

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



19 Troy St, Emu Plains
Phone: 4735 1041
Email: emuplains@parracatholic.org
Web: <https://catholicparishemuplains.org.au/>

Sunday, 27th April, 2025. Divine Mercy Sunday, Year C.

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 5:12-16](#)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily.

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

Responsorial Psalm [Ps 117:2-4. 22-27. 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 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.)
3. O Lord, grant us salvation;
O Lord grant success.
Blessed in the name of the Lord
is he who comes.
We bless you from the house of the Lord;
the true God is our light. (R.)

Second Reading [Revelation 1:9-13. 17-19](#)

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever.

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, 'Write down all that you see in a book.' I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, surrounded by them, a figure

like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle.

When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, 'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One. I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.'

Gospel Acclamation [John 20:29](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy 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 our recently deceased Hazel Wood, Ronald Sargeant, Sean Fahey and Orfeo Marchetti, and Harry Sloman, Thomas Plummer, and Shirley Cameron 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 Joseph Apap, Ashleigh Paige, 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:

Help Needed: We are planning to celebrate our Patron Saint's day on the 24th May, 2025, and are in need of volunteers to help with the organisation of the day. Please contact the Parish Office on 4735 1041 if you can assist.

Children's Liturgy: 27th April at the 9.30am Mass.

Cuppa and a Chat: Please join us for light refreshments and a friendly chat this **Sunday (27/04) after the 9.30am Mass.**

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 meets every second Tuesday at 10am in the parish hall. The next playgroup will be on April 29. All welcome!

First Holy Communion - The First Holy Communion program begins on Wednesday 7th May for children who have already made their reconciliation. If you would like your child to receive this sacrament, please contact the parish office on 47351041 or emuplains@parracatholic.org

Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
April 26/27	Stevenie Harman Beth Nowland JS: Josie Henderson & Rocco <u>Stillisano</u> C: Phillip Youngman R: Bellinda Henderson	Mary Marsh John Lo Cascio JS: N/A C: Gabe Manouk R: Kevin Balkin	Deacon Batsirai John Cowen Beth Nowland (Visit) JS: Nicholas Hamilton & Hugo Watson C: Trish Boyle R: Matthew Hamilton
May 3/4	Deacon Batsirai Stevenie Harman JS: Alex <u>Tuballa</u> & Felicity <u>Tuballa</u> C: Trish Ryan R: Mary Balam	Mark Norbury Barbara Ryan JS: Evie Milroy C: Maria Sirotti R: Jessica Topp	Hartley <u>Dhyon</u> Connie Reid Rebecca Carberry (Visit) JS: Nicholas Hamilton & Matthew Hamilton C: Marianne Castor R: Denise Robens

RCIA News:

As I have completed the RCIA program to become Catholic, and also a parishioner of OLOW Emu Plains, I would like to extend my thanks to all involved. I would especially like to thank my leader, John Cowen, my sponsors- Heather Barlow and my wife, Trish, Fr Michael and all the parishioners who have welcomed me into the fold. Thanks too, to Lily Cowen, for lending John to me during this period. God bless you all and best wishes. *John Boyle.*

Congratulations and many blessings John!



Stations of the Cross:

Thank you to all those involved in the Good Friday Stations of the Cross -the actors, readers, singers, and those who worked behind the scenes. A big thank you to Sarah Tuballa and Debby Gleeson for organising such a reflective and meaningful event.



More photos can be found on our Facebook page.

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:
12pm

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.

Pope Francis Tribute

Pope Francis dedicated himself to the service of others for close to thirteen years in his leadership as the pope. He consistently revealed by his manner of life what it means to live a life of simplicity and selflessness.

We, the community of Our Lady of the Way, join the rest of the world to pay tribute to him and acknowledge the work he did for the church as a voice for the voiceless.

May Almighty God, whom he wholeheartedly trusted, provide him eternal rest.

May his soul rest in eternal peace and the mercy of God. *Fr Michael G. Gathuku*

Diocesan Mass for Pope Francis will be held this Sunday, 27 April (the culmination of the Easter Octave) at the 11am Solemn Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. All are warmly invited to attend. Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv will celebrate the Mass. The Mass will also be livestreamed on St Patrick's Cathedral YouTube channel.

For anyone wishing to write condolence messages, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference is organising a condolence book to pass onto the Apostolic Nuncio to Australia, Archbishop Charles Balvo, who was appointed Nuncio by Pope Francis in 2022. Please email your message to condolencebook@catholic.org.au.

May he rest in the peace of Christ.

Divine Mercy Sunday, April 27: Celebrate the feast of the Divine Mercy at St Nicholas of Myra Church, Penrith, commencing at 2.30pm, and concluding with Mass at 6pm. All welcome.

THANK YOU!

Caritas Australia would like to express our heartfelt thanks for your incredible support of Project Compassion this Lent.

If you still have your Project Compassion box or donation envelope at home, please return them next week at Mass.

Feast days of the week:

April 28th – St. Gianna Beretta Molla

April 29th – St. Catherine of Siena, Doctor

April 30th – St. Pius V. Pope

May 1st – St. Joseph the Worker

May 2nd – St. Athanasius

May 3rd – Ss. Philip & James, Apostles

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