

# 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*



19 Troy St, Emu Plains

Phone: 4735 1041

Email: [emuplains@parracatholic.org](mailto:emuplains@parracatholic.org)

Web: <https://catholicparishemuplains.org.au/>

## Sunday, 15th October 2023 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

### **Entrance Antiphon** Cf Psalm 129:3-4

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,  
Lord, who could stand?  
But with you is found forgiveness,  
O God of Israel.



### **First Reading** Isaiah 25:6-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*The Lord will prepare a feast and  
will wipe away the tears from every cheek.*

On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all people a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines, of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines. On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death for ever. The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so. That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation; the Lord is the one in whom we hoped. We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us; for the hand of the Lord rests on this mountain.

### **Responsorial Psalm** Ps 22. R. v.6

**(R.) I shall live in the house of the Lord  
all the days of my life.**

1. The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.

Fresh and green are the pastures  
where he gives me repose.

Near restful waters he leads me,  
to revive my drooping spirit. (R.)

2. He guides me along the right path;  
he is true to his name. If I should walk  
in the valley of darkness no evil would I  
fear. You are there with your crook and  
your staff; with these you give me  
comfort. (R.)
3. You have prepared a banquet for me  
in the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil;  
my cup is overflowing. (R.)
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall  
follow me all the days of my life.  
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell  
for ever and ever. (R.)

### **Second Reading** Philippians 4:12-14. 19-20

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

*I am able to do all things in him who strengthens me.*

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

## **Gospel Acclamation**

[See 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 22:1-14](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*Whomsoever you find invite to the wedding.*

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited" he said "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He dispatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite

everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out onto the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests. When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, "How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?" And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

## **Communion Antiphon.** [Cf Psalm 33:11](#)

The rich suffer want and go hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

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**"I prefer death in Christ Jesus  
to power over the farthest  
limits of the earth.  
He who died in place of us is  
the one object of my quest.  
He who rose for our sakes is  
my one desire"**

**~ St. Ignatius of Antioch ~**

**Let us pray:** We pray for recently deceased Kaye Simpson (Anne Deutscher's sister), Michael O'Sullivan and Patricia Sheather; and for Reg Levinge and Bernard Levinge 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, Irene Donley, Brian O'Hara, Desley Mulock, June Wilson, Kristina Majstorovic, Leo Bahlmann, 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:

**We warmly welcome Fr Ignatius Vu Tuan who is celebrating Mass with us this weekend.**

Fr Michael, Deacon Batsirai and Bellinda Henderson (Parish Pastoral Council) are delegates at the Diocesan Synod from Friday 13<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October. Please keep them in your prayers.

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



**Cleaners needed:** We are in urgent need of two people to assist with church cleaning every second Friday from 9:30am-11:00am. The next date will be Friday 27<sup>th</sup> 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 are in need of a couple of people or a family to assist with hospitality on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month, after the 9:30am Mass. This involves setting up for morning tea, serving tea/coffee and cleaning up afterwards. If anyone would like to help, please call the Parish Office on 4735 1041.

**Playgroup:** Meets every second Tuesday in the Parish Hall at 10am. Our next playgroup will be 24<sup>th</sup> October. 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).

**Volunteers at Edinglassie:** Volunteer badges are available for collection at the rear of the church.

### Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
14/15 Oct	<u>Deacon Batsirai</u> <u>John Cowen</u> JS: Alex <u>Tuballa</u> & Josie Henderson C: Lynne <u>Castellari</u> R: Mary <u>Balam</u>	<u>Matthew Topp</u> <u>John Lo Cascio</u> JS: Evie Milroy C: Maria <u>Sirrotti</u> R: Kay Walker	<u>Hartley Dhyon</u> <u>Noeline Bagne!</u> <u>Denise Robens</u> <b>Heather Barlow (Visit only)</b> JS: Matthew Hamilton & Jonah Ellis C: Lisa <u>Samojlowicz</u> R: Courtney Hamilton
21/22 Oct	<u>Stevenie Harman</u> <u>Debra Gleeson</u> JS: Alex <u>Tuballa</u> & Josie Henderson C: Phillip Youngman R: Marie McLennan	<u>Deacon Batsirai</u> <u>Matthew Topp</u> JS: Soraya <u>Laurendet</u> C: Paul Ryan R: Jessica <u>Topp</u>	<u>Lara Roser</u> <u>David Green</u> <b>Kay Walker (Visit)</b> JS: Hugo Watson & Kate <u>Fenning</u> C: Marianne Castor R: Denise <u>Robens</u>

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



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

### Catholic Care Emergency Food Drive.

**21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> Oct** Next weekend we will be collecting grocery items for those in need. Please consider popping an extra pantry item or two (eg Cereal, tinned fish,) in your weekly shopping basket to help those in need, then place it at rear of the church **next weekend**. Your assistance is greatly appreciated. **Thank you.**

### Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Our next program for adults who wish to consider joining our Catholic community will begin in mid-October and conclude at the Easter Vigil in 2024. If you know anyone who would like to join our course please contact the Parish Office on 4735 1041 or [emuplains@parracatholic.org](mailto:emuplains@parracatholic.org).

**HSC and IB:** The HSC commenced on Wednesday 11th October and concludes on Friday 3rd November. (Also, the IB commences on 24<sup>th</sup> October and concludes on 10<sup>th</sup> November.) **We ask you to pray for our HSC and IB students during this time.**  
*Prayer cards are available at the rear of the church.*

**All Souls Day: 2<sup>nd</sup> November** is a day of prayer and remembrance for the souls of those who have died. We shall have 6:00pm Mass, and there will be an opportunity during the Mass for you to light a candle for a loved one. You are welcome to invite your family and friends to this special Mass. More information to come.

**Care for our Common Home:** Penrith City Council **Bushcare: Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October**, 9am Hollier Reserve (M4 end of Troy St - enter via Tattersall Pl). Volunteers needed. Jim 0421 125 722

### 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:

**Positions Vacant:** Communications Manager – Diocese of Parramatta – **Applications close 10pm on Wednesday 1 November 2023.** More details at: [parracatholic.org/employment](http://parracatholic.org/employment)

**St Finbar's Biblical and Theological Lecture Series "Women in the Bible": A Presentation by Dr Debra Snoddy.** Lecturer in Biblical Studies at Catholic Institute of Sydney. When: 24 th October 2023, starting at 7.30pm. Where: St Finbar's Parish Hall, 52 Levy Street, Glenbrook 2773. Cost: Donation. RSVP: [secretary@stfinbars.org.au](mailto:secretary@stfinbars.org.au)

### **Ministry of Communion to Sick & Dying Workshop: 21 October**

On Saturday 21 October, the MET Worship team will be offering an ongoing formation session for Ministry of Communion to the Sick and Dying. It will be held from 9:30am until 2pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. Morning tea and lunch will be provided. We have limited spaces available so please RSVP to Mary by 16 October at [mary.gale@parracatholic.org](mailto:mary.gale@parracatholic.org) or 0460 037 795.

**Masterclass for Sponsor Married Couples: 19 October** Have you been married for more than 5 years? Committed to living the sacrament of Marriage? Willing to give time limited assistance to couples preparing for marriage? Join us for a Masterclass on Thursday 19 October at 7.30pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown, on Sponsoring engaged couples in your Parish using the Smart-Loving Engaged Online program. To book your attendance or to ask further questions, please email [marriage@parracatholic.org](mailto:marriage@parracatholic.org) or phone Marisa on (02) 8838 3460.

**Long Term Volunteer Opportunities in the Australia-Pacific Region - The Cagliari Project, Salesians of Don Bosco:** We are seeking long term (6-12 month) volunteers for departure in January 2024 to work with young people in our Salesian communities in Samoa, Cambodia, Timor Leste, Solomon Islands and Australia. Applications close October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023. Send us an enquiry - [www.cagliari.org.au](http://www.cagliari.org.au) or [lhichaaba@salesians.org.au](mailto:lhichaaba@salesians.org.au)

### Saints of the week:

Oct 16th – St. Gerard Majella, St Margaret Mary Alacoque  
Oct 17th – St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr  
Oct 18th – St. Luke, Evangelist  
Oct 19th – St. Paul of the Cross  
Oct 20th – St. Irene  
Oct 21st – St. Laura Montoya Upegui

### 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