

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 John 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.'

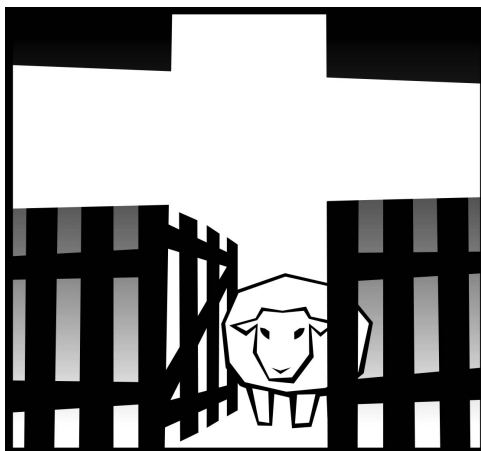
Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them. So Jesus spoke to them again:

'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.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

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Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

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.



ST MARTIN DE PORRES

Catholic Parish

Avondale Heights

Today's Celebration is on pages:

Old Missal: 207 New Missal: 321



4th Sunday of Easter - Year A - Good Shepherd Sunday 26 April 2026

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.

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.)

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

*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.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

St Martin de Porres Parish

158 Military Rd, Avondale Heights Vic 3034

www.melbocatholic.org/avondaleheights

Parish Priest: Fr. Paul Tru

Secretaries: Lee Tran: Wednesday - Friday
Charles Meneze: Tuesday

Office Hours: Closed Monday

10am - 3pm Tuesday - Friday

Pastoral Assoc: Sr. Cres Villas, asjm
Sr. Connie Mamo, asjm (Vol)

Phone: 9337 6016

E-mail: avondaleheights@cam.org.au

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil 6:00pm

Sunday 8:00am & 9:30am

Vietnamese 11:00am

Weekday Masses

Tuesday to Friday 9:15am

Benediction Wednesday after Mass

Reconciliation Wednesday 10.00am
Saturday 5:30pm

St Martin de Porres School

Principal: Stefanie Harvey
Secretaries: Mary Carmuciano
Maria Aloe

Phone: 9331 9000

E-mail:
principal@smavondaleheights.catholic.edu.au
www.smavondaleheights.catholic.edu.au

The Augustinian Sisters

Convent: 2 Venice Court,
Avondale Heights

Phone: 9337 4595

E-mail: sisaugustinian@gmail.com

Website: www.asimoz.org

Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility.

The Parish of St Martin de Porres and the Archdiocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community. Child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of everyone.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Sick:

Jan, Miecia, Zyguich; Janice Murray; Charles; John & Rossini Burns; Pan Giannenas; Zac; Nazzi & Teresa Demaio; Peter Falzon; Susie; Nancy Green; Emily & Grace; Monica Marland; Mark; Anna; Franca, Mellisa.

Recently Deceased:

Giuseppe Lucifero; Leonardo Mendez Rivera, Sebastiana Silluzio; Hermina Volk; Edelvais Battiato; Indianna Te Aakau Tupaea-Attard; Maria La Spina; Vincenza Cassar; Chandra; Rocco Genoese; Salvatore & Maria Perrotta; Draga Vadjal; Giuseppina Troise.

Anniversaries & Remembrances:

Veronica Dovey (1st); Rogelio Cerezo (1st); Santina Leo (1st); Kevin McKernan; Lorenza Dizon; Oscar Nilo; Ivanka Udovicic; Victor Degabriele; Peter & Zoran Romic; Dominic Cumbo; Bernarda & Francis Grima; Teresa, Emmanuel, Tonina, Phillip Sammut; Emmanuel & Nazarena Farrugia; Adam Hood; Rita & Carmelo De Bono; Joseph Consiglia.

Parish Support Programme:

Pays Wages, Electricity, Cleaning, Insurance, Rates, Maintenance.

Pledge: \$2,588

Received: \$2,029

Loose: \$1,179

Presbytery: Supports Parish Priest, Retired Priests & Cathedral. \$1,491

CONTRIBUTING TO THE COLLECTIONS

Have you left your cash at home?

Why not use our QR Code or the Donation Tap Machine (Max. \$99).

Please see one of our friendly volunteers with the machine in the back of the church if you wish to tap your card/phone to donate.

Thank you for your generosity.



BAPTISM THIS WEEKEND

We congratulate and pray for:
Lucas Taylor

Monday Mass

Will start next week 4 May at 9:15am.



Sunday Appeal Weekend

This year, the Appeal aims to give hope and support to people experiencing homelessness. Our faith calls us to welcome the stranger and care for those most in need. Your compassion ensures individuals and families are supported with safe housing, practical assistance, and compassionate care as they rebuild their lives.

Your generosity helps open the door to safety, dignity and hope.

Please donate to the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal.

You can donate

- Using the **Appeal Envelope**
- Scan the QR Code
- Phone - (03) 9967 2515
- at www.catholiccarevic.org.au.



Thankyou.

"For I was a stranger and you welcomed me."
(Matthew 25:35)



Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne

Permanent Diaconate Information Session 2 May 2026

The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men, aged between 30 and into their 50s, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. It is an ordained ministry of service.

The information session is open to **everyone interested in learning more about the permanent diaconate**. If you have attended any previous session, you are also welcome to attend this session. It is an opportunity to further discern your vocation. Wives are most welcome.

If you are interested email Deacon Kevin Pattison - Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au with full name and parish, but **if you forget, then just turn up** on Saturday morning.

All are welcome.

When: Saturday 2 May, 10:00 - 11.30 am

Venue: Catholic Theological College
278 Victorian Parade, East Melbourne

A Prayer for Vocations

God our Father,

You made each of us to use our gifts in the Body of Christ.

We ask that You inspire young people whom You call to

the priesthood and consecrated life to courageously follow Your will.

Send workers into Your great harvest so that the Gospel is preached, the poor are served with love, the suffering are comforted, and Your people are strengthened by the sacraments.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen



Good Shepherd Sunday 2026

Today is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Pope Leo tells us:

Listen to the voice of the Lord who invites you to a full and fruitful life, calling you to put your talents to use (cf. Mt 25:14-30) and to unite your limitations and weaknesses with the glorious cross of Christ.

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.



Devotion to Divine Mercy

Mondays: 2.30pm Rosary
3pm Divine Mercy Chaplet

followed by Stations of the Cross, 4pm finish.



Christian Meditation 2026

Maranatha ... Come Lord Jesus

All welcome: Monday 10 - 11am

Parent's Room in the Church

Term 2: May 4 & 18; June 1 & 15.