

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, 1st October 2023 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

Entrance Antiphon [Daniel 3:31,29,30,43,42](#)

All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

First Reading [Ezekiel 18:25-28](#)

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The sinner who decides to turn against sinfulness deserves to live.

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: ‘You object, “What the Lord does is unjust.” Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.’

Responsorial Psalm.

[Ps 24:4-9. R. v.6](#)

(R.) Remember your mercies, O Lord.

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. **(R.)**

2. Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord. **(R.)**

3. The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor. **(R.)**

Second Reading [Philippians 2:1-11](#)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people’s interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave,

and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation

John 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 21:28-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

He went out moved by regret. The tax collectors and prostitutes will precede you into the kingdom of God.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered,



"Certainly, sir," but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

Communion Antiphon.

Cf Psalm 118:49-50

Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low.

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He Emptied Himself

<https://mcgrathblog.nd.edu/hs-fs/hubfs/MICL%20Blog/Blog%20Images/20-0406%20Blog%20Photo.png?width=810&name=20-0406%20Blog%20Photo.png>

Let us pray: We pray for all who have died; we pray for Paul Joseph Reeves, Mary Cook, Lou Deutscher, William Hatch and Daisy Hatch 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, Brian O'Hara, Desley Mulock, June Wilson, Kristina Majstorovic, Leo Bahlmann, Kaye Simpson, Trish McGettigan, Pauline Balkin, Mary Goyed, Valerie Plummer, Shirley Harman, 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, 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:

Please join us for a cuppa and a bite to eat after Mass. This month, we will be gathering on:
 7th October (after the 6:00pm Mass)
 8th October (after the 9:30am Mass)
 15th October (after the 8:00am Mass)
 22nd October (after the 9:30am Mass)



This week, **Bishop Vincent's Pastoral Letter on the Referendum for a Voice to Parliament** was released. Copies of this letter are available at the rear of the church.

Cleaners needed: We are in need of two people to assist with church cleaning every second Friday from 9:30am-11:00am. The next date will be Friday 13th October. If you are able to lend a hand with dusting, cleaning windows or vacuuming, we would be most grateful. If you can help, or for more information, please phone the Parish Office on 4735 1041.

Hospitality: We would like to thank Ben and Natalie Oxley who have generously given their time over the past 7 years to serve morning tea after Mass. Most recently, Ben and Natalie have been serving on the 4th Sunday of the month. Thankyou both for your willingness to serve with joy and humility.
If anyone would like to help out on the 4th Sunday (after the 9:30am Mass), please call the Parish Office on 4735 1041.

Playgroup: Meets every second Tuesday in the Parish Hall at 10am. Our next playgroup will be 10th October (after school holidays). All welcome! Please contact the Parish Office for more info 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).

Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
30 Sept/ 1 Oct	John Cowen Beth Nowland JS: Alex Tuballa & Josie Henderson C: Debra Gleeson R: Victor Tuballa	Deacon Batsirai Matthew Topp JS: Evie Milroy C: Geraldine Waters R: Sue Mouthaan	Lara Roser David Green Kay Walker (Visit) JS: Matthew Hamilton & Kate Fenning C: Don Robens R: Brett Wright
7/8 Oct	Stevenie Harman Michael Manton JS: Alex Tuballa C: Louise Goderie R: Bellinda Henderson	Jessica Topp Barbara Ryan JS: Evie Milroy Gabe Manouk Helen Larsen	Deacon Batsirai Hartley Dhyon Connie Reid Heather Barlow (Visit only) JS: Nicholas Hamilton & Hugo Watson C: Trish Boyle R: Matthew Hamilton

Baptism for primary school children: In Term 4, we are running a program for primary school children who wish to be baptised. If you know anyone who would like to receive the sacrament of baptism, please contact the parish office on 4735 1041 or emuplains@parracatholic.org

Catholic Care Emergency Food Drive:

Many thanks for your continuing generous response to our latest food drive. Catholic Care Centre at Springwood gratefully received your donations to help those in need.
Next Food Drive is on **21/22 October**. Just a few items from each of us provides much appreciated relief for needy families. Thank you.

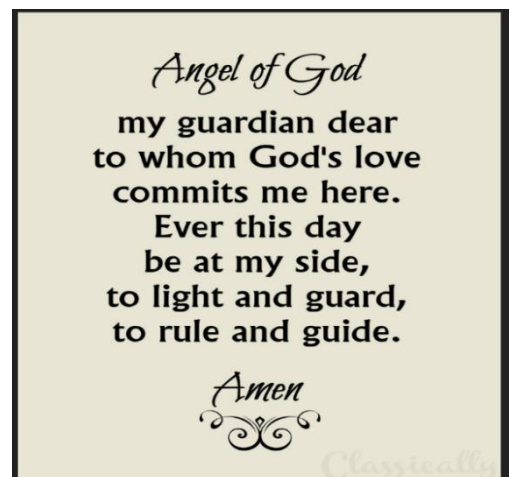
Please see below a note of thanks from Catholic Care Community Outreach Worker, Sally Butler:



To our good friends at Our Lady of the Way,

*Our heartfelt thanks for the generosity and abundance of your donations for clients of the Springwood Drop-In Centre. An overwhelming and abundant offering indeed! Week in and week out we welcome a steadily increasing number of people to the centre, seeking food and personal care items, a cuppa and chat and a friendly smile. Your donations will go a long way to supporting us in walking with many doing it tough in our community, THANK YOU. If an opportunity arises, I would love to 'drop-in' and offer a personal thanks directly to the parish in the hopes of establishing a firm and continuing friendship 😊
 Warmest and Wellness,*

*Sally Butler
 Community Outreach Worker*



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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, 3rd 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) for information on reconciliation, communion and confirmation.

Diocese of Parramatta Notices:

Marriage Preparation Courses in 2023

Getting married in 2023? Let the Diocese of Parramatta help you prepare. Visit

www.parracatholic.org/pmp to view weekend course dates in the New Year, to book and pay. An online preparation called *SmartLoving* can also be booked via the website. For more information, email met@parracatholic.org or phone Karin on 0419 242 435 or Marisa on 0412 280 017.

Diocese of Parramatta Wedding Anniversary Mass: 29 October

The annual Diocese of Parramatta Wedding Anniversary Mass will be held on Sunday 29 October at 11am at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Bishop Vincent will celebrate Solemn Mass, followed by a light lunch at the Cathedral Hall. All couples celebrating a significant wedding anniversary will receive a certificate from Bishop Vincent. Please register your name, years of marriage and numbers attending at marriage@parracatholic.org or phone (02) 8838 3460 by 20 October. Family and friends are welcome.

Free Holiday Camp / Respite: Knox Grammar School Boarding Facility, Wahroonga. December 7-10. For more information: Jim Potts 0421 125 722

Rydalmere Parish Perpetual Adoration Chapel now open: Holy Name of Mary Parish, Rydalmere, has a new Adoration Chapel that is open to the public 24/7 located at 4 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere. Fr Chadi welcomes everyone to the Chapel. For after-hours access please contact the Parish Office or Blake on (02) 9684 1541 or admin@holymary.org.au

Free English and Citizenship Classes: Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are offering English and Citizenship classes at Mamre House, 181 Mamre Rd, Orchard Hills, on a Tuesday and Wednesday from 10am to 2pm during school terms. Free childcare is available. If you are interested in enrolling, please contact Mamre Crèche on (02) 8843 2506 or Nepean Community College (02) 4724 9000.

Saints of the week:

Oct 2nd – The Holy Guardian Angels

Oct 3rd – St. (Mother) Theodore Guerin

Oct 4th – St. Francis of Assisi

Oct 5th – St. Faustina Kowalska

Oct 6th – St. Bruno

Oct 7th – Our Lady of the Rosary

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