

Dear friends
THANKSGIVING FROM THE WHOLE PARISH

We can all certainly give thanks for the loving care extended through our Catholic Mission sharing last week. In money terms, \$3,741.75 was shared. Add to that the invaluable and ongoing prayers to which some are committing for Sr Stan's children's work and we can really feel the blessing of making a difference. No doubt there were various other pressures the last couple of years, but for interest and encouragement, our parish secretary Chrissy found the comparative figures from 2018 and 2017 as \$576 and \$863. We had about 40 visitors with us at last Saturday night's Mass but that would only have added a portion to the clearly beautiful generosity of sharing from the whole parish. May God bless us with purpose and enthusiasm by this great communal response.

NOVEMBER REMEMBRANCES

As many people know, November is traditionally a month of special remembrance for those who have gone before us. There are a couple of options available at the front of the church if you'd like.

1. Firstly you'll notice a black basket entitled REMEMBRANCE BOX NOTES. Anyone is welcome to write on a provided Remembrance Note with a name or names of those you wish to remember or give thanks for. **NO DONATIONS NEEDED**. Those names will be transferred to the altar during weekend Masses. Then by the following week, they'll appear in the Book of Remembrance on display. Feel welcome to write a prayer of thanks along with the name if you wish.

2. Then there's the container holding NOVEMBER MASS OFFERING envelopes. If you want to use this custom, you are welcome to fill in the details and give it direct to me (Fr Paul) – Any November Mass donation offerings from Emu Plains will be sent to priests in West Bengal and Sikkim (north India). Those priests will offer the Masses, one Mass for the intention asked with each offering amount, and the offering will be used in their ministries.

ABOUT MASS OFFERINGS GENERALLY – and YOUR PRAYERS

Mass offerings are a good and special, but purely optional custom in our faith life. Never under-estimate the effect of YOUR PRAYERS at Mass for any special intention. As a baptised person YOU share in Jesus' ministry and the Mass can be a powerfully grace-filled channel operating through you!

Some people are not aware that if someone gives a donation offering for a Mass to be celebrated, then one Mass per offering amount is celebrated. No priest can 'bundle' offerings into the one Mass. As well, a donation offering for a Mass, in any parish, is used at the discretion of the priest, for a helpful use. It's separate to the essential generosity of collections that enable all the core work and existence of parishes.

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OUR LADY OF THE WAY
 PARISH EMU PLAINS

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

As we pray for and ask the prayers of our deceased loved ones in November, we also give thanks for all those people who sustain parish communities as key means through which the Good News of Jesus Christ can be shared and handed on.

With friendship in God's mission, Fr Paul

PLENARY 2020 LISTENING AND DISCERNMENT: The next stage of Plenary 2020 is about Communal Discernment rather than individual discernment and as such we are called together as a group to discuss our future. For your information please see the flyer inserted in your Bulletin Theme 2. **Inclusive, Participatory and Synodal** gives an overview of the parish feedback from our Plenary groups and suggestions on how we can make this happen.

REST IN PEACE: **ANDREW BROOKES'** (father of Deb Gleeson) funeral will be held at St. John's Catholic Church Dapto on Monday at 10am then to the gravesite in the Catholic Cemetery Dapto, followed by a light lunch in the garden at the Catholic Church. We extend our love and prayers to Deb & Patrick and all the family and friends at this sad time.

ANN CLEAL passed away this week. The Cleal and Bielby families were longstanding members of our parish. Our prayers and thoughts are with all their families.

CONGRATULATIONS! To Greg and Patty Wood on the celebration of their 50th Wedding Anniversary this week. Every blessing for a happy and healthy journey ahead.



CHRISTMAS CHOIR PRACTICE: Will commence on Tuesday evening 7.30pm on **November 26**. Everyone is welcome!



CATECHISTS: Please collect Certificates which are in envelopes in the Church Foyer.

READERS AND COMMENTATORS' ROSTER

The next roster commences in mid-November and is being prepared. If you would like to join the roster or your situation has changed please contact the Parish office or Marianne Castor on 0431 966 365.

Also, if you are available to read or commentate at one of the Christmas Masses, the vigil or Christmas Day, can you please let Marianne know so the roster can also be prepared for that.

PARISH TEAM

Paul Roberts
 Parish Priest
George Bryan
 Deacon
Chris Rannaste
 Parish Secretary
John Cowen
 Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson
Jim Prendergast
 Finance Committee

CONTACT US

Parish Office
 15 Troy Street,
 Emu Plains NSW 2750
 PO Box 27 Emu Plains
 Ph: 02 4735 1041
 Email
 olowpar@pnc.com.au OR
 emuplains@parra.catholic.org
 www.catholicparishemu.plains.org.au

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 1.00 pm

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

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation:
 Saturday 4.45pm-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 Recently Deceased Paul Borg and Anne Cleal

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, 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), Joyce Dukes, Beryl Page, Frances Payne, Val Smith, Barbara Grant, Gregory Clare, William Simmonds, Judy Chesters, Maria Apap, Paul Cudmore, Angela Lonergan, Ken Skillicorn, Frank Cummins, Emma Woods, Brian O'Hara, Bruce Gillett, Denis Woodward & Chris Thompson.

