



Sunday 26 April 2026

Fourth Sunday of Easter



“The Good Shepherd” (El Buen Pastor) by Bartolomé Esteban Murillo (Spanish, 1617–1682), oil on canvas, c. 1660, Museo del Prado, Madrid, public domain.

Murillo’s El Buen Pastor portrays the Christ Child as the tender Good Shepherd, seated in a sunlit landscape with a lamb resting in his arms. The warm, golden light and the child’s gentle gaze convey the intimacy with which the Lord knows each of his own by name. The classical ruins allude to the passing of the old order before the new life Christ brings.

The painting is a perfect companion to today’s Gospel: “I am the gate for the sheep” and “I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly” (John 10:9–10). Here we are invited to recognise the risen Lord in the tender care of the Shepherd who calls each sheep by name.

For a parish community gathered around the Eucharist on Good Shepherd Sunday, this image resonates at every level: the font of Baptism through which the sheep enter the fold; the proclamation of the Word by which the Shepherd speaks; the altar where life is given abundantly.

Murillo’s Christ Child invites us to trust that the Shepherd knows us and that nothing — and no one — can be snatched away.

SUNDAY 26 APRIL 2026 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Monday 27 April 2026 Monday of 4th Week of Easter, St Louis Marie Grignion de Montfort, Priest (OM)

Tuesday 28 April 2026 Tuesday of the 4th Week of Easter, St Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr (Memorial)

Wednesday 29 April 2026 Wednesday of 4th Week of Easter, St Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor (Memorial)

Thursday 30 April 2026 Thursday of 4th Week of Easter

Friday 1 May 2026 Friday of 4th Week of Easter, St Joseph the Worker (Optional Memorial)

Saturday 2 May 2026 Saturday of 4th Week of Easter, St Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor (Memorial)

SUNDAY 3 MAY 2026 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please remember in your prayers, our deceased brethren having anniversaries this week (Including those in our columbarium) and those for whom Mass intentions have been sought (see below).

COLUMBARIUM MASS INTENTIONS

Liliane Mary Celio [29 April 2016 - Niche 34], Kerry Ashton [1 May 2012 - Niche 322] and Arthur Patterson Negus [5 May 2013 - Niche 140]

OTHER MASS INTENTIONS

Recently Deceased Fr Michael Stoney SJ, Joan Low, John (Jack) Scarisbrick MBE, Bev Heazlett - Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen

Sick Pamela Shaughnessy

Lord Jesus, healer of body and spirit, look with mercy on all who are sick or in pain. Give them courage in suffering and trust that you are close to them. Strengthen those who care for them and grant healing, peace and hope. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

BAPTISMS AND WEDDINGS

Holy Baptism Holy Baptism is celebrated in St Canice's Church on the third Sunday of each month after the 10.00am Mass

Holy Matrimony To arrange, kindly contact the Parish Hub

MASS INTENTIONS AND COLUMBARIUM

To request the offering of Mass for any intention, or make a Columbarium enquiry, application or inurnment appointment, please use the Parish Hub QR Code (page 2)

PARISH TEAM

Clergy

Fr Dave Braithwaite SJ Parish Priest

E: pp@stcanice.org.au

Fr Dave Ryan SJ Assistant Priest

E: dave.ryan@stcanice.org.au

Parish Hub

Tuesday to Thursday 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

E: contactus@stcanice.org.au

T: +61 2 9358 5229

W: www.stcanice.org.au

Street Address: 24 Roslyn Street

Elizabeth Bay NSW 2011

CONTACTING THE PARISH HUB

To contact St Canice's about:

- Anointing of the sick
- Deceased anniversaries
- Mass intentions
- David's Place / Curious Grace.
- St Canice's Kitchen and Op Shop
- Colombière Social Enterprises
- General Inquiries



Please scan the Parish Hub QR code

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE HOUSEBOUND:

If you, or someone you know, is unable to attend Mass due to age, illness, or injury and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, **please contact Stephen Fulham at +61 411 626 262.**

SIGN UP FOR THE ST CANICE'S PARISH BULLETIN!

Stay connected and informed with all the latest parish news, events, and Mass times by subscribing to our weekly bulletin. We encourage ALL parishioners and visitors to sign up - receive updates direct to your inbox and never miss important announcements.

Simply scan the QR code (see right) to join our mailing list



SOMETHING ITALIAN COURTYARD FUNDRAISING

DINNERS FAMILY DINING UNDER THE STARS

Following a very successful trial in March, Something Italian will now continue as a regular **Friday Antipasto and Pasta Night** and **Saturday Dinner in St Canice's Courtyard**. Hosted at St Canice's Kitchen, these evenings are both a celebration of Italian food culture and a living experiment

in social enterprise, supporting the mission of our parish in simplicity, generosity and the enduring power of coming together around a shared table

Various Friday and Saturday Dates @ St Canice's Kitchen, Elizabeth Bay
To book please scan the QR code



MASSES & OTHER SACRAMENTS

Holy Mass

Sunday 8:30 am and 10:00 am

Tuesday to Friday 8:00 am (No Mass on Monday)

Monday at Lulworth House (Activity Room 2 North) 10.30 am

Saturday 9:00 am and 6:00 pm (Vigil Mass)

Penance (Reconciliation)

Sunday 9:30 am

Holy Baptism

Each third Sunday of the month after 10:00 am Mass

Holy Matrimony

By appointment

Funeral

By appointment

DEVOTIONS

Holy Rosary

After Weekday Mass

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First First Friday of the Month 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

PARISH IMMERSION VISIT TO TIMOR LESTE - INFORMATION SESSIONS

Are you interested in joining the Parish Timor-Leste Immersion to Railaco in September 2026, but would like to know more before you commit?

Please email any queries, or your Expression of Interest, to Barbara and Malcolm France, our Railaco coordinators at railaco@stcanice.org.au so that we can keep you informed as plans develop.

HOLY FATHER'S WORLDWIDE PRAYER NETWORK APRIL 2026

For priests in crisis.

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer..

www.popesprayer.va

GREETINGS FROM RAILACO!

Railaco coordinators Barbara and Malcolm France were welcomed to our sister parish in Timor-Leste on a recent visit. Witnessing impressive change reminded them that important progress can come from many small steps. They have therefore chosen a theme of 'Every step together' for this year's Railaco-St Ignatius Day fundraiser.

For all enquiries, please contact Barbara or Malcolm France at railaco@stcanice.org.au

Follow the latest NOSSEF Railaco Facebook page by scanning the QR code (right)



ROAR INTO LEADERSHIP: THE LION PILGRIMAGE 2026 THURSDAY 9 JULY 2026 TO 24 JULY 2026

Young adults aged 20-35yrs are invited to join The Lion Pilgrimage, a 15-day youth pilgrimage to Italy for emerging leaders, departing Thursday 9 July 2026. This journey, inspired by the legacy of Popes Leo XIII and Leo XIV, seeks to form future public leaders through deep Catholic social teaching and spiritual renewal. Pilgrims will travel with Bishop Anthony Percy and Francine and Byron Pirola, visiting Mesero, Turin, Florence, Siena, Assisi and Rome, encountering the witness of the saints and sharing daily prayer, Mass and visits to key holy sites, along with time to experience the beauty and culture of Italy. Are you wanting to contribute to the development of Australia? Make it a better country? A free and fair country? The Lion Pilgrimage is for you.

For more details: www.thelionpilgrimage.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 25 April 2026 6.00pm-9.00pm Something Italian Fundraising Dinner St Canice's Courtyard

Sunday 26 April 2026 6.00pm-9.00pm Something Italian Fundraising Dinner St Canice's Courtyard

Tuesday 28 April 2026 10:30am-12:00 pm You Can Ask That with the Sisters of Charity Join two Sisters of Charity for morning tea, ask them anything you are curious about and tour their exhibitions. Sisters of Charity Heritage Centre, 1 Rockwall Crescent, Potts Point. To register, phone +61 2 9138 0835 or email heritagecentre@rscoffice.com

Tuesday 28 April 2026 5:00pm-6:00pm David's Place Group Prayer St Canice's

Friday 1 May 2026 12:30pm-2:00pm David's Place Community Mass and Lunch

Friday 1 May 2026 6:00pm-9:00pm Something Italian Pasta Night St Canice's Courtyard

Friday 1 May 2026 6:00pm-7:00pm Holy Hour of Adoration St Canice's Church

Saturday 2 May April 2026 6.00pm-9.00pm Something Italian Fundraising Dinner St Canice's Courtyard

Sunday 3 May April 2026 6.00pm-9.00pm Something Italian Fundraising Dinner St Canice's Courtyard

16 May 2026 to 19 July 2026 Sistine Chapel: Revelations St Mary's Cathedral

Wednesday 10 June 2026 @ 7:30 pm Bangarra Dance Theatre – "Sheltering" at Sydney Opera House All are invited to join group booking at a discounted group price of \$104 per person.

Thursday 9 July 2026-24 July 2026 The Lion Pilgrim

PARISH EVENTS FOR DETAILS OF ALL ST CANICE'S PARISH EVENTS, PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE (RIGHT)



SINGERS & MUSICIANS WANTED

Do you sing, play an instrument, or simply love sacred music? St Canice's warmly invites singers and musicians of all abilities to help build up the choral and musical life of our community. No professional training is required - what matters is a generous heart and a willingness to offer your gifts for the glory of God. Whether you read music or sing by ear, whether you play a classical instrument or something less expected, there is a place for you here. Sacred music has always been one of the great ways the Church lifts its voice in prayer, and every contribution — however modest — enriches our worship and draws us deeper into the mystery we celebrate together.

If you are interested, please contact Dominic at bulletin@stcanice.org.au

26-27 JUNE 2026 CONSISTORY OF THE COLLEGE OF CARDINALS

Pope Leo XIV has called an extraordinary consistory of the College of Cardinals to be held in Rome on 26-27 June, with working sessions planned across both days. The gathering will bring together cardinals from around the world to pray, reflect and advise the Holy Father on key questions facing the universal Church. In particular, Pope Leo has asked them to return to the vision of missionary renewal set out in Pope Francis' encyclical *vangelii Gaudium*, considering how the joy of the Gospel can be more credibly witnessed in a time of rapid cultural change.

ADORATION HOUR



"Be still, and know that I am God." Psalm 46: 10

Adoration is a time of silent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament exposed, where we sit in the presence of Christ, listen, reflect, and open our hearts. It is a moment to encounter the peace and love of Jesus, to pray for ourselves, our parish and our world. Everyone is warmly invited.

ST CANICE'S RESTORATION APPEAL

St Canice's is undertaking a **Restoration Appeal** to preserve and enhance our beautiful church for generations to come. This project focuses on careful repair and renewal of key heritage elements, ensuring that our church remains safe, welcoming and spiritually uplifting for all who gather here. Parishioners are invited to support the appeal through one-off or regular donations according to their means. Every contribution -large or small - makes a real difference to the ongoing care of our parish church and its mission. To learn more about the Restoration Appeal or to make a donation, please visit scan the QR Code (see right)



PARISH IMMERSION VISIT TO TIMOR-LESTE – BOOKINGS OPENING SOON

This 6-day program will take us each day from Dili to our sister parish at Railaco and nearby villages, visiting NOSSEF school, the mobile medical clinic, nutrition program and important historic sites. Departs 29 August 2026 - returns 4 September 2026. For all enquiries, please contact our Railaco coordinators, Barbara and Malcolm France, at railaco@stcanice.org.au.

SISTINE CHAPEL: REVELATIONS – ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL - 16 MAY 2026 TO 19 JULY 2026

This winter, St Mary's Cathedral forecourt will host Sistine Chapel: Revelations, a world-first immersive exhibition created with the permission of the Vatican Museums. From 16 May to 19 July 2026, visitors will step inside a purpose-built space where Michelangelo's frescoes are recreated at full scale using ultra high-resolution imagery, 360-degree projection and rich audio commentary. For details and bookings, visit www.sistinechapelsydney.com.au

SACRED SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY

First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 36–41 Peter proclaims that God has made Jesus both Lord and Messiah

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 23 The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:20b–25 You have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls

Gospel Acclamation: cf. John 10:14 I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my own and my own know me.

Gospel: John 10:1–10 I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

The Church urges us to listen to the proclamation of the Word of God “with reverence and silence, as Christ himself speaks to his people” (GIRM 29). All are encouraged to open the eyes and ears of their hearts to the sacred readings. For those who require them, a small number of printed copies of the full texts of today’s readings are available at the rear of the church.

SOMEONE YOU KNOW MAY BE SEARCHING

Many people begin exploring the Catholic faith because a friend or family member extended a simple invitation. As we celebrate this Fourth Sunday of Easter, think of someone in your life who might be quietly searching. If you know someone who has wondered what it means to become Catholic, the Archdiocese of Sydney has released a short video walking through the process — simply and clearly, with stories from people who have made that journey. This Easter season is a beautiful time for them to explore.

Share the Archdiocese of Sydney's new RCIA video with them: www.rcia.org.au.



MEDITATION FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Today is Good Shepherd Sunday, and the Church places before us one of the most intimate images of the relationship between Christ and his people. “The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out” (John 10:2–3).

There is something startling in the detail that the shepherd calls each sheep by name. In the ancient world a flock could be enormous, yet the good shepherd knew every animal individually. The risen Christ does not relate to us as a collective, as a statistical block of believers, or as a faceless congregation. He knows us each by name — our history, our wounds, our hopes, our particular path of discipleship. This is the God who counts every hair of our head and who rejoices over the one lost sheep more than over the ninety-nine who never strayed.

The Gospel then shifts from shepherd to gate. “I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved.” The gate is not a barrier but an opening — it marks the boundary between danger and safety, between scatter and belonging. In John’s theology, Jesus himself is the threshold through which life flows. There is no reaching the Father except through him, not as an exclusive claim to narrow religion, but as the astounding declaration that Love itself has taken a human face and become the door through which humanity passes into divine life.

Peter’s speech in the First Reading shows what happens when a community is seized by Easter faith. He speaks publicly and boldly, announcing that the crucified Jesus has been made both Lord and Messiah. The response — hearts cut to the quick, three thousand baptised in a day — is not the fruit of clever argument but of the Spirit breathing through the witness of the Resurrection. Easter faith is never meant to remain a private consolation; it becomes proclamation, courage and public testimony.

The Second Reading from 1 Peter deepens the portrait of the Shepherd by showing his cost. He bore our sins in his body on the cross so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness. “By his wounds you have been healed.” The Good Shepherd of John’s Gospel is no gentle romantic figure; he is the one who lays down his life for the sheep. Every celebration of the Eucharist is a participation in that sacrifice and a renewal of the covenant between the Shepherd and his flock.

For a parish community gathered on Good Shepherd Sunday, the invitation is threefold: to hear the Shepherd’s voice in the Word proclaimed; to enter through the gate in the Eucharist received; and to go out and find pasture by carrying the life of Christ into the world. As Peter discovered, abundant life is not a private treasure to be hoarded but a mission to be lived.

Lord Jesus, Good Shepherd, you know us each by name and call us into the fullness of life. Open the gate of your mercy to those who are lost, wounded or afraid. Speak to our hearts through your Word, feed us at your table, and send us out to bear witness to the abundant life you give. You are the way, the truth and the life: remain with us as we remain in you. Amen.

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

Child 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 safeguardingenquiries@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.