

OUR LADY OF THE WAY PARISH, EMU

What does the Lord require of you but to act justly, to love tenderly, and to walk humbly with your God.” Micah 6:8



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Sunday, 22th May 2022

Sixth Sunday of Easter – Year C

Welcome for the celebration of the Word and the Eucharist.

Entrance Antiphon. Cf. Is 48:20

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard;
proclaim to the ends of the earth:
The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

First Reading

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and ourselves not to burden you beyond what is essential.

Some men came down from Judaea and taught the brothers, ‘Unless you have yourselves circumcised in the tradition of Moses you cannot be saved.’ This led to disagreement, and after Paul and Barnabas had had a long argument with these men it was arranged that Paul and Barnabas and others of the church should go up to Jerusalem and discuss the problem with the apostles and elders.

Then the apostles and elders decided to choose delegates to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; the whole church concurred with this. They chose Judas known as Barsabbas and Silas, both leading men in the brotherhood, and gave them this letter to take with them:

‘The apostles and elders, your brothers, send greetings to the brothers of pagan birth in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia. We hear that some of our members have disturbed you with their demands and have unsettled your minds. They acted without any authority from us, and so we have decided unanimously to elect delegates and to send them to you with Barnabas and Paul, men we highly respect who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Accordingly we are sending you Judas and Silas, who will confirm by word of mouth what we have written in this letter. It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials: you are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from fornication. Avoid these, and you will do what is right. Farewell.’

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 66:2-3, 5-6, 8. R. v.4

(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you.

1. O God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us. So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help. **(R.)**
2. Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice. With fairness you rule the peoples, you guide the nations on earth. **(R.)**
3. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. May God still give us his blessing till the ends of the earth revere him. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Rv 21:10-14, 22-23

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

He showed me the holy city coming down out of heaven.

In the spirit, the angel took me to the top of an enormous high mountain and showed me Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down from God out of heaven. It had all the radiant glory of God and glittered like some precious jewel of crystal-clear diamond.

Second Reading (ctd)

The walls of it were of a great height, and had twelve gates; at each of the twelve gates there was an angel, and over the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel; on the east there were three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. The city walls stood on twelve foundation stones, each one of which bore the name of one of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

I saw that there was no temple in the city since the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were themselves the temple, and the city did not need the sun or the moon for light, since it was lit by the radiant glory of God and the Lamb was a lighted torch for it.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!
All who love me will keep my
words,
and my Father will love them and
we will come to them.
Alleluia!



Gospel Jn 14:23-29

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

The Holy Spirit will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If anyone loves me he will keep my word,
and my Father will love him,
and we shall come to him
and make our home with him.
Those who do not love me do not keep my
words.

And my word is not my own:
it is the word of the one who sent me.
I have said these things to you
while still with you;
but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit,
whom the Father will send in my name,
will teach you everything
and remind you of all I have said to you.
Peace I bequeath to you,
my own peace I give you,
a peace the world cannot give,
this is my gift to you.
Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.
You heard me say:
I am going away, and shall return.
If you loved me you would have been glad
to know that I am going to the Father,
for the Father is greater than I.
I have told you this now before it happens,
so that when it does happen you may
believe.'

Communion Antiphon

Jn 14:15-16

If you love me, keep my commandments,
says the Lord,
and I will ask the Father and
He will send you another Paraclete,
to abide with you for ever, alleluia.

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Let us pray:



We pray for recently deceased Mick (Gary) McInnes, Margaret Wood, Bernie Le Breton, Matthew Lawlor and Mary Smith, and for Lewis Zammit and Mary Clarke whose anniversaries are at this time.
We also pray for all our brothers and sisters in our community who are unwell, especially Catherine Allabyrne. If you know someone who needs prayers, please contact the parish office on 4735 1041 and we will add them to our prayer list.

Parishioner of the week: Deacon George Bryan

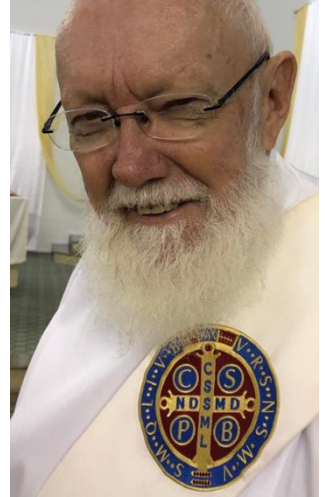
George has been at OLOW for 4 years. He was 3 years at Blacktown before that. George is married to Kay and has two children. (His daughter is an author and his son works in emergency management.) George has been a deacon for 7 years. An interesting fact about George is that he was an associate professor of Computer Science at the University of Western Sydney. He helped build computers. George loves mathematics and surfing.

His favourite scripture is: "Oh Lord you have seduced me and I have allowed myself to be seduced." Jeremiah 20:7

His favourite prayer is one said after meditation: "to serve all who come and to receive them as Christ Himself".

George is a Benedictine Oblate. His favourite saint is St Benedict of course. Favourite food: good meat pies, good red wine with a roast.

Favourite footy team: South Sydney. I grew up in the heart of souths.



Parish Notices:

Wrap with love knitters group meet Thursdays from 9am-12pm in the parish hall. Donations of 8ply wool gratefully accepted. New members welcome. Contact Judy Prendergast 0407101254 or Julie Hayes 0452655844.

The Bishop's appeal is coming up on 28/29th May 2022. Visit: yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal

Faith and Politics – a conversation with Mark Greenhill OAM, Mayor of Blue Mountains council. 25th May, 7-8:30pm. St Finbar's Catholic church, 46 Levy St, Glenbrook.

New readers are welcome. Please contact Marianne on 0431 966365 for more information. Existing readers and commentators that have changed their availability should also contact her before the new roster is set.

Safeguarding date changes:

Unfortunately, the dates for Safeguarding at OLOW Parish had to be changed due to unforeseen circumstances.

Module 1 Wednesday 25th May

Module 2 Wednesday 1st June

Module 3 Wednesday 15th June

If you have any problems with the date changes

Please let me know by phone **0408 212 437** or

email starmgm@gmail.com **Sorry for any inconvenience.**

Mary Marsh

Volunteers Needed - First Holy Communion

The program for First Holy Communion is starting this week (18th May) and running on Wednesdays for the next 5 weeks. I need some volunteers to help with a number of things, including hall set up, greeters, registration and hospitality. If you are able to assist, please fill in the form at the back of the church. You should only be required for 30-45 mins. Thank you and blessings, Cate

Parish Information

Parish office open Tuesday to Friday from 9:30am to 3pm. (ph: 4735 1041)
Parish priest: Fr Michael G. Gathuku
Deacon: George Bryan
Parish Office Administrator: Michele Norbury
Sacramental Co-ordinator: Cate Kensey
Parish Pastoral council chairperson: John Cowen
Parish finance chairperson: Jim Prendergast
Our Lady of the Way principal:
Donna McFadzean (ph: 4777 7200)
Penola Catholic college principal:
Jim Fanning (ph: 4728 8100)

Weekend mass times:

Saturday 6 pm, Sunday 8am, 9:30am

Weekday masses:

Tuesday 6pm, Wednesday 9am

Communion services: Thursday and Friday 9am

Reconciliation: no reconciliation till Fr Michael returns

Sacraments: baptisms and weddings by appointment. Please contact the parish office (emuplains@parracatholic.org) for information on reconciliation, communion and confirmation.

Diocese of Parramatta Notices:

Bishop Vincent Presents Sr Patricia Fox NDS

Friday May 27, 7-9pm Bishop Bede Heather Centre, 1-5 Marion Street Blacktown
Ministering to the poor and marginalised in the Philippines for close to 30 years, Sr Pat Fox was arrested at her convent in northeast Manila and accused by the Filipino president of taking part in illegal political activities and of speaking out against the government. Join us for her compelling presentation, a short response from Bishop Vincent Long, Q&A and light canapes and drinks.
LIMITED SEATS - Bookings essential via email at met@parracatholic.org

Free lecture - The Outsider Pope: Where is Francis leading our Church?

Tuesday 5 July 7.30pm
Novotel Parramatta, 350 Church St Parramatta
Vatican correspondent from the international *The Tablet* magazine, author and speaker Christopher Lamb will present a free lecture reflecting on Pope Francis' battle to renew the Church and Pope Francis as a human being. RSVP essential by 2 July to mark.oconnor@parracatholic.org

***SAVE THE DATE* Tri-Diocesan Social Justice Reflection Evening: 20 July**

The Diocese of Parramatta, together with the Archdiocese of Sydney and the Diocese of Broken Bay, invites you to an evening of delicious food, prayer, and great keynote speakers. Let's reflect on the Social Justice Statement "Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor", and celebrate how people across all three Dioceses have responded to these cries in 2021-22. The reflection evening will be held on Wednesday 20 July from 6pm to 9pm – more details will follow in June.

Diocesan "Laudato Si" Action Campaign"

On Friday 22 April, the annual Earth Day, the Diocese of Parramatta responded to the *cry of the earth and the cry of the poor* by launching a Diocesan "Laudato Si" Action Campaign". Via a video message, Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv invited all Catholic parishes, schools, families, and organisations across the Diocese to participate. Please visit parracatholic.org/laudatosi to download the launch video and for further information.

Saints of the week:

Tuesday, May 24th
– Our Lady Help of Christians.
Thursday, May 26th
- St Philip Neri
Friday, May 27th
- St Augustine of Canterbury



Parish bank details:

If you would like to support our priest and church financially through **online banking:**
Name: Emu Plains Catholic church
BSB: 067 950
Account Number: 00000289