

## 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 3rd April 2022

5th Sunday of Lent Year C

### Entrance Antiphon

Ps 42:1-2

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause  
against a nation that is faithless.

From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for  
you, O God, are my strength.

### First Reading

Isaiah 43:16-21

A reading from the book of Isaiah

*I am doing a new thing and I will give drink to my people.*

Thus says the Lord,  
who made a way through the sea,  
a path in the great waters;  
who put chariots and horse in the field  
and a powerful army,  
which lay there never to rise again,  
snuffed out, put out like a wick:  
No need to recall the past,  
no need to think about what was done before.  
See, I am doing a new deed,  
even now it comes to light; can you not see it?  
Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness,  
paths in the wilds.  
The wild beasts will honour me,  
jackals and ostriches,  
because I am putting water in the wilderness  
(rivers in the wild)  
to give my chosen people drink.  
The people I have formed for myself  
will sing my praises.

### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 125. R v.3

**(R.) The Lord has done great things for us;**

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,  
it seemed like a dream.  
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,  
on our lips there were songs. **(R.)**

**(R.) The Lord has done great things for us;**

2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels  
the Lord worked for them!'  
What marvels the Lord worked for us!  
Indeed we were glad. **(R.)**
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage  
as streams in dry land.  
Those who are sowing in tears  
will sing when they reap. **(R.)**
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,  
carrying seed for the sowing:  
they come back, they come back, full of song,  
carrying their sheaves. **(R.)**

### Second Reading

Phil 3:8-14

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Philippians  
*Because of Christ I look upon everything else as useless in order to  
gain him.*

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the  
supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my  
Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything,  
and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I  
can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no  
longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the  
perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only  
the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and  
is from God and based on faith. All I want is to know  
Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share  
his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his  
death. That is the way I can hope to take my place in  
the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have become  
perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running,  
trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus  
captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far  
from thinking that I have already won. All I can say is  
that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is  
still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize to  
which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ  
Jesus.

## 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](http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/our-schools/find-a-school).

**Our Lady of the Rosary, St Marys** is establishing perpetual adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, beginning on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 24th 2022. Are you willing to commit one hour per week, day or night. Please complete the forms placed in the foyer and send to St Mary's Parish.

**CYP Good Friday Night Walk: 15 April** Young people are invited to join Catholic Youth Parramatta and Bishop Vincent for the annual 21km Good Friday Night Walk from Blacktown to the Cathedral. For more information and to register visit <https://parracatholic.org/goodfridaywalk/> 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](mailto: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 Fridays at 6.00pm during Lent.

**HELPERS NEEDED:** OLOW is looking for helpers for grounds team and for cleaners. Contact the office.

**HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES** Holy Thursday 14.04.2022 7.30pm

Good Friday 15.04.22 Stations of the Cross 10.00am Commemoration of the Lord's Passion 3.00pm

Easter Vigil Mass 16.04.22 6.30pm Easter Sunday Masses: 17.04.22 8am & 9.30am

## 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 J1 2:12-13

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!

With all your heart turn to me,  
for I am tender and compassionate.  
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!

## Gospel

Jn 8:1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

*Let the person without sin be the first to throw a stone.*

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At day-break he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them.

The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger.

As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.'

Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there.

He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir,' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and don't sin any more.'

## Communion Antiphon Jn 8:10-11

Has no one condemned you, woman?  
No one, Lord.  
Neither shall I condemn you.  
From now on, sin no more.

## A message from Aid to the Church in Need Australia:

As we approach the Holy Season of Easter consider offering up a Mass for your loved ones. These Mass stipends support priests in the poorest parts of the world who have no other means of support and are offered for the intentions of the benefactor. You can also send your loved ones a Mass card.

Visit [www.aidtochurch.org/masses](http://www.aidtochurch.org/masses)

**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— John Cowen**

John Cowen married Lily at St Nicholas, Penrith in 1970.

They have been at OLOW for the past 30 years. John is an acolyte and part of the RCIA team. He has been chairman of the parish council for the past 10 years. John worked as a barrister and was registrar in the district court in Sydney before he retired.

His hobbies include listening to music and walking. (Lily is a pianist and was a music teacher)

He likes the colour blue and a roast lamb dinner. His favourite prayer is the prayer of St Francis. "It's the code I like to live by".

"Here I am Lord" is John's favourite hymn.

John has worked as a volunteer at the John Bern's school for one day a week for the past 20 years, It's a special school for high school students struggling with normal school and have behavioural problems.



## **OLOW Parish Gathering: 10th April 2022**

You are all invited to our parish gathering to be held on Sunday 10th April 2022, 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.

## **2<sup>ND</sup> Rite of Reconciliation for Easter**

OLOW will be holding the 2<sup>nd</sup> rite of reconciliation for Easter on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm**. This sacrament is a 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.

## **Invitation to join the Easter choir**

Would you like to join the singers preparing for the Easter Vigil? Come along to the Church on two Tuesday evenings for a 7pm start on the 5th and 12th of April. The Easter Vigil will begin at our Church on 16th April at 6.30pm. Kelly, Richard and Wendy will lead the preparation. You are most welcome. 'We are Easter People and Alleluia is our song.'



## **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 the souls of recently deceased Sr Joanne Nolan and Lyn Craddy. We remember Kevin Rose (3/4/21), Mary Chetcuti and Noel Irvin, whose anniversaries are at this time. We pray for Alex Hadid, Andrew Keenan 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.

## **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](mailto: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.**