

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



19 Troy St, Emu Plains
Phone: 4735 1041
Email: emuplains@parracatholic.org
Web: <https://catholicparishemuplains.org.au/>

Sunday, 16th April 2023 **Second Sunday of Easter Year A.**

Welcome to the celebration of the mass.

Entrance Antiphon *1 Pt 2:2*

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.



First Reading *Acts 2:42-47*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The faithful lived together and owned everything in common.

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.

The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone.

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.

They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

Responsorial Psalm.

Ps 117:2-4, 13-15, 22-24. R. v.1

(R.) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

1. Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'
Let the sons of Aaron say:
'His love has no end.'
Let those who fear the Lord say:
'His love has no end.' (R.)
2. I was thrust, thrust down and falling
but the Lord was my helper.
The Lord is my strength and my song;
he was my saviour.
There are shouts of joy and victory
in the tents of the just. (R.)
3. The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.
This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad. (R.)

Second Reading *1 Pt 1:3-9*

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

He has given us a new birth as his children, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead.

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to

bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

Gospel Acclamation [Jn 20:29](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Alleluia!

Gospel [Jn 20:19-31](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
After eight days Jesus came in and stood among them.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.



<https://qbcdecatur.org/files/MyLord.jpg>

Communion Antiphon. [Cf. Jn 20:27](#)

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

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Let us pray: We pray for Matthew Lawlor, Daniel Beck and Lauretta Reid whose death 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, Maria Mercieca, Marta Mederos, Bernadette Hoolahan, 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.

Parish Notices:

OLOW playgroup : Urgent request- If you are interested in running the OLOW playgroup, please contact the Parish office on 4735 1041.

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).

Project Compassion 2023: Please kindly return donation boxes/envelopes to the Parish Office. We thank you for your generosity in giving to this appeal.

Referendum on a First People's Voice to Federal Parliament / Executive Government. Copies with links to web pages and QR codes are available in the church foyer.



LIFE ASCENDING GROUP
Life Ascending is a Spiritual Wellbeing group for people over the age of 55. The group offers you the opportunity to reflect and discuss the scriptures and our faith. Our next meeting is on **Wednesday 19th April**, commencing 10am, at Kay Walker's home- 197 River Rd Leonay. You are all welcome.

Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
15/16 April	Deacon Batsirai John Cowen JS: Alex Tuballa C: Lynne Castellari R: Victor Tuballa	Mark Norbury Barbara Ryan JS: Evie Milroy C: Geraldine Waters R: Sue Mouthaan	Lara Roser Kevin Balkin Connie Reid Heather Barlow (Visit only) JS: Matthew Hamilton C: Don Robens R: Brett Wright
22/23 April	Stevenie Harman Anne Deutscher JS: Alex Tuballa C: Phillip Youngman R: Bellinda Henderson	Matthew Topp Noeline Bangel JS: Jessica Topp Gabe Manouk Helen Larsen	Deacon Batsirai Hartley Dhyon Kay Walker (Visit) JS: N/A C: Trish Boyle R: Matthew Hamilton



Care for our Common Home: Penrith City Council **Bushcare** continues **Tues 18 April, 9am, Hollier Reserve** (M4 end of Troy St). For inquiries and registration, please contact Jim on 0421125722.

Save the Date: Saturday 20 May. Bishop Vincent has decided upon a local Synod just for the Parramatta Diocese. He would like to consult as many people as possible over a one-year period, starting on 20th May at a special gathering in Springwood for the whole Deanery. This will be an initial opportunity to share your stories, reflections and experiences of our community at OLOW and its needs. On 30th April we will, as a Parish, launch the Synodal journey of the Diocese.

Divine Mercy Sunday: Come and celebrate the Feast of Divine Mercy at St Nicholas of Myra Church, Penrith on Sunday 16th April at 2:30pm. The afternoon will include: Blessing of Divine Mercy Image, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Stations of the Cross, Homily and Benediction, Reconciliation (until 5pm), afternoon tea (4.15 pm – 5:15pm)



Jesus | Trust in You

Parish Information

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

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.

Congratulations to Andrew Gabriel who was baptised and confirmed at the Easter Vigil.



Many thanks to Debra Gleeson who coordinated Stations of the Cross, and all people who made the Easter Liturgies be a success: The musicians, readers, senior and junior servers and wardens among others.



Saints of the week:

17th April – St. James of Cerqueto

18th April – St. Apollonius

19th April – St. Crescentius

20th April – St. Marian

21st April – St. Anselm of Canterbury, bishop and doctor

22nd April – BVM Queen of the Society of Jesus



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