

# St Patricks Parish Church Hill

Under the Pastoral Care of the Marist Fathers since 1868



21 April 2024

Fourth Sunday of Easter Year B

## Christian morality

Today's Gospel – John 10:11-18 – three times uses the word “good” to describe Jesus’ manner and presence in the way he “shepherds” his people. The Greek word is *kalos*. Another, more common, Greek word also translated as “good”, is *agathos*. While *agathos* shares the meaning with *kalos* of being good, *kalos* carries the extra meaning of also being beautiful, lovely or pleasing to the eye.

We have grown used to the expression, “the good Shepherd”. Maybe the metaphor has lost something of its power through overuse? Try “the beautiful... lovely... gracious Shepherd”. And this is not an idle thought experiment. How we describe Jesus not only has serious implications for how we think of him, it also has serious – and very practical – implications for how we think of ourselves and, in particular, how we think of Christian morality. Have you ever thought of the Christian life as beautiful?

The Scripture scholar, William Barclay, describes how the beauty of Jesus’ presence can be – indeed should be – manifest in His disciples: “Clearly it is not enough that the Christian life should be good; it must also be attractive. A grim and unlovely goodness is certainly goodness, but it is not ‘Christian’ goodness; for Christian goodness must have a certain loveliness on it. Real Christianity must always attract and never repel. There is such a thing as a hard, austere, unlovely and unlovable goodness, but such a goodness falls far short of the Christian standard. In all our efforts to be good, in all our strivings towards moral holiness, the Christian must never forget the ‘beauty of holiness’” (William Barclay, “KALOS: The Word of Winsomeness”, in W. Barclay, *New Testament Words*, SCM Press, 1980, 156).

For the Christian, beauty goes hand in hand with goodness and truth. Together, these are our best source of joy. “Unlovely and unlovable goodness” is not likely to bring joy. Therefore, it is more likely to repel people than attract them to the way of Jesus. Maybe Jesus had this in mind when he said to the disciples: “I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete” (John 15:11).

See [www.aquinas-academy.org.au](http://www.aquinas-academy.org.au) for background material on the Gospel text.

Michael Whelan SM, Parish Priest

## OUR SYNODAL JOURNEY

In his letter to Cardinal Mario Grech, general secretary of the General Secretariat of the Synod 14 March 2024, Pope Francis requested that Study Groups be set up "by joint agreement with the competent Dicastries of the Roman Curia... calling Pastors and Experts from all Continents to take part in them, and taking into consideration not only existing studies, but also the most relevant current experiences in the People of God gathered in the local Churches. It is important that the aforementioned Study Groups work according to an authentically synodal method, of which I ask you to be the guarantor".

**St Peter Chanel Feast Day:** Due to the fact that the Feast of St Peter Chanel falls on Sunday, 28th of April, we will celebrate the Feast on **Monday 29 April**. A special Mass and a novena for vocations to Marist life will be celebrated. The novena will commence on Monday 22 April. St Peter Chanel is the first Marist martyr.

**St Patrick's Parish is looking to recruit a full-time Business Manager** working from the Parish offices. For expression of interest and further information, please contact Father Michael Whelan SM, Parish Priest or email [office@stpatschurchhill.org](mailto:office@stpatschurchhill.org).

**St Pats Synodal Gatherings** - The first Synodal Gatherings in the Crypt will be held today, Sunday, 21 April at 10.00 am and 11.00 am. These Gatherings will be facilitated by Br Ian Cribb, SJ and will model the process we will follow in the subsequent Gatherings. We are in transition. To enable this transition to be a journey of faith, you are all invited to participate – as best you can, as often as you can – in the series of Synodal Gatherings.

**The Call to Be - The Artist's Story:** Lecturer: Daniel Dominguez in the Crypt of St Patricks Church, 1, 8, 15 May 10am-noon, cost \$90. For more information see <https://catalystforrenewal.org.au/events> or email [thecalltobe@gmail.com](mailto:thecalltobe@gmail.com)

## WISDOM FROM TRADITION

*"Naturam expellas furca, tamen usque recurret"*

(Horace, Epistles, Book I, epistle X, line 24)

*"Toss nature out with a pitchfork, it will return"*

## PARISH DIARY THIS WEEK

Tue 23 Apr St George; St Adalbert  
Wed 24 Apr Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena 12.30pm; St Fidelis, Sigmaringen  
Thur 25 Apr Anzac Day; Rosary Group - 12.30pm, Crypt  
Fri 26 Apr St Mark, The Evangelist  
Sat 27 Apr St Louis Grignon de Monfort

The parish of St Patrick's acknowledges the Gadigal people of the Eora nation as the traditional custodians of this place we now call Sydney.

### **A reading from the Acts of the Apostles Acts 4:8-12 (NRSV)**

While Peter and John were speaking to the people about the resurrection of Jesus, the captain of the temple arrested them and placed them in custody. The next day the rulers, elders and scribes assembled. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. "This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

### **Response to the Psalm**

**R. The stone rejected by the builders has become the corner stone.**

### **A reading from the First letter of John 1 Jn 3:1-2 (NRSV)**

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be as not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

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

### **A reading from the holy Gospel of John Jn 10:11-18 (NRSV)**

Jesus said to the Pharisees: "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away- and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. "I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. "For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

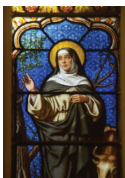
The Gospel of the Lord.  
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

### **Prayer for Vocations**

Heavenly Father, help us respond to and live out our mission in the church. Help all your people to know their vocation in life and assist them to prepare for it. For your greater glory, and for the service of your people, call many to be Priests and Religious. Give those whom you call the grace to respond generously and to persevere faithfully. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen

**St Brigid's Church,**  
14-16 Kent Street, Millers Point

**Did you know** - St Brigid's, designed by colonial architect Ambrose Hallen, is the oldest surviving place of Catholic worship in Australia? Governor Richard Bourke approved the site and building plan in 1833.



**Join our community  
for Mass - Sundays at 9.00am**

Visit our **Piety Store and Book Store** in the William Davis Courtyard every Sunday from 10 am. Discover good finds pre-loved books, prayer cards and gift items

**Electronic Donations:** We have two tap machines for electronic donations near the entry to the church. For regular donations from your credit card, please contact the Parish Office.

**RECONCILIATION PROGRAM**

**MONDAY - FRIDAY:**

7.30 - 7.55 am; 10.00am - 11.00am;  
12.00 noon - 1.00pm; 5.00 - 6.00pm

**SATURDAY:** 7.30am - 7.55am; 10.30am - 12.30pm; 5.30pm - 5.55pm

**SUNDAY:** 7.45am - 8.30am; 8.45 am - 12.45 pm; 2.45 pm - 4.45 pm; 5.30 pm - 5.55 pm.

**PUBLIC HOLIDAYS:** 7.30am - 7.55am;  
11.30 am - 11.55am; 4.45pm - 5.20 pm

**PARISH OFFICE**

**Address:** 141 Harrington Street, Sydney  
**Office hours:** Monday to Friday,  
10.00 am - 2.00 pm  
**Telephone:** 9254 9855 Fax: 9252 3431  
**Email:** office@stpatschurchhill.org  
**Website:** www.stpatschurchhill.org  
**St Patrick's Church:** 20 Grosvenor Street,  
Sydney, NSW 2000

**A MESSAGE FROM THE  
ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY**

**Child sexual abuse is a crime.** The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you – or anyone you know – have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguarding-enquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

**ST. PATRICK'S COFFEE SHOP**

**Open Tuesday - Friday 11.00 am - 2.00 pm  
Sunday 10.00 am - 2.00 pm**

**Sunday First Collection:** Support of the Marist Community at St Patrick's  
**Sunday Second Collection:** General Parish Expenses and Maintenance.

**MASS PROGRAM**

**MONDAY - FRIDAY:** 8.00am, 10.30am, 12.00noon & 5.30pm.

**\*Church open from 7.30am - 6pm**

**SATURDAY:** 8.00am, 12.00 noon

**Vigil Mass at 6.00pm.**

**\*Church open from 7.30am - 6.45pm**

**SUNDAY:** 8.00am, 9.00am, 10.00am, 11.00am, 12 noon, 3.00pm, 4.00pm, 6.00pm

**\*Church open from 7.45am - 6.45pm**

**St. Brigid's, Millers Point: 9.00am Mass**

**PUBLIC HOLIDAY:** 8.00 am, 12 noon, 5.30 pm

**\*Church open from 7.30am - 6.00pm**

**St Patrick's Parish**

Fr. Michael Whelan, SM <i>Parish Priest</i>	Br Terry Garrett, SM Michael Borromeo <i>Coffee Shop</i>
Fr. Bernie McFadyen, SM	Andrew Carter, <i>Maintenance Manager</i>
Fr. Peter McMurrich, SM	Karen Larkman, Teresa Seric - <i>Safeguarding</i>
Fr. Paul Mahony, SM	Helen Nejaim, <i>Sacristan</i>
Fr. Paul Hachey, SM	Mona Redito, <i>Secretary</i>
Fr Michael Carroll SM	
Sr. Fidelis McTeigue, SM <i>Pastoral work</i>	

*The church is fitted with an audio loop for the hearing impaired*