

PARISH INFORMATION

OFFICE OPENING TIMES:

TUESDAY TO FRIDAY 9.30AM TO 3.00PM

Phone: 4735 1041(Answering Machine Available)

Email: 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

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 20th March 2022

3rd Sunday of Lent Year C

Entrance Antiphon Ps 24:15-16

My eyes are always on the Lord,
for he rescues my feet from the snare.
Turn to me and have mercy on me,
for I am alone and poor.

First Reading

Ex 3:1-8, 13-15 A reading from the first book of
Exodus *This is what you must say to the children of
Israel: I Am has sent me to you.*

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his
father-in-law, priest of Midian. He led his flock to
the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb,
the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord
appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire,
coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked;
there was the bush blazing but it was not being
burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange
sight,' Moses said, 'and see why the bush is not
burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look,
and God called to him from the middle of the
bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am' he
answered. 'Come no nearer' he said. 'Take off
your shoes, for the place on which you stand is
holy ground. I am the God of your father,' he said
'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the
God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face,
afraid to look at God.

And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable
state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their
appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am
well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver
them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring
them up out of that land to a land rich and broad,
a land where milk and honey flow.'

Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the
sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your
fathers has sent me to you." But if they ask me
what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And
God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am. This' he
added 'is what you must say to the sons
of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the
God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God
of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name
for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all
generations to come.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 102: 1-4, 6-8, 11. R v.8

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. (R.)
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion. (R.)
3. The Lord does deeds of justice,
gives judgement for all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses
and his deeds to Israel's sons. (R.)
4. The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him. (R.)

Second Reading

1 Cor 10¹-6, 10-12

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians
*All this that happened to the people of Moses in the de-
sert was written for our benefit.*

I want to remind you how our fathers were all guided
by a cloud above them and how they all passed
through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses
in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual
food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since
they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed
them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite
of this, most of them failed to please God and their
corpses littered the desert.

These things all happened as warnings for us, not to
have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they
had. You must never complain: some of them did,
and they were killed by the Destroyer.

All this happened to them as a warning and it was
written down to be a lesson for us who are living at
the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe
must be careful that he does not fall.

Diocese of Parramatta Notices

Catholic schools across the Diocese are enrolling now! Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Parramatta are enrolling now for 2023. To learn more please contact your local Catholic school or visit our website www.parra.catholic.edu.au/our-schools/find-a-school.

Mt Schoenstatt 24 Hours for the Lord: 25 – 26 March

Come and spend time in 24 hours of Adoration before Our Lord and His Mother at the Mt Schoenstatt Shrine and Retreat Centre, Mulgoa. Beginning Friday 25 March at 6pm with Holy Mass and a BBQ meal, concluding Saturday 26 March at 5pm with Mass. Reconciliation will be available on Friday from 7.15pm to 10pm and Saturday 4pm to 4.45pm. For more information, contact (02) 4773 8338 or visit the [Mt Schoenstatt Shrine & Retreat Centre, Mulgoa Facebook page](#).

MGL Sisters' Consecrated Life Weekend: 26 – 27 March

The MGL Sisters are hosting a Consecrated life weekend for young women on 26 and 27 March. Where and how is God calling you to respond to His love? Have you taken time to listen? Here's your opportunity to come and hear the voice of Jesus, ask questions and experience prayer, talk about sisterhood and times of sharing to help you discern your vocation. For more information or to register, call (02) 9626 8382 or email mgl sisters.sydney@gmail.com

Celebrating Fr Mick O'Callaghan

Saturday 5th March was the first anniversary of Fr Mick O'Callaghan's passing. We celebrated mass for him on Thursday 17th March 2022. We pray for his family and friends. We continually remember Fr Mick. Eternal Rest Grant unto him Lord.



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 4:17

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
Repent, says the Lord;
the kingdom of heaven is at hand.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

Lk 13:1-9

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke:

Unless you repent you will all perish as they did.

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.'

He told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, "Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none.

Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?" "Sir," the man replied "leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down."

Communion Antiphon

John 4:13-14

For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord, the water I shall give will become in him a spring welling up to eternal life.

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.

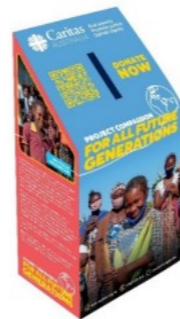
To register for sessions contact Mary Marsh on 0408 212 437 or email starmgm@gmail.com

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 or contact our Diocesan Director of Caritas on Sebastian.Salaska-Lentern@parracatholic.org or 0409 399 505.

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



We remember John Finn, whose anniversary it is at this time.
We pray for Sr Joanne Nolan, Alex Hadid, Andrew Keenan and Lyn Craddy who are sick, and other brothers and sisters who are unwell.
If you have someone who needs prayers, please contact the Parish Office on 4735 1041.

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.

New Parking Arrangements: Be advised there is no parking on the school side of Troy St on school days, during drop off and pick up times. (From the corner of Forbes St to the pedestrian crossing in Troy St.) New signs have been erected by Penrith Council.

PARISHIONER OF THE WEEK— Dan Kensey

Dan and his family have been at OLOW for 8 years. His favourite thing about OLOW parish is "the people". Favourite colour: green. Favourite food: pizza.
Interesting fact about Dan: He plays tennis.
Favourite scripture: "Come to me all you who labour and are burdened and I will give you rest. Take my yoke and learn from Me, for I am meek and humble of heart." Matt 11:28



Job Vacancies Aid to the Church in Need is seeking to fill two positions: Benefactor Support Officer + Coordinator, Friends of the Suffering Souls. Part-time or full-time option available. Join an international Catholic charity which exists to keep the faith alive in those places where it is most at risk. Visit, www.aidtochurch.org/jobs.



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 sur-

Catholic Foundation Appeal 26th and 27th March 2022

Next weekend is Catholic Foundation's Appeal Weekend. - The Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal. Funds raised are for CatholicCare's Community Drop-in Centre in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains.

With your help and support, our parish and faith community is able to reach our neighbours in need and reduce social isolation and loneliness across the Diocese of Parramatta.

Let us contribute generously. *God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7*

Reconciliation:

On Wednesday 9th March 54 children made their first Reconciliation. It was a very beautiful and blessed night. Thank you to Our Lady of the Way community for your prayerful support. I would especially like to thank those who were able to volunteer and help with the running of the program; Sue, Mario and Lyn, Margaret, Barbara, Helen, Louise, Marianne, Les, Kay, Michelle, Julie and Wolfgang. Blessings, Cate

Wardens for Our Lady of the Way Church

With Covid easing, we have commence taking up two collections during Mass. Unfortunately, as a result of Covid, all the previous wardens are no longer available. 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 either 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

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 665 844

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.