



St Patrick's Parish Cooma

St Columbkille's Parish Jindabyne



25-26 April 2026

Fourth Sunday of Easter Year A

PARISH CALENDAR



Monday
No Mass

Tuesday
10:00am Mass

Wednesday
Bombala Parish Mass

Thursday
10:00am Mass

Friday
10:00am Mass

Saturday
4th Sunday of the Month
3:30pm Berridale Mass
10:00am Jindabyne Vigil
Mass

Sunday
10:00am Cooma Mass
5:00pm Numeralla

According to the liturgical tradition, the gospel reading on the fourth Sunday of Easter speaks about Jesus as shepherd, which is the theme of chapter 10 of St John's gospel. This theme is dealt with in several sections or "movements", as is often the case in this gospel. One movement is read on this Sunday each year of the three-year cycle; this year we read the first movement.

Shepherd is one of the biblical titles for a leader, a memory of the days when the Jews were sheep rearing nomads. The passage therefore invites us to celebrate people who have "shepherded" us by touching our lives, some through direct contact, others from reading about them or hearing their stories.

We remember, too, great world leaders, in modern times or in the past, and recognise that they were the presence of Jesus in the world, "shepherding" the human family.

The passage can also be an examination of conscience on how we are fulfilling our vocation as parent, teacher, guide, friend, or leader in the church community.

Actually, the shepherd theme (or "parable", as it is called in verse 6) is only in verses 1 to 5. In verses 7 to 10 Jesus speaks of himself as "the gate".

The special characteristic of good shepherds is brought out in the passage in the relationship of trust between them and the sheep. They are trusting and in turn they inspire trust in those whom they lead. This wonderful quality – so rare in our experience – is expressed in a series of images, each of which can touch us deeply.

The shepherds "enter the sheepfold through the gate", they are not devious; they "call the sheep by name" – no haranguing; they "go ahead of the sheep" – no looking back to see if they are being followed. The sheep "know the voice" of the shepherd; their relationship is almost instinctive, of the heart.

The image of the gate is not as well-known as that of the shepherd and is more difficult to enter into, but if we make the effort it can be very touching. Leaders who are like a gate are the opposite of possessive; they are content to be the humble instruments through which others can "go freely in and out", making their own way to "life to the full". A wonderful picture indeed of great parents, teachers, community leaders and friends. *Michel de Verteuil*



They shall not grow old,
as we that are left to grow old;

Age shall not weary them,
nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
We will remember them

We will remember them.



Readings for the Fourth Sunday of Easter Year A

Entrance Antiphon | Cf Psalm 32:5-6

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;
by the word of the Lord the heavens were made,
alleluia.

The Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God in the highest) is said.

First Reading | Acts of the Apostles 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 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.

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.)

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.)

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.)



Second Reading | 1 Peter 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.

Gospel Acclamation | John 10:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;

I know my sheep, and mine know me.

Alleluia!

Gospel | John 10:1-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
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.'

Communion Antiphon

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

Source: Liturgy Help © 2026

The ANZAC Spirit

“Lest We Forget”

In 1915, Australian and New Zealand soldiers landed at Gallipoli. Most were young farmers, labourers or students.

They had never seen war before and thought it would end quickly, it didn't. Conditions were tough. The ground was rocky, the heat intense and clean water was scarce. Still, the ANZACs stood strong.

They helped the wounded, shared what little they had and looked out for one another. Even under fire, they found ways to smile by writing letters, telling jokes and playing games to keep their spirits up.

The campaign at Gallipoli didn't succeed. Many lives were lost, but what stood out, and still does, was the spirit the ANZACs showed – courage in fear, mateship in hardship and determination in the face of loss.

That spirit carried on in other battles and today, it's remembered not to glorify war but to honour what these people stood for – bravery, loyalty and never giving up on each other. The ANZAC story reminds us that ordinary people can do extraordinary things, and that courage doesn't always mean winning, but showing up with heart, again and again.

Dear God, this ANZAC Day, we pause to remember those who served and died for our country.

We thank You for their courage, their strength and their deep sense of duty. Help us to honour their memory, not just in words, but in the way we live.

We also pray for those who still serve today and for all who carry the pain of war. Give them comfort, healing and hope. Amen.

Source: Majellan Media



Remembering their faith and love

We pray for those who have recently departed this life.

“We have loved them in Life: Let us not forget them in death.”

Joan Fogarty
Marie Harvey

Anniversaries & Intentions for those whom we pray and remember, may they be welcomed into the glory of the Risen Lord and rest in eternal peace.

Geoff Miners
Ron Flanagan

For the sick and all who have asked for our prayers,

may they be granted strength, comfort and healing.

Patrick Umback

Baptism Congratulations

We welcome into our Parish family this weekend Joseph John Jackson son of Jesses and Charlotte who will be baptised at St Patrick's Cooma on Sunday.

- ❖ **Monaro Men's Breakfast** – Saturday 2 May 2026 at 7:30am at St Paul's Anglican Church hall, 136 Commissioner Street, Cooma. Cost \$7. Guest Speaker – Fr George Ogah (Parish Priest Queanbeyan)
- ❖ **Information Session on proposed Gymnasium** – Sunday 3 May after the 10am Mass. All are invited to attend an information session facilitated by the Parish Council and School on the proposed gymnasium facility.

Sacramental Program – Key Dates for 2026

Families are invited to note the following dates for this year's Sacramental Program:

- ❖ **Confirmation:** 14 June
- ❖ **First Reconciliation:** 2 July
- ❖ **First Holy Communion:** 13 September



For a detailed information letter, please contact our Parish Sacramental Coordinator,

Belinda Wilkins via email: belinda.wilkins@cg.catholic.edu.au



My dad was bragging about his new hearing aid.

“State of the Art,” he said, “It cost me a fortune.”

Impressed, I asked: “Awesome what type is it?”

He said: “Two thirty.”

Readings for 5th Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts 6:1-7
Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:4-9
Gospel: John 14:1-12

Belief in God

The following prayer was found on the body of a young soldier, killed in action during World War I.

'Look, God, I've never spoken to you before, but now I just want to say 'hello'. They told me you didn't exist, and like a fool I believed them. But last night I looked up at the sky from a shell hole. When I saw the beauty of the stars, and thought how big the universe is, I knew they were telling me a lie. I wonder if you will shake hands with me when we meet. Somehow I feel you will understand all my failures. Strange how I had to come to this horrible place to get to know you. What was I doing before this? There isn't much more to say, but I am sure glad I got to know you today. I feel zero hour will soon be here. This is going to be a horrible fight. Who knows but I may come to your house tonight. I'm crying! Fancy me crying! I never thought this would happen to me. I have to go now. Strange, since I met you, I'm no longer afraid to die.'

Flor McCarthy in 'Sunday and Holy Day Liturgies.



Wordsearch

Try to find these words:

- fence
- life
- sheepfold
- stranger
- follow
- name
- shepherd
- thief
- gate
- sheep
- story
- voice

A Y B G J U F Y T W B E M A N U N
 Y D W H L R T O C O V M X U X L W
 D T L O K H X H K M I I A L Y R V
 R K P W L H Y D I G B A H G D D I
 E J M L P L S H E E P F O L D S I
 H J J V F C O L R C F S Y H Y H Q
 P G M A V R M F W K N K N T T E V
 E O S F P B N S H I X E D G U E Z
 H M C J S G A T T L V W F R T P Z
 S I K T A X S X U R B F Q L L V I
 B H O T L O C I E A A H R O P R S
 A R E O T I K B B M R N O P H L W
 Y E E H N Z F A W B F J G O Y E U
 X S O H Q T Q E X E F A J E N W S
 U M F E W M B I O U G P O V R E M
 X O R U S E C I O V T D U W F Q V
 T Q D K S K T G G V A J Z Y N B X

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest
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Assistant Priest
 Fr Daniel

Sacramental Program
 Father Mark Croker
 Mrs Belinda Wilkins

Parish Website
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St Patrick's School
 02 6452 1721

School Principal
 Dr Mangan
 School Website:
www.stpatscooma.nsw.edu.au

Parish Pastoral Council
 Darren 0429 904 291

MASS TIMES

**Weekend Mass and
 LW&HC Times
 Adaminaby**

No Mass until further notice
Berridale

2nd & 4th Sunday
 Vigil Mass Saturday 3.30pm
 All other Sundays
 LW&HC 10am Sunday

Cooma

Mass Sunday 10am
 Mass Tue, Thu & Fri 10am
Except 3rd Friday of month
 Mass Yallabee Lodge 9.30am
 Mass Hudson House Respect 11am

Jindabyne

Vigil Mass Saturday 5pm
 Except 5th Sunday
 LW&HC 5pm Saturday

Nimmitabel

1st Sunday
 Vigil Mass Saturday 3pm
 All other Sundays
 LW&HC at 5pm Saturday

Numeralla

2nd Sunday LW&HC 5pm
 4th Sunday Mass 5pm

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT



Parish Collections

There are two collections during every Mass.

First Collection is banked to the Archdiocese of Canberra-Goulburn and contributes to priests' stipends.

Second Collection is our parish church collection for our church upkeep and running costs such as electricity, rates, water, maintenance etc.

We value your contribution and appreciate any support you can give the parish. Please talk to Fr Mark if you have any questions.