

# 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, 18<sup>th</sup> June 2023** Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A.

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

## **Entrance Antiphon** Cf. Ps 26:7,9

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you;  
be my help.  
Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour!

## **First Reading** Ex 19:2-6

A reading from the book of Exodus

*You will be a kingdom of priests, a consecrated nation.*

From Rephidim the Israelites set out again; and when they reached the wilderness of Sinai, there in the wilderness they pitched their camp; there facing the mountain Israel pitched camp.

Moses then went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, ‘Say this to the House of Jacob, declare this to the sons of Israel, “You yourselves have seen what I did with the Egyptians, how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. From this you know that now, if you obey my voice and hold fast to my covenant, you of all the nations shall be my very own, for all the earth is mine. I will count you a kingdom of priests, a consecrated nation.”’

## **Responsorial Psalm.** Ps 99:2-3. 5. R. v.3

**(R.) We are his people:  
the sheep of his flock.**

1. Cry with joy to the Lord, all the earth.

Serve the Lord with gladness.

Come before him, singing for joy. (R.)



2. Know that he, the Lord, is God.  
He made us, we belong to him,  
we are his people, the sheep of his flock. (R.)

3. Indeed, how good is the Lord,  
eternal his merciful love.  
He is faithful from age to age. (R.)

## **Second Reading** Rom 5:6-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*We have been reconciled to God through the death of his Son; we are saved by his life.*

We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners. Having died to make us righteous, is it likely that he would now fail to save us from God’s anger? When we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, we were still enemies; now that we have been reconciled surely we may count on being saved by the life of his Son? Not merely because we have been reconciled but because we are filled with joyful trust in God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have already gained our reconciliation.

## **Gospel Acclamation** Mk 1:15

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

The kingdom of God is near;

repent and believe the Good News!

**Alleluia!**

## **Gospel** Mt 9:36 – 10:8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*He summoned his twelve disciples, and sent them out.*

When Jesus saw the crowds he felt sorry for them because they were harassed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest.'

He summoned his twelve disciples, and gave them authority over unclean spirits with power to cast them out and to cure all kinds of diseases and sickness.

These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew; James the son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, the one who was to betray him. These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them as follows:

'Do not turn your steps to pagan territory, and do not enter any Samaritan town; go rather to the lost sheep of the House of Israel. And as you go, proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is close at hand. Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out devils. You received without charge, give without charge.'

Photo



**Let us pray:** We pray for recently deceased Rosemarie Gan and Geraldine Burns; and for Margaret Esther Rogers and Brian Derick whose anniversaries of death 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, June Sultana, Frank Sirotti, Shelley Sutcliffe, Mary Rose, Robert Hatch, Tammy Horan, Maria Mercieca, Marta Mederos, Lucy Mikosic, 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.

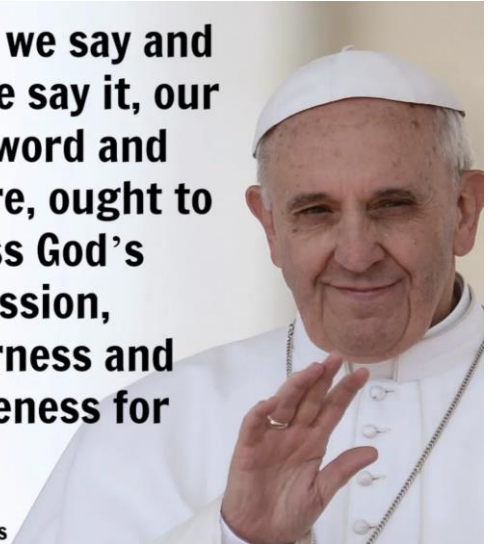
## **Communion Antiphon.** Ps 26:4

There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

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**"What we say and how we say it, our every word and gesture, ought to express God's compassion, tenderness and forgiveness for all."**

-Pope Francis



<https://i.pinimg.com/originals/45/ed/3e/45ed3e99935b28ce5ad0eb24b70591f1.png>

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Denise Robens who was awarded the Public Service Medal in the King's Birthday Honours list for 'outstanding public service in classroom teaching' at Regentville Public School. Denise is a Minister of the Eucharist who assists at the altar and takes Holy Communion to the sick. She is also a member of the Parish Finance Committee. Thank you, Denise, for all you contribute as a member of our Parish as well as the wider community.

## Parish Notices:

### Cuppa and a Chat:

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

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month, after 9.30am Mass

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month, after 8am Mass

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month, after 9.30am Mass



**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).

**Liturgical Ministry:** Are you interested in joining one of our **ministries** - a Minister of the Word, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying or Minister at the Altar? The Liturgical Ministry Formation Course is running again, starting on 4th of September, in Blacktown. Application forms are available from the Parish Office.

A reminder that this weekend, 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> June, is the **Vinnies Winter Appeal**. Your generosity in support of this appeal is greatly appreciated. Buckets, envelopes and eftpos facilities (Tap & Go) are available.

**Caritas:** Caritas receipts for the 2023 Project Compassion Appeal are available for collection in the church foyer.



### 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

### Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
17/18 June	Deacon Batsirai Stevenie Harman JS: Alex Tuballa C: Louise Goderie R: Bellinda Henderson	Mark Norbury Pat Edwards JS: Evie Milroy Gabe Manouk Helen Larsen	Jessica Topp Kevin Balkin Kay Walker (Visit) JS: N/A C: Trish Boyle R: Matthew Hamilton
24/25 June	John Cowen Beth Nowland JS: N/A C: Lynne Castellari R: Mary Balam	Matthew Topp John Lo Cascio JS: N/A C: Maria Sirotti R: Kay Walker	Deacon Batsirai Lara Roser School will provide a Eucharistic minister. Heather Barlow (Visit only) JS: Matthew Hamilton C: OLOW School R: OLOW School

**Parish Event 24<sup>th</sup> June:** I refer to what Fr Michael wrote in his letter to the Parish on the first weekend of June (see Bulletin online), which explained delays in and demonstrated recent action taken by the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) in relation to the needs of the Parish. This action was based on Meetings of the PPC in February and May this year. Importantly, the outcome of the May Meeting included action based on and arising from discussions that parishioners took part in during 2020 around the time of and connected with the Australian Plenary Council consultations.

Bishop Vincent has called for a Synod. A synod is a community gathering where we can come together to listen to each other and suggest the way forward for the benefit of all of us. People are asked to come together and discuss what our faith means to them and share their experiences. What comes out of these discussions will then be forwarded to the Diocese in an attempt to make changes that suit our Catholic community in these modern times. If we are to move forward and be part of the community, we need to come together as a community and identify issues to be addressed. I encourage you to join us on 24 June at 4pm in the OLOW Parish Hall.

Phillip Youngman

OLOW Synod Planning Committee

**ARRIVE from 3.30pm for a cuppa: Saturday 24 June, 4pm to 5.30pm in the Parish Hall will be our Parish Listening and sharing session.** All are most welcome! All done in small groups of 5 people. A submission from each group goes to the Diocese.

If needed, a further date is also proposed

- **Sunday 9 July, 11am- 12.30pm.**

**RSVP for planning purposes only:** SMS Kay (0430 193 000) or Jim (0421 125 722) at any time with your name and email address OR register on the table provided in the foyer before or after Mass.

### Penrith Parish Room for Rent

St Nicholas of Myra Parish in Penrith is renting out an upstairs office space next to Catholic Care, Penrith. Contact Rodney (Office Manager) at [enquiries@stnicholasofmyra.org.au](mailto:enquiries@stnicholasofmyra.org.au) or call (02) 4721 2509 for photos and more information.



<p><b><u>Parish Information</u></b></p> <p><b>Parish office open Tuesday to Friday from 9:30am to 3pm. (ph: 4735 1041)</b>          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: 02n 8886 9500)          St Vincent de Paul Contact Centre:          For assistance call 1800 606 724.</p>	<p><b>Weekend mass times:</b>          Saturday 6 pm, Sunday 8am, 9:30am</p> <p><b>Weekday masses:</b>          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><b>Reconciliation:</b> Saturday 5pm.</p> <p><b>Sacraments:</b> baptisms and weddings by          appointment. Please contact the parish office          (<a href="mailto:emuplains@parracatholic.org">emuplains@parracatholic.org</a>) for information          on reconciliation, communion and confirmation.</p>
<p><b><u>Diocese of Parramatta Notices:</u></b></p> <p><b>Diocesan Synod 2023 – Join Bishop Vincent at a listening event!</b>          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 to have your say. Events start at 6.30pm with light refreshments: Sat 24 June at Holy Spirit Primary School, St Clair.          To register visit <a href="http://parracatholic.org/synod2023">parracatholic.org/synod2023</a></p> <p><b>Free English and Citizenship Classes</b>          Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are offering English and Citizenship classes at its All Saints of Africa Centre, 63 Allawah St, Blacktown. Courses are subsidized by the New South Wales Government. Please register to participate in the program by contacting 0477 952 024. You can also contact Nepean Community College on (02) 4724 9000.</p> <p><b>Diocesan Adult Confirmation: 5 September</b> Adult Confirmation 2023 will be held on Tuesday 5 September at 7:30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral with the Catechesis and Formation Day to be held on Saturday 2 September at 9:30am – 2pm at the Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown (formerly known as the IFM). Adult Confirmation is a community celebration for those who have reached the age of 16 years and have received both the sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist but are yet to receive the Confirmation. If you would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or <a href="mailto:hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org">hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org</a>.</p> <p><b>Aboriginal Catholic Care NAIDOC Celebrations: 4 July</b>          You are warmly invited to attend Aboriginal Catholic Care's NAIDOC Week celebrations on Tuesday 4 July at 252 Luxford Road, Emerton from 10am to 2pm. The event will include Stalls, Entertainment, Rides, Jumping Castle, Creature Feature, Face Painting, Sausage Sizzles &amp; much more.</p> <p><b>St Bernadette's Lalor Park Wednesday Evening Devotions</b> St Bernadette's Parish, Lalor Park, is hosting weekly devotions to Our Lady of Lourdes and St Bernadette every Wednesday evening at 6.30pm with Adoration and Rosary and special prayers, followed by Mass at 7.30pm. All are welcome. For more information, contact the parish office on (02) 9672 4037 or <a href="mailto:admin@stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au">admin@stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au</a></p>	
<p><b><u>Saints of the week:</u></b></p> <p>June 19th – St. Romuald          June 20th – St. Silverius          June 21st – St Aloysius          June 22nd – Ss. Thomas Moore and John Fisher          June 23rd – St Audrey (Etheldreda)          June 24th – The Nativity of St. John the Baptist</p>	<p><b><u>Parish bank details:</u></b></p> <p>If you would like to support our priest and church financially through <b>online banking:</b>          Name: Emu Plains Catholic church          BSB: 067 950          Account Number: 00000289</p>