

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, 8th October 2023 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

Entrance Antiphon Cf Esther 4:17

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

First Reading [Isaiah 5:1-7](#)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The vineyard of the Lord God of hosts is the House of Israel.

Let me sing to my friend the song of his love for his vineyard. My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. He dug the soil, cleared it of stones, and planted choice vines in it. In the middle he built a tower, he dug a press there too. He expected it to yield grapes, but sour grapes were all that it gave. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, I ask you to judge between my vineyard and me. What could I have done for my vineyard that I have not done? I expected it to yield grapes. Why did it yield sour grapes instead? Very well, I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on, and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on. I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug; overgrown by the briar and the thorn. I will command the clouds to rain no rain on it. Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the

House of Israel, and the men of Judah that chosen plant. He expected justice, but found bloodshed, integrity, but only a cry of distress.

Responsorial Psalm. [Ps 79:9. 12-16. 19-20. R. Is 5:7](#)

(R.) The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

1. You brought a vine out of Egypt; to plant it you drove out the nations. It stretched out its branches to the sea, to the Great River it stretched out its shoots. **(R.)**
2. Then why have you broken down its walls? It is plucked by all who pass by. It is ravaged by the boar of the forest, devoured by the beasts of the field. **(R.)**
3. God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see. Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted. **(R.)**
4. And we shall never forsake you again: give us life that we may call upon your name. God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved. **(R.)**

Second Reading [Philippians 4:6-9](#)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians
Do these things and the God of peace will be with you.

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

Gospel Acclamation [See John 15:15](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father.

Alleluia!

Gospel [Matthew 21:33-43](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

He leased his vineyard to other farmers.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger

number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son," he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures:

It was the stone rejected by the builders that became the keystone.

This was the Lord's doing and it is wonderful to see?

'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

Communion Antiphon. [Lam 3:25](#)

The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.

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Let us pray: We pray for recently deceased Kaye Simpson (Anne Deutscher's sister) and Patricia Sheather; and for Paul Joseph Reeves whose death anniversary is 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, 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)



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 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 serving morning tea after Mass. Most recently, they 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. 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).



Life Ascending Group: Life Ascending is a Spiritual Wellbeing group for people over the age of 55. The group offers you the opportunity to reflect and discuss the scriptures and our faith. Our next meeting is on Wednesday 18th October, commencing 10am, at Kay Walker's home - 197 River Rd Leonay. All welcome.

Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
7/8 Oct	<u>Stevenie Harman</u> <u>Michael Manton</u> JS: Alex Tuballa & Josie Henderson C: Debra Gleeson R: <u>Bellinda Henderson</u>	<u>Jessica Topp</u> <u>Barbara Ryan</u> JS: Evie Milroy <u>Gabe Manouk</u> Helen Larsen	<u>Deacon Batsirai</u> <u>Hartley Dhyon</u> <u>Connie Reid</u> Heather Barlow (Visit only) JS: Nicholas Hamilton & Hugo Watson C: Trish Boyle R: Matthew Hamilton
14/15 Oct	<u>Deacon Batsirai</u> <u>John Cowen</u> JS: Alex Tuballa & Josie Henderson C: Lynne <u>Castellari</u> R: <u>Mary Balam</u>	<u>Matthew Topp</u> <u>John Lo Cascio</u> JS: Evie Milroy C: Maria <u>Sirotti</u> R: Kay Walker	<u>Hartley Dhyon</u> Noeline <u>Bagne!</u> Denise <u>Robens</u> Heather Barlow (Visit only) JS: Matthew Hamilton & Jonah Ellis C: Lisa <u>Samojlowicz</u> R: Courtney Hamilton

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.

Baptisms: The Parish joyfully welcomes Noah Gitz, Maverick Jenkins, Ana Morgan and Jasmine Pappas into our Faith Community. May God bless these children and their families.

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

The HSC commences on Wednesday 11th October and concludes on Friday 3rd November.

We ask you to pray for our HSC students during this time.

Heavenly Father,

We bring before You our HSC students.

Give them the gifts of wisdom, right judgement, knowledge and courage.

Bless them with calm hearts and clarity of mind as they sit for their exams.

May they be affirmed in their efforts and may they know that You are with them.

We pray that they will stay calm under pressure and work to the best of their ability.

May they feel Your loving presence in their lives, now and always, and may they be strengthened by the prayerful support of us, their parish community.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit now and forever. Amen.

Diocese of Parramatta/Catholic Youth Parramatta

Prayer cards are available at the rear of the church.

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

Catholic Care Circle of Security Education Program: Starts 11 October

Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains is running an online parenting series via Zoom for parents or caregivers of children from birth to 18 to make sense of what your child is really asking from you, and how to strengthen the parent-child relationship. The sessions will run each Wednesday from 10am to 12.30pm from 11 October to 29 November. The cost is \$105, with discount or free training offers available to eligible families. To register and for enquiries, please call (02) 8843 2500 or email enquiries@catholiccarewsbm.org.au

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:

FREE Subscription: Weekly Scripture Reflections by Dr Laurie Woods - Weekend Readings. Just email Laurie: lauriewoods74@gmail.com

(CO) Celebrate the opening of our first-ever Diocesan Synod! All members of the faithful young and young at heart are invited to celebrate the beginning of the first-ever Diocesan Synod at LIFTED Live in the Forecourt: Bridge to the Synod on **Thursday 12 October** at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta from 6.30pm. Experience and celebrate our young Church with live music, prayer, stalls, games and more!

A special Healing Mass with guest, Fr John Iacono C.S at Holy Name of Mary Parish, Rydalmere, Friday 13 October. Everyone, of all ages, is welcome and invited to receive the healing power of God. There will be confession, the recitation of the Holy Rosary, a candlelight procession, documentary of the life of Fr. John, and the celebration of Holy Mass. Clergy who wish to concelebrate the Mass are asked to bring white vestments. RSVP to admin@holymary.org.au

Long Term Volunteer Opportunities in the Australia-Pacific Region - The Cagliero Project, Salesians of Don Bosco: Seeking long term (6-12 mth) volunteers for departure in Jan. 2024 to work with young people in our Salesian communities in Samoa, Cambodia, Timor Leste, Solomon Islands and Australia. Applications close 31/10/23. Enquiries www.cagliero.org.au or lhichaaba@salesians.org.au

World Rosary Day All Catholics around the world are invited to pray the Holy Rosary together on Friday, October 13 at 3:00pm (Sydney time). The date marks the 106th Anniversary of the last apparition of Our Lady of Fatima to three children. Please visit this website: worldrosaryhour.com .

Catholic Care Keeping Kids in Mind Education Program: Starts 16 October Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains, in partnership with CatholicCare Broken Bay, CatholicCare Sydney and CatholicCare Wollongong, are running a five-week online program via Zoom on supporting children following family separation. The course begins with a pre-session on 16 October from 6pm to 7pm, with a session each Monday from 6pm to 8.45pm from 23 October to 20 November. The cost is \$10 for workbooks and minimum postage fees. All participants must participate in a pre-group interview. For enquiries, please contact (02) 8843 2500 or email enquiries@catholiccarewsbm.org.au

Saints of the week:

Oct 9th – St. John Henry Newman
Oct 10th – St. Patrician, Bishop
Oct 11th – The Maternity of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
_ St. John XXIII, Pope
Oct 12th – Bl. Carlo Acutis
Oct 13th – St. Edward the Confessor
Oct 14th – St. Callistus I, Pope & Martyr

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