

# 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, 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2023 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

### **Entrance Antiphon** Cf Psalm 85:3,5

Have mercy on me,  
O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.  
O Lord, you are good and forgiving,  
full of mercy to all who call to you.

### **First Reading** Jeremiah 20:7-9

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

*The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.*

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced; you have overpowered me: you were the stronger. I am a daily laughing-stock, everybody's butt. Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!' The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long. I used to say, I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more. Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones. The effort to restrain it wearied me, I could not bear it.

### **Responsorial Psalm.**

*Ps 62:2-6. 8-9. R. v.2*

**(R.) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;  
for you my soul is thirsting.  
My body pines for you like a dry, weary  
land without water. **(R.)**

2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary  
to see your strength and your glory.  
For your love is better than life,  
my lips will speak your praise. **(R.)**

3. So I will bless you all my life,  
in your name I will lift up my hands.  
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,  
my mouth shall praise you with joy. **(R.)**

4. For you have been my help;  
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.  
My soul clings to you;  
your right hand holds me fast. **(R.)**

### **Second Reading** Romans 12:1-2

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice.*

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

### **Gospel Acclamation** Ephesians 1:17-18

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.

**Alleluia!**

## **Gospel**

**Matthew 16:21-27**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew



*Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.*

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

## **Communion Antiphon.** Psalm 30:20

How great is the goodness, Lord,  
that you keep for those who fear you.

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**DADS at THE SHRINE**  
Monthly Adoration & Fellowship for Dads

**2023 DATES**  
11 Jan  
8 Feb  
8 Mar  
12 Apr  
10 May  
14 Jun  
12 Jul  
9 Aug  
13 Sep  
11 Oct  
8 Nov  
13 Dec

Spend an hour with the Lord in the Schoenstatt Shrine, Mulgoa, on the second Wednesday of each month from 8-9pm, followed by a quick cuppa. Confessions available.

Any questions, Bernard, 0416 106 871

**Dads at the Shrine** is a monthly hour of adoration held at the Schoenstatt Shrine in Mulgoa, next held **Wednesday 13 September**. The hour begins with a brief reflection before a period of personal silent prayer. Confessions are available. The evening finishes with a simple cup of tea. All dads are welcome. No RSVP is necessary. Enquiries: Bernard, ph. 0416106871.

**We wish all the fathers and father figures in our Parish a very Happy Father's Day! We especially remember and pray for fathers who are no longer with us. May God bless these special men always.**

**Let us pray:** We pray for recently deceased Frank Matanic, Rhoda Johnson and Christine Jeffery, and for Ryan Maher and Sam Gauci 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, Trish McGettigan, Pauline Balkin, Mary Goyed, Valerie Plummer, Shirley Harman, Greg Wood, Dot Gray, June Sultana, Stuart Cameron, Frank Sirotti, Mary Rose, Maria Mercieca, Marta Mederos, Lucy Mikosic, Margaret Houlahan, Henry O'Malley, Elisabeth Robens, Marion Betker, George Dacornia, 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:

**You are invited over to the hall, following the 6pm Mass, for a cuppa and a chat. All welcome!**

**Sacramental news:** Please join me in praying for the children and their families who are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Thanks, and blessings, Cate



### 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

**Playgroup:** Please be advised that Playgroup has recommenced and will run fortnightly. The next date will be **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September at 10am** in the Parish Hall. No fees are payable. All welcome! Please contact the Parish Office for more information 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 (0452 665 844).

### Catholic Care Refugee Sponsorship Program:

You are invited to join Rita Hakkoum from Catholic Care Refugee Sponsorship Program on 24<sup>th</sup> September, after the 9:30am Mass, to learn about the program and how you can help. Rita has assisted many groups from different Parishes in the Diocese and will share her experience. "Whenever you did this to one of the least of my brothers and sisters, you did it to me", Mt:25:40. Looking forward to seeing you.

**Social Justice Statement 2023-24:** A summary page and a few copies of the full statement are available at the rear of the church. For additional resources, please visit [www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au) .

### Readers/ Commentators roster:

| Dates:         | 6.00pm   | 8.00am  | 9.30am   |
|----------------|--|---|--|
| 2 /3 September | John Cowen<br>Beth Nowland<br>JS:<br>C: Lynne Castellari<br>R: Victor Tuballa                    | Matthew Topp<br>Pat Edwards<br>JS:<br>C: Geraldine Waters<br>R: Sue Mouthaan        | Hartley Dhyon<br>Kevin Balkin<br>Kay Walker (Visit)<br>JS:<br>C: Don Robens<br>R: Brett Wright                                 |
| 9/10 Sept      | John Cowen<br>Anne Deutscher<br>JS: Alex Tuballa<br>C: Lynne Castellari<br>R: Bellinda Henderson | Mark Norbury<br>Pat Edwards<br>JS: Evie Milroy<br>C: Gabe Manouk<br>R: Helen Larsen | Deacon Batsiraj<br>Lara Roser<br>Kay Walker (Visit)<br>JS: Hugo Watson & Kate Fenning<br>C: Trish Boyle<br>R: Matthew Hamilton |

### Season of Creation:

3<sup>rd</sup> September to 4<sup>th</sup> October:



helping us focus on the need to care for Creation. The theme for 2023 is **Let Justice and Peace Flow.**

For more information, visit:

<https://laudatosimovement.org/season-of-creation/>

### Caring for our common home: Recycling at our

**Parish:** A collection box for your **clean dry & empty** dental hygiene items will be outside the main doors of the church at all Masses NEXT weekend 2-3 September then every FIRST weekend of each month going forward. **NEW** - You can also deposit your **used blister packs** in the same box (script and non-script finished packages can both be deposited). Dental is taken to Bupa in the Plaza, used blister packs to Blooms in High St. Jim (0421 125 722).

### Bishop's Father's Day Appeal: Caring for those who have cared for us:

Our priests never stop giving their lives in service to our community. They dedicate themselves to carrying out God's ministry for as long as they are able. This Father's Day, let us show our thanks and appreciation for our priests' lifelong gifts of faithful service. Your compassionate donation will help our Clergy Support Foundation to care for our priests, and provide them with personalised health and wellbeing support. Please give generously to the Bishop's Father's Day Appeal at [parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal](http://parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal) or scan this QR code. Thank you.



### Foundations of Missionary Leadership

**Program:** This program forms and equips people with practical skills, spiritual formation and theological knowledge to become leaders in the Church's Mission today. Led by Rev Dr Chris Ryan, it is suitable for anyone working in various expressions of adult evangelisation, youth ministry, Catholic education, formation and parish renewal. Applications for 2024 are now open. For more information, and to apply, go to [www.aretecentre.org](http://www.aretecentre.org) .

**Daily Mass Book for 2024:** If you would like to purchase a Daily Mass Book for 2024, please contact the Parish Office on 4735 1041 as soon as possible. Many thanks.

## 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  
Filipino Mass, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month: 1pm

## **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](mailto:emuplains@parracatholic.org)) for information on reconciliation, communion and confirmation.

## Diocese of Parramatta Notices:

**Nominations open for Papal, Civil and Diocesan Awards:** From today until Thursday 7 September 2023, you can nominate an outstanding individual who has contributed to the Catholic Church and society for a Papal Honours Award, Civil Award or Diocesan Award. Please visit [parracatholic.org/awards](http://parracatholic.org/awards). The Awards Ceremony will be held in November.

**Aid to the Church in Need** is running an emergency campaign for Pakistan. Recently up to 24 churches, hundreds of Christian homes and a Christian cemetery were targeted in an attack in Pakistan which was sparked by reports of blasphemy allegations against two Christians accused of desecrating the Qur'an. ACN is working with project partners on the ground to aid the current needs of the Christian people. To learn more and to make an offering visit [www.aidtochurch.org/pakistanappeal](http://www.aidtochurch.org/pakistanappeal)

The Sisters of Saint Joseph have prepared an **Australian Pilgrimage, "In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop"** commencing in Melbourne on 17 October, journeying through Victoria and South Australia, and ending at Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney on 28 October 2023. During the pilgrimage we visit many places associated with Mary MacKillop's life and ministry. I am happy to answer any questions and provide an itinerary and application form, and may be contacted at [national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au](mailto:national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au) or on 89124818. Sr Annie Bond.

## **World Day of Migrant and Refugees celebration: 16 September**

You're warmly invited to a family-friendly event with Bishop Vincent and our migrant communities for the World Day of Migrants & Refugees on Saturday 16 September, 2pm – 5.30pm at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Seven Hills. Come hear stories, enjoy free entertainment and activities. RSVP at <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/celebrating-world-day-of-refugees-and-migrants-tickets-675662363317?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

## **Arise Women's Retreat: 16 September**

St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook, is hosting a day of reflection, inspiration and encounter with Christ at this year's Arise Women's Retreat: 'Arise – Talitha Koum – Little girl, I say ARISE' on Saturday 16 September from 8.30am to 8.30pm. The retreat will include Mass, meditation, talks, praise and worship, creative expression, spiritual direction and healing Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction. All meals are included. For bookings and more information, please visit <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1078404>

## Saints of the week:

Sept 4th – St. Boniface I, Pope

Sept 5th – St. Teresa of Calcutta

Sept 6th – St. Donatian

Sept 7th – St. Regina

Sept 8th – The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Sept 9th – St. Peter Claver

## 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