple but powerful ways.

There are so many voices 'wooing' our attention today; some are good and some are not so good. We are pressured by the voice of the media, consumeristic and techno culture, love of money, a desire for recognition and so much more. There are powerful influences and whether we want to believe it or not, they do affect us to the extent of silencing the voice of God.

In the challenges, opportunities, and decisions of our life and our work, we need God's guidance and to sense his loving presence with us. Let the voice of the Good Shepherd grab our attention so that we can follow.

We are hoping to congregate soon in the church to celebrate our faith in God. Until then, stay safe, adhering to the directives given by the leaders of the nation and thereby ensure the well-being of everyone in our country. Kindly pray for the servants of the Church, that they may continue to follow the footsteps of the Good Shepherd in the service of the people of God.



God's blessings, Fr. Vince

Inspired and guided by the Holy Spirit and the Gospel, St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish, a community of faith and service, strives to be a witness for Christ's love far and wide, reflecting the humility and wisdom of St Madeleine, the Patroness of the parish.

First Reading (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)

(R.) *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. (R.)

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. (R.)

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes.

My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. (R.)

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. (R.)

Second Reading (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

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

Gospel (John 10:1-10)

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.'



Carmel invites you to a



on Saturday, 9th May, at 8:30am
to celebrate Mother's Day
FROM YOUR OWN HOME, together
with the women of our parish!

**SPEAKER: Rosanna Ceroli
on "Motherhood"**

TO PREPARE:

Install the Zoom app on your smartphone,
tablet, laptop, or desktop.
If you need help setting up or would like
to have a practice session, just call Sue Martin
(0432 716 577) who is happy to help.

ON THE DAY:

Get ready with your special teacup
and (Michael's) scones and join the meeting:

[https://parracatholic.zoom.us/j/96705817200?
pwd=UUE2VTFpOUU1ybGVXM2xwQ0hFd2ZTdz09](https://parracatholic.zoom.us/j/96705817200?pwd=UUE2VTFpOUU1ybGVXM2xwQ0hFd2ZTdz09)

Meeting ID: 967 0581 7200
Password: 056 824

It will be great to see everyone again!

Easiest Scone Recipe

Ingredients:

4 cups self-raising flour
300 ml thickened cream
300 ml lemonade



Mix, cut 2cm thick portions,
cook 180 degrees C for
20mins.

Social Justice @ St Mads

Update on Covid 19 adaptations at Baabayn: the homework club that some of our parishioners are involved with is going online. The Department of Education has donated iPads and ABC education has donated subscriptions to Reading Eggs. This will be so wonderful for the children who don't have access to the internet in most of their homes.

Just letting you know Reconciliation week is coming up 27th May - June 3rd, with the theme being "In this Together"

Good news from the Diocese Patrice Moriarty: Patrice.Moriarty@parracatholic.org, our Social Justice coordinator, has convened a green team gathering. It was good to discuss Laudato Si' week coming up May 16-24

People everywhere are crying out for hope, and our faith is urgently needed to light the way. For Laudato Si' Week, 16-24 May, Catholics are uniting in solidarity for a more just and sustainable future <https://laudatosiweek.org/>

May 3rd is Wild Koala day www.wildkoaladay.com.au/ Our local environment group is protecting the koalas that have recently returned to the Maroota forest.

~Sue Martin



WHAT DO I DO WITH OUR PROJECT COMPASSION BOX?

You can either contribute directly to Caritas Australia

[Visit caritas.org.au](http://Visit.caritas.org.au) for step-by-step instructions

or you can drop your Project Compassion box at the parish office. For a tax deductible receipt, make sure that you give us your details.



LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

1st Collection (for Diocese) = \$ 110

2nd Collection (for Parish) = \$ 1565

Thank you to all who have been sending in their contributions through direct deposits or by dropping off their envelopes at the office. Your contributions are a great help for the maintenance of our parish.

For those who would like to **make donations to the parish**, please select from the options below:

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<https://www.parracatholic.org/easter-offerings/>
- ♦ **to organise regular contributions**, please ring or email the office so we can assist you with the necessary forms
- ♦ And of course, we still welcome your donations by **envelopes**. Please feel free to drop your envelopes in the locked box outside the office. We will check it regularly.
Please feel free to ring the office (96542260) on Tuesdays to Fridays (10am—4pm).
Thank you for your generosity!

We continue to live stream Masses during the week on

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Madeleine-Sophie-Barat-Parish/>

Please join us on:

Tuesdays to Fridays
9:15 am and 7 pm

Saturday Vigil 5:30 pm.

Sunday 10 am



Welcome to our new Alpha course beginning Wednesday 20th May at 7.30pm. Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that freely explore life and the basics of the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment. We are using our new talents and doing it using Zoom. It is open to everyone. For more information or to register, contact Careyanne Moylan 0438791813

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:

For the recently deceased

Alfred Roy Burton

For the dearly departed

Antonio & Domenica Scarpin, Giovanni Scarpin, Maria & Giovanni De Santi, Eduardo & Maria Piccoli, Sandra Catuogno, Giulia & Salvatore Russo, Fulvio & Aldo Russo, Harold Burns, Danilo Jimenez Sr, Paul Cascun, Paula and Ben Dieudonne, Marlon Sabellano Alumios, Adelaide & Davide Baldi, Daniel Doyle, and John Henry Doyle

For healing of the sick

Aura Krakowski, John Spencer, Keith Dawson, Selina Calleia, Joe Fuda, India, Vince Luca, Kylie Baker, Lara Sawaya, June Brennen, Sheila Cañabano, Candida Irugalbandra, Florence Smith, Gregory Borg, Maria Peach, Paul Byrne, Andy, Patrick Breen, Jacqueline Kelly, Maria, Tricia, Rob, Michael Foley, Samuel Abella, Harper Grace, Margaret Collison, Margaret Gaudry, Anis Nicholas, Peter Balnaves, Dorothy Green, Pat D, Neil Rogers, Karen Bligh, Desmond Grogan, Louise, Vanessa, Ben Johnson, Cathy Voss, Mary Madden, John Donnelly, Louise Lambert, Charlie, Frank Tabone, John Lippman, Giuseppe Grasso, Sarah Biford Beattie, Faye Willing, Patrick, Ben Eberand, Callum Goracz, Patrick Griffiths, Catherine Bourke, Tina, Marie, Joe, and Charles Vencyel

For the special intentions of

Cheryl Burton, Shirley Burton, Mr & Mrs John Addison

***If you would like someone to be included among these requests, please let us know by email, phone call, or by dropping a note in the locked box outside the parish office.**



The Spirit is always speaking to us deep in our hearts,
if only we listen.

-St Madeleine Sophie

Almighty and all-merciful God, lover of the human race, healer of all our wounds,
in whom there is no shadow of death, save us in this time of crisis;
grant wisdom and courage to our leaders;
watch over all medical people as they tend the sick and work for a cure;
stir in us a sense of solidarity beyond all isolation;
if our doors are closed, let our hearts be open.
By the power of your love destroy the virus of fear,
that hope may never die
and the light of Easter, the triumph of life,
may shine upon us and the whole world.
Through Jesus Christ, the Lord risen from the dead,
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Amen.

Holy Mary, health of the sick, pray for us.
St Joseph, guardian of us all, pray for us.

(Most Rev Mark Coleridge, Archbishop of Brisbane)

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest:
Rev Vincent Savarimuthu
Assistant Priest:
Rev Jessie Balorio
Parish Secretary:
Lisa Echevarria
Sacramental Coordinator
Sally Coppini

St Madeleine's Primary School

Phone: 9654 6751
Principal: Mrs Jeanette Black

Marian College

Phone: 9654 6700
Principal: Mrs Jayne Campbell

PARISH VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

Welcomers Coordinator:

Music Coordinator: Alexandra Mifsud
Junior Ministers Coordinator: Maree McNeil
Children's Liturgy Coordinator: Deb Rankin
Baptism Preparation: Angelique Easton
RCIA Coordinator: Steve Fry

Playgroup Coordinator:

SRE Coordinator: Maureen Jones
Friendship Group: Jenny Puleo
Ministry to the Nursing Homes Coordinator:
Peter Balnaves/Suzanne Kingston-Hunt
Adult Faith Formation: Careyanne Moylan

Property Maintenance Manager: Rick Jones
Piety Stall: Sandra Tabone
Altar Linen Coordinator: Catherine Diekman
Parish Council Chair: Patrick Tuttle
Finance Committee Chair: Aaron Cauchi

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