

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

Sunday, 16th June 2024. Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B.

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

Entrance Antiphon Cf Psalm 26:7,9

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; be my help. Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour!



First Reading Ezekiel 17:22-24

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

I have made the small tree great.

The Lord says this:

‘From the top of the cedar, from the highest branch I will take a shoot and plant it myself on a very high mountain. I will plant it on the high mountain of Israel. It will sprout branches and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Every kind of bird will live beneath it, every winged creature rest in the shade of its branches. And every tree of the field will learn that I, the Lord, am the one who stunts tall trees and makes the low ones grow, who withers green trees and makes the withered green. I, the Lord, have spoken, and I will do it.’

Responsorial Psalm. Ps 91:2-3, 13-16. R. see v.2

(R.) Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

1. It is good to give thanks to the Lord to make music to your name, O Most High, to proclaim your love in the morning and your truth in the watches of the night. (R.)

2. The just will flourish like the palm-tree and grow like a Lebanon cedar. (R.)
3. Planted in the house of the Lord they will flourish in the courts of our God, still bearing fruit when they are old, still full of sap, still green, to proclaim that the Lord is just. In him, my rock, there is no wrong. (R.)

Second Reading 2 Corinthians 5:6-10

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

Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing the Lord.

We are always full of confidence when we remember that to live in the body means to be exiled from the Lord, going as we do by faith and not by sight – we are full of confidence, I say, and actually want to be exiled from the body and make our home with the Lord. Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing him. For all the truth about us will be brought out in the law court of Christ, and each of us will get what he deserves for the things he did in the body, good or bad.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God,
Christ is the sower;
all who come to him will live for ever.

Alleluia!

Gospel [Mark 4:26-34](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The mustard seed, the smallest of all the seeds, grows into the biggest shrub of all.

Jesus said to the crowds, 'This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man throws seed on the land. Night and day, while he sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is sprouting and growing; how, he does not know. Of its own accord the land produces first the shoot, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the crop is ready, he loses no time; he starts to reap because the harvest has come.'

He also said, 'What can we say the kingdom of God is like? What parable can we find for it? It is like a mustard seed which at the time of its sowing in the soil is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.'

Using many parables like these, he spoke the word to them, so far as they were capable of understanding it. He would not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything to his disciples when they were alone.

Communion Antiphon. [Psalm 26:4](#)

There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

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Mount Schoenstatt Shrine Time Holy Hour for Youth and Young Adults

The Mount Schoenstatt community invite young and young adults for Holy Hour every fourth Sunday of the month from 7pm to 8pm at the Mt Schoenstatt Shrine, 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa, followed by a social gathering afterwards. There will be opportunities for praise and worship, prayer, reflection, confession and benediction. For more information, please contact Sr M Rita on 0493 026 628 or srrita@schoenstatt.org.au

Winbourne Kinds of Prayer: Finding Ways to Pray Reflection Day: 22 June

The Winbourne Edmund Rice Retreat Centre, Mulgoa, is holding a reflection day 'Kinds of Prayer: Finding Ways to Pray' on Saturday 22 June from 9.30am to 3pm. Prayer is communication, relationship addressed, respected and taken further. It is letting God get at you, requiring an open heart and mind. Cost is \$30 per person, BYO Lunch. For more information or to book, contact (02) 4773 5555 or email info@winbourne.org

Let us pray: We pray for recently deceased James Walker; and for Jean McInnes, and Roger and Jessie Borg, 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, Trevor Ledger, 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:

Vinnies Winter Appeal: This weekend, 15th/16th June, envelopes will be available on the church pews for the annual Vinnies Winter Appeal. We have many people in our local area who are in need this winter, and kindly ask for any donation you are able to give. Thank you for your generosity in supporting this appeal.

Cuppa and a Chat: 2nd & 4th Sunday after the 9.30am Mass and 3rd Sunday after the 8.00am Mass. **Please note that during the winter months, there will be no cuppa after the 6.00pm Mass.**

Playgroup: Playgroup runs fortnightly at 10am Tuesday in the Parish Hall. **Next playgroup: Tuesday 18th June.** All welcome! 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)

Catholic Care Emergency Food Drive

Your donations of pantry food to help those in need are greatly appreciated. Please place goods at rear of the church **this weekend 15th/16th June.** The need is particularly great as we commence the colder wintertime, so please reach out to those in need in our local community. **Thank you**

Life Ascending Meeting: Next meeting will be at 10am, June 19th at the home of Kay Walker, 197 River Rd, Leonay. Life Ascending is a group for spiritual enrichment and friendship for the over 50 years age group. For more information contact Noelene Bangle on 0247337481.

Safeguarding: Following on from Safe Parishes Week, we recommend that children going to the bathroom during Mass be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Thank you for your support in keeping our children safe.

Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
15/16 June	Stevenie Harman Debra Gleeson JS: Nicholas Hamilton & Josie Henderson C: Phillip Youngman R: Bellinda Henderson	Deacon Batsirai Matthew Topp JS: Evie Milroy C: Geraldine Waters R: Helen Larsen	John Cowen Connie Reid Kay Walker Heather Barlow (Visit only) JS: Jonah Ellis C: Trish Boyle R: Don Robens
22/23 June	John Cowen Michael Manton JS: Stevenie Harman C: Trish Ryan R: Mary Balam	Matthew Topp John Lo Cascio JS: Evie Milroy C: Sue Mouthaan R: Gabe Manouk	Deacon Batsirai Hartley Dhyon Rebecca Carberry (Visit) JS: Matthew Hamilton & Hugo Watson C: Lisa Samojlowicz R: Courtney Hamilton

Sacramental news

Next Sunday, 18 children will be making their first Holy Communion at the 9.30am Mass. Please be aware that they will be sitting in the front of the Church with their family and friends, and the Mass will be longer than normal. Thank you for your continued support and prayers. Blessings, Cate.



Hour Of Power: On Friday 21st June, all parishioners of OLOW are invited to come together as a community and pray for the families and children who will receive their First Holy Communion on the weekend of the 22nd/23rd June. This time of adoration will be between 7pm-8pm, however you don't have to stay for the whole hour if you are unable. Even 5 mins of prayer for these children is powerful! Enjoy some personal prayer time with Jesus while offering it for this intention.

Our Lady of the Way Jubilee Garden 2024

In the original parish vision, Our Lady of the Way was meant to become a symbolic 'resting place' for those of us along the way of our faith journey. With this in mind, our Golden Jubilee year is the perfect time to honour this vision, and to turn the gardens around our Mary statue into a contemplative area for parishioners to spend a little time when they feel the need to 'rest along the way'. We are adding a path and seats, and a new garden will be planted to create a peaceful space. If you wish to be part of this project by contributing toward the cost or by providing Bunnings vouchers for purchase of plants, soil, concrete etc., or if you are interested in helping with weeding, clearing or landscaping the area we welcome your assistance. Any donations can be put on the plate at mass in an envelope marked 'parish gardens' or dropped in to the parish office over the next two weeks. Please feel free to contact Carol Burke ph. 0432982773 if you have any questions.

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.

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:

St Finbar's 15 Days Central Europe Tour in May 2025:

15-DAY TOUR | GERMANY - POLAND - SLOVAKIA - CZECH REPUBLIC - HUNGARY – AUSRTIA

From \$5,290 per person, twin share Departing 11 May 2025 – 25 May 2025

Fully Escorted Cosmos Tour accompanied by Fr Joseph Lam • Breakfast daily and 5 dinners • Hand-picked hotel accommodation • Deluxe air-conditioned motorcoach with free Wi-Fi (where available) • Expert Tour Director and knowledgeable Local Guides. For more information or to register your interest contact Ruby Travels Worldwide on 0401 895 998, email june.rubytravels@gmail.com or visit rubytravelsworldwide.com

Cardinal Marengo Meet and Greet: 22 June

As part of his Australian visit through Catholic Mission, the Diocese of Parramatta is hosting Cardinal Giorgio Marengo IMC, Apostolic Prefect of Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, on Saturday 22 June. Cardinal Marengo will celebrate the Vigil Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta followed by a conversation about his mission and service. The event is free, but registration is essential via <https://parracatholic.org/cardinalmarengo>

CYP LIFTED Retreats: Looking for an opportunity to get away? Catholic Youth Parramatta's annual LIFTED Retreat is back – with a twist! This year LIFTED Retreat has transformed into 3 separate retreats, each catering to different age groups!

- 5-7 July – Ages 18-24 at Carmel House, Varroville. Cost \$150.00.
- 12 July – Ages 16-18 at The Shrine of the Holy Innocents in Kellyville, free of charge.
- 19-21 July – Ages 25-35 at Mt Schoenstatt, cost \$150.00.

Registration is essential! Please head to parracatholic.org/events for more details.

Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal for Catholic Care's Project Elizabeth

Will you strengthen the dignity of struggling mums? Your compassionate generosity and prayers will provide struggling mums with the practical and emotional support they need to overcome adversity and build a better future for themselves and their families. Please give generously to the Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal at parracatholic.org/appeal or return your envelope via the plate or parish office.

Saints of the week:

June 17th – St. Teresa of Portugal
June 18th – St. Marina
June 19th – St. Romuald
June 20th – St. Silverius
June 21st – St. Aloysius Gonzaga
June 22nd – St. Thomas More and John Fisher,
Bishop, Martyrs

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