



What does the LORD require of you but to act justly, to love tenderly, and to walk humbly with your God. MICAH 6.8

NO MASSES—DUE TO COVID LOCKDOWN until further notice. Please stay up to date with Government advice.

A CALL TO PRAYER FOR ALL AT THIS TIME.

It's easy to look back and question decisions you have made in the past, but it's unfair to punish yourself for them. You can't blame yourself for not knowing back then what you know now, and the truth is you made each decision for a reason, based on how you were feeling at the time. As we grow up, we learn and we evolve. Maybe the person you are now would have done things differently back then, or maybe you are the person you are now because of the decisions you made back then. Trust your journey, it's all going to make sense soon.

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Pope Francis prayer to Our Lady, Health of the Sick, to implore her protection during the Covid-19 coronavirus pandemic

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen. We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.



WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER!

These times of Covid lockdowns can be very stressful for us all. If you have any need at all, your Parish community is here and willing to help in whatever way possible. Contact 4735 1041. The Parish office is open: Tuesday 9—2pm Wednesday 9– 4.30 pm Thursday 9-2pm and Friday. 9—4.30pm

For your information—hoping that we will be able to back in church soon—please be aware that the **Tap and Go** payment machine is now **\$10.00 / tap**. Many thanks for your continued generosity in this time.

Please pray for all those who are sick in our community.

Grace Perry, Karen Gulliksen, Harry Beasley, Maddison Farrugia, Leone Kirton Vicki Wells, Mark Simmonds, Max Scott, Anita Glynn, Libby Lawson, Paul Dalton, Shirley Coburn, Michelle Gardam, Jacqui Walker, Mary Berkout, Patricia Knoke, Brian Payne, Mervin McCaster, Marie Mahoney, Jeffrey Ridley, Michael Mercieca, Carmen Smith, Beryl Page, Frances Payne, Gregory Clare, Judy Chesters, Emma Woods, Brian O'Hara, Bruce Gillett, Ray Dukes, Barbara Grant, Mavis Thompson, Laurie Doohan, Nathalie Dhyon, Mike Sayer, Terry Simpkin, Nicole Unsal, Debra Gleeson, Paul Ziberras, Ken Ridley, Joseph Stipich, Joyce Dukes, Tyler Kennedy, Catalina Labra—Knox, Teresa & Larry Dunn, Graham and Christine Hall, Lorraine Lindsay, Maria Chircop, Nerida Fabri, Graeme Hardy, Lynette Hill, Frances Grove, Jennifer Stonehouse & Peter Graham.

PARISH TEAM

Fr. Michael G. Gathuku
Parish Administrator

George Bryan
Deacon

Christine Rannaste
Parish Co-ordinator.

Michele Norbury
Parish Secretary

John Cowen
Parish Pastoral Council
Chairperson.

Jim Prendergast
Parish Finance
Chairperson

Donna McFadzean
Our Lady of the Way
Principal 4777 7200

Tania Cairns
Penola Catholic College
Principal 4728 8100

Parish Account details:
For online banking only!!!!

**EMU PLAINS
CATHOLIC CHURCH.
BSB 067 950
A/c No. 00000289.**

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

15TH Sunday in Ordinary Time— message from Fr. Michael Gitau

Nikolai Berdyaev, who abandoned Karl Marx for Christianity says, that neither history, theology nor the church brought him to the Christian faith, but a simple woman called Mother Maria. Nikolai was present at a concentration camp when Nazis were murdering Jews in gas chambers when he noticed one distraught mother who refused to part with her baby, Maria took notice of this woman. When Maria saw the officer, who was exterminating the Jews was only interested in numbers, without a word she pushed the mother aside and quickly took her place.

Nikolai came to learn latter Maria was a believing Christian, she loved and followed Jesus and because of her faith she acted like so. She made that sacrifice. Nikolai was touched by her faith and her sacrifice, and that led him to Christ (Extract from John's Sunday Homily)

In today's Gospel, Jesus called His Apostle and sent them in twos to preach His Gospel. He called them, sent them, and authorized them to preach the Gospel. In our first reading we are introduced to one of the great characters of the Old Testament, a man called Amos, a farmer turned prophet. Amos came from a small village in the hill of Judah. Amos was a simple man, observer of the social and religious practices of his time and defender of the oppressed. Though during his era, Israel's Northern kingdom had reached the summit of its material power and prosperity, there was widespread corruption and immorality. The poor were afflicted, exploited, even sold into slavery, they was no justice in the land, the judges were corrupt and the innocent betrayed.

In the midst of all this luxury and misery, religion flourished, people thronged to the shrine at festival time to practice elaborate rituals. Amos regarded these practices as a sham project disgusting to God. The priests of royal sanctuaries attacked Amos and told him to go home and leave the royal sanctuary in peace, in response he told them that his vocation was not self-appointed or by royal appointment he was called by God for a purpose of announcing his message.

On his part he was not torn between two competing loyalties, his loyalty to the word of God has clear priority over any other loyalty in his life. Like Amos, the chosen followers of Jesus must carry the word as a challenge to others. The apostles had authority and power of Jesus. They had to travel on that authority given to them and the hospitality that they will have offered to

them. With no bread and money, they must depend on the kindness of others, that vulnerability makes their message their real resource. The mission must be carried out in simplicity and poverty. Both the prophet and the apostles must rely on the authority and power given to them.

Mission is aimed at the total person, in the Gospel Jesus sends out his disciples not only with call to repent and to convert but also to heal them from sickness and the power of evil. Human person needs salvation in their totality. Those of us who are followers and disciples of Jesus are given the same mandate as Prophet Amos in our first reading, and twelve Apostles in the Gospel of today. During this time of lockdown, we can cure others by our love, encouragement, affirmation, forgiveness and acceptance remember that call you need to make, because you cannot visit and ask that magic question "Are you okay" We can cast out demons of fear, anxiety, worry and guilt when the other one knows I am there for him or her.

Like Maria in our opening story your testimony needs to stand, not only on your words but also in your action, who knows your long-awaited testimony might save someone.

Wishing you all God's Blessing as we enter into another week of lockdown, may we continue placing our trust in him, whose power at work in us can do more than we ask for. May Mother Mary intercede for us