

## PARISH INFORMATION

### OFFICE OPENING TIMES:

TUESDAY TO FRIDAY 9.30AM TO 3.00PM

Phone: 4735 1041(Answering Machine Available)

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

Fr. Michael G. Gathuku: Parish Priest

George Bryan: Deacon

Michele Norbury: Parish Office Administrator

Cate Kensey: Sacramental Co-ordinator

John Cowen: Parish Pastoral Council, Chairperson

Jim Prendergast: Parish Finance, Chairperson

Donna McFadzean: Our Lady of the Way Principal  
Ph: 4777 7200

Jim Fanning: Penola Catholic College Principal  
Ph: 4728 8100

### 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  
Thursday 9.00am Mass till 10.00am.

Anointing of Sick on the First  
Friday of each month at the 9.00am Mass.

### RECONCILIATION:

Saturday 5 pm - 5:45 pm

### SACRAMENTS:

Baptisms: By appointment

Weddings: By appointment

Reconciliation

First Holy Communion

Confirmation

Please contact Parish Office  
[emuplains@parracatholic.org](mailto:emuplains@parracatholic.org)

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



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

MICAH 6:8



## OUR LADY OF THE WAY PARISH, EMU PLAINS

Sunday 13th March 2022

2nd Sunday of Lent Year C

### Entrance Antiphon

Ps 26:8-9

Of you my heart has spoken, Seek his face.  
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;  
hide not your face from me.

### First Reading

Gen 15:5-12, 17-18

A reading from the first book of Genesis

*God made a covenant with Abraham, his faithful servant.*

Taking Abram outside the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

'I am the Lord' he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord, the Lord' Abram replied, 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtle-dove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off.

Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms:

'To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.'

### Responsorial Psalm Ps 26:1, 7-9, 13-14., R v.1

**(R.) The Lord is my light and my salvation.**

1. The Lord is my light and my help;  
whom shall I fear?  
The Lord is the stronghold of my life  
before whom shall I shrink? **(R.)**

2. O Lord, hear my voice when I call;  
have mercy and answer.  
Of you my heart has spoken:  
'Seek his face.' **(R.)**

3. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek,  
hide not your face.  
Dismiss not your servant in anger;  
you have been my help. **(R.)**

4. I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness  
in the land of the living.  
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.  
Hope in the Lord! **(R.)**

### Second Reading

Phil 3:17-4:1

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Philippians  
*Christ will transfigure these bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body.*

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proud-est of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things. For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe. So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

## Diocese of Parramatta Notices

### MET Natural Fertility Online Information Session: 22 March

MET Natural Fertility's online information session on Tuesday 22 March at 7.30pm will focus on how couples observe their naturally occurring symptoms of fertility to space their children. Come along to learn about The Sympto-Thermal Method of Natural Family Planning. To register and receive your Zoom link, contact Catherine on [catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org](mailto:catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org) or call 0400 427 605.

**Marriage Preparation Courses in 2022** Getting married in 2022? Let the Diocese of Parramatta help you prepare. Visit [www.parracatholic.org/pmp](http://www.parracatholic.org/pmp) to view weekend course dates, to book and pay. An online preparation called *SmartLoving* can also be booked via the website. For more info, email [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org) or phone Karin on 0403 305 431

**PRAYER FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE IN UKRAINE**

God of peace and justice, who change the hardened heart and break the power of violence, we entrust the people of Ukraine to you.

Protect them in this time of peril; let them know not death but life, not slavery but freedom.

You are Father of all; we are brothers and sisters.

Give us the strength to live that truth in love, choosing peace not war.

Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

Australian Catholic Bishops Conference

**LIFE ASCENDING GROUP**

Our Life Ascending meeting will be held in the Parish meeting room on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March at 10.00am. Come along and join our discussions, support and friendship and gather strength spiritually. Please bring a small plate to share. Both men and women are most welcome.

**Bring a Friend**

**Charismatic Healing Mass**  
Followed by Healing ministry

Fr Hugh Thomas CSsR

Sunday 20 March 2022  
2:00 pm

Our Lady of the Rosary Church  
Swanston St, St Marys

For further information: Call Barbara 0404456541

## COVID UPDATE

No sign-in is needed for mass at present. Masks are highly encouraged as a sign of care for each other but are not mandatory.

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The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved.

## Gospel Acclamation

Matt 17:5

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!  
From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.  
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

## Gospel

Lk 9:28-36

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke:

*As Jesus prayed, the aspect of his face was changed, and his clothing became brilliant as lightning.*

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' – He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid.

And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

## Communion Antiphon

Matt 17:5

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

**Everyone is welcome for Stations of the Cross every Friday at 6.00pm during Lent .**

## Mandatory Safeguard Training.

**All volunteers** in our parish are asked to do essential safeguard training.

There are **Group sessions** available: 3 x two-hour sessions.

Daytime sessions at OLOW are after morning mass at 10am on Wed 18th May, 25th May and 1st June in the parish hall.

Alternative sessions available at St Nicholas, Penrith (15th, 22nd and 29th March) or St Joseph's Kingswood (14th, 21st and 28th June at 7pm).

**Independent sessions** are available by contacting Mary Marsh to access log in details.

To register for sessions contact Mary Marsh on 0408 212 437 or email [starmgm@gmail.com](mailto:starmgm@gmail.com)

## Caritas Project Compassion 2022 during Lent

Caritas Australia's Lenten **Project Compassion** campaign has commenced. This year's theme **For All Future Generations** comes from the biblical story of the great flood (Genesis 9:12-15). It reminds us that the good we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come. Find out more

at [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) or contact our Diocesan Director of Caritas on [Sebastian.Salaska-Lentern@parracatholic.org](mailto:Sebastian.Salaska-Lentern@parracatholic.org) or 0409 399 505.

As St Pope John Paul II said,  
"The future starts today, not tomorrow."



**We pray for Alex Hadid, Andrew Keenan and Lyn Craddy who are sick, and all other brothers and sisters who are unwell. If you have someone who needs prayers, please contact the Parish Office on 4735 1041.**

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**Parish Planned Giving Envelopes** are available for collection at the back of the church for this year.

Thank you for your ongoing support of Our Lady of the Way Parish.

## PARISHIONER OF THE WEEK— Jenny Griffiths

Jenny has been over 52 years at OLOW parish! She often attends daily mass and lives very close to the church.

She loves the community spirit of the people here at OLOW.

Favourite colour— red

Favourite hymn—"Make me a channel of your peace".

Interesting fact about Jenny: She loves eating Smith chips. She used to have a husky named "Shy". She has worked with the OLOW knitters.



## THANKYOU to our COVID hospitality team.

Father Michael and all the parish would like to say a big "thank-you" to all the members of the hospitality team (or "covid bouncers"). You worked selflessly to ensure we were greeted with smiling eyes, got our QR codes in, provided masks, sanitiser, wipes and sprayed the pews afterwards. You made things run so smoothly during COVID restrictions and we really appreciate your service during this challenging time. May God bless you abundantly for your service Lynne and Mario Castellari (in photo), Anne Deutscher, Kevin and Pauline Balkin, Bill and Sue Beck, Lee Murray, Sue Martin, Helen Larsen, Connie Bennett, Kay Walker and others.



## Aid to the Church in Need Ukraine appeal.

*Aid to the Church in Need* has launched a national emergency appeal for Ukraine. ACN is committed to strengthening and supporting the Catholic Church in Ukraine, as we have done for the past 70 years. The immediate emergency help will support the work of the Church in Ukraine by assisting priests, brothers, and religious sisters to continue their pastoral and outreach programs. We will continue to stand by our brothers and sisters in faith as they undergo trying times and seek to bring peace to a country that is surrounded by turmoil and unrest. Can you provide aid to the Catholic people in Ukraine? They need your help! Visit [www.aidtochurch.org/ukraine](http://www.aidtochurch.org/ukraine)

## ST VINNIES FLOOD APPEAL

St Vincent de Paul society is supporting those affected by floods in NSW.

If you would like to donate to this cause please donate via internet (<https://donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-nsw/vinnies-nsw-flood-appeal>),



## Wardens for Our Lady of the Way Church

With Covid easing, I hope, Father wants to recommence taking up two collections during Mass. Unfortunately, as a result of Covid, all the previous wardens are no longer available. So, we need new wardens for the various Masses. If you usually attend Mass at a given, time this is your opportunity to help out by volunteering. This involves the collections and sometimes opening up or closing the Church and Hall. If you are willing to help, please contact Phillip Youngman on 0425 372 262 or [pmyoungman1@optusnet.com.au](mailto:pmyoungman1@optusnet.com.au)

**Wrap With Love Knitters:** Meets Thursday's 9am-12 pm in the parish hall. Donations of 8ply wool gratefully accepted. New members welcome. Please contact: Judy Prendergast 0407 101 254, Julia Hayes 0452

## PLAYGROUP:

Playgroup is on every Tuesday from 9.30am to 11.00am during school terms. No fees this term. Contact Kathryn 0428 837 626 or just turn up on the day!

## Parish Bank Details:

**For online banking only!**  
**EMU PLAINS CATHOLIC CHURCH.**  
BSB 067 950 Ac No. 00000289.