

**CONGRATULATIONS TO FR. MICHAEL ON HIS APPOINTMENT AS OUR PARISH PRIEST.** We thank the Bishop for his appointment. Fr. Michael has been our Administrator since December 2020. We congratulate Fr. Michael on his Appointment. May Almighty God endow him with his heavenly blessing as he guides us all to know, love and serve the Lord.

**PARISH INFO:**

**OFFICE: 47351041.**  
**Email:**  
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Fr. Michael G. Gathuku  
 Parish Priest.

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



**FATHER'S DAY BEST WISHES:** Lockdown and stay at home measures have made this a unique Fathers Day for all the wrong reasons. Many Fathers are separated from their families at this time. You are in our thoughts and prayers, for we are in this together.

**A PRAYER FOR FATHERS - HAPPY FATHERS DAY!**

God our Father, in your wisdom and love you made all things. Bless these Fathers, that they may be strengthened as Christian Fathers. Let the example of their faith and love shine forth. Grant that we, their sons and daughters, may honour them always with a spirit of profound respect. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen

**PRAYER FOR AFGHANISTAN**

**In union with many communities around the world and throughout Australia, we gather in prayerful solidarity with our sisters and brothers in Afghanistan today.**

**We are painfully aware that this is not the only place suffering in the world at present and we acknowledge that the government here has held Afghani refugees in detention centres for years. We pray from within our tradition, extending solidarity outwards to all Afghani families and individuals, especially to girls and women in Afghanistan.**

**We value human freedom, democratic rights, and access to education and social protection. We use our imaginations to contemplate the fear of so many who have struggled for so long.**

**We pray for God's Peace and Freedom for all who suffering at this time.**

**BISHOP VINCENT'S PASTORAL LETTER TO THE FAITHFUL ON OUR RESPONSE TO THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN IS AVAILABLE ON OUR PARISH WEBSITE AND THE PARRAMATTA DIOCESAN WEBSITE.**

**THIS WEEKEND IS OUR APPEAL FOR RETIRED CLERGY**

**We currently have 20 retired clergy in the Diocese—1 Bishop, 17 Priest and 2 Deacons.** Ongoing assistance includes independent retirement living, aged care, or nursing home accommodation for frail priests; meals, transport and medical care as required. **Please give generously via the Clergy support Foundation website: [parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal](http://parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal) or call (02) 88383482**

**Please pray for Recently Deceased Brian Andrew Weldon and for the Anniversary of Stephen Patterson and Brian Maher 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, Megan Hallam, Mandy Parer, Patricia Lynch & Bob Campbell.*

**Parish Account details: *For online banking only!!!!* EMU PLAINS CATHOLIC CHURCH. BSB 067 950 A/c No. 00000289.**

**ENVELOPES: You may drop your Planned Giving envelope to the Parish office on Tuesdays between 10am and 12 Midday. Thankyou.**

**Homily for 23rd Sunday year B Fr. Michael.**

*All of us have inherited a bag of beliefs and suspicious, some of which we have grown to discard and others we have adopted and made our own.*

*The preconceptions that serve to bolster up our sense of superiority, while keeping others in diminishment, are particularly difficult to tear down. We make judgement on others based on their social status, race, or religion.*

*In today's second reading, from the letter of St James, we hear this advice, "my brother, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with making of distinction between classes of people". The letter criticized the altitude which presume that the well-dressed man who enters the synagogues, with gold ring deserve more attention and care than a poor man who enters with dirty clothed and he is poor at the same time. The former should not have preference of the latter.*

*If preference need to be made, it should reflect the declared preference of God; He chose those who are poor according to the world, to be rich in faith and be heirs of the kingdom he promises.*

*Gods' preference for those who are poor according to this world is seen clearly in today's Gospel reading. Jesus comes face to face with a deaf man who has a speech impediment. The man was doubly afflicted; he was gentile; hence regarded by mainstream Jews as unclean and was also physically handicapped.*

*Jesus, we read, took him aside, away from the crowd and cured his deafness and his stutter.*

*The healing of the deaf man by Jesus is an answer to the first reading prophecy by Isaiah, which describe some of the signs that will take place when the Messiah comes, Isaiah says, the deaf will hear...and those who cannot speak will shout for joy.*

*Beside fulfilling Isaiah Prophecy, this healing tells something personal about Jesus; that Jesus is a compassionate person and does not discriminate anyone, he has no favorites nor preference, he treat all in the same.*

*Out of his infinite passion Jesus love is available to everyone, without any presumption or any conditions. Jesus is not disconcerted by the handicapped, nor is he prejudiced against those not of his own race or religion.*

*We are challenged to be drawn to this type of life as followers of our Lord, and we are asked not to draw distinctions among people.*

*Everyone is worthy of our love because all have the love of God. Social standings, beliefs, relationship, and ethnicity should not stand in the way of our love.*

*It is always good to remember that whoever we meet, God has first loved them.*

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION:**

Dear Parishioners Fr Michael's recorded Mass for this weekend will be available from Saturday evening. Access through our Website—click on button for YouTube recording.: **Our Lady of the Way Parish Emu Plains** and on Facebook.

**DEAR PARISH VOLUNTEERS:**

We all have to upgrade our volunteer accreditation with the Diocese—a legal requirement—if you have not received information regarding the *new required* Safeguarding training program, please email the parish office with your details or call the office number 4735 1041, leave a message and we will get back to you. Zoom sessions will commence 21st September.

**Thanksgiving to God for the gift that you are to our parish community. May we continue to grow in love of God and neighbour.**