

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, 8th Sept 2024. Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B.

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

Entrance Antiphon [Psalm 118:137, 124](#)

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

First Reading [Isaiah 35:4-7](#)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Then the ears of the deaf shall be opened and the tongues of the dumb speak.

Say to all faint hearts,
'Courage! Do not be afraid.
'Look, your God is coming,
vengeance is coming,
the retribution of God;
He is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy; for water gushes in the desert, streams in the wasteland, the scorched earth becomes a lake, the parched land springs of water.

Responsorial Psalm [Ps 145:7-10. R. v.1](#)

(R.) Praise the Lord, my soul!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **(R.)**

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bound down, the Lord who loves the just, the Lord, who protects the stranger. **(R.)**

3. The Lord upholds the widow and orphan, but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age. **(R.)**

Second Reading [James 2:1-5](#)

A reading from the letter of St James

Has not God chosen the poor of the world to inherit the kingdom?

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, 'Come this way to the best seats'; then you tell the poor man, 'Stand over there' or 'You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that?

Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

Gospel Acclamation cf Matthew 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mark 7:31-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. 'He has done all things well,' they said 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

Communion Antiphon. Cf Psalm 41:2-3

Like the deer that yearns for running streams,
so my soul is yearning for you, my God;
my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

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Photos from the Golden Jubilee Concert- please see the article on the back page of the bulletin.

Let us pray: We pray for recently deceased Dr Peter Chang, and for Jennifer Rist, John Vanderloo, Ron Mulock and Brian Maher 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, Peter Brown, Kevin Lindsay, Peter McInnes, Joseph Lennon (Ireland), Trevor Ledger, Jeffrey Meads, Julie Laws, Cheryl Morgan, Nerida Fabri, Greg Pigott, Michelle Gardam, Bradley 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, Lola Kammel, Robyn Bell, Doris Shaw, Grace Batcheldor, Pat Kennedy, Olga Vieyra. 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:

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.

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

We are currently in need of 2 people to run the hospitality on the 1st Saturday of the month after the 6pm Mass. Connie will be available to help for a couple of months until you feel comfortable with it. If you are able to assist, please call the Parish Office 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)

Playgroup: Playgroup runs fortnightly at 10am Tuesday in the Parish Hall. The next playgroup will be **Tuesday 10th September**. All welcome! Please contact the Parish Office for more info on 4735 1041.

Music Ministry at OLOW needs your help! Some of our musicians are taking a break from this ministry and we are in need of 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.

Bishop's Father's Day Appeal: Thank you for caring for our retired priests' health and wellbeing. Your generosity and love ensure they receive the care, comfort, and dignity they deserve during their retirement. **If you have taken an envelope home, please return it via the collection plate this weekend. Alternatively, please visit parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal.** Thank you.

Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
7/8 September	Stevenie Harman Michael Manton JS: Felicity Tuballa & Josie Henderson C: Phillip Youngman R: Bellinda Henderson	Mark Norbury Mary Marsh JS: Evie Milroy C: Gabe Manouk R: Kaye Walker	Deacon Batsirai John Cowen Denise Robens (Visit) JS: Nicholas Hamilton & Jonah Ellis C: Trish Boyle R: Matthew Hamilton
14/15 September	Stevenie Harman Beth Nowland JS: Josie Henderson C: Trish Ryan R: Mary Balam	Deacon Batsirai Matthew Topp JS: Evie Milroy C: Maria Sirotti R: Jessica Topp	Hartley Dhyon Connie Reid Rebecca Carberry (Visit) JS: Nicholas Hamilton & Hugo Watson C: Marianne Castor R: Denise Robens

Sacramental news:

Please join me in praying for the children and their families who are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Blessings, Cate.

Hour Of Power: On **Friday 13th September**, all parishioners of OLOW are invited to come together as a community and pray for the families and children who are about to receive their Confirmation. 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.



Lost Property: We have several items of lost property in the church foyer. Over the next 2 weeks, we would be most grateful if you could collect any item(s) that might be yours. After 2 weeks, any items remaining will be donated to charity.

Shape our future with our new Pastoral Plan for 2024 – 2028: The Diocese of Parramatta has recently launched our Pastoral Plan for a Synodal Church 2024-2028: *'Behold, I am with you'*. Our pastoral plan represents the culmination of our Synod journey, where we have come together to listen, discern, and envision a path forward for our diocese over the past 16 months. Together, we can use this plan to revitalise our local community and shape the future of our Diocese. **To download a copy of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan, visit parracatholic.org/synodality.**

Diocesan Healthcare Ministries Community:

You are warmly invited to join the formation session ***Loving your Neighbour in the Sick and Dying*** **Saturday 21st September 2024**

At St Thomas Aquinas Parish, Springwood
11.00am-1pm followed by lunch

This ministry is founded on the call of Jesus to love one's neighbour in the sick and the dying. People involved in the Pastoral Care of the Sick, Aged Care, Lay Chaplains, Healthcare Professionals as well as students interested in pursuing a career in healthcare are particularly encouraged to attend this formation meeting.

RSVP met@parracatholic.org 09.09 2024

Enquiries to michael.tan@parracatholic.org

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:
12 noon

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.

Golden Jubilee Concert: A huge “Thank you” to everyone who attended our concert and enjoyed an evening of wonderful music, delicious food and had the opportunity to enjoy the musical talents of members of our community. Special thanks to:

- Debra Gleeson who organised the evening so capably on behalf of the members of the Jubilee Committee and joined John as co-emcee on the night.
- Patrick Gleeson for all his assistance to Deb; to Maria Lawson who spent many hours decorating the hall; to Les Chmiel who assembled the stage as well as arranging the chairs and tables.
- Our fine musicians- Lily Cowen, Chris Welch, Lisa Amoroso, Richard Caws and three of his Year7 students at Caroline Chisholm College, Wendy Thompson, Victor and Alex Tuballa and Patrick Gleeson.
- Our comedy teams- our group of “nuns” (Debra, Carmen and Connie), and our cleaners “Sadies” (Patrick, Phillip and John).
- The Tuballa Family- Sarah, Charlotte and Felicity helped in various roles all evening, Victor and Alex performed for us and Alex displayed great presence in supervising the raffle drawing assisted by Felicity.
- Mary Marsh who shopped for provisions and provided assistance at the cash desk, together with Sarah, all evening.
- Jake Sciberras who supervised the serving of food together with Emily Sciberras and Jacinta Lynch, sold raffle tickets and took photographs all evening.
- Jo and John Von Schomburg who provided the delicious food, and all those who brought some sweet treats for us to enjoy.
- Richard Caws who provided the keyboard and sound equipment as well as his musical talents.
- The various people who served tea/coffee and cakes throughout the evening.

It was an evening to celebrate the many blessings which we enjoy as a community of faith. Again, many thanks to everyone who performed for us or helped in any way to ensure a very special evening of fellowship.

Saints of the week:

Sept 9th – St. Peter Claver

Sept 10th – St. Nicholas of Tolentino

Sept 11th – St. Daniel

Sept 12th – Most Holy Name of Mary

Sept 13th – St John Chrysostom

Sept 14th – The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

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