

# 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, 6th August 2023 The Transfiguration of the Lord

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

### Entrance Antiphon

*Cf Matthew 17:5*

In a resplendent cloud the Holy Spirit appeared. The Father's voice was heard: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased. Listen to him.

### First Reading

*Daniel 7:9-10. 13-14*

A reading from the book of Daniel

*His raiment was as white as snow.*

As I watched: Thrones were set in place and one of great age took his seat. His robe was white as snow, the hair of his head as pure as wool. His throne was a blaze of flames, its wheels were a burning fire. A stream of fire poured out, issuing from his presence.

A thousand thousand waited on him, ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him.

A court was held and the books were opened.

I gazed into the visions of the night. And I saw, coming on the clouds of heaven, one like a son of man. He came to the one of great age and was led into his presence. On him was conferred sovereignty, glory and kingship, and men of all peoples, nations and languages became his servants. His sovereignty is an eternal sovereignty which shall never pass away, nor will his empire ever be destroyed.

### Responsorial Psalm. *Ps 96:1-2. 5-6. 9. R. vv.1. 9.*

**(R.) The Lord is king, the most high over all the earth.**

1. The Lord is king, let earth rejoice, let all the coastlands be glad. Cloud and darkness are his raiment; his throne, justice and right. **(R.)**
2. The mountains melt like wax before the Lord of all the earth. The skies proclaim his justice; all peoples see his glory. **(R.)**
3. For you indeed are the Lord most high above all the earth exalted far above all spirits. **(R.)**

### Second Reading *2 Peter 1:16-19*

A reading from the second letter of St Peter

*We heard this voice from out of heaven.*

It was not any cleverly invented myths that we were repeating when we brought you the knowledge of the power and the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ; we had seen his majesty for ourselves. He was honoured and glorified by God the Father, when the Sublime Glory itself spoke to him and said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour.' We heard this ourselves, spoken from heaven, when we were with him on the holy mountain.

So we have confirmation of what was said in prophecies; and you will be right to depend on prophecy and take it as a lamp for lighting a way through the dark until the dawn comes and the morning star rises in your minds.

## **Gospel Acclamation**

**Matthew 17:5**

### **Alleluia, alleluia!**

This is my Son, my beloved,  
in whom is all my delight:  
listen to him.

**Alleluia!**

## **Gospel**

**Matthew 17:1-9**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*His face was shining like the sun.*

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured: his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light.

Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said, 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.'

He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.'

When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus. As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order, 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

## **Communion Antiphon.**

**Cf 1 John 3:2**

When Christ appears, we shall be like him,  
for we shall see him as he is.

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## **Catholic Care Refugee Sponsorship**

**Program:** We invite you to join us in the hall on September 24th following 9.30am Mass to learn more about our program and how you can get involved. Our goal is to help refugee families start a new life in a caring and supportive community. During the event, you'll have the opportunity to hear from our speaker, Rita Hakkoum from Catholic Care. She has assisted many groups from different parishes in the diocese and will share her own experience with you. You will be able to ask Rita any questions or express your concerns. **We look forward to seeing you there!**

**Let us pray:** We pray for recently deceased Michael Mercieca; and for Belinda Cameron, Margaret White and Herbert White 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, Greg Wood, Valerie Plummer, Shirley Harman, Dot Gray, June Sultana, Frank Sirotti, Mary Rose, Maria Mercieca, Marta Mederos, Lucy Mikosic, Margaret Houlahan, Henry O'Malley, Elisabeth Robens, Marion Betker, George Dacoronia, 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:

**Feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> August.** Mass will be celebrated at 9:15am (OLOW school attending) and 6:00pm.

**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



**Become a Catechist:** Sharing the Gospel with students in our public schools is an important ministry in our Parish. It may sound daunting, but it's very rewarding. You will be joining a supportive team, and curriculum materials and ongoing training is provided. We'd love for you to join us! To enquire/enrol, please speak to our Parish Catechist Coordinator, Mary Marsh, on 0408 212 437. Training at St Finbar's, Glenbrook, commencing soon.

**Playgroup:** Please be advised that Playgroup has recommenced and will run fortnightly. The next date is **8<sup>th</sup> August 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).

**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 5-6 August, then every **FIRST** weekend of each month. Jim (ph. 0421 125 722).

### Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
5/6 August	Deacon <a href="#">Batsirai Stevenie Harman</a> JS: Alex Tuballa C: Phillip Young man R: Victor <a href="#">Tuballa</a>	Jessica <a href="#">Topp</a> Barbara Ryan JS: Evie Milroy C: Geraldine Waters R: Sue <a href="#">Mouthaan</a>	Hartley <a href="#">Dhyon</a> Noeline <a href="#">Bagnel</a> David Green Heather <a href="#">Barlow</a> (Visit only) JS: Matthew Hamilton C: Don Robens R: Brett Wright
12/13 August	John Cowen Beth <a href="#">Nowland</a> JS: C: Trish Ryan R: <a href="#">Bellinda</a> Henderson	Mark Norbury Pat <a href="#">Edwards</a> JS: Gabe <a href="#">Manouk</a> Helen Larsen	Lara <a href="#">Rosser</a> Connie <a href="#">Reid</a> Kay <a href="#">Walker</a> (Visit) JS: N/A C: Trish Boyle R: Matthew Hamilton

## Schedule of the Triduum Novena and Mass Feast of Our Lady of Penafranci

**1st Triduum Novena and mass Sat 19th August: Our Lady of the Way Church, 15 Troy St , Emu Plains**  
11:00 am – Novena; 11:30 am - Mass  
Fellowship after the Mass at the Parish Hall.

The Replica of Our Lady of Penafrancia and the banner of the El Divino Rostro will stay in the church for a week.

**2nd Triduum Novena and mass Sat 26th August: St Michael's Church, 51 Orwell St Blacktown**  
11:00 am – Novena; 11:30 am - Mass

**3rd Triduum Novena and mass Sat 2nd Sept: St Joseph's Church, 12 Richmond Rd, Kingswood.**  
8:00am – Novena; 8:30 am - Mass  
**Please invite your family and friends.**



### 17<sup>th</sup> FEAST OF OUR LADY OF PENAFRANCIA 17th Anniversary Celebration

Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Rosary, Novena and Concelebrated Mass (9:30 a.m.)

St. Nicholas of Myra Church,  
326 High Street, PENRITH

Fluvial Procession (12:00 noon)

at Nepean River,  
Factory Road (Tench Reserve), PENRITH

Food and Entertainment (12:30 p.m.)

For More Info please call:

Jun Relunia 0419 233 643 / Evelyn Datoe 0410 511 745 / Norma Evans 0481 115 316  
Noe Adan 0402 157 133 / Neria Soliman 0404 011 524 / Josie Musa 0404 631 438

### Welcome Basil the Guide Dog:

One of our families in the church community have been raising a guide dog for the last eleven months. Basil is 13 months old and has about 3 more months with the family before he begins more intense training to help visually impaired people. Part of Basil's training is to participate as much as possible in the community so he gets used to all environments. He will be coming to church with the family over the next couple of weeks so please be as understanding as you can. Sometimes he does bark or makes small sounds but this is because he is not familiar with the space. Basil will settle as he comes along each week to church. Thankyou for your understanding.



**Vinnies Community Sleepout – 25<sup>th</sup> August 2023:** Help Vinnies break the cycle of homelessness by joining our Western Sydney Vinnies Community Sleepout and braving the cold for one night! This will take place at Western Sydney University, Parramatta Sth Campus (Rydalmere). All funds raised will go towards supporting Vinnies Support Centres in Penrith, Blacktown, Emerton and Harris Park. For more information, please contact Tom Cook (ph. 0421197838) or Melissa Topp (0425301525). Flyers are also available in the foyer.

## Parish Information

**Parish office open Tuesday to Friday from 9:00am to 3:00pm. (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:

This year, 2023, marks the 70th anniversary of the commencement of Dr John Billings' research in finding a natural, reliable method of Fertility Awareness for couples. During **Natural Fertility Awareness Week**, in August, a special, free webinar in recognition of Dr John Billings' work, entitled "*Understanding Couple Fertility: the Male Perspective*" will be held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2023 at 7.30pm AEST. As well as highlighting the male perspective in using the Billings Ovulation Method®, couples will reflect on how it has helped them in understanding their joint fertility, as well as benefiting their relationships and family life. Please follow the link to register for the Webinar on Eventbrite.

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/understanding-couple-fertility-the-male-perspective-webinar-tickets-678382479257?aff=oddtcreator>

**Charismatic Healing Mass.** Mass will be followed by individual prayer for healing. Celebrant: Fr Hugh Thomas CSsR. Sunday 20 August, 2023, 2:00 pm at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, St Marys. All welcome!

## **Saint of the Week: St Mary of the Cross (Mary MacKillop)**

Mary was born in Victoria to Scottish immigrants. She was the eldest of eight children and spent her early years working to support her family. At the age of 24 she dedicated her life to God and took on the name "Mary of the Cross". Along with Fr Julian Tenison-Woods, Mary opened a school in a disused stable in Penola, South Australia. Her vision was to provide education for underprivileged children. Many other women came to join her there, and Mary and Julian founded Australia's first religious order: the Sisters of St Joseph. Mary and the Sisters were committed to serving the poor – to going to where the need was and living amongst those in need. This took Mary all over Australia to many rural areas. Mary faced fierce opposition throughout her life, which at one point culminated in her being excommunicated. In the face of trial, Mary was a model of forgiveness, insisting no ill be spoken of those who wronged her, while also remaining resolute in her convictions. Mary was remarkable as a strong female leader in 19th century Australia. Education in this country is what it is today thanks to her dedication and determination.



<https://www.marymackilloptoday.org.au/who-we-are/mary-mackillops-story/>

## Saints of the week:

Aug 7th – St. Sixtus II, Pope  
Aug 8th – St Mary of the Cross (Mary MacKillop)  
Aug 9th – St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein), Martyr  
Aug 10th – St. Lawrence, Martyr  
Aug 11th – St. Philomena, Martyr. St Clare of Assisi.  
Aug 12<sup>th</sup> – Bl. Isidore Bakanja.

## 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