

**PARISH INFO:**

**OFFICE: 47351041.**  
Email: [emuplains@parracatholic.org](mailto:emuplains@parracatholic.org)

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

**WRAP WITH LOVE/KNITTERS.**

Meets Thursday's 9am—12 in the parish hall. Donations of 8ply wool gratefully accepted. New members very welcome. Contacts: Judy Prendergast 0407 101 254 and Julia Hayes 0452 665 844

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



Advent means '**Coming**' in Latin. This is the coming of Jesus into the world. Christians use the four Sundays and weeks of Advent to prepare and remember the real meaning of Christmas. ... The second can happen now as Jesus wants to come into our lives now.

**OUR HEARTFELT THANKS TO OUR PRECIOUS CHRISTINE RANNASTE :**

Christine is retiring as Parish Co-ordinator and we wish her every blessing as she embarks on the next stage of her journey. Her sincerity, joy and love will be greatly missed. Always having a listening ear and a heart full of wisdom. We were blessed to have Christine in our midst who was amongst and one of us.

May God Bless you Christine you will always be in our hearts, we will always pray for you and your family. You have been part of us and we want you to remain so. OLOW Parish Team and community.

Christine has written a farewell letter copies of which will be in the church foyer.

**BEING IN TOUCH WITH GOD THROUGH CREATION:**

**You are invited to join St. Finbars for their Parish Advent Retreat** on 4th December from 10.30am—4pm followed by the Advent Vigil Mass at 5.30pm. Morning tea and lunch provided Cost \$5.00 RSVP by 29/11 to [secretary@stfinbars.org.au](mailto:secretary@stfinbars.org.au) this reflection day will be led by Cecilia Zammit and Melissa McDonald.

**PARISH GROUPS:** We sincerely thank those Parishioners who offered to assist in one of the parish groups that we put forward earlier this year. Your willingness to contribute is greatly appreciated. As Christmas is almost upon us, we have decided to set a **meeting date for Sunday 6th February at 2pm in the Parish Hall** to discuss future directions of the parish and allow parishioners to discern which areas of parish life they wish to be involved in. We warmly invite you all to put this date in your diary and attend the meeting. Thank you again for your willingness to serve.  
*OLOW PARISH COUNCIL.*

**Please pray for Recently Deceased Fay Roser, and for the Anniversaries of Christine, Joseph & Paul Reeves and for all those who are sick in our community.**

*Grahame Hale, Natalie Gutanev 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, 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, Megan Hallam, Mandy Parer, Patricia Lynch, Alexandra Haddad, Terri Casey.*

**MASS TIMES**

**Weekend Masses:**  
Saturday 6:00 pm  
Sunday 8:00 am & 9:30 am  
**Weekday Masses:**  
Tuesday—6.00 pm  
Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 9.00am

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** after the Thurs 9.00am Mass till 10.00am.  
**Anointing of Sick on the First Friday of each month at the 9.00am Mass.**

**RECONCILIATION:**  
Saturday 4.45pm-5:30 pm  
**Baptisms:** By appointment  
**Weddings:** By appointment

**SACRAMENTS:**  
**Reconciliation**  
**First Holy Communion and / or Confirmation**  
Please contact Parish Office [emuplains@parracatholic.org](mailto:emuplains@parracatholic.org)

**R.C.I.A :** The process for adults interested in becoming Catholic. For more information contact the Parish Office: 4735 1041

**LITURGICAL MINISTRY FORMATION COURSES 2022.**

If you are interested in becoming A—Minister of the Word. Extraordinary Minister of Communion or Minister at the Altar. Please contact the parish office. 47351041.

Enrolment by the 4th February 2022.

**PARISH MINISTRIES IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS.**

We give thanks for the many parishioners who have faithfully served in a variety of ministries for many years. We are in need for new people to step up. **The above program involves—readers, ministers of the Eucharist and Ministers at the Altar.**

Please consider prayerfully if you are able to commit to one of these very important ministries.

Pope Francis is inviting us all to have some input into the Synod on Synodality set down for 2023. Submissions are due on **27 February 2022.** It can all be done online:

<https://www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch>



**You are encouraged to gather a group together to take part in this consultation.** Click on the link then go to the heading **Diocesan Consultation Phase** where you will find Listening and Discernment guides for the three dimensions that the Synod is focusing on: Communion, Participation and Mission. You can do one or more and each takes about 1.5 hours. It is also possible to do individual responses. For more information on "synodality", see <https://thewell.org.au/> on the Diocese of Parramatta website. Contact Jim Potts 0421 125 722 or Kay Walker 0430 193 000 for more information on the process.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TREVOR AND NATALIE CORREY:** We give thanks for Trevor and Natalie for their life with us at OLOW. They are leaving to start the next part of their journey. Gods abundant blessings.

**Become an SRE—a Special Religious Education Teacher.** Recruiting to begin Term 1, 2022. Special Religious Educators (SREs) also known as Catechists are parish volunteers who:

- ◆ **Teach and share the Catholic faith with children who attend government schools.**
- \* **Have the passion for sharing the gift of faith.**
- \* **Have an hour per week to prepare & share their time and talents with the students.**

In our Parish we go into 3 state schools during school hours. New volunteers (SREs) will be given support, training, authorised teaching materials and can start as a classroom helper. **To register your interest or make further enquiries** please call SRE Parish Co-ordinators Michelle on 0404 875 143 or Mary on 0408 212 437.

**CATHOLIC FOUNDATION: BISHOPS CHRISTMAS APPEAL:** This year the Bishop's Christmas Appeal, is raising funds for CatholicCare's Houses to Homes, which is dedicated to supporting vulnerable young pregnant women who are facing hardship, abuse and homelessness – so that they and their children can face the future with hope, safety and security. **This appeal will be held on this weekend Envelopes are available on your seats.**

**CAMPION COLLEGE SUMMER PROGRAM**  
Registration for the Campion College Summer Program is now open! If you know a 16-20 year old with an interest in history, literature, philosophy and theology, encourage them to sign up for one of the immersive four-day programs in January 2022. Attendance is fully funded but spaces are limited! Find out more and register on the Campion College website: [www.campion.edu.au/summer-program](http://www.campion.edu.au/summer-program)

**WEEKDAY MASS BOOKS:** Will be on sale for \$20.00 each. Due to Covid we are no longer allowed to share these books. If you wish to purchase a book please place \$20.00 into an envelope marked **Mass Book** and drop into the basket on the way out of the church.