

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, 3rd March 2024. Third Sunday in Lent Year B.

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

Entrance Antiphon Cf Psalm 24:15-16

My eyes are always on the Lord,
for he rescues my feet from the snare.
Turn to me and have mercy on me,
for I am alone and poor.

First Reading Exodus 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17

A reading from the book of Exodus

The Law was given through Moses.

God spoke all these words. He said, ‘I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

‘You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it.

‘Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy.

‘Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you.

‘You shall not kill.

‘You shall not commit adultery.

‘You shall not steal.

‘You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

‘You shall not covet your neighbour’s house. ‘You shall not covet your neighbour’s wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.’

Responsorial Psalm. Ps 18:8-11. R. Jn 6:68

(R.) Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

1. The law of the Lord is perfect, it revives the soul.
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, it gives wisdom to the simple. **(R.)**
2. The precepts of the Lord are right, they gladden the heart.
The command of the Lord is clear, it gives light to the eyes. **(R.)**
3. The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding for ever.
The decrees of the Lord are truth and all of them just. **(R.)**
4. They are more to be desired than gold, than the purest of gold
and sweeter are they than honey, than honey from the comb. **(R.)**

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 1:22-25

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

We are preaching a crucified Christ, a scandal to many, but to those who have been called, the wisdom of God.

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

Gospel Acclamation [John 3:16](#)

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel [John 2:13-25](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.'

The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

Communion Antiphon. [John 4:13-14](#)

For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord, the water I shall give will become in him a spring welling up to eternal life.

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Let us pray: We pray for recently deceased Margaret Cooper and Molly Ierci; and for those 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, Trish Micallef, Greg Pigott, Deacon George Bryan, Kaye Bryan, Laurie Doohan, Desley Mulock, June Wilson, Kristina Majstorovic, Leo Bahlmann, Trish McGettigan, Pauline Balkin, Mary Goyed, Shirley Harman, Dot Gray, June Sultana, Stuart Cameron, Mary Rose, Maria Mercieca, Marta Mederos, Sr Patricia Holligan, Lucy Mikosic, Bernadette Hoolahan, Margaret Houlihan, 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:

A **Garage Sale** will be held on **Saturday 16th March**. If you have items to donate, please bring them to the weekend Masses. *Please note that we are unable to accept furniture or electrical items.* **We also need volunteers to bake for the Bake Sale, and to assist with the BBQ on the day.** Please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the church foyer if you are able to assist. *Please also note that any baked items need to come with a list of ingredients attached.* For more information, please contact Debra Gleeson (0418 259757) or Sarah Tuballa (0439 467797).

Commissioning Mass for our Special Religious Education teachers (catechists) will be on Sunday 17th March at the 8am Mass. This is a great opportunity to see who our catechists are and to pray for them in this ministry.

Cuppa: Come for a cuppa after the 6:00pm Mass.

Playgroup: Join us fortnightly, 10am Tuesday's, in the Parish Hall. All welcome! **Next playgroup is on 5th March.** 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)



Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
2/ 3 March	Deacon Batsirai John Cowen JS: Alex Tuballa & Josie Henderson C: Trish Ryan R: Mary Balam	Matthew Topp Pat Edwards JS: Evie Milroy C: Maria Sirotti R: Kay Walker	Lara Roser Connie Reid David Green Heather Barlow (Visit only) JS: Matthew Hamilton & Nicholas Hamilton C: Lisa Samojlowicz R: Courtney Hamilton
9/10 March	Stevenie Harman Beth Nowland JS: Alex Tuballa & Josie Henderson C: Debra Gleeson R: Marie McLennan	Mark Norbury Barbara Ryan JS: Evie Milroy & Soraya Laurendet C: Paul Ryan R: Jessica Topp	Deacon Batsirai Hartley Dhyon Rebecca Carberry (Visit) JS: Kate Fenning & Jonah Ellis C: Marianne Castor R: Denise Robens

Choir Rehearsal for the Easter Vigil Mass commences **Tuesday 5th March** at 7:30pm in the Church. All welcome!

Lenten Reflection Program: In preparation for Holy Week, Deacon Batsirai will be running a Lenten Reflection Program on Friday's during Lent commencing at **5:30pm**. Please meet in the church foyer. **Theme for 8th March: I believe. "No one who believes in him will be condemned (John 3:18).**

Stations of the Cross: Every Friday during Lent, commencing at 6:30pm (following the Lenten Reflection Program).

For more information, please contact the Parish Office on 4735 1041.



Please take home a Project Compassion box or donation envelope to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and for all future generations. You can also scan the QR code, visit caritas.org.au/project-compassion or call 1800 024 413.



Planned Giving Envelopes: The 2024/2025 envelopes are now available for you to collect. If you would like to contribute using this method, please contact the Parish Office on 4735 10.

RCIA: On Sunday 18th February, our Catechumens were sent to the Cathedral with their sponsors for the Rite of Election. This recognises them as being ready to embrace the sacramental life of the church. May God bless and strengthen them, and our candidate Jordan Winckle, on this journey. From left to right: Trish Boyle, Shania Clark, Bishop Vincent, Bruce Scott, John Cowen and John Boyle.



Parish Information

Parish office open Tuesday to Friday from 9:00am to 3pm. (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:

Positions Vacant:

- Parish Cook (part-time) - St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Parramatta – **Applications close 4 March**
- Administration Assistant (part-time) - Sacred Heart Parish, Mt Druitt South and Permanent Diaconate community – **Applications close 10pm Monday 11 March**

More details at: parracatholic.org/about/jobs/

Mount Schoenstatt Shrine 24 hour with the Lord

Join in this beautiful devotion held around the world by spending some time with the Lord across 8/9 March. The evening begins with Mass at 6pm on Friday 8 March followed by confessions. Confessions held again the next day prior to the 5pm Mass to conclude. Tea/coffee and snacks will be available for purchase across the 24 hours. How long can you offer to our Lord over this time?

(<https://www.facebook.com/events/775381751130338>)

St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook, is hosting two Biblical Studies sessions on the Passion of Jesus in the Gospel of Mark on Tuesday 12 and 19 March at the parish hall from 7.30pm. Parish Priest Fr Joseph Lam OSA will lead the sessions. To RSVP and for more information, please contact secretary@stfinbars.org.au



Saints of the week:

March 4th – St. Casimir of Poland

March 5th – St. John Joseph of the Cross

March 6th – St. Colette

March 7th – Ss. Perpetua & Felicity, Martyrs

March 8th – St. John of God

March 9th – St. Frances of Rome

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