

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, 25th June 2023 Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A.

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Ps 27:8-9

The Lord is the strength of his people,
a saving refuge for the one he has anointed.
Save your people, Lord, and bless your heritage,
and govern them for ever.

First Reading Jer 20:10-13

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

He has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of those who are evil.

Jeremiah said:

‘I hear so many disparaging me,
“Terror from every side! Denounce him!
Let us denounce him!” All those who used to be my friends watched for my downfall,
“Perhaps he will be seduced into error. Then we will master him and take our revenge!”
But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero;
my opponents will stumble, mastered, confounded by their failure;
everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be theirs. But you, Lord of Hosts, you who probe with justice, who scrutinise the loins and heart, let me see the vengeance you will take on them, for I have committed my cause to you. Sing to the Lord, praise the Lord, for he has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of evil men.’

Responsorial Psalm.

Ps 68:8-10. 14. 17. 33-35. R. v.14

(R.) Lord, in your great love, answer me.

1. It is for you that I suffer taunts,
that shame covers my face,
that I have become a stranger to my brothers,
an alien to my own mother's sons.
I burn with zeal for your house
and taunts against you fall on me. (R.)
2. This is my prayer to you,
my prayer for your favour.
In your great love, answer me, O God,
with your help that never fails:
Lord, answer, for your love is kind;
in your compassion, turn towards me. (R.)
3. The poor when they see it will be glad
and God-seeking hearts will revive;
for the Lord listens to the needy
and does not spurn his servants in their chains.
Let the heavens and the earth give him praise,
the sea and all its living creatures. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 5:12-15

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

God's gift to us is nothing like our sin against him.

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of ‘law-breaking’, yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

Gospel Acclamation [Jn 15:26-27](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of Truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord, and you also will be my witnesses.

Alleluia!

Gospel [Mt 10:26-33](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Do not fear those who can kill the body.

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the house-tops.

'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.

'So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.'

Communion Antiphon. [Ps 144:15](#)

The eyes of all look to you, Lord, and you give them their food in due season.

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PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

SAIN**T** MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL,
DEFEND US IN BATTLE.
BE OUR PROTECTION AGAINST
THE WICKEDNESS AND
SNARES OF THE DEVIL.

MAY GOD REBUKE HIM
WE HUMBL**Y** PRAY;
AND DO THOU, O PRINCE
OF THE HEAVENLY HOST,
BY THE POWER OF GOD,
CAST INTO HELL SATAN
AND ALL THE EVIL SPIRITS,
WHO PROWL THROUGH THE
WORLD SEEKING THE
RUIN OF SOULS. AMEN.

<https://static.trinityroad.com/sites/cc/content/StMichaelPrayer-1.png>



CatholicCompany.

"Consult not your fears but your hopes and your dreams. Think not about your frustrations, but about your unfulfilled potential. Concern yourself not with what you tried and failed in, but with what it is still possible for you to do."
Pope John XXIII



Let us pray: We pray for recently deceased, Peter Bell (funeral service 27/06/23 at 10.30am), Anna Perovich, Marilyn Manton and Brian Manton; and for Margaret Esther Rogers and Helen McInnes, 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, Dot Gray, Des Fitzgerald, June Sultana, Frank Sirotti, Shelley Sutcliffe, Mary Rose, Robert Hatch, Tammy Horan, Maria Mercieca, Marta Mederos, Lucy Mikosic, Bernadette Houlahan, 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:

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



Baptisms: The Parish joyfully welcomes Aubrey Chapman, Angus Gauke, Adeline Steele, Isla Weymouth and Marli Weymouth into our Faith Community. May God bless these children and their families.

Altar Serving Training. If any child who has made their first communion, is interested in learning what an altar server does, there will be a session in the church on **Wed 28th July at 7pm.** For more information, please contact Cate at the Parish Office (ph: 4735 1041)

Sacramental news

Last weekend 43 children made their First Holy Communion. It was such a blessed and special occasion, and the Masses were so beautiful, glorifying God. Thank you to everyone for praying for the sacramental program. It truly is the fruit of prayer and team work. I would like to especially thank those who were able to assist in practical ways: Sue, Wolfgang, the Sneddon family, Margaret, Maria, Jackie, Jan, Helen, Adam, Les, Chris and Thea, Lyn, Courtney and John. Blessings, Cate



(Image:<https://liturgyhelp.com/ritual/galleries/SundayIcon%7COrdinaryTime>)

Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
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
1/ 2 July	Stevenie Harman Deborah Gleeson JS: N/A C: Phillip Youngman R: Marie McLennan	Deacon Barsirai Mark Norbury JS: Evie Milroy C: Paul Ryan R: Jessica Topp	Lara Roser David Green Kay Walker (Visit) JS: Matthew Hamilton C: Marianne Castor R: Denise Robens

Diocesan Synod. Parish Event Sunday 9

July: As promised, a second Listening and Sharing Session (Synod 2023) will be held in the Parish Hall on **Sunday 9th July** from 11am to 12.30pm, beginning with Morning Tea after Mass. If you were unable to come to the one on 24 June, you are most welcome and invited to attend this alternative session. Come for a cuppa after Mass and join one of the small groups of five people!

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

VINNIES WINTER APPEAL: A big thankyou to the Parish community who donated to the appeal last weekend. It was very successful and raised much needed funds to support those in need in the local community. For those who took an envelope home, or if you would still like to make a donation, we would be most grateful if you could place it in the Poor Box this weekend.

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.

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) enquiries@stnicholasofmyra.org.au or call (02) 4721 2509 for photos and more information.

Parish Information

Parish office open Tuesday to Friday from 9:00am 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:

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 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 parracatholic.org/synod2023

Watch Bishop Vincent on ABC's Compass - Bishop Vincent features on ABC Compass this Sunday 25 June. Accompanied by Geraldine Doogue, he will show you important places in his life, and you'll hear about his remarkable story and ministry. Watch it on ABC TV at 6.30pm or later on ABC iView.

One of the major works of **Aid to the Church in Need** is providing transport to priests, sisters, and catechists to reach the faithful, who are often at great distances and must go through difficult terrain. In 2022, ACN provided 1,253 pastoral vehicles. This included 564 cars, 406 bicycles, 252 motorcycles, 16 boats, 11 buses, and 4 trucks for the pastoral work of the Church – particularly in Latin America and Africa. Can you help us supply transport to priests and religious again in 2023? Visit www.aidtochurch.org/transport or scan the QR code to make an offering and learn more.



Diocesan Adult Confirmation: 5 September 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 hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org.

Quakers Hill Parish Perpetual Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Mary Immaculate Parish, Quakers Hill-Schofields celebrates a Perpetual Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help on Wednesday evenings at 7pm in the Church. All are welcome to join. For more information, please contact the parish office on (02) 9626 3326 or parishoffice@maryimmac.org.au.

Saints of the week:

June 26th – St. Josemaria Escriva
June 27th – Our Lady of Perpetual Help
June 28th – St Iranaeus of Lyons
June 29th – Ss. Peter and Paul, Apostles
June 30th – The First Martyrs of the Church of Rome
July 1st – St. Junipero Serra

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