

# 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, 24th September 2023 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

### **Entrance Antiphon**

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.  
Should they cry to me in any distress,  
I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

### **First Reading**

[Isaiah 55:6-9](#)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*My thoughts are not your thoughts.*

Seek the Lord while he is still to be  
found, call to him while he is still near.

Let the wicked man abandon his way,  
the evil man his thoughts.

Let him turn back to the Lord who will  
take pity on him, to our God who is rich in  
forgiving; for my thoughts are not your  
thoughts, my ways not your ways – it is  
the Lord who speaks.

Yes, the heavens are as high above  
earth as my ways are above your ways,  
my thoughts above your thoughts.

### **Responsorial Psalm.**

[Ps 144:2-3. 8-9. 17-18. R. v.18](#)

**(R.) The Lord is near to all who call  
him.**

1. I will bless you day after day  
and praise your name for ever.  
the Lord is great, highly to be praised,  
his greatness cannot be measured. **(R.)**
2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
How good is the Lord to all,  
compassionate to all his creatures. **(R.)**

3. The Lord is just in all his ways  
and loving in all his deeds.

He is close to all who call him,  
who call on him from their hearts. **(R.)**

### **Second Reading**

[Philippians 1:20-24. 27](#)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

*For me to live is Christ.*

Christ will be glorified in my body,  
whether by my life or by my death. Life to  
me, of course, is Christ, but then death  
would bring me something more; but then  
again, if living in this body means doing  
work which is having good results – I do  
not know what I should choose. I am  
caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone  
and be with Christ, which would be very  
much the better, but for me to stay alive  
in this body is a more urgent need for  
your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that  
would be unworthy of the gospel of  
Christ.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

[See Acts of the Apostles 16:14](#)

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Open our hearts, O Lord,  
to listen to the words of your Son.

**Alleluia!**



## **Gospel** [Matthew 20:1-16](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*Why are you jealous because I am generous?*

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, “You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage.” So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, “Why have you been standing here idle all day?” “Because no one has hired us” they answered. He said to them, “You go into my vineyard too.” In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, “Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first.” So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner.

“The men who came last” they said “have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day’s work in all the heat.” He answered one of them and said, “My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?” Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.’

## **Communion Antiphon.**

[Psalm 118:4-5](#)

You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept;  
may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

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*Prayer to*  
**ST. MICHAEL  
THE ARCHANGEL**  
St. Michael the Archangel,  
defend us in battle.  
Be our defense against the wickedness  
and snares of the Devil.  
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,  
and do thou,  
O Prince of the heavenly hosts,  
by the power of God,  
thrust into hell Satan,  
and all the evil spirits,  
who prowl about the world  
seeking the ruin of souls.  
*Amen.*  
www.PsalmsandthePilgrimDaughter.com  
www.TheBestCatholic.com

**Let us pray:** We pray for those recently deceased; and for Lou Deutscher, Mary Cook, 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, Deacon George Bryan, 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:

**Sacramental news:** Thank you for praying for the children and their families who made their Sacrament of Confirmation. Thanks, and blessings, Cate



**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 [emuplaina@parracatholic.org](mailto:emuplaina@parracatholic.org)

**Baptisms:** The Parish joyfully welcomes Elarah Humphrys, Jeremiah Jenkins and Kevin Rose into our Faith Community. May God bless these children and their families.

**Playgroup:** Meets every second Tuesday in the Parish Hall at 10am. Our next playgroup will be 10<sup>th</sup> 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).

**Become a Catechist:** Sharing the Gospel with students in our public schools is an important ministry in our Parish. 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.

### Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
23/24 Sept	<i>Deacon Batsirai</i> <i>Stevenie Harman</i> JS: Alex Tuballa C: Trish Ryan R: Marie McLennan	<i>Mark Norbury</i> <i>John Lo Cascio</i> JS: Evie Milroy & Soraya <i>Laurendet</i> C: Paul Ryan R: Jessica Topp	<i>Lara Roser</i> <i>Noeline Bangel</i> Connie Reid <b>Heather Barlow (Visit only)</b> JS: Jonah Ellis & Hugo Watson C: Marianne Castor R: Denise Robens
30 Sept/ 1 Oct	<i>John Cowen</i> <i>Beth Nowland</i> JS: Alex Tuballa & Josie Henderson C: Debra Gleeson R: Victor Tuballa	<i>Deacon Batsirai</i> <i>Matthew Topp</i> JS: Evie Milroy C: Geraldine Waters R: Sue Mouthaan	<i>Lara Roser</i> David Green <b>Kay Walker (Visit)</b> JS: Matthew Hamilton & Kate Fenning C: Don Robens R: Brett Wright

### 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.

We look forward to seeing you there!

### 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.

**Season of Creation** - 3<sup>rd</sup> September to 4<sup>th</sup> October: helping us focus on the need to care for Creation. 2023 theme is **Let Justice and Peace**

**Flow. More information**

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



## A PRAYER IN TIMES OF DISASTER



God with us in light and darkest days –

We pray for all impacted by earthquake, flood or other disaster: survivors, displaced people, loved ones, lost ones.

Where there's life, let there be rescue.

Where there's need, let there be care.

Where there's loss, let there be consolation.

We pray for all on the ground, responding with urgency: emergency workers, medics, people donating food and blood.

Where there's fear, let there be hope.

Where there's confusion, let there be clarity.

Where there's weariness, let there be rest.

As we pray for people directly affected, we pray also for ourselves: aware, far-off, watching on.

Where there's compassion, let there be action.

Where there's love, let there be solidarity.

Where there's concern, let there be generosity.

God with us in light and darkest days –  
hear our prayer.

Amen.

by Dr Rebekah Pryor/Caritas Australia, September 2023



## 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:

**Glenmore Park St Padre Pio Feast Day Celebrations** You are invited to celebrate the feast of St Padre Pio. There are numerous blessings received by his intercession.

**Feast Day: Sunday 24 September. At 10am: Solemn Procession with the Relic of St. Padre Pio, Solemn Feast Day Mass, Veneration and Blessing by the Relic of St. Padre, Other festivities.**

**Address:** 34 William Howell Drive, Glenmore Park.

Enquiries: (02) 4789 2232 or [glenmorepark@parracatholic.org](mailto:glenmorepark@parracatholic.org)

**Ordination to the Presbyterate:** The Diocese of Parramatta wishes to congratulate Fr Tom Green following his ordination to the priesthood on Thursday 21 September. Visit [catholicoutlook.org](http://catholicoutlook.org) in the coming week for an article and photographs from the ordination. We pray that he might be a faithful servant of God and wish him well in his new priestly ministry.

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

## **Marriage Preparation Courses in 2023**

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

[www.parracatholic.org/pmp](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:marriage@parracatholic.org) or phone (02) 8838 3460 by 20 October. Family and friends are welcome.

## Saints of the week:

Sept 25th – Blessed Herman 'the Cripple' of Reichenau

Sept 26th – Ss Cosmos & Damian, Martyrs

Sept 27th – St. Vincent de Paul

Sept 28th – St. Wenceslaus, Martyr

Sept 29th – Ss. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels

Sept 30th – St. Jerome, Doctor



[https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/images/saints/Archangels\\_29September.jpg](https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/images/saints/Archangels_29September.jpg)

## 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