

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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Phone: 4735 1041
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Web: <https://catholicparishemuplains.org.au/>

Sunday, 28th April 2024. Fifth Sunday of Easter, Year B.

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

Entrance Antiphon Cf Psalm 97:1-2

O sing a new song to the Lord,
for he has worked wonders;
in the sight of the nations
he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

He explained how the Lord appeared to Saul and spoke to him on his journey.

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm.

Ps 21:26-28. 30-32. R. v.26

(R.) I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

1. My vows I will pay before those who fear him. The poor shall eat and shall have their fill. They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him. May their hearts live for ever and ever! **(R.)**
2. All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord, all families of the nations worship before him. They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust. **(R.)**
3. And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him. They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come, declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn: 'These things the Lord has done.' **(R.)**

Second Reading *1 John 3:18-24*

A reading from the first letter of St John

His commandments are these: that we believe and that we love one another.

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are the children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his

commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

Gospel Acclamation [John 15:4-5](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit.

Alleluia!



Gospel [John 15:1-8](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

All who live in me, and I in them, bear much fruit.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more. You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you. Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.

As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in

me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away – he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it. It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'

Communion Antiphon. [Cf John 15:1,5](#)

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

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Let us pray: We pray for recently deceased Sean McKillop; and for Harry Sloman 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, Korban Bett, Marie Pridham, Janet Giles, Jeffrey Meads, Julie Laws, Cheryl Morgan, Nerida Fabri, Greg Pigott, Michelle Gardam, Troy Rittila, Bob Scott, Trish Micallef, Deacon George Bryan, Kaye Bryan, Laurie Doohan, Desley Mulock, June Wilson, Kristina Majstorovic, 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:

Golden Jubilee Mass Celebration– 26th May:

Following the Mass on the 26th May, we will be having a celebration gathering in the hall. For catering purposes, we are asking you to register if you would like to attend this gathering. (N.B. Registration for Mass attendance is NOT required, only for the celebration gathering). To register, please see Sarah, Mary or Joanne in the church foyer before/after Mass. Alternatively, email emuplains@parracatholic.org with your family name, number attending, phone number and any food allergies.

Parish Jubilee Projects - Can you help?

Do you have any photos or videos of events in our parish since its beginnings in 1974? Can you please scan these and send them to the Parish office? We would like to make a video for our Jubilee celebrations. Any contributions valued.

Hospitality News: We are in need of 1-2 people to assist with morning tea on the second Sunday of the month after the 9:30am Mass. If you can help, please contact the Parish Office on 4735 1041.

Cuppa and a Chat: Please join us after the 9:30am Mass this weekend.

Playgroup: Playgroup runs fortnightly at 10am Tuesday in the Parish Hall. All welcome! **Next playgroup: 7th May.** 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)

Caring for our common home: A collection box for your **clean dry & empty dental hygiene items** and **used blister packs** will be outside the main doors of the church at all Masses on the FIRST weekend of each month. Dental is taken to Bupa in the Plaza, Used blister packs to Blooms in High St. Jim (0421 125 722).

Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
27/28 April	Stevenie Harman Michael Manton JS: Josie Henderson C: Trish Ryan R: Mary Balam	Mark Norbury Pat Edwards JS: Evie Milroy C: Maria <u>Sirrotti</u> R: Kay Walker	Deacon Batsirai John Cowen Denise Robens (Visit) JS: Nicolas Hamilton & Kate Fenning C: Lisa <u>Samolowicz</u> R: Courtney Hamilton
4/5 May	Deacon Batsirai John Cowen JS: Alex <u>Tuballa</u> & Josie Henderson C: Debra Gleeson R: Marie McLennan	Matthew Topp Mary Marsh JS: Evie Milroy C: Paul Ryan R: Jessica Topp	Hartley <u>Dhyon</u> Connie Reid Rebecca Carberry (Visit) JS: Matthew Hamilton & Hugo Watson C: Marianne Castor R: Denise Robens

Parish Planned Giving Program: Your donation to Planned Giving helps cover the running of the parish, the upkeep of our church and parish pastoral programs.

Please contact Joanne at the Parish Office if you would like to join the Planned Giving Program through the envelope system, or via credit card or direct debit. Alternatively, you can complete the yellow card in the church foyer and hand this to one of the church wardens. If you would like to contribute directly, the parish bank details can be found on the back of the bulletin. Please ensure you include your surname or envelope number as a reference.

Good Shepherd Appeal for our Holy Spirit Seminarians.

Your compassionate generosity and prayers will help our future priests cast their nets wide to nurture faith and meet the spiritual and pastoral needs of our community. Please give generously to the Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal at yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal, or by returning the Good Shepherd Appeal envelope during the collection. Thank you.

Baptisms: We warmly welcome Elliott Hong, Xavier Pace and William Meszaros into our Faith Community. May God bless these children and their families.

We warmly welcome Conrad and Natalia Gabriel who will be speaking at the 9:30am Mass about Worldwide Marriage Encounter.

Love One Another as I have loved you

John 15:12



Worldwide Marriage Encounter [WWME] is a weekend getaway, offering couples a special 'time-out' to enrich their marriage. Take this opportunity to step back from daily distractions and rediscover your relationship.

When: 28th -30th June 2024

Where: Mt Carmel Retreat centre, Varoiville, NSW 2566

Conrad and Natalia Gabriel will tell you more about this at the 9:30am mass on Sunday, 28th April 2024.

Book online at www.wwme.org.au or

contact Christine & Terry Mahony on 0490 774 419 or

email: nswbookings@wwme.org.au

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: Joanne Hamilton
Sacramental Co-ordinator: Cate Kensey
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:

Healing, signs and wonders with Damian Stayne (Cor et Lumen Christi Community).

4th May. 9am-5pm at Servants of Jesus Centre, Seven Hills. Damian is a lay Catholic evangelist with a ministry of prophecy, physical healing and miracles. He has ministered across the globe, equipping the church to exercise the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Wherever he has set foot, many thousands have been healed from their physical and mental distress. Others have received life impacting prophecy and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in their lives. Those who are ill or in need of a miracle are especially welcome. There will be a collection to support Damien and his team's livelihood and mission at each event. For more information contact: Servants of Jesus Centre. 15 Park Rd, Seven Hills, NSW.
Register @ servantsofjesus.org/events

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL NSW CELEBRATING PENTECOST EVE "ANOINTING"

Please join the Catholic Charismatic Renewal NSW in celebrating Pentecost Eve "Anointing" on Saturday 18th May at Servants of Jesus Centre 15 Park Road Seven Hills for an afternoon of Praise & Worship, Testimonies and Prayer. Ministry from 4-7pm hosted by youth from different streams.
Booking is essential, register with link. <https://www.trybooking.com/CPMXQ?qr=true>.
Any inquires email: email@ccrnsw.org.au

Synod 2023 Update: Local Think Tank Sessions from May-June Parishes and other local faith communities across the diocese are holding local Think Tank Sessions, giving local leaders and anyone involved in ministry to offer feedback on the Draft of the Diocesan Plan for a Synodal Church, and contribute ideas for the practical implementation of our Diocesan Plan. Contact the parish office to inquire about our local Think Tank session, and visit parracatholic.org/synod for more.

Central Europe Pilgrimage with Fr Joseph Lam OSA: May 2025 Cosmos Tour Operators are organising a Central Europe tour for 17 days from 8 to 24 May 2025, travelling through Germany, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Austria and Czechia, accompanied by Fr Joseph Lam OSA from St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook. Prices start from \$5,076 per person, excluding flights. For more information, or to register your interest, please contact the parish office on secretary@stfinbars.org.au.

Saints of the week:

April 29th – St. Catherine of Sienna, doctor
April 30th – St. Pius V, Pope
May 1st – St. Joseph the worker
May 2nd – St. Athanasius, bishop and doctor
May 3rd – Ss. Philip and James, Apostles
May 4th – St. Peregrine

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