

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, 5th May 2024. Sixth Sunday of Easter, Year B.

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

Entrance Antiphon Cf Isaiah 48:20

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard;
proclaim to the ends of the earth:
The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

First Reading Acts of the Apostles 10:25-26. 34-35. 44-48

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the gentiles also.

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. ‘Stand up,’ he said, ‘I am only a man after all!’ Then Peter addressed them: ‘The truth I have now come to realise’ he said, ‘is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.’

While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, ‘Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?’ He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.

Responsorial Psalm. Ps 97:1-4. R. see v.2

(R.) The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

1. Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders. His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation. **(R.)**
2. The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations. He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel. **(R.)**
3. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord all the earth, ring out your joy. **(R.)**

Second Reading

John 4:7-10

A reading from the first letter of St John

God is love.

My dear people, let us love one another since love comes from God and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Anyone who fails to love can never have known God, because God is love. God’s love for us was revealed when God sent into the world his only Son so that we could have life through him; this is the love I mean: not our love for God, but God’s love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.



Gospel Acclamation [John 14:23](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will
come to them.

Alleluia!

Gospel [John 15:9-17](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

No one can have greater love than to lay down his life for his friends.

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love.

I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete.

This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you. A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends, if you do what I command you, I shall not call you servants any more, because a servant does not know his master's business; I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father.

You did not choose me, no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last; and then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name. What I command you is to love one another.’

Communion Antiphon. [John 14:15-16](#)

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia.

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<https://static.vecteezy.com/system/resources/previews/000/181/479/original/love-one-another-typography-vector.jpg>



Let us pray: We pray for those recently deceased Teresa Langer, Janet Giles, Bob Aitken and Peter O'Connor; 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, Korban Bett, Marie Pridham, 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.

Cuppa and a Chat: Please join us after the 6pm Mass this weekend. Please note that hospitality after the 6pm Mass will not run throughout winter.

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.

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)

Good Shepherd Appeal: Bishop Vincent, Parramatta Catholic Foundation, and our Holy Spirit Seminarians thank you for your generous support in the formation of our future priests. If you haven't had a chance to donate, you can still do so through the Good Shepherd Appeal envelopes in the church foyer, or by visiting yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal.

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 **this weekend**.

Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
4/5 May	Deacon Batsirai John Cowen JS: Alex Tuballa & Josie Henderson C: Debra Gleeson R: Marie McLennan	Matthew Topp Mary Marsh JS: Evie Milroy C: Paul Ryan R: Jessica Topp	Hartley Dhyon Connie Reid Rebecca Carberry (Visit) JS: Matthew Hamilton & Hugo Watson C: Marianne Castor R: Denise Robens
11/12 May	John Cowen Anne Deutscher JS: Alex Tuballa & Josie Henderson C: Phillip Youngman R: Victor Tuballa	Matthew Topp Noeline Bangel JS: Evie Milroy C: Sue Mouthaan R: Geraldine Waters	Deacon Batsirai Lara Roser David Green Heather Barlow (Visit) JS: Matthew Hamilton & Nicholas Hamilton C: Don Robens R: Brett Wright

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.

Sacramental news

First Holy Communion Enrolments

The First Holy Communion program for children who are in year 4 and above is commencing on May 15th. If you would like your child to receive this sacrament, please contact the parish office on 47351041 or emuplains@parracatholic.org

Parish Working Bee: In preparation for the Golden Jubilee Mass, we will be holding a working bee on Saturday 18th May from 8am-12noon. Jobs will include cleaning the hall and tidying up the garden. Light refreshments will be provided. If you are able to help, please contact the Parish Office on 4735 1041.

Update on Basil

Remember Basil? The guide dog that came to the church. Well, since then he went and did 5 months of guide dog training. After that time, his family got to see him at his graduation where he showed off all his amazing skills. On Monday the 29th of April, Basil left and went to start his job in Wollongong as a guide dog. Thank you everyone for your patience and understanding to help his training. Zarah



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.

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

Men at the Shrine is a monthly hour of adoration at the Schoenstatt Shrine in Mulgoa, next held on **Wednesday 8 May**. 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.

Cardinal Michael Fitzgerald Public Lecture: 8 May The Columban Centre for Christian-Muslim Relations and the Diocese of Parramatta present a public lecture by Cardinal Michael Fitzgerald, former head of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue entitled: "Interreligious Dialogue in our Day: 60 Years after *Nostra Aetate*" on Wednesday 8 May at 6pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, Parramatta. To register in person or for the livestream, please visit parracatholic.org/cardinalfitzgerald

Saints of the week:

May 6th – St. Dominic Savio
May 7th – St. Augustine Roscelli
May 8th – St. Boniface IV, pope
May 9th – St. George Preca
May 10th – St. John of Avila, Doctor
May 11th – St. Walter

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