

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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Web: <https://catholicparishemuplains.org.au/>

Sunday, 21st May 2023 The Ascension of the Lord Year A.

Welcome to the celebration of the mass.

Entrance Antiphon Acts 1:11

Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens?
This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven
will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

First Reading Acts 1:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven.



In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my

witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

Responsorial Psalm. Ps 46:2-3, 6-9. R. v.6

(R.) God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

1. All peoples, clap your hands,
cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,
great king over all the earth. **(R.)**
2. God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise,
sing praise to our king, sing praise. **(R.)**
3. God is king of all the earth.
Sing praise with all your skill.
God is king over the nations;
God reigns on his holy throne. **(R.)**

Second Reading Eph 1:17-23

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him.

May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

Gospel Acclamation [Mt 28:19, 20](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel.
I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia!

Gospel [Mt 28:16-20](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them.

He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commandments I gave to you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

Communion Antiphon. [Mt 28:20](#)

Behold, I am with you always,
even to the end of the age, alleluia.

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The Anima Christi

Soul of Christ, sanctify me
Body of Christ, save me
Blood of Christ, inebriate me
Water from Christ's side, wash me
Passion of Christ, strengthen me
O good Jesus, hear me
Within Thy wounds hide me
Suffer me not to be separated from Thee
From the malicious enemy defend me
In the hour of my death call me
And bid me come unto Thee
That I may praise Thee with Thy saints
and with Thy angels
Forever and ever
Amen



Let us pray: We pray for those recently deceased, and for Gary (Mick) McInnes, Philomena Cox and Helen Dimech 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, Lucy Mikosic, Robert Hatch, Tammy Horan, 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:

Mass for Our Lady, Help of Christians is on Wednesday 24th May at 9am.

Please be advised that the **Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal for Aboriginal Catholic Care** will be next weekend, **27th & 28th May**.

Cuppa and a Chat:

All welcome to come across to the hall for a cuppa and a chat:

2nd Sunday of the month, after 9.30am Mass

3rd Sunday of the month, after 8am Mass

4th Sunday of the month, after 9.30am Mass



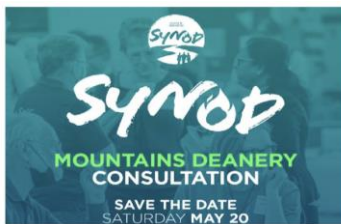
Vinnies "Change Guard": We thank Barry Harris, the outgoing president of St Vincent de Paul, for the work he has done for Vinnies as the president for the last 8 years. Thankyou Barry for the dedication and hard work you put into serving those on the margin in our Parish and beyond. You are a crucial asset to our Parish, thank you for your skills and talents.

On the same note, we would like to welcome Tom Cook, the incoming president and Mel Topp, his vice president. We give you both a warm welcome; it is our hope you will be productive and helpful as you embark on your new role.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations on your appointment to these roles.

God's blessings

Be part of our DIOCESAN SYNOD



Please visit this link for more information:

https://parracatholic.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/03.23_CYP_21090-SYNOD-Campaign_Mountains-Dnr-Invite_v1.mp4

Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
20/21 May	<u>Stevenie Harman</u> <u>Anne Deutscher</u> JS: Alex Tuballa C: Lynne Castellari R: Bellinda Henderson	<u>Deacon Batsirai</u> <u>Matthew Topp</u> Pat Edwards JS: N/A C: Gabe Manouk R: Helen Larsen	<u>Hartley Dhyon</u> David Green Denise Robens Visit JS: N/A C: Trish Boyle R: Matthew Hamilton
27/28 May	<u>Stevenie Harman</u> <u>Anne Deutscher</u> JS: Alex Tuballa C: Phillip Yongman R: Mary Balam	<u>Mark Norbury</u> John Lo Cascio JS: Evie Milroy C: Maria Sirotti R: Kay Walker	<u>Deacon Batsirai</u> <u>Lara Roser</u> Denise Robens (Visit) JS: Matthew Hamilton C: Lisa Samojlowicz R: Courtney Hamilton



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

Sacramental Program – Urgent tech support needed

We are in URGENT need for someone to help support Wolfgang in the set-up of the computer and audio system for the sacramental program on Wednesday nights. If you can assist, please contact the parish office on 4735 1041 as soon as possible.

Thanks, Cate

Safe Parishes Week 2023 – Safeguarding Renewal Mandatory Training Opportunities! Did you complete your 6 points of mandatory training in 2021? Are you due for renewal training? Would you like to complete the renewal training Face to Face? Our Renewal Training Package (Cycle 2 – 4 points) consists of: **Module 4:** Understanding Safeguarding, the Child Safe Standards & Working with Adults at Risk **Module 5:** Legal Compliance: Risk Of Significant Harm & Reportable Conduct These Renewal Mandatory Modules will be offered face to face at Bishop Bede Heather Centre on: Tuesday 6th June at 10am - 1.30pm, OR Wednesday 7th June at 10am – 1.30pm. Please register for the renewal modules at: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.edu.au These renewal mandatory modules will also be available online by August 2023. All enquiries: email Maria Kervin, Community Engagement and Education Officer at: maria.kervin@parracatholic.org

Save the Date: The Parish is having an organised Listening Session in the Parish Hall, consisting of small groups of 5 people each, to listen to Scripture and respond to a Synod question related to **how we are being called to be a more synodal church in the diocese of Parramatta**. The proposed date is **Saturday 24 June 4pm to 5.15 pm. If needed,** a further date is also proposed - **Sunday 9 July, 11am- 12.15pm.** The outcome from the session(s) will be forwarded to the Synod to be held in October.

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)

CathWest Innovation College principal:

Paul Stenning (ph: 02 8886 9500)

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:

Annual Schoenstatt Marian Pilgrimage:

The Mt Schoenstatt Shrine and Retreat Centre's Annual Marian Pilgrimage will be held again on Sunday **21 May**. Reconciliation will be available from 9.30am before Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv celebrates Mass and recommissions pilgrim mother coordinators. Eucharistic Procession from the valley to the Shrine. Please bring your own chairs. Hot food, tea and coffee available for sale or BYO. Call (02) 4773 8338 or email info@schoenstatt.org.au.

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL PENTECOST CELEBRATIONS - Please join the Catholic Charismatic Renewal NSW & Parramatta in celebrating Pentecost 2023 with an uplifting, inspiring encouraging Holy Spirit afternoon of Praise & Worship, Testimonies, Hearing the Word of God, and Prayer Ministry. Date Saturday 27th May 23, venue Servants of Jesus Centre 15 Park Road Seven Hills. Time 2pm-5.30pm. Enquiries 9810 2499.

Diocesan Synod 2023 – Join Bishop Vincent at a listening event!

Over the next six weeks, Bishop Vincent is travelling throughout the Diocese, listening directly to people's stories and suggestions about our Church. Join him at one of three locations to have your say. Events start at 6.30pm with light refreshments:

- Saturday 3 June at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta.
- Saturday 17 June at St Andrew the Apostle Primary School, Marayong.
- Saturday 24 June at Holy Spirit Primary School, St Clair.

To register visit parracatholic.org/synod2023

Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal for Aboriginal Catholic Care at Emerton

Will you be the face of Christ for our First Nations people in need? Your compassionate generosity and prayers will support a welcoming place where Aboriginal people can express their identity, share their culture and knowledge within our community, access practical support and development opportunities, and make social connections. Please give generously to the Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal at yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal. Thank you for helping our First Nations people.

Saints of the week:

May 24th – St. Charbel Makhlouf

May 25th – St. James, Apostle

May 26th – St. Joachim & Anne, Mary's parents

May 27th – Sts. Natalie & Aurelius

May 28th – St. Alphonsa of India

May 29th – St Martha, Mary & Lazarus

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