

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 27th March 2022

4th Sunday of Lent Year C

Entrance Antiphon

Is 66:10-11

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

First Reading

Jos 5:9-12

A reading from the book of Joshua

*The people of God went to the promised land and
there kept the passover*

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have
taken the shame of Egypt away from you.'

The Israelites pitched their camp
at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on
the fourteenth day of the month, at even-
ing in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow
of the Passover they tasted the produce
of that country, unleavened bread and
roasted ears of corn, that same day. From
that time, from their first eating of the pro-
duce of that country, the manna stopped
falling. And having manna no longer, the
Israelites fed from that year onwards on
what the land of Canaan yielded.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 33:2-7. R v.9

**(R.) Taste and see the goodness of the
Lord.**

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad **(R.)**

**(R.) Taste and see the goodness of the
Lord.**

2. Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us praise his name.
I sought the Lord and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free. **(R.)**

3. Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called; the Lord heard him
and rescued him from all his distress. **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 Cor 5:17-21

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

God reconciled us to himself through Christ.

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new
creation; the old creation has gone, and now
the new one is here. It is all God's work. It
was God who reconciled us to himself
through Christ and gave us the work of hand-
ing on his reconciliation. In other words, God
in Christ was reconciling the world to himself,
not holding men's faults against them, and he
has entrusted to us the news that they are
reconciled. So we are ambassadors for
Christ; it is as though God were appealing
through us, and the appeal that we make in
Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For
our sake God made the sinless one into sin,
so that in him we might become the good-
ness of God.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 15:18

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
I will rise and go to my Father and tell him:
Father, I have sinned against heaven and
against you.
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

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.

Perpetual Adoration - Our Lady of the Rosary, St Marys is establishing perpetual adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, beginning on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 24th 2022. They are seeking adorers for the roster, willing to commit one hour per week, day or night. If you would like to be part of this, please complete the forms placed in the foyer and send to St Mary's Parish. More information is on the form.

Mentoring Couples to be Married: 9 April Following the success of the Masterclass on Mentoring Engaged couples for Marriage, we are offering an additional Zoom for those who missed out on recent face-to-face training. Are you a married couple looking to accompany Engaged couples preparing for Marriage using the SmartLoving Online program? This time limited commitment of 4-9 weeks can be undertaken in your own home. To learn more and register for the Zoom Session on **Saturday 9 April at 10am**, please call Marisa on (02) 8838 3460 or email met@parracatholic.org

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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

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

HELPERS NEEDED:

OLOW is looking for helpers for the grounds team and for cleaners. Contact the parish office.

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 Con-
clusion of the Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968,
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Gospel

Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke:

Your brother here was dead and has come to life.

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them:

'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father.

'While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate.

'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening."

'The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found."

Communion Antiphon Luke 15:32

You must rejoice, my son,
for your brother was dead and has come to life;
he was lost and is found.

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-Lentem@parracatholic.org or 0409 399 505.



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

We remember and pray for the souls of Margaret Cassidy and Frederick Paine who have died recently. Also, Mary Chetcuti and Noel Irvin, whose anniversaries occur 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.

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.

PARISHIONERS OF THE WEEK— Bernie and Robbie Le Breton

Bernie (83) and Robbie (79) have been in OLOW since it started in 1974. Bernie was an altar boy in Penrith parish in his youth. Years later, Robbie (16) met the president of the church youth group Bernie (21 years). A few years later they got married (5th Oct, 1963). They will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary next year. Their first parish priest was Fr Kevin Hannan, who regularly encouraged people to get involved in the parish. Bernie said, "In the early days we were a very social community – everyone knew everyone we had Picnics, car rallies, progressive dinners, ... there was always something going on."

Bernie ran the "Housie" every Saturday night at OLOW (to raise funds for the church and the school). he did this for over 30 years. Thankyou Bernie. "At first mass was said in Melrose hall, Father drove all the way from Broadway. He said mass on a Saturday night, stayed at the log cabin and then drove back after Sunday mass." They remember the opening of the church hall.

Bernie and Robbie's advice to people of our parish: "Get involved" They say..."These days people go to mass and then go home. Stay for a chat. Get the young ones involved!"



OLOW Parish Gathering: 10th April 2022

You are all invited to our parish gathering to be held on Sunday 10th April, after the 9:30am mass. This gathering is aimed to bring all parishioners together and to discuss the future of our parish, in the post-covid era. Please come, because your opinion matters. God's Blessings from the parish council.

2ND Rite of Reconciliation for Easter

OLOW will be holding the 2nd rite of reconciliation for Easter on **Thursday 7th April at 7pm**. This sacrament is a beautiful way for us to prepare spiritually for Easter, as we reflect on the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus. Everyone is welcome to attend – come and be healed, forgiven and set free.

Holy Week roster The roster is at the back of the church for readers and commentators to fill in.

Catholic Foundation Appeal 26th and 27th March 2022

Today 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*

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. **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

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.