

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, 23rd April 2023 Third Sunday of Easter Year A.

Welcome to the celebration of the mass.

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Ps 65:1-2

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth;
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

First Reading Acts 2:14, 22-33

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

It was impossible for him to be held by the power of Hades.

On the day of Pentecost, Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: ‘Men of Israel, listen to what I am going to say: Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through him when he was among you, as you all know. This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified by men outside the Law. You killed him, but God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power since, as David says of him:

I saw the Lord before me always, for with him at my right hand nothing can shake me. So my heart was glad and my tongue cried out with joy: my body, too, will rest in the hope that you will not abandon my soul to Hades nor allow your holy one to experience corruption. You have made known the way of life to me, you will fill me with gladness through your presence.

‘Brothers, no one can deny that the patriarch David himself is dead and buried: his tomb is still with us. But since he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn him an oath to make one of his descendants succeed him on the throne, what he foresaw and spoke about was the resurrection of the Christ: he is the one who was not abandoned to Hades, and whose body did not experience corruption. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are witnesses to that. Now raised to the heights by God’s right hand, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit.’

Responsorial Psalm. Ps 15:1-2, 5, 7-11. R. v.11

(R.) Lord, you will show us the path of life.

1. Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.
I say to the Lord: ‘You are my God.
O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;
it is you yourself who are my prize.’ (R.)
2. I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel,
who even at night directs my heart.
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand
firm. (R.)
3. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;
even my body shall rest in safety.
For you will not leave my soul among the dead,
nor let your beloved know decay. (R.)
4. You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence,
at your right hand happiness for ever. (R.)

Second Reading [1 Pt 1:17-21](#)

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

The ransom that was paid to free you was the blood of the Lamb, Jesus Christ.

If you are acknowledging as your Father one who has no favourites and judges everyone according to what he has done, you must be scrupulously careful as long as you are living away from your home. Remember, the ransom that was paid to free you from the useless way of life your ancestors handed down was not paid in anything corruptible, neither in silver nor gold, but in the precious blood of a lamb without spot or stain, namely Christ; who, though known since before the world was made, has been revealed only in our time, the end of the ages, for your sake. Through him you now have faith in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory for that very reason – so that you would have faith and hope in God.

Gospel Acclamation [See Lk 24:32](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us: make our hearts burn with love when you speak.

Alleluia!



Gospel [Lk 24:13-35](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

They recognised him at the breaking of the bread.

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.' 'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified.'

Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.

Communion Antiphon. [Lk 24:35](#)

The disciples recognised the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.

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Let us pray: We pray for the recently deceased, and for Daniel Beck whose death anniversary is 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:

We welcome Bishop Vincent to our 9:30am mass on Sunday 23rd April.

ANZAC DAY mass time: 9am, Tuesday 25th April. No 6pm mass in the evening.

Anzac Day story: by Stevenie.

“There is a story of a Welsh choir’s friendly rivalry with a German choir from a similar mining background. The friendship fell away, as so much did during WW2. Afterwards when the world had time for such things as choral competitions again, things were different. Many of the miners had been exempt from active service because coal was essential to the war effort, so most of them survived the war. However, they found it difficult to relate to each other after all that had passed between their countries. Then someone pointed to the words on the trophy they were competing for **“Speak with me and you are my friend. Sing with me and you are my brother”** So they sang!

Oh, that all conflicts should be settled in such a peaceful way. On **Anzac Day**, we recall those who did not return to receive the welcome and gratitude of their nation; those men and women who still sleep where they fell. Lest we forget the sacrifice they made – they gave up their tomorrow so we may have today. We think of them all and pray for them and their loved ones not only at this time of the year but always and forever.”

Baptisms: The Parish joyfully welcomes Maverick Corner, Leo Davis, Leon Lexuan and Connor Smoothy into our Faith Community. May God bless these children and their families.

Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
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
29/30 April	John Cowen Beth Nowland JS: Alex Tuballa C: Trish Ryan R: Mary Balam	Deacon Batsirai Matthew Topp JS: Jessica Topp C: Maria Sirotti R: Kay Walker	Lara Roser David Green Denise Robens (Visit) JS: Matthew Hamilton C: Lisa Samojlowicz R: Courtney Hamilton

DIOCESAN SYNOD

A synod is both an event and a process, where clergy, religious and lay faithful gather to discuss important matters relating to the life and mission of the Church. Synod can be for a universal church or a local church (Diocese). Synods are transformative events that lead to renewal in the church life.

In view of the above, our Diocese is holding its own synod from 12-15 October 2023. In the lead up to the synod, all are invited to participate in the Deanery and Parish listening, consultation and discerning process. Family and friends are encouraged to organise time and engage in this very important event for our Diocese.

Save the Date: Saturday 20 May. We are all invited to attend a special gathering in **Springwood** on **Saturday 20 May**. This gathering is being held in preparation for a **local Synod** to be held in the diocese of Parramatta. Bishop Vincent will attend the gathering. He is keen to hear from **everyone**. Please consider attending and sharing your stories, reflections and experiences of your community at OLOW and its needs.

On **30 April** we will, as a Parish, launch the Synodal Journey of the Diocese.

Position Available: Cleaner, 5 hrs/fortnight is required for the Presbytery and Parish Office. Please contact the Parish Office on 4735 1041 for more information.

Church Warden Volunteer- Urgent request: We are in need of a few people at the 9:30am Mass to take on this role. It includes unlocking/locking the church, welcoming, among other duties. Please see Bill and Sue Beck (current church wardens) or contact the Parish Office if you can assist in this role.

Grounds Team: Please be advised that the new roster is in the church foyer and ready for collection. Many thanks for all you do.

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.

Diocese of Parramatta Notices:

Invitation to Register for CPR Training

You are invited to register for this accredited CPR Course being offered by Surf Life Saving NSW as part of a project being offered by The University of Sydney, Westmead Applied Research Centre.

The course runs for 2.5 hours and will be presented at two locations across the Diocese.

1. St Thomas Aquinas Springwood on Saturday 13th May beginning at 10am, or
2. Bishop Bede Heather Centre Blacktown on Monday 5th June at 4pm.

Please contact the Parish Office on 4735 1041 for information on how to register.

Liturgical Music Workshop: 4 May Musicians, Clergy & Liturgy Planners are invited to attend a Music Workshop Presented by Eric Grella on Singing the Psalms & Chant on Thursday 4 May from 7pm - 8:30pm at 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown. RSVP by 1 May to hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org

Referendum on a First People's Voice to Federal Parliament / Executive Government.

Background information from the Peace Justice and Ecology Team in Parramatta Diocese: Copies in the Foyer - OR SMS Jim (0421 125 722) with your email address to obtain the same links/fliers.

Palms Australia: Change their lives and yours: Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills with those who have less opportunity to develop their talents. Explore 35 positions by scanning the QR code below. On our website, you can also see news including stories from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand. Please enquire further about potential assignments for you or someone you know: (02) 9560 5333 or 0422 472 567 or visit www.palms.org.au



REACH - Wellbeing program for people over the age of 18years – 2 May

Reach Recovery Program, designed by the Black Dog Institute.

Tuesday from 10am to 12pm, 2nd May for 9 weeks at Bank Bazaar and Bank Bar & Cafe, 290/294

Windsor Street, Richmond NSW 2753 – Morning Tea provided- Presenter Virginia Field. RSVP: (02)

8843 2500 or email enquiries@ccss.org.au

Saints of the week:

24th April – St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Martyr

25th April – ANZAC DAY, St Robert of Syracuse, Abbot

26th April – St. Mark, Evangelist

27th April – St. Louis de Montfort, St. Zita.

28th April – St. Peter Chanel, Martyr.

St. Gianna Beretta Molla

30th April – St. Catherine of Siena, 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