

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, 26th November 2023. Christ the King, Year A.

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

Entrance Antiphon [Revelation 5:12; 1:6](#)

How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

First Reading [Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17](#)

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

You, my flock, I judge between sheep and sheep.

The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view. As a shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest – it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them.

As for you, my sheep, the Lord says this: I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and he-goats.

Responsorial Psalm. [Ps 22:1-3, 5-6, R. see v.1](#)

**(R.) The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.**

1. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose. (R.)

2. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit.
He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. (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 [1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28](#)

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

He will hand over the kingdom to God the Father, so that God may be all in all.

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death. And when everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will be subject in his turn to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all.

Gospel Acclamation Mark 11:9-10

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!

Alleluia!



Gospel Matthew 25:31-46

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

He will take his seat on his throne of glory, and he will separate men one from another.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left. Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we

see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?" And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me." Next he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me." Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?" Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me." And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.'

Communion Antiphon. Psalms 28:10-11

The Lord sits as King for ever.

The Lord will bless his people with peace.

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Let us pray: We pray for recently deceased Felipa Paraguya, Sr Elizabeth Amputch RSCJ (sister of John Amputch) and Robert Malouf; and for Noela Goodwin, Stanislaw Piekларz, Joseph Charles Reeves, Christina Mary Reeves and Judy Clements 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, Kaye Bryan, Laurie Doohan, Irene Donley, Desley Mulock, June Wilson, Kristina Majstorovic, Leo Bahlmann, Trish McGettigan, Pauline Balkin, Mary Goyed, Valerie Plummer, Shirley Harman, Dot Gray, June Sultana, Stuart Cameron, 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:

Christmas Choir practice will be in the Church starting at 7.30 on **Tuesday evening 28th November**. All welcome.

Cuppa and a Chat: Please join us for a cuppa and a bite to eat after Mass. This month, the last gathering is on the 26th November (after the 9:30am Mass).



Playgroup: Playgroup runs fortnightly at 10am Tuesday in the Parish Hall. The next meeting is the 5th December. 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).

Deanery Pastoral Council Vacancy: Deanery Pastoral Councils (DPC's) have been active in our diocese for the last 6 years, with two parishioners representing our parish during this time. Members of our DPC have been involved with organising our parish response to events such as the Plenary Council and recently the diocesan Synod. We now wish to appoint another parishioner to the DPC. This is a rewarding opportunity to be a voice for our parish and to work with other parishioners in our local deanery. If you are interested, please speak with Fr Michael or call the office on 47351041.

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 training is provided. It involves one 30 minute class per week plus a little time to prepare the lesson. You are most welcome to begin as an assistant catechist. 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
25/26 November	John Cowen Anne Deutscher JS: Alex Tuballa & Josie Henderson C: Phillip Youngman R: Victor Tuballa	Jessica Topp John Lo Cascio JS: Evie Milroy C: Geraldine Waters R: Sue Mouthaan	Deacon Batsirai Matthew Topp David Green Heather Barlow (Visit only) JS: Jonah Ellis & Kate Fenning C: Don Robens R: Brett Wright
2/3 December	Stevenie Harman Michael Manton JS: Alex Tuballa & Josie Henderson C: Trish Ryan R: Bellinda Henderson	Deacon Batsirai Mark Norbury JS: Evie Milroy Gabe Manouk Helen Larsen	Lara Roser Connie Reid Denise Robens (Visit) JS: Nicholas Hamilton & Hugo Watson C: Trish Boyle R: Matthew Hamilton

Infant Baptisms: We warmly welcome Hollie Fenwick, Remy Johnston, Lola Power and Harvey Tanti into our Faith Community. May God bless these children and their families.

Bishop's Christmas Appeal for Catholic Care chaplaincy services: 25th and 26th November

Will you support our chaplains to listen with the ear of the heart? Your compassionate generosity and prayers will help our 15 Catholic Care chaplains to provide pastoral, spiritual, and sacramental support to seriously ill, lonely, and distraught people this Christmas. Please give generously to the Bishop's Christmas Appeal at yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal, or by scanning the QR code. Alternatively, there are envelopes available on the church pews. Thank you.



November Masses: In November we remember the



Faithful Departed – those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith. *“And because he considered that they who had fallen asleep with Godliness, had great grace laid up for them. It is therefore a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from sins.” 2 Maccabees 12:45-46.*

We have the **Remembrance Book** at the front of the church. You are welcome to put the names of your departed family and friends in the box provided. They will be remembered at the Masses throughout November.

November Mass intention envelopes are also available at the front and rear of the church.

Epiphany Pilgrimage and Fiesta 2024:

Commit the first fruits of your new year to Christ with the 2024 Epiphany Pilgrimage (2 - 9 Jan 2024). Enjoy 7 days of bushwalking, fellowship and prayer as we journey from Emu Plains to the top of the Blue Mountains, experiencing the wonderful hospitality of parish communities along the way. Day 1 is a family-friendly day, with the option for a children's pilgrimage finishing with the Finnies Fiesta at St Finbar's Glenbrook. For more information and to register for all or part of the journey, visit www.epiphanypilgrimage.org.

Columban Calendars are now available to purchase for \$10 each at the rear of the church.

Vinnies Christmas Cards are also available to purchase for \$10 per pack.

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:

Glenbrook Parish Christmas concert: 10 December St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook, invite you to their annual Christmas concert event on Sunday 10 December at 7.30pm in the parish church. The evening will include choir and musical performances alongside themed readings for Christmas. Suggested donations for entry are \$15 for individuals and \$35 for families. For enquiries, please contact 0421 105 017.

Donate to Caritas Australia's Gaza Appeal Following a series of surprise attacks against Israel by Hamas in early October, Caritas Australia is supporting partner agencies on the ground to provide emergency cash, shelter, and psychosocial support to those affected by the violence. To support this appeal, visit www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/gaza-crisis/ or call 1800 024 413 toll free.

ADVENT SERIES: On each Wednesday before the Sundays of Advent, Br Barry Donaghue cfc, D Min, will host 4 presentations in preparation for the commemoration of the birth of Jesus. Dates: Nov 29. Dec 6, 13, 20. Time: 7.30 – 9.00 pm. Place: Edmund Rice Centre, Winbourne, 1315 Mulgoa Rd, Mulgoa, NSW 2745. Cost: Donation. The talks will be based on the Advent scriptures, including time for questions, reflection and discussion. Next door parking; wheelchair accessible. For catering purposes, please call or text Br Barry on 0478408337 or email him at bqdonaghue@edmundrice.org

Diocesan outreach assistants – Aid to the Church in need (ACN) is recruiting for a number of Diocesan Outreach Assistants who will deliver monthly presentations in parishes across Sydney, Broken Bay and Maitland-Newcastle. For more information and to view the full job ad go to: <https://aidtochurch.org/work-with-us>

Positions Vacant: * Liturgy Administration Support – Mission Enhancement Team, Diocese of Parramatta – **Applications close 24 November 2023.** *Youth Coordinator (part-time) - St Bernadette's Parish, Castle Hill – **Applications close Thursday 30 November 2023.** parracatholic.org/employment

Free 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. Contact Mamre Crèche on (02) 8843 2506 or Nepean Community College (02) 4724 9000.

Saints of the week:

Nov 27th – Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal
Nov 28th – St Catherine Labouré
Nov 29th – Our Lady of the Golden Heart
Nov 30th – St. Andrew, Apostle
Dec 1st – St. Edmund Campion
Dec 2nd – St. Bibiana, Virgin & 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