

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, 7th April 2024. Second Sunday of Easter – Divine Mercy Sunday, Year B.

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

Entrance Antiphon [1 Peter 2:2](#)

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

First Reading [Acts of the Apostles 4:32-35](#)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The whole group was united, heart and soul.

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.

None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

Responsorial Psalm. [Ps 117:2-4. 15-18. 22-24. R. v.1](#)

(R.) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

1. Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'
Let the sons of Aaron say:
'His love has no end.'
Let those who fear the Lord say:
'His love has no end.' (R.)

2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds.
I was punished, I was punished by the Lord,
but not doomed to die. (R.)
3. The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.
This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad. (R.)

Second Reading [1 John 5:1-6](#)

A reading from the first letter of St John

Anyone begotten by God has already overcome the world.

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets. We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us; this is what loving God is – keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world – our faith.

Who can overcome the world? Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God; Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness – since the Spirit is the truth.

Gospel Acclamation

[John 20:29](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy are those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Alleluia!

Gospel [John 20:19-31](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered,

'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.'

Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

Communion Antiphon. [Cf John 20:27](#)

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

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Let us pray: We pray for those recently deceased; and for Jocelyn McNeilly and Mary Ann Mifsud 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, 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, 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:

Project Compassion: Kindly return your Project Compassion boxes/ envelopes to the marked container in the church foyer, or to the Parish Office during office opening hours. Many thanks for your donations.

Communion for the Sick If you, a family member or anyone you know is sick or is no longer able to attend Mass and would like communion in the home, please call the office on 4735 1041. We will arrange for one of our ministers of Communion to make a home visit after Mass on Sunday.

Jubilee Polo Shirts: A final order for the commemorative polo shirts will be placed on **April 15**. If you are interested in purchasing a shirt, please contact the parish office with your name, colour and size. Full payment required up front, with no returns once embroidered, so please be sure of your size when ordering. Thank you for your understanding.

Safeguarding training: Modules 4 and 5 will be held at **Our Lady of the Way** on **Saturday 27 April** from 10am-1.30pm. Please contact the Parish Office on 4735 1041 or email emuplains@parracatholic.org to register for this event.

Cuppa and a Chat: Please join us on the 1st Sat after 6pm Mass, 2nd & 4th Sunday after the 9.30am Mass and 3rd Sunday after the 8.00am Mass.

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)

Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
6/7 April	Deacon Batsirai John Cowen JS: Alex Tuballa & Josie Henderson C: Debra Gleeson R: Marie McLennan	Mark Norbury Barbara Ryan JS: Evie Milroy & Soraya Laurendet C: Paul Ryan R: Sue Mouthaan	Lara Roser Connie Reid Rebecca Carberry (Visit) JS: Jonah Ellis & Hugo Watson C: Marianne Castor R: Denise Robens
13/14 April	Stevenie Harman Beth Nowland JS: Alex Tuballa & Josie Henderson C: Louise Goderie R: Victor Tuballa	Mark Norbury John Lo Cascio JS: Evie Milroy C: Geraldine Waters R: Kay Walker	Deacon Batsirai Hartley Dhyon Denise Robens (Visit) JS: Hugo Watson & Kate Fenning C: Don Robens R: Brett Wright

Parish Jubilee Projects - Can you help?

1. 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.
2. Do you or one of your family have expertise in making videos from photos and video clips? We could use your help. Please contact Marianne Castor (0431 966365) on the Parish Pastoral Council to discuss this.

Music Ministry at OLOW needs your help! Some of our musicians are taking a break from this ministry and we are in need of some new volunteers. If you are able to accompany or lead the music at Mass, or you know someone who is able to do this, please contact Chris Welch on 0414 855839.

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 this weekend.

Grounds Team: The new roster is available for collection in the church foyer. Many thanks for all you do to keep our grounds looking clean and tidy.

Men at the Shrine is a monthly hour of adoration at the Schoenstatt Shrine in Mulgoa, next **Wednesday 10th April**. The hour begins with a brief reflection before a period of personal silent prayer. Confessions are available. The evening finishes with a simple cup of tea. All men are welcome. No RSVP is necessary. Any questions, contact Bernard, 0416 106 871.



JESUS I TRUST IN YOU

Jesus Promised – "I want to grant a complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My mercy." Diary 1109

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

COME & CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF DIVINE MERCY WITH OUR PARISH AT

**ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA CHURCH,
326 HIGH ST, PENRITH**

2:30PM on 7th APRIL 2024

- ❖ Blessing of Divine Mercy Image
- ❖ Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- ❖ Stations of the Cross
- ❖ Homily and Benediction
- ❖ Reconciliation till 5PM
- ❖ Afternoon Tea from 4:15PM – 5:15PM
- ❖ Divine Mercy Mass 6PM

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:

Exploring Music for the Solemnities following Easter: 30 April and 2 May

All are invited to the next music workshop organised by the Office for Worship and presented by Eric Grella. This workshop is perfect for all parish musicians and also for anyone who wishes to learn more about music for the Solemnities after Easter. As there has been a large interest in these workshops there will be 2 locations!!

- 30 April at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown from 7pm
- 2 May at St Nicholas of Myra Parish, Penrith from 7pm

RSVP by 28 April to lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795.

Marriage Preparation Courses in 2024

Getting married in 2024? Let the Diocese of Parramatta help you prepare. Visit

www.parracatholic.org/celebrate/marriage/marriage-preparation to view weekend course dates in the New Year, to book and pay. An online preparation called *SmartLoving* can also be booked via the website. For more information, email marriage@parracatholic.org or Marisa on 0412 280 017.

Glenbrook Parish Roof Restoration Fundraising Concert: 14 April

St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook, invite you to a fundraising concert with the Sydney Male Choir on Sunday 14 April at 2pm in the parish church. Come and enjoy the music and at the same time, support the restoration of the Church roof, with at least \$5 going to St Finbar's Roof Restoration Fund for every ticket sold. Tickets are \$35 and can be purchased online at www.sydneymalechoir.com or at the door.

Youth Mass 'Round the Diocese: 21April.

Looking for some young adults to worship with? Hunting for an excuse to catch up with Jesus and friends? Wondering what goes on around our Diocese? Mass 'Round the Diocese is just that! Our young people are visiting different churches around the Diocese for Mass and fellowship afterwards with new and known friends. The next Mass will be at The Good Shepherd Parish, Plumpton, on Sunday 21 April for 6pm Mass. For more information, please contact Sr Christine Ramada CSFN on csfn.cristina@gmail.com

Saints of the week:

April 8th – The Annunciation of the Lord

April 9th – St. Acacius.

April 10th – St. Michael of the Saints

April 11th – St. Stanislaus of Poland, bishop and martyr

April 12th – St. Julius

April 13th – St. Martin I, pope and 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