

Dear friends,

WE WILL SHORTLY WELCOME A DEACON AND HIS WIFE;

to share with our parish a gift of around 10 hours a week of ministry.

George Bryan, married to Kaye, was ordained as a permanent deacon for our diocese a few years ago after retiring from a university role. He has been serving in the parish of Blacktown with a special added commitment to pastoral care in mental health. I was asked in recent days if we would receive George to serve here, as he was due for a next appointment in his ministry. Whilst there's a sadness moving on from a wonderful and multi-cultural parish experience of George's first appointment at Blacktown, they are delighted that the ministry place, that Kaye is keen to connect with too, will be much closer to home. Next week I'll put a piece here in the bulletin about the ministry of permanent deacons for those not familiar. I feel this is a blessing for our parish and have invited George and Kaye to introduce themselves to us at all Masses next weekend.

LAST SUNDAY'S PLENARY GATHERING

What a beautiful gathering, with beautiful hospitality provided, as around 70 parishioners last Sunday reflected on the journey of the wider Church and of this local parish. Let's all give thanks for the dedicated plenary overseeing committee of the parish and for all who've contributed these past months in groups and last week. The committee is now collating the next summary of insights from last week which will be submitted as part of the national plenary 2020 process – AND more immediately we can allow those insights to assist our discernment for the priorities for life and mission ahead here in the parish. Such discernment will be an important spiritual and practical process, especially for members of the parish pastoral council and plenary committee. Good ongoing communication with - and feedback from - the parish regarding such priorities needs to be key.

THE DARKNESS OF THE CHURCH – A RESPONSE HERE AT EMU PLAINS

Understandably the darkness of historic sexual abuse, especially by priests, was included in discussion at last Sunday's plenary gathering. And what a huge week of focus since! Much more to be said, but for now you might like to earmark in your calendar Wednesday evening 27th March, here in the parish hall. Our parish and the Institute for Mission are uniting to host a listening process, open to neighbouring parishes of the region. The husband and wife facilitators, Liz and Vic O'Callaghan, are highly experienced in the field of restorative justice and will lead a special process enabling the expression of the people – who are the Church. More to follow. Happy week ahead. *With friendship in God's mission, Fr. Paul*

PARISH TEAM

Fr. Paul Roberts
Parish Priest

Chris Rannaste
Parish Secretary

John Cowen
Parish Council
Chairperson

Jim Prendergast
Finance Committee
Chairperson

CONTACT US

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FR. PAUL'S BLOG:
paulfromifm.org.au

MASS TIMES

Weekend Masses
Saturday 6:00 pm
Sunday 8:00 am & 9:30 am
3rd Sunday of the Month
Filipino Mass 11:00 am

Weekday Masses

Wednesday 9.15 am
Thursday 8.15am &
Friday 7.15am.

Children's Liturgy
During 9.30 am
Mass on the
1st & 3rd
Sundays each
month



OUR LADY OF THE WAY

What does the LORD require of you but to act justly, to love tenderly, and to walk humbly with your God. MICAH 6:8

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: The children of our Parish will commence their journey this weekend to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Wednesday 3rd of April. We join with their parents and their families in prayer, that the experience of this wonderful Sacrament will bring greater love and joy into their lives and indeed all our lives.

ASH WEDNESDAY 6TH MARCH—MASS TIMES: 9.15AM AND 7.30PM

THANK YOU from the Plenary Team to all who came to our Parish Gathering last Sunday. We had a wonderful response with approx. 70 parishioners attending. Plenary group responses were presented and discussed and many thoughtful and positive ideas were mentioned during our afternoon session on our vision for the parish. All responses are being collated and we will keep you informed of the outcomes.

Enrolments are now open for Kindergarten 2020 :OUR LADY OF THE WAY.
There will be an OPEN MORNING on Friday 22nd March 2019 from 9.15-10.15am
Come along, tour the school and visit our learning spaces. Morning tea will be provided for Parents and pre-schoolers. If you would like to attend, please RSVP by Wednesday 6th March, 2019 to Julie Irvine on 4777 7200 or email jirvine@parra.catholic.edu.au

CATHOLIC FOUNDATION : BISHOP'S LENTEN APPEAL: thank you to those who have already contributed to this appeal. Envelopes are still available in the Church foyer if needed
Thankyou again for your generosity.

McCARTHY CATHOLIC COLLEGE: Enrolling now for 2020. Open Evening—Tuesday 19 March 2019 Time: 5.00pm—8.00pm. Meet the Principal, staff and student leaders, Tours of the College; Enrolment packages available; Presentations at 5.15pm, 6.pm &6.45pm Enquiries: 4728 8100 Website: www.mccarthymuplains.catholic.edu.au Like us on Facebook.

WRAP WITH LOVE: Knitting group recommences on Tuesday 5th March in the Parish Office.

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation:
Saturday 4.30 pm-5:30 pm
Baptisms: By appointment
Weddings: By appointment

First Holy Communion and / or Confirmation
Please contact Parish Office
olowpar@pnc.com.au or
emuplains@parracatholic.org

R.C.I.A : The process for adults interested in becoming Catholic. Office: 4735 1041

Please pray for those who are sick in our community:



Grace Perry, Kevin Rose, Karen Gulliksen, Harry Beasley, Maddison Farrugia, Leone Kirton, Vicki Wells, Mark Simmonds, Max Scott, Anita Glynn, Libby Lawson, Paul Dalton, Patty & Bernie Payne, Shirley & Les Coburn, Graham & Christine Hall, Michelle Gardam, Melissa Reardon, Jacqui Walker, Mary Berkout, Patricia, Knoke, Brian Payne, Mervin McCaster, Marie Mahoney, Jeffrey Ridley, Habib Kaltoum Rahme, Michael Mercieca, Carmen Smith, (baby—Jordan Edwards) Moira Thomas Joyce Dukes, Beryl Page, Frances Payne, Val Smith, Bernadette Dearie & Barbara Grant.