



# St. Christopher's & St. Patrick's Catholic Church



## St. Christopher's Mass Times

233 Tower Street, Panania NSW 2213

Sat. Vigil: 5:30pm Sunday: 8am, 9:30am & 5pm

Weekdays: Tue: 7pm, Wed, Thurs, Fri: 9.15am Sat: 9am

Exposition & Benediction: Tues: 6-7pm, Thurs: 5-7pm  
Sat. after 9am Mass

Holy Hour: Fri: 6.15am - 7.15am (except school holidays)

Reconciliation: Sat. 9.30am & 4:30pm

Baptisms: 11am: 1st & 3rd Sundays Weddings: By Appointment

## St. Patrick's Mass Times

294 The River Road, Revesby Heights NSW 2212

Sat. Vigil: 5:30pm Sunday: 9am

Weekdays: Tue, Wed, Thurs, Fri: 8am

Healing Mass: 1st Friday of the month: Mass starts at 7pm  
with Reconciliation (6pm) & Exposition, Benediction follows.

Reconciliation: Saturday: 5pm

Baptisms: 10.30am: 4th Sunday

Weddings: By Appointment

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER — YEAR A.**

**2nd & 3rd May 2020**

### OUR PARISH LIVE-STREAMING MASS & ADORATION

We may be isolated at home, but we are not alone as we celebrate the masses with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Masses will be live-streamed on St Christopher's Parish Panania Facebook and YouTube: Tuesday - Sunday: Mass 9am  
Saturday: Vigil 5.30pm  
Friday: Adoration 6pm - 7pm



### 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.***

### 1st Reading

*Acts 2:14. 36-41*

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles*

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

yourself 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.

*The Word of the Lord  
Thanks be to God.*

### Responsorial Psalm

*Ps 22:1-6. R. v.1*

***R: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing  
I shall want.***



1. 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)®

**Parish Priest: Fr. Salas Muttathukattil MSFS**

**Assistant Priest: Fr. Bhaskar Mendam MSFS**

**Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales**

**Parish Office: 029774-3662 Email: stcpanania@hotmail.com Emergency: 0402 494 246**

**St Christopher's Primary School, Panania: 02 9771-5492 De La Salle College, Revesby: 02 9773 7196**

## St. Christopher's & St. Patrick's Parish Contacts:

**Parish Pastoral Council: (St. Christopher)**  
Chairperson: Anne Weeks

**Parish Pastoral Council: (St. Patrick)**  
Chairperson: Chris Russell

**Parish Secretary:** Van Doan

**Office Hours:** Tuesday - Friday 9.00am—3.00pm

**Parish Manager:** John Tesoriero

**Sac. Co-ordinator:** Anne Maree Morris

**Pastoral Care**

Norma Coorey

### The Shepherd's Voice

Everyone knows that the Dalai Lama instructs his followers not to use violence against those who oppress them. He opposes violent rebellion against the authoritarian rule of the Chinese over Tibet.

Our Lord was just as strongly opposed to the use of violence against those who oppressed the Jewish people of his day. He opposed violent rebellion against the authoritarian rule of the Romans over Israel.

This stance permeates all that Jesus did and comes through many of his parables and stories, but sometimes we can miss allusions to this teaching. Today's gospel is no exception.

We are all very familiar with Jesus playing with the image of shepherding, sometimes making himself the gate of the sheep yard in which the sheep were protected during the night.

Another image he uses depends on the fact that in Jesus' time, as today around Jerusalem, the flocks are small (thirty or so) and the shepherd leads from the front: they follow him, or more precisely, the sound of his voice. If they follow that voice, and no other, they will be safe and will reach good pasture.

Whose other voices might try to mislead the sheep? Jesus describes them as those of 'thieves and brigands'.

In John's gospel, two people are actually named, one as a thief, another as a brigand. The first is Judas, the second is Barabbas, and both were involved in violence.

Judas, the thief from the common purse of the disciples, eventually betrays Jesus and does so with violence. He led a sizeable group of temple guards and some Roman soldiers to the Garden of Gethsemane to take Jesus by force.

Peter tried to prevent Jesus being snatched away by this armed force. He drew his sword and wounded one of the High Priest's servants. Jesus immediately rebuked Peter. Why? Jesus knew that Peter was to become the shepherd of his flock of followers. Shepherding the flock of Christ's followers is completely incompatible with the use of violence.

Barabbas was a brigand. Other gospel writers make it clear that he was a leader of an insurrection against Roman rule. Our Lord knew that armed rebellion against the Romans would lead to the destruction of Jerusalem and the dispersal of the Jewish people (about forty years later). This 'brigand' was not acting in the best interests of the flock of Israel, but would actually lead to the death of many and the remnant being scattered throughout the world. He was no true shepherd. So, there is much more to the contrast between the 'Good Shepherd' and 'thieves and brigands' than first meets the eye. Jesus is warning his followers against the seductive voices of those who advocate the use of violence.

In particular, the successor of Peter should echo the voice of Jesus the Good Shepherd and no other. Peter was entrusted by Our Lord with the words 'Feed my lambs; feed my sheep'. Peter and his successors are the shepherd of Christ's flock. That is why they carry a crozier – a shepherd's staff with a hook at the top to rescue lambs which have fallen down a gully.

Over the centuries, the cacophony of voices enticing the Church to use violence against its perceived enemies has sometimes drowned out the voice of Jesus. Some Popes have found the voices of the 'thieves and brigands' of this world more attractive. We have all seen photos of the Swiss Guards resplendent in their colourful uniforms at Papal ceremonies. They are the last remnant of the mercenary forces which Popes hired to fight their wars to control much of the territory of central Italy. They now guard popes of the modern era who seem to be listening more attentively to the Good Shepherd, as they should, for they are the successors of St Peter who was instructed: 'Feed my lambs, feed my sheep'.

Let us join them in the listening. Let us attune our ears to the sound of His voice and tune out the voices of the thieves and brigands of this world. Let us follow Him so that He may lead us to pastures where the whole of humanity can have life and have it ever more abundantly.

*Fr. Michael Tate*

#### **An Act of Spiritual Communion (to be said before Holy Communion)**

My Jesus I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I decide to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already here and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen

#### **Pope Francis' prayer to Our Lady, Health of the Sick, to implore her protection during the Covid-19 pandemic. (to be said after Holy Communion)**

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you,

Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith.

You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us:

He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

**Quote for The day**

"We cannot all do great things, but we can do small things with great love."

St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta



**Mass Intentions**

Let Us Pray for our Parish Community



**Saints of the day**

- 4th May St Florian
- 5th May St Jutta
- 6th May St Petronax
- 7th May St John of Beverley
- 8th May St Benedict II
- 9th May St John of Avila

**New Websites for our Parishes**

We are happy to let you know that the new websites for our Parishes are ready. Please see the links below:

St Christopher's Church Panania

<https://www.stchristopherpanania.org.au/>

St Patrick's Church Revesby Heights

<https://www.stpatrickrevesbyheights.org.au/>

**SCAM ALERT**

We have been made aware of another scam that is targeting some of our parishes. It appears as if your Parish has been set up to receive online donations through an online company or group. These emails seem sincere and request parishioners to make small donations. It also gives you an option for users to donate items to an online Marketplace and for the Parish to receive the proceeds of those sales. Please be aware of this fraud to avoid being scammed.



**All correspondence**

Planned Giving envelopes, donations, Mass Intentions & Project Compassion are to be placed in the letter box under the welcome sign of the Presbytery.

**Parishioner contact details needed**

We are seeking contact details from our parishioners, especially your email addresses, so that contact can be made when needed. Please call the office if you are willing to be contacted.

Parish Bulletin will be available at the front of both churches & Update information will be placed in both parishes Facebook and also via Email

*If anyone requires assistance, please phone the parish office 97743662 or 0402 494 246 to speak to Fr Salas*

**Family Rosary Relay**

From the 1st to the 31st of May, you are invited to participate in the Archbishop's Rosary Relay. Families are asked to nominate and pray one decade of the rosary on a day of their choice. Please register using the link provided:



<https://forms.gle/PpzTDDR6BiwAGrFC6>

**The Sick and Infirm**

- Therese Boukaram
- May Tran
- Samuel Hekeik
- Christina Apolinario
- Remelo Ongkowidjaja
- Marjorie Egliston
- Pat Tunicliffe
- Brian O'Shea
- Sr. Kath Price
- Stephen Sinclair
- Donna Clarke
- Frank Azzopardi
- Norma Moudawar
- Col & Irene Cross
- Brett Pacey
- Pat Tindall
- Val Edwards
- Francis Cudmore
- Marie McLoughlin
- Annette Baiado
- Venny Villapando
- Glen Clarke
- Narelle Martin
- David Sheppard

**Recently Deceased**

- Ursula Lewy
- Ron Roarty
- Lynette Taylor
- Kevin King
- Glen Humphris
- Josh Prestney
- Margaret Burne
- .....
- General Intention**
- Joanne Shanahan
- Tania McNeil
- Mary Ann Gapps
- Marie Fricot
- Danny & Sylvia Armour
- Jose Joao Quintal
- Mollie & Bill Purdy
- Molly & Bill Lowe
- Shirley Hollands
- Bernard Togher
- Brown & Togher Families
- Paul Burke
- Deceased members of Legion of Mary
- Holy Souls in Purgatory

**Anniversaries**

- Dominic Uyen Doan
- John Holohan
- Arthur Lindsay Smith
- William Moulder

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE



**Prayer Resources during time of Pandemic**

The Archdiocese of Sydney has a dedicated webpage with prayers and scriptural reflections to help nurture your faith during these difficult times. You'll find the webpage below:

<https://www.sydneycatholic.org/coronavirus-updates/prayer-resources-for-the-coronavirus-pandemic/>

**Virtual Pentecost Pilgrimage**

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney is an official sponsor of this virtual free pilgrimage which began on Sunday 26 April and will run for 6 weeks.

The pilgrimage is aimed at helping Catholics nurture their faith in the lead up to Pentecost while public Masses are suspended during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Each Wednesday and Sunday, formative videos from will be released for registered participants to engage online. Each set of videos will reflect on the Sunday readings of that week with a particular focus on the role of the Holy Spirit in our Church and world.

To register for this free online pilgrimage to Pentecost, simply go to [www.pentecostpilgrimage.com](http://www.pentecostpilgrimage.com)

2. 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)
3. 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)<sup>®</sup>
4. 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)

## 2nd Reading

1 Pt 2:20-25

*A reading from the first letter of St Peter*

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.

*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 10:1-10

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke*

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.'

*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.***

## Next Week's Readings:

9th/10th Apr 2020

Fifth Sunday of Easter - Year A.

**1st Reading:** Acts 6:1-7 - A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

**2nd Reading** 1 Pt 2:4-9 - You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.

**Gospel:** Jn 14:1-12 - I am the way, the truth, and the life.

