

OUR LADY OF THE WAY PARISH, EMU PLAINS

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, 22nd January 2023 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A.

Welcome to the celebration of the mass.

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Ps 95:1,6

O sing a new song to the Lord;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
In his presence are majesty and splendour,
strength and honour in his holy place.

First Reading Is 8:23 – 9:3

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

In the Galilean country, the people have seen a great light.

In days past the Lord humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in days to come he will confer glory on the Way of the Sea on the far side of Jordan, province of the nations.

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light;

on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone.

You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase, they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils.

For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian.

Responsorial Psalm. Ps 26:1, 4, 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.)

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

2. There is one thing I ask of the Lord, for this I long,
to live in the house of the Lord, all the days of my life,
to savour the sweetness of the Lord, to behold his temple. (R.)

3. 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 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17

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

I appeal to you, my brothers and sisters, make up the differences between you.

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, to make up the differences between you, and instead of disagreeing among yourselves, to be united again in your belief and practice. From what Chloe's people have been telling me, my dear brothers, it is clear that there are serious differences among you. What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am for Apollos', 'I am for Cephas', 'I am for Christ'. Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul?

For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good News, and not to preach that in the terms of philosophy in which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be expressed.

Gospel Acclamation [Mt 4:23](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

Gospel [Mt 4:12-23](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

He went to Capernaum, that the prophecy of Isaiah be fulfilled.

Hearing that John had been arrested Jesus went back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled:

Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali!
Way of the sea on the far side
of Jordan, Galilee of the nations!
The people that lived in darkness
has seen a great light;
on those who dwell in the land and
shadow of death a light has dawned.

From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee he saw two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew; they were making a cast in the lake with their net, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.' And they left their nets at once and followed him.

Going on from there he saw another pair of brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they were in their boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. At once, leaving the boat and their father, they followed him.

He went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people.

Communion Antiphon. [Cf. Ps 33:6](#)

Look toward the Lord and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.

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Federation of Catholic Bishops Conferences of Oceania
Fiji, 5-10 February 2023

PRAYER FOR THE ASSEMBLY

O God, you revealed yourself in Christ Jesus
as loving, merciful and just.

Guide our Bishops of Oceania as they meet together
to further Pope Francis' call to become a listening Church.

Open their hearts to the voice of the Holy Spirit,
that they might truly discern and faithfully serve
the needs of your People and your World.

Colour our way of life and give witness to your presence among us.

You who live and reign, God, for ever and ever. Amen.



Let us pray: We pray for recently deceased Jim Daly, Victor Ryan, Connie Incorvaja and Josephine Fava, and for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Carol Swane and Mrs H Lydamore. We pray that their families find comfort in the fact that they are safely in the arms of their loving Lord. We also pray for all our brothers and sisters in our community who are unwell, especially, Henry O'Malley, Elisabeth Robens, Marion Betker, Andrew Keenan, and 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: Lee Murray

Lee has been going to OLOW for about 35 years. He likes our parish because “it’s a nice community”. Lee volunteers for grounds duty at OLOW and was also on the Covid team. He is married with 2 children, who went to OLOW when they were young.

Lee doesn’t have a favourite colour but likes roast chicken. His favourite movie is “Guns of Navarone” (1961). His favourite hymn is “Come as you are”. Lee loves the story of the prodigal son. He loves “the depth of it”. He says: “There is so much in it. The characters in it aren’t spoilt by pride or anything. The father talks to the sons and the sons talk to the father.”

One of Lee’s hobbies is steam trains. This is no surprise, as he was an engineer with the railways for 43 years. He did maintenance first and then became an engineer. Something interesting about Lee is that he went to night school for 6 years to learn German and French.



Parish Notices:

Change of time for Adoration: Please note that Adoration has moved from 9.30am to 8.30am on Thursday morning. Benediction will be on the last Thursday of the month.

Care for Our Common

Home: A BUSHCARE GROUP is going to start up soon in Hollier Reserve (A Council Reserve at the Motorway end of Troy St).



If you are interested in this way of caring for the local environment in your area by volunteering for this group (meets monthly, for 3 hours, led by a Bushcare Program Officer from Council) contact Jim 0421 125 722 for more information.

Sacramental news: Reconciliation 2023

The sacrament of Reconciliation will be held in term 1 this year, for children who will be in year 4 and above in 2023. If you would like your child to make this sacrament, please contact Cate on 47351041 or emuplains@parracatholic.org

Hospitality notice: In 2023, we would like to resume our hospitality after weekend Mass. If you are able to assist in any way, please contact the Parish Office on 4735 1041.

Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
21/22 January	Stevenie Harman Anne Deutscher JS: Alex Tuballa C: Debra Gleeson R: Mary Balam	Mark Norbury Pat Edwards JS: Evie Milroy C: Gabe Manouk R: Helen Larsen	John Cowen David Green Denise Robens Heather Barlow Visit only JS: N/A C: Trish Boyle R: Matthew Hamilton
28/29 January	Stevenie Harman Beth Nowland JS: Alex Tuballa C: Louise Goderie R: Marie McLennan	Matthew Topp John Lo Cascio JS: Jessica Topp C: Maria Sirotti R: Kay Walker	Lara Roser David Green Denise Robens (Visit) JS: N/A C: Lisa Samojłowicz R: Courtney Hamilton

Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses 2023:

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence in February. This is formation for anyone interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or mary.gale@parracatholic.org or visit our website to download an enrolment form at <https://officeforworship.org.au/>

R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults):

R.C.I.A. is the process by which the Catholic Church welcomes people into the faith. Our parish R.C.I.A team would like to hear from your family members or friends who might be interested in becoming members of the Catholic Church. Please ask them to contact the Parish Office (4735 1041) or emuplains@parracatholic.org and a member of the team will contact them.

WHO IS JESUS in St Matthew's Gospel? You are invited to an **ENQUIRY**

SESSION on TUESDAY 14 FEBRUARY about fortnightly facilitated small groups in Emu Plains, to explore this question. **Day and Evening groups (just 2) start the week beginning 27 February.** No more than 6-8 people per group. Inquiries-Jim Potts 0421 125 722 (We can discuss your preferences for a time on both 14 Feb and a day/ time for the ongoing meetings)

SAVE THE DATE: Sat 25th Feb, 9am-12.30pm.

Join **Dr Laurie Woods**, Scripture Scholar, for an interactive morning around Matthew’s Gospel. To be held in the Parish Hall at OLOW. RSVP 18 Feb to Jim Potts 0421 125 722

Parish Information

Parish office open Tuesday to Friday from 9:30am to 3pm. (ph: 4735 1041)

Parish priest: Fr Michael G. Gathuku
Parish Office Administrator: Michele Norbury
Sacramental Co-ordinator: Cate Kensey
Parish Secretary: Jo Hamilton

Our Lady of the Way principal:
Phillip Kapitanow (ph: 4777 7200)
Penola Catholic college principal:
Jim Fanning (ph: 4728 8100)
St Vincent de Paul Contact Centre:
For assistance call 1800 606 724.

Weekend mass times:

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

Weekday masses:

Tuesday 6pm;
Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday 9am.
Adoration of Blessed Sacrament at 8.30am
Thursday before mass. Benediction last
Thursday of the month.
First Fridays of the month – healing mass.

Reconciliation: Saturday 5pm.

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:

Positions Vacant: Parish Office Administration Assistant – St Thomas Aquinas Parish, Springwood. More details at: parracatholic.org/employment

Ordination to the Presbyterate: 2 February

Bishop Vincent Long and the Diocese of Parramatta invite you to the Ordination to the Presbyterate of Adam Carlow, Matthew Dimian and Jack Elkazzi on Thursday 2 February at 7.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Please RSVP to the Cathedral Parish team at secretary@stpatscathedral.com.au if you are able to attend. We hope you will be able to join us at this joyous event for our Diocese and our faith community.

Annual Legal Red Mass: 6 February

Members of the judiciary and legal community, public service officials, law students and their families are cordially invited to the annual Legal Red Mass on Monday 6 February 2023 at St Patrick's Cathedral at 7pm. The Red Mass is an opportunity to reaffirm a commitment to justice and faith in the new year. For catering purposes, please confirm your attendance by 3 February via enquiry@stpatscathedral.com.au or (02) 8839 8400.

Diocesan Food and Toiletries Drive for Refugees

Each week, Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) and the House of Welcome (HoW) provide much needed food and toiletry items to hundreds of Refugees from across the Diocese of Parramatta. These services depend on donations. You can organise a food and toiletries drive in your parish, school or workplace, or make a cash donation to support JRS and HoW. Find more information at parracatholic.org/diocesanfooddrive or call JRS on (02) 9356 3888 or HoW on (02) 9727 9290.

Glenbrook Parish Shroud of Turin Presentation and Talk: 21 February

St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook, is hosting a presentation by local parishioner and former journalist William West on the Shroud of Turin on Tuesday 21 February at 7.30pm. William will discuss the history of the Shroud, which he explores in his book *Riddles of the Shroud – Questions Science Can't Answer*. Entry is via gold coin donation. To RSVP, please contact secretary@stfinbars.org.au

Saints of the week:

23rd January – Bl. Nikolaus Gross
24th January – St. Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor
25th January – The Conversion of St. Paul, Apostle
26th January – AUSTRALIA DAY
27th January- St. Angela Merici
28th January – St. Thomas Aquinas, Doctor

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