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*We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years.*

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YR A**

**2ND & 3RD MAY,  
2020**

### Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSS

This is 'Good Shepherd Sunday' and a particular focus taken today is leadership. Which voices do we follow? Why do we follow these voices and not others? Authentic leadership is rooted in authority, and authentic authority is the ability to author or bring life to birth. Genuine authority cherishes, guards and encourages the best in life; it provides rest and refreshment; it guides our steps; it nourishes us; it leads us to God. Peter is an example of authentic authority: he proclaims the truth, even if others find it hard to hear; he denounces error, even when this places him in jeopardy; he calls for a change of heart, even when it makes great demands.



Authentic leadership is patterned after the leadership of Jesus. It is gentle and familiar, like the true shepherd; it has won the confidence of those who follow, as did the true shepherd; it is committed to the enhancement of the lives of others, as was Jesus. Authentic leadership is willing to forgo its own needs and to deny its own interests in favour of the needs and interests of others.

Heavy demands are placed on those who follow authentic leadership. Those who follow the Good Shepherd must follow him in the dark valleys as well as to the refreshing streams. They must be willing to relinquish some of their own plans and self-determination and entrust themselves to his leadership. They must never forget that they are following a shepherd who has paid the ultimate price on their behalf.

### Historical Context – A line of shepherds

*When Jesus used the image of himself as a shepherd, he named himself as belonging to a Jewish ancestry that associated itself with shepherds. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Moses were all shepherds. David, the second King of Israel, was regarded as the greatest king in Jewish history. His humble beginning, captured magnificently in the sculpture by Michelangelo, was as a shepherd boy guarding his flock with a slingshot. The kings of Israel were charged to 'shepherd' their people rather than to lord it over them as the pagan kings did.*

Greg Sunter

### WEEKDAY & SUNDAY MASSES

**Masses & Adoration  
have been suspended  
until further notice.**

**Fr Christopher is privately  
celebrating Mass each day  
and will continue to pray  
for all parishioners.**

### CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH

Address: 86-92 Andromeda Drive  
Cranebrook, NSW, 2749

Postal: PO Box 21  
Cranebrook, NSW, 2749

Phone: 4730 1249

Fax: 4729 2989

Email: [parishteam@corpuschristi.org.au](mailto:parishteam@corpuschristi.org.au)

Presbytery: 4730 6258

Office Hours: 9am - 3.30pm (Tues-Fri)

### PARISH TEAM:

Fr Christopher Antwi-Boasiako -  
Parish Priest

[Christopher.Antwi-Boasiako@parracatholic.org](mailto:Christopher.Antwi-Boasiako@parracatholic.org)  
Mobile: 0415 505 594

Deacon Owen Rogers  
- [owen.rogers7@bigpond.com](mailto:owen.rogers7@bigpond.com)

Mrs Marie Cottee - Parish Secretary  
- [mc@corpuschristi.org.au](mailto:mc@corpuschristi.org.au)

Mrs Sue Weekes - Office Support  
- [sw@corpuschristi.org.au](mailto:sw@corpuschristi.org.au)

Mrs Joanne Hocking - Sacrament  
Support

### SCHOOLS OF THE PARISH:

Corpus Christi Primary – ph 4726 2200  
(Principal - Mrs Sarah O'Rourke)

Xavier College – ph 4777 0900  
(Principal - Mr Michael Pate)

# The Living Word

Fourth Sunday of Easter

3rd May 2020

## First Reading

Acts 2:14. 36-41

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles  
*God has made Jesus both Lord and Christ.*

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.

or

*(R.)* Alleluia.

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 Pt 2:20-25

A reading from the first letter of St Peter  
*You had gone astray but now you have  
come back to the shepherd and guardian  
of your souls.*

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

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 John

*I am the gate of the sheepfold.*

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.'



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## REFLECTION *by Fr Michael Tate*

### The Shepherd's Voice

In Jesus' time, the shepherd lead from the front: the sheep followed the sound of his voice to reach good pasture. Jesus describes other voices who might try to mislead the sheep as 'thieves and brigands'.

In John's gospel, Judas, the *thief* from the common purse of the disciples, led a group of temple guards and Roman soldiers to take Jesus by force.

Barabbas was a *brigand*, a leader of an insurrection. Our Lord knew that armed rebellion against the Romans would lead to the destruction of Jerusalem.

So, 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. Popes of the modern era seem to be listening more attentively to the Good Shepherd, as successors of St Peter who was instructed: 'Feed my lambs, feed my sheep'.

We could pause for a moment to attune our ears to the sound of the Shepherd's voice and follow Him so that He may lead us to pastures where we can have life, abundantly.

Alleluia!

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### Gospel Focus – Life to the Full

*John 10:10 is a very famous quote from this gospel passage. Having life to the full does not imply life filled with every convenience, comfort and wealth. Rather, it is about living a life filled with purpose and intent. If we fail to live with purpose and meaning then our life is a hollow shell of what it could be. Jesus came that we may have life – a life that is at its fullest when it is lived in such a way as to be an expression of what Jesus taught and lived.*



## Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for May

*For Deacons*



We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.



## REFLECTION FOR ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS

### Questions for Adolescents

- \* Why do these images of the sheep and the shepherd seem to have so much appeal today?
- \* To whom might Jesus have been referring when describing the 'others' as thieves and brigands?
- \* In what way does Jesus act as a gate?
- \* What do you think it means to live life to the full?

### Questions for Adults

- \* Why might Jesus have used these images of himself as the gate and as the shepherd?
- \* Why might the Jews have been attracted to an image of God as shepherd?
- \* How can the concept of 'life to the full' be misunderstood or misused?
- \* In what ways is the invitation to have life to the full also a challenge?



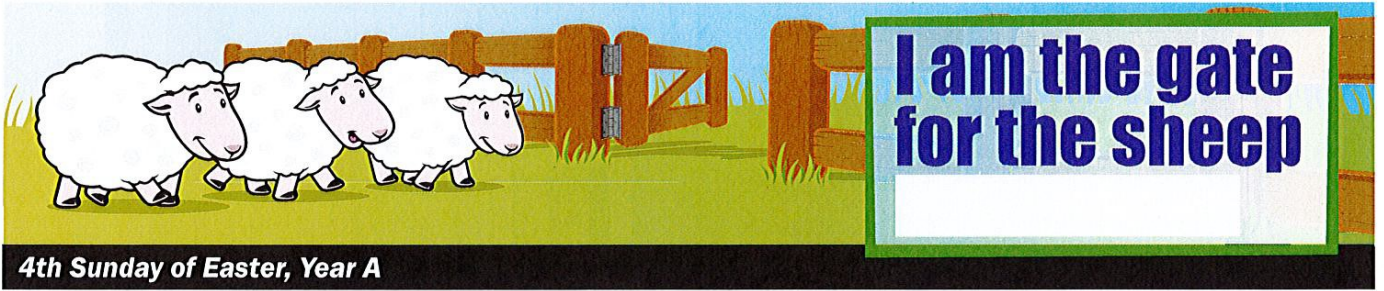
***This is an opportunity for parents to discuss today's Gospel with your children. The following questions and worksheet are a beginning point to assist with the discussion.***

- ◇ Whose voice do you know without being told who it is?
- ◇ How can you tell?
- ◇ Jesus speaks to us in many ways.
- ◇ How can we tell the voice of Jesus?
- ◇ Jesus says that he will always care for us. Let us pray that we may know and love Jesus more closely.

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4th Sunday of Easter, Year A

Jesus is our good shepherd and we know that we must follow him. What are some of the things our shepherd has told us to do?

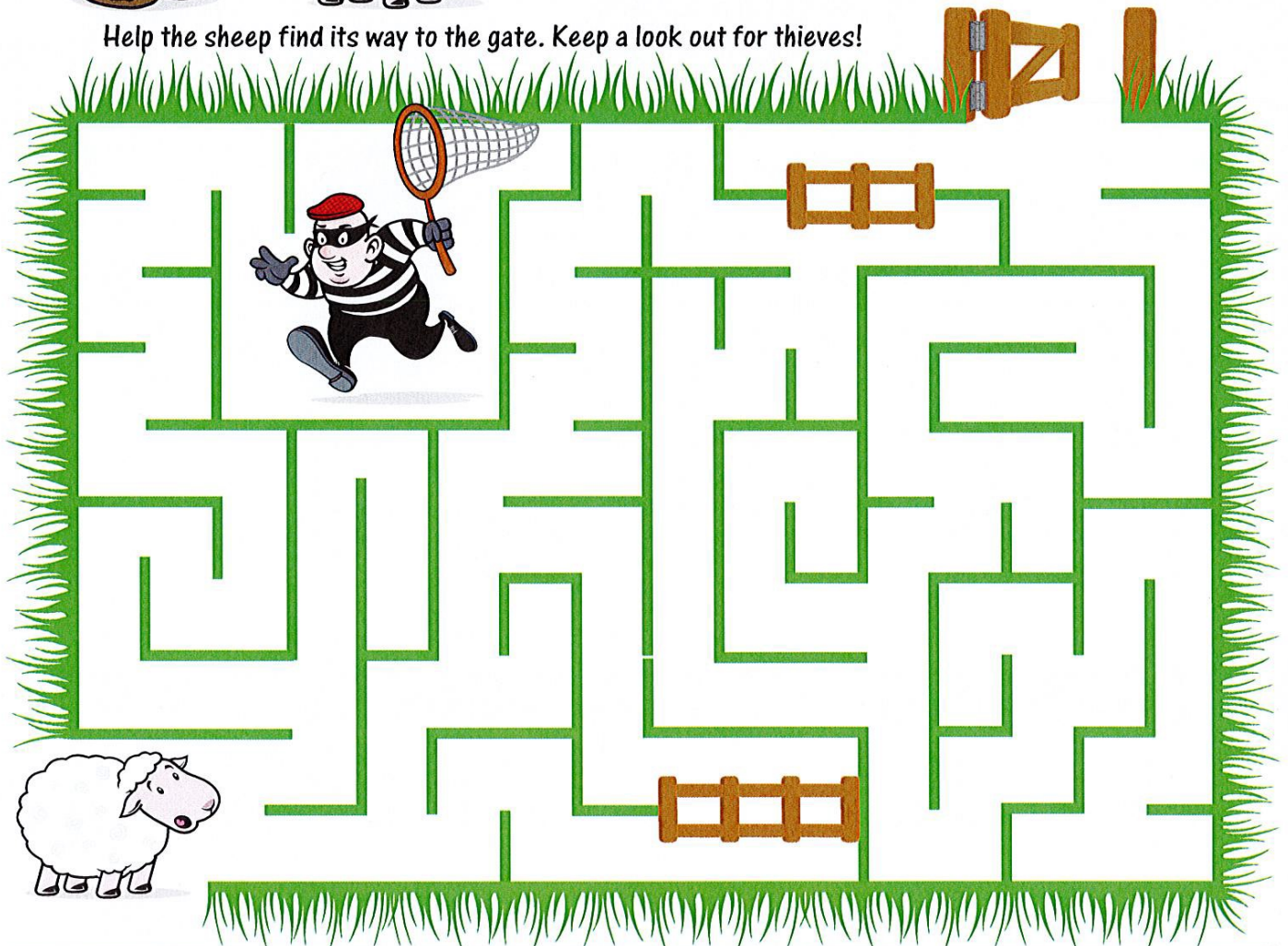


A thief has stolen some letters from the passage of text below. Use these letters to discover something that Jesus said to his disciples.



"I \_ \_ T \_ \_ GAT \_  
FOR T \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ P \_  
\_LL W\_O CO \_ \_ IN  
T\_ROUG \_ \_ WILL  
B \_ \_ \_V\_D."

Help the sheep find its way to the gate. Keep a look out for thieves!



Jn 10:1-10

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*Solutions can be found on the last page.*

*Thank You dear parishioners for your ongoing financial support to the parish.  
Your generosity is helping with the ongoing running expenses of our parish.*

### Mass Intentions...

If any parishioner would like Fr Chris to offer Mass for someone who is recently deceased, a loved one's anniversary or if someone is sick, please email the Parish Office. We can also include the person in The Net so everyone can pray for them.

### Pastoral Support

During this challenging time of isolation many are struggling to cope. If you are in need of pastoral support or care please contact Fr Chris on 0415 505 594.

### Parish Office Hours

During this time of church closure the Parish Office will remain open. You are welcome to telephone or email. At this stage, our operating hours have not been formalised, so please leave a message if we don't answer the phone and we'll get back to you. In the case of an emergency please contact Fr Chris on his mobile, 0415 505 594.

### Corpus Christi Facebook Page

Our parish Facebook page continues to be updated with relevant information at:  
[www.facebook.com/CorpusChristiParishCranebrook](http://www.facebook.com/CorpusChristiParishCranebrook)

### Project Compassion

Please call Caritas directly on 1800 024 413 or visit <https://lent.caritas.org.au/> for information on returning your Project Compassion boxes or making a credit card donation. Or you can hold on to your Project Compassion boxes until the Diocese advises how the donations can be collected.

#### PARISHES OF THE DIOCESE WHO ARE STREAMING MASS

PARISH	LOCATION	LINK TO LIVESTREAM
ST BERNADETTES	Castle Hill Parish	Streaming through Facebook Live @ 7am/7pm and 12pm Angelus <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Castlehillparish/photos/a.943697955789478/1556450387847562/?type=3&amp;theater">https://www.facebook.com/Castlehillparish/photos/a.943697955789478/1556450387847562/?type=3&amp;theater</a>
PADRE PIO PARISH	Glenmore Park Parish	Streaming through Facebook – <a href="https://www.facebook.com/gsk2223">https://www.facebook.com/gsk2223</a>
HOLY FAMILY CHURCH	Granville East Parish	Recording and then posting onto Parish YouTube channel ( <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCC-5ODOaRZE0yprZwqatAeA">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCC-5ODOaRZE0yprZwqatAeA</a> ) example - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c8ShYXiOoB0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c8ShYXiOoB0</a>
HOLY TRINITY CHURCH	Granville Parish	Recording and then posting onto Parish YouTube channel ( <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCC-5ODOaRZE0yprZwqatAeA">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCC-5ODOaRZE0yprZwqatAeA</a> ) example - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c8ShYXiOoB0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c8ShYXiOoB0</a>
ST JOSEPHS CHURCH	Kingswood Parish	Recording/streaming through YouTube - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIjip15JI6H8TrHkEB6ISdw/featured">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIjip15JI6H8TrHkEB6ISdw/featured</a>
ST ANDREW THE APOSTLE	Marayong Parish	Streaming through Facebook - <a href="https://www.facebook.com/standrewsmarayong/">https://www.facebook.com/standrewsmarayong/</a>
ST MARGARET MARYS	Merrylands Parish	Recording/streaming through YouTube - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6FezbQbHtu-MSyWUSnaAcA">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6FezbQbHtu-MSyWUSnaAcA</a>
ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA	Penrith Parish	Streaming through Facebook Live - <a href="https://www.facebook.com/SNOMPenrith/">https://www.facebook.com/SNOMPenrith/</a>
THE GOOD SHEPHERD	Plumpton Parish	Streaming through Facebook Live - <a href="https://www.facebook.com/goodshepherdparishplumpton/">https://www.facebook.com/goodshepherdparishplumpton/</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/goodshepherdparishplumpton/videos/163690304720839/">https://www.facebook.com/goodshepherdparishplumpton/videos/163690304720839/</a>
OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS	Rouse Hill Parish	Streaming through Facebook Live <a href="https://www.facebook.com/150713848317487/videos/835921950226114/">https://www.facebook.com/150713848317487/videos/835921950226114/</a>
OUR LADY OF LOURDES	Seven Hills Parish	Streamed Mass over weekend to Facebook Live <a href="https://www.facebook.com/LOL7Hills/videos/206449013914284/">https://www.facebook.com/LOL7Hills/videos/206449013914284/</a>
OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY	St Marys Parish	Streamed to Facebook <a href="https://www.facebook.com/OLRparishstmarys/">https://www.facebook.com/OLRparishstmarys/</a>

### Act of Spiritual Communion

*My Jesus,  
I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.  
I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment, receive you sacramentally,  
please come spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace you now as if you were already there and I unite myself wholly to you.  
Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen*





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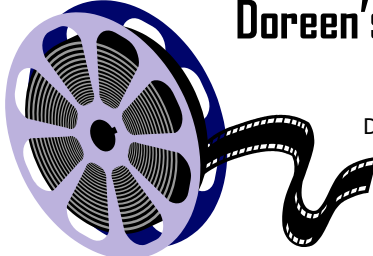
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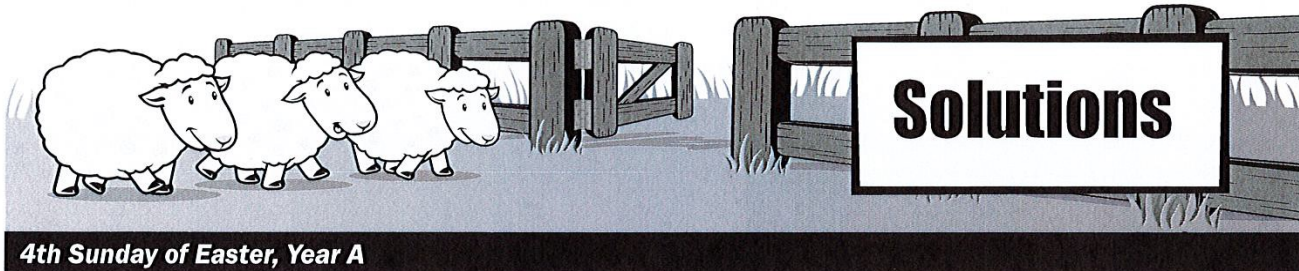
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**BE SAVED** "

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