

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

Sunday, 5th November 2023. 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

Entrance Antiphon Cf Psalm 37:22-23

Forsake me not, O Lord, my God;
be not far from me!
Make haste and come to my help,
O Lord, my strong salvation!

First Reading

Malachi 1:14 – 2:2. 8-10

A reading from the prophet Malachi

You have strayed from the way, you have caused many to stumble by your teaching.

I am a great king, says the Lord of hosts, and my name is feared throughout the nations. And now, priests, this warning is for you. If you do not listen, if you do not find it in your heart to glorify my name, says the Lord of hosts, I will send the curse on you and curse your very blessing. You have strayed from the way; you have caused many to stumble by your teaching. You have destroyed the covenant of Levi, says the Lord of hosts. And so I in my turn have made you contemptible and vile in the eyes of the whole people in repayment for the way you have not kept to my paths but have shown partiality in your administration.

Have we not all one Father? Did not one God create us? Why, then, do we break faith with one another, profaning the covenant of our ancestors?

Responsorial Psalm Ps 130

(R.) In you, Lord, I have found my peace.

1. O Lord, my heart is not proud nor haughty my eyes.
I have not gone after things too great nor marvels beyond me. **(R.)**
2. Truly I have set my soul in silence and peace.
A weaned child on its mother's breast, even so is my soul. **(R.)**
3. O Israel, hope in the Lord both now and for ever. **(R.)**

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 2:7-9. 13

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

We were eager to hand over to you not only the Good News but our lives as well.

Like a mother feeding and looking after her own children, we felt so devoted and protective towards you, and had come to love you so much, that we were eager to hand over to you not only the Good News but our whole lives as well. Let me remind you, brothers, how hard we used to work, slaving night and day so as not to be a burden on any one of you while we were proclaiming God's Good News to you.

Another reason why we constantly thank God for you is that as soon as you heard the message that we brought you as

God's message, you accepted it for what it really is, God's message and not some human thinking; and it is still a living power among you who believe it.

Gospel Acclamation [Matthew 23:9-10](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

You have one Father, your Father in heaven; you have one teacher: the Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia!

Gospel [Matthew 23:1-12](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

They do not practise what they preach.

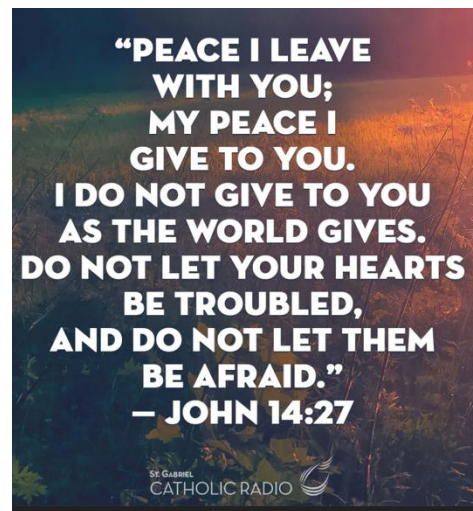
Addressing the people and his disciples Jesus said, 'The scribes and the Pharisees occupy the chair of Moses. You must therefore do what they tell you and listen to what they say; but do not be guided by what they do: since they do not practise what they preach. They tie up heavy burdens and lay them on men's shoulders, but will they lift a finger to move them? Not they! Everything they do is done to attract attention, like wearing broader phylacteries and longer tassels, like wanting to take the place of honour at banquets and the front seats in the synagogues, being greeted obsequiously in the market squares and having people call them Rabbi.

'You, however, must not allow yourselves to be called Rabbi, since you have only one Master, and you are all brothers. You must call no one on earth your father, since you have only one Father, and he is in heaven. Nor must you allow yourselves to be called teachers, for you have only one Teacher, the Christ. The greatest among you must be your servant. Anyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and anyone who humbles himself will be exalted.'

Communion Antiphon. [Cf Psalm 15:11](#)

You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.

© The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved. The prayers are from the English Translation of the Roman Missal © 2010 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved



Let us pray: We pray for recently deceased Rebecca Cook, Geoffrey Gathuku and Brian O'Hara; and for Desmond Donoghue and Frank Lindsay, 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, 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:

Fr Michael is currently in Kenya with his family, grieving the passing of his father, Geoffrey Gathuku. He is due to return on 8th November. Please keep Fr Michael and his family in your prayers.

We warmly welcome Fr Joe Manjaly and Fr Porathur Joy (PJ) from the Penrith Parish who will be celebrating Mass with us this weekend.

We thank Fr Chinonye Akamadu, Fr Joe Manjaly and Fr Vincent Musindalo who have celebrated some weekday Masses in Fr Michael's absence. Also, thank you to Deacon Batsirai and our Senior Servers who have been doing extra duties during this time.

Changes to reconciliation and weekday Mass times this week:

Reconciliation – There will be no reconciliation this Saturday (4/11).

Weekday Mass –

Tuesday 07/11: No Mass or Communion Service

Wednesday 08/11: 9am Mass

Thursday 09/11: 9am Communion Service

Friday 10/11: 9am Communion Service OR Mass (TBC)

Please join us for a cuppa and a bite to eat after Mass.

This month, we will be gathering on:

11th November (after the 6:00pm Mass – please note this has changed to the 2nd Sat. for this month only)

12th November (after the 9:30am Mass)

19th November (after the 8:00am Mass)

26th November (after the 9:30 Mass)

If you are also able to help out on the 4th Sunday, please call the Parish Office on 4735 1041.

Playgroup: Meets every second Tuesday in the Parish Hall at 10am. Our next playgroup will be the 7th November. All are 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).

Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
4/5 November	Stevenie Harman Beth Nowland JS: Alex Tuballa & Josie Henderson C: Debra Gleeson R: Bellinda Henderson	Jessica Topp John Lo Cascio JS: Evie Milroy C: Gabe Manouk R: Helen Larsen	Deacon Batsirai Lara Roser Denise Robens (Visit) JS: Hugo Watson & Nicholas Hamilton C: Trish Boyle R: Matthew Hamilton
11/12 November	John Cowen Debra Gleeson JS: Alex Tuballa & Josie Henderson C: Louise Goderie R: Mary Balam	Mark Norbury Pat Edwards JS: Evie Milroy C: Maria Sirotti R: Kay Walker	Deacon Batsirai Matthew Topp Rebecca Carberry (Visit) JS: Matthew Hamilton & Jonah Ellis C: Lisa Samojlowicz R: Courtney Hamilton

Caring for our common home: Recycling at our Parish: A collection box for your **clean dry & empty** dental hygiene items will be outside the main doors of the church at all Masses THIS weekend (4-5 November), then every FIRST weekend of each month going forward. **NEW** - You can also deposit your **used blister packs** in the same box (script and non-script finished packages can both be deposited). Jim (0421 125 722).

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 into the box provided. They will be remembered at the Masses throughout November as we pray for all the faithful departed.

November Mass intention envelopes are also available. The priest will say a Mass daily for a specific person which is a stipend Mass (stipend, meaning donation). The amount given as a stipend is up to you, although it has been suggested that \$20 would be an appropriate gift. These envelopes can be placed in the purple box at the front of the church, in the collection basket or brought to the Parish Office.

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



Prayer for the Sacraments

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

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. We'd love for you to join us! To enquire/enrol, please speak to our Parish Catechist Coordinator, Mary Marsh, on 0408 212 437.

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:
Peta Sparkes (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:

Dads at the Shrine is a monthly hour of adoration held at the Schoenstatt Shrine in Mulgoa (**Wednesday 8 November**). The hour begins at 8pm with a brief reflection before a period of personal silent prayer. Confessions are available. The evening finishes with a cuppa. All dads are welcome. No RSVP is necessary. Any questions, contact Bernard, 0416 106 871.

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. The efforts of these partner agencies are expected to support 17,000 displaced families, representing around 100,000 of the 1 million people displaced. To support this appeal, visit www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/gaza-crisis/ or call 1800 024 413 toll free.

Parramatta Street Feast: 11 November You are invited to the Parramatta Street Feast, Saturday 11 November 2023. Come and share a meal, company and entertainment with members of our community who are on the margins of society. This free event will be held in a spirit of solidarity and friendship at the Cloister Hall, St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta, 10:30AM to 1:30PM. The Street Feast is a collaboration between the Diocese of Parramatta, PAYCE Foundation, Paynter Dixon and St. Merkorious Charity.

Saints of the week:

Nov 6th – St. Leonard of Noblac
Nov 7th – St. Ernest
Nov 8th – St. Elizabeth of the Trinity
Nov 9th – The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
Nov 10th – St. Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor
Nov 11th – St. Martin of Tours, Bishop

LOWANA STUDY CENTRE'S



Spring Fete

at MacKillop Centre

19 November 2023, Sunday

8:30 AM - 2:30 PM

COLLINS ST., ST. MARYS

NEXT TO

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CHURCH

**LIVE MUSIC, FETE GAMES, &
RAFFLE PRIZES TO BE WON**

FOOD STALLS HOMEWARE STALL
CAKE STALL PLANT STALL
ICE CREAM AND FACE PAINTING
COLD DRINKS STALL JUMPING CASTLE

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