

# 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, 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2025. Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C.**

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

### **Entrance Antiphon** Cf Psalm 17:19-20

The Lord became my protector.  
He brought me out to a place of freedom;  
he saved me because he delighted in me.

### **First Reading** [Sirach 27:4-7](#)

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus  
*Do not praise someone before they have spoken.*

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind, so too the defects of a man appear in his talk. The kiln tests the work of the potter, the test of a man is in his conversation. The orchard where the tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit, similarly a man's words betray what he feels. Do not praise a man before he has spoken, since this is the test of men.

### **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 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** [1 Corinthians 15:54-58](#)

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians  
*Victory has been given to us through Jesus Christ.*  
When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

[Philippians 2:15-16](#)

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Shine on the world like bright stars;  
you are offering it the word of life.

**Alleluia!**



**Gospel** [Luke 6:39-45](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*A person speaks from what is in his heart.*

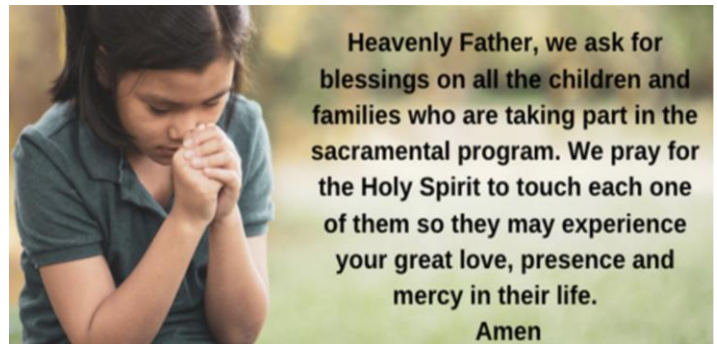
Jesus told a parable to his disciples, 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye. 'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles.

A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.'

**Communion Antiphon** Cf Psalm 12:6

I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me,  
sing psalms to the name of the Lord Most High.

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**Holy Hour on Fri 14<sup>th</sup> March:**

We will be having a special hour of Adoration Friday March 14 from 7-8pm, for the children and their families who are receiving the sacrament of reconciliation. All parishioners are welcome.

**Let us pray:** We pray for our recently deceased, and for Bishop Emeritus Bede Heather and Fr Michael O'Callaghan 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, Ashleigh Page, Karen Allen, Vengie Pangilinan, Shane Muller, June Davidson, Jo Von Schomburg, Maureen and Denis McNamara, Sr Patricia Holligan, Hayley Green, Peter Brown, Joseph Lennon (Ireland), Julie Laws, Cheryl Morgan, Nerida Fabri, Greg Pigott, Michelle Gardam, Bradley Gardam, Chris Hall Troy Rittila, Bob Scott, Trish Micallef, Deacon George Bryan, Kaye Bryan, Laurie Doohan, Desley Mulock, June Wilson, Kristina Majstorovic, Trish McGettigan, Pauline Balkin, Mary Gayed, Shirley Harman, Dot Gray, June Sultana, Stuart Cameron, Mary Rose, Maria Mercieca, Marta Mederos, 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, Franco Palma, Annie-May Booth, Daniel Rowlands, Maddie Millard and Trish Devoy. 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:

### Changes to weekday Mass times:

No Tuesday 6pm Mass until 11th March, 2025.

### Ash Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> March Mass times:

9:00 am (OLOW school attending), 6:00 pm

**Lenten Reflection Program:** Deacon Batsirai will be running a Lenten reflection group commencing **Friday March 7 at 5pm in the church.** If you would like to come along, please add your name to the sheet in the church foyer.

**Stations of the Cross** will commence on **Friday March 7 at 6pm**, and continue at this time during Lent.

**Children's liturgy every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday at the 9.30am Mass.**

**Cuppa and a Chat:** 1<sup>st</sup> Sat after 6pm Mass, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the 9.30am Mass and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after the 8.00am Mass.

**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.

**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:** The next playgroup will be on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March, 10am in the parish hall. All welcome! For more information, please contact the parish office.

### Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
Mar 1 /2	Deacon Batsirai Stevenie Harman JS: Alex Tuballa & Felicity Tuballa C: Trish Ryan R: Mary Balam	Mary Marsh Pat Edwards JS: Evie Milroy C: Maria Sirotti R: Paul Devlin	Lara Roser <b>Kay Walker (Visit)</b> Connie Reid Noeline Bangel JS: Matthew Hamilton & Nicholas Hamilton C: Marianne Castor R: Denise Robens
Mar 8/9	Stevenie Harman Beth Nowland JS: Felicity Tuballa & Josie Henderson C: Debra Gleeson R: Marie McLennan	Mark Norbury Barbara Ryan JS: Evie Milroy C: Paul Ryan R: Geraldine Waters	Deacon Batsirai John Cowen <b>Kay Walker (Visit)</b> JS: Hugo Watson & Jonah Ellis C: Lisa Samojlowicz R: Courtney Hamilton

## Project Compassion- United against poverty for future generations.

As we prepare to begin our journey through Lent let us be inspired by stories of generosity for Project Compassion and be aware that our contributions can have a life changing impact on future generations whilst creating a better opportunity for them to reach their full potential by uniting against poverty.

We need to ask ourselves how we can make a difference through our participation in Project Compassion. The theme of Project Compassion is "For All Future Generations" and the aim is to bring the world together in solidarity to ensure that the world is a better place for the seventh generation which is yet to come. It complements our Laudato Si journey which has asked us to look after our environment today so that it is still there for future generations – remember we do not inherit the Earth from our ancestors we borrow it from our children and if it is to be a place that is viable, we must act now.

The CEO of Project Compassion gives us something to think about during Lent. She tells us that we need to think about the great "yes" that Mary spoke when the angel told her she was to become the mother of Jesus. She freely accepted God's invitation to take up a unique place in the history of the human family. The prayer Mary shared with her cousin Elizabeth says: "all generations will call me blessed "Her "yes" is for all future generations. Wise words indeed and something to ponder on as we begin our Lenten journey together at OLOW.

Have a blessed week ahead as we count down to Ash Wednesday.  
*Stevenie Harman*

### Our Lady of the Way School Enrolments:

There will be two enrolment information sessions for families interested in enrolling their child in kindergarten 2026. Tuesday 4 March from 9.30am – 10.30am or Thursday 6 March from 3.30pm - 4.30pm. Come and see all the exciting things happening at Our Lady of the Way. Please email the school office on [olow@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:olow@parra.catholic.edu.au) or phone 4777 2700 further information regarding enrolments.

**Gardening Group:** We are next meeting on Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> March at 9.30am. All welcome. All you need is a hat, sunscreen and water.



## Parish Information

**Parish office open Tuesday to Friday from 9:00am to 3:00pm. (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, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month:  
12pm

## **Weekday Masses:**

Tuesday 6pm; **Begins 11<sup>th</sup> March**  
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](mailto:emuplains@parracatholic.org)) for information  
on reconciliation, communion and confirmation.

## Diocese of Parramatta Notices:

### **Safeguarding the Elderly Project: 13 March**

Are you interested in sharing and listening to ideas about how we can meet the needs of older people in our Parish communities? You are invited to 'Share a Cuppa' on Thursday 13 March from 10am-12noon at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. Those involved in ministries such as Ministers of Communion to the Sick and Pastoral Care Groups, are invited to share their experiences and reflections. RSVP by Monday 3 March with any dietary requirements to:

[safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org)

Please contact Maria Kervin at:

[mariakervin@parracatholic.org](mailto:mariakervin@parracatholic.org) .

### **Lent 2025 with the Catholic Guy, Bruce Downes**

Lent is a time when we can grow closer to God and prepare our hearts for the true meaning of Easter. Be inspired. Be refreshed. Be renewed!

For 40 days you will receive a short, practical and inspiring video in your inbox every morning to help you make this Lenten journey more powerful and prayerful. This program is FREE and you can sign up here: <https://BruceDownes.org/Lent> Go to BruceDownes.org for more information.

### **Marriage Enrichment Weekend: 23-25 May**

We are offering an opportunity for you to learn to become the best version of yourselves together and live your best life in love! Come and join us on 23-25 May at a Marriage Encounter Weekend at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW – a stunning & tranquil oasis on the edge of Sydney. Book online at [www.wwme.org.au](http://www.wwme.org.au) or contact Christine & Terry Mahony on 0490 774 419 or [nswbookings@wwme.org.au](mailto:nswbookings@wwme.org.au)

## **Saints of the week:**

March 3<sup>rd</sup>– St. Katharine  
March 4<sup>th</sup> – Shrove Tuesday  
March 5<sup>th</sup> – ASH WEDNESDAY  
March 6<sup>th</sup> – St. Colette  
March 7<sup>th</sup> – Ss. Perpetua & Felicity, Martyrs  
March 8<sup>th</sup> – St. John of God

## **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



### **Project Compassion Sunday** 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of March 2025

This Lent, we are called to *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion.

Your generous support this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need.



**UNITE** ♥  
**AGAINST**  
**POVERTY**  
this Lent

**Please donate today.**

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above.

**Or online at:** [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion)

**Or by calling:** 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty* this Lent.