

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, 5th March 2023 Second Sunday of Lent Year A.

Welcome to the celebration of the mass.

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Ps 26:8-9

Of you my heart has spoken, Seek his face.
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face from me.

First Reading Gen 12:1-4

A reading from the book of Genesis

The call of Abraham, the father of God's people.

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing.

'I will bless those who bless you:
I will curse those who slight you.
All the tribes of the earth
shall bless themselves by you.'

So Abram went as the Lord told him.

Responsorial Psalm.

[Ps 32:4-5. 18-20. 22. R. v.22](#)

**(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.**

1. The word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love. **(R.)**
2. The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. **(R.)**

3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield. May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you. **(R.)**

Second Reading 2 Tm 1:8-10

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy

God has saved us, and called us to be holy.

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 17:5

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

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Gospel [Mt 17:1-9](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

His face shone like the sun.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order. 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

Communion Antiphon. [Mt 17:5](#)

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him.



Let us pray: We pray for the recently deceased and for those whose anniversaries are at this time. 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, Margaret Houlahan, Henry O'Malley, Elisabeth Robens, Marion Betker, and Andrew Keenan. If you know someone who needs prayers, please contact the parish office on 4735 1041 and we will add them to our prayer list.

After Holy Communion



Anima Christi (Soul of Christ)

Soul of Christ, sanctify me
Body of Christ, heal me
Blood of Christ, drench me
Water from the side of Christ,
wash me
Passion of Christ, strengthen me
Good Jesus, hear me
In Your wounds shelter me
From turning away keep me
From the evil one protect me
At the hour of my death call me
Into Your Presence lead me
To praise You with all Your saints
Forever and ever. Amen.

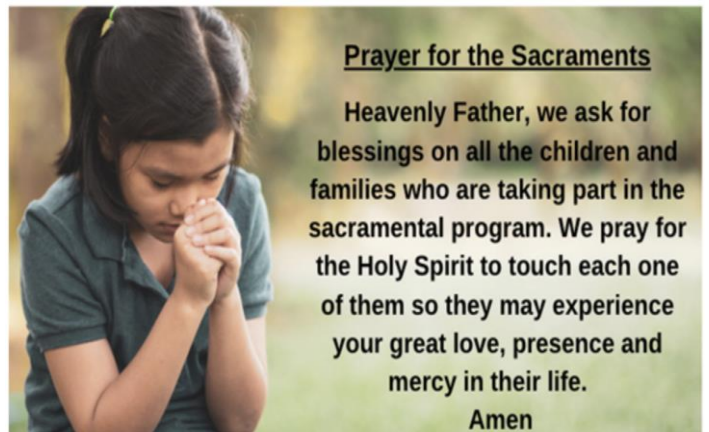
www.facebook.com/IAmACatholicByHeart



Care for our Common Home:

Multi-faith Prayer Service: A Prayerful Call to Divest from Fossil Fuels: Thursday 9 March, St Patrick's Cathedral, 9.30 to 10.30am with Bishop Vincent. See Notice Board for all details.

SAVE the Date: Care for Our Common Home: Social & Ecological Justice Networking and Formation Day. Saturday 1st April. More details to come soon. Hosted by the Diocese of Parramatta-Peace, Justice and Ecology.



Prayer for the Sacraments

Heavenly Father, we ask for blessings on all the children and families who are taking part in the sacramental program. We pray for the Holy Spirit to touch each one of them so they may experience your great love, presence and mercy in their life.

Amen

Parishioner of the week: Belinda Tehan

Belinda came with her family to OLOW in 1999 when her daughter Matilda started school here in the primary school. When her two daughters were at the school, she helped with the tuckshop and other school activities. She is presently part of the OLOW knitters group. Belinda loves the friendly environment of OLOW parish. 'It's just a beautiful parish. The people are always inviting. It feels like family'.

Her favourite colour is red, and her favourite food is pasta (all food actually). She likes the movie "To Kill a Mockingbird" as she thinks that teaches you a lot. 'Everyone should watch that'. Belinda's favourite hymn is 'How Great Though Art'. She likes Easter celebrations, especially after the Lent fast. Her favourite saint is St Jude, because he helps you when you are feeling a bit hopeless. Belinda likes the bible story of the prodigal son, as it is all about forgiveness and 'we need to do a bit of that'.

Belinda works in disability. She has always been a good support person – 'we can't all be leaders'. She likes 'to help that leader be a good leader'. Belinda loves to travel and would like to travel more.



Parish Notices:

Stations of the Cross - Every Friday during Lent, **commencing at 6pm.**

Lenten Program - Deacon Batsirai is running a Lenten reflection group. Please be advised that this will now be on **Friday at 5pm** prior to the Stations of the Cross. All are welcome.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2023 - You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes/envelopes, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413.

OLOW Playgroup on Tuesdays at 9.30am. Contact the parish office on 4735 1041 for more details.

Wrap with love knitters group meets on Thursdays from 9am -12pm in the parish hall. For more information, please contact Judy Prendergast (0407101254) or Julia Hayes (0452655844).

Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
4/5 March	<u>Stevenie Harman</u> Debra Gleeson JS: Alex <u>Tuballa</u> C: Louise Goderie R: Victor <u>Tuballa</u>	<u>Mark Norbury</u> Noeline Bangel JS: Evie Millroy C: Paul Ryan R: Jessica <u>Topp</u>	<u>Lara Roser</u> Connie Read Kay Walker Heather Barlow (Visit only) JS: Matthew Hamilton C: Marianne Castor R: Denise <u>Robens</u>
11/12 March	<u>John Cowen</u> Michael Manton JS: Alex <u>Tuballa</u> C: Lynne <u>Castellari</u> R: <u>Belinda</u> Henderson	<u>Matthew Topp</u> Barbara Ryan JS: Jessica <u>Topp</u> C: Geraldine Waters R: Sue <u>Mouthaan</u>	<u>Hartley Dhyon</u> David Green Kay Walker (Visit) JS: Matthew Hamilton C: Don <u>Robens</u> R: Brett <u>Wright</u>

Plan Giving Envelopes: The 2023/2024 Plan Giving envelopes are out. We are sorry for delaying them, this was due to a minor technical hitch. Please be informed, due to the fact that many people no longer use plan giving or have left the parish, some numbers have changed. Please check on your name, not necessarily the number. Those affected your record remains intact. In case we have missed your name or you're joining for the first time, please let us know.

Our Lady of the Way School Enrolments: There will be two Enrolment information Sessions for families interested in enrolling their child in kindergarten 2024: Tuesday 7th March 9:30am-10:45am or Thursday 9th March 3:30pm-4:30pm. There are also some vacancies in other grades. Please contact the school office by email, olow@parra.catholic.edu.au or phone 4777 2700 to RSVP for the information sessions, or for further information regarding enrolments.

Hospitality notice: We have resumed our hospitality on the 2nd & 4th Sunday after the 9.30am Mass. We are still looking for a group or persons for the 1st & 3rd Sunday. Currently, we also have a person organising hospitality after the 8am Mass on the 3rd Sunday, and after the 6pm Vigil Mass on the 1st Saturday.

Penrith City Council Bushcare: Starts 21 March, 9am Hollier Reserve (M4 end of Troy St). Volunteers needed. Please contact Jim on 0421 125 722 for more information.

<p><u>Parish Information</u></p> <p>Parish office open Tuesday to Friday from 9:30am to 3pm. (ph: 4735 1041) Parish priest: Fr Michael G. Gathuku Deacon: Batsirai Maringehosi Parish Office Administrator: Michele Norbury Sacramental Co-ordinator: Cate Kensey Parish Administration Assistant: Joanne Hamilton</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Weekend mass times: Saturday 6 pm, Sunday 8am, 9:30am</p> <p>Weekday masses: Tuesday 6pm; Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday 9am.</p> <p>Adoration of Blessed Sacrament at 8.30am Thursday before mass. Benediction last Thursday of the month. First Fridays of the month – healing mass.</p> <p>Reconciliation: Saturday 5pm.</p> <p>Sacraments: baptisms and weddings by appointment. Please contact the parish office (emuplains@parracatholic.org) for information on reconciliation, communion and confirmation.</p>
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Diocese of Parramatta Notices:

Marriage Preparation Courses in 2023: Getting married in 2023? Let the Diocese of Parramatta help you prepare. Visit www.parracatholic.org/pmp to view weekend course dates and to make a booking. An online preparation called *SmartLoving* can also be booked via the website. For more information, email met@parracatholic.org or phone Karin on 0419 242 435 or Marisa on 0412 280 017.

STAMP out poverty with your used stamps: Mary Mackillop Today (MMT) recycles used stamps to raise urgently needed funds to fight poverty. Post used stamps to John Altham. 17 Boronia St, Kyle Bay, NSW 2221. Ph 0455205804 or email johnaltham@gmail.com for more information.

Clean up Diocese of Parramatta Day: 5 March Catholic Youth Parramatta and MET – Peace, Justice and Ecology invite you to take action! On Clean Up Australia Day, Sunday 5 March, witness to the call to take care of God’s creation. Join or organise a group to clean up a site in your local area. Express your interest today by visiting <https://parracatholic.org/cleanup/>

Palm Sunday Welcome Refugees Rally: 2nd April from 2 - 4pm at Lawson Catholic Church. Contact Julie Brackenreg 0401 516 482 or see Blue Mtns Refugee Support Group <https://bmrsq.org.au/>

New career teachers and newly appointed (first time) Principals and Directors of Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Parramatta are invited to a **Commissioning** and welcoming ceremony to commence the academic year. The ceremony will be conducted as Vespers on Thursday 16 March at St Patrick’s Cathedral, Parramatta, from 5.30pm to 7.30pm. if you would like to attend, please RSVP to Christie Shaylor at events@parra.catholic.edu.au or phone (02) 9840 5656 by Friday 9 March 2023.

St Patrick’s Day Business Breakfast: 17 March St Patrick’s Cathedral Parish, Parramatta, are hosting the St Patrick’s Day Business Breakfast, on Friday 17 March from 7am to 9am at the Cathedral Hall, with guest speaker Dr Andrew Charlton MP, Federal Member for Parramatta. Tickets are \$100 per person and can be purchased via <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1012636> .

<p><u>Saints of the week:</u></p> <p>6th March – St. Colette 7th March – Ss. Perpetua and Felicity 8th March – St. David 9th March – St. Frances of Rome 10th March – St. Marie Eugenie de Jesus 11th March – St. Constantine II</p>	<p><u>Parish bank details:</u></p> <p>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</p>
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