

# 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, 20th April 2025. Easter Sunday Year C

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

### **Entrance Antiphon** Cf Psalm 138:18,5-6

I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia.  
You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia.  
Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia,  
alleluia.

### **First Reading**

*Acts of the Apostles 10:34. 37-43*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles



*We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.*

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: ‘You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the

dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.’

### **Responsorial Psalm.** Ps 117:1-2. 16-17. 22-23. R. v.24

**(R.) This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.**

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.  
Let the sons of Israel say:  
‘His love has no end.’ **(R.)**
2. The Lord’s right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up.  
I shall not die, I shall live  
and recount his deeds. **(R.)**
3. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.  
This is the work of the Lord,  
a marvel in our eyes. **(R.)**

### **Second Reading** Colossians 3:1-4

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians  
*Look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is.*

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God’s right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth because

you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

[1 Corinthians 5:7-8](#)

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord.

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel** [John 20:1-9](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John  
*The teaching of scripture is that he must rise from the dead.*

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.' So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into

the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

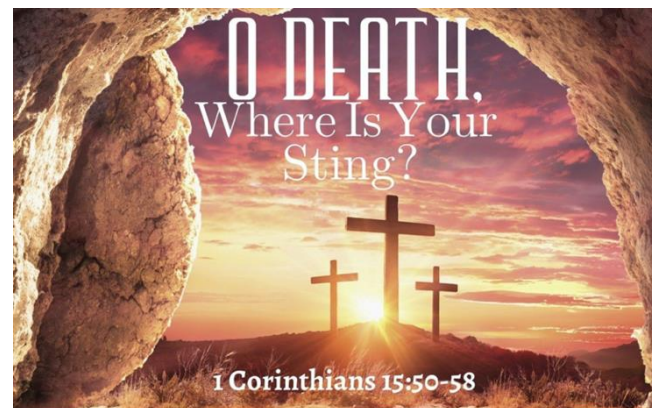
### **Communion Antiphon.**

[1 Corinthians 5:7-8](#)

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.

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<https://southrun.org/sermons/o-death-where-is-your-sting>



**Let us pray:** We pray for recently deceased Hazel Wood (funeral April 23 at 11am), Mary Anne Portelli (Vella) and Ronald Sargeant (funeral April 22 at 12 noon), and for Shirley Cameron, Jocelyn McNeilly, Mary Ann Misfud and Matthew Lawlor 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 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:

**Children's Liturgy:** The next Children's Liturgy will be on April 27 at the 9.30am Mass.

**Cuppa and a Chat:** Please join us for light refreshments and a friendly chat this Sunday (20/04) after the 8am Mass, and next Sunday (27/04) after the 9.30am Mass.

**Project Compassion:** Please kindly return Project Compassion boxes and/or envelopes to the church or parish office as soon as possible.

**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.

**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.

### Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
April 19/20 (Easter)	Deacon Batsirai John Cowen Anne Deutscher Thurifer <u>Stevenie</u> Harman JS: Alex Tuballa & Josie Henderson Readers: 1: Bellinda Henderson 2: Victor Tuballa 3: Gabriel Manouk 4 & POF: Mary Balam	Matthew Topp Barbara Ryan JS: Evie Milroy Readers C: Sue Mouthaan R: Michael Blair	Mary Marsh David Green Denise Robens JS: Jonah Ellis Readers C: Marianne Castor R: Brett Wright  <b>NB: No Visitation</b>
April 26/27	<u>Stevenie</u> Harman Beth Nowland JS: Josie Henderson & Rocco Stillsano C: Phillip Youngman R: Bellinda Henderson	Mary Marsh John Lo Cascio JS: N/A C: Gabe Manouk R: Kevin Balkin	Deacon Batsirai John Cowen <b>Beth Nowland (Visit)</b> JS: Nicholas Hamilton & Hugo Watson C: Trish Boyle R: Matthew Hamilton

## Fr Michael's Easter Message 2025

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,  
I wish you all a happy and a blessed Easter. Easter has always been the central Christian feast. It is a significant feast for most Christian faiths, and a time of great joy, renewal and hope.

During Easter, we celebrate Jesus rising from the dead after His terrible death. In its simplest form, Easter reminds us that, through Jesus, we too are given new life. No matter the burdens we carry or how dark our world seems to be, Christ's resurrection is the promise that light will always overcome darkness.

## *(Easter Message 2025 continued)*

In line with the theme of the Jubilee Year 2025, we should be "pilgrims of hope" carrying the message of Easter to others. When Jesus died, which we remember on Good Friday, hope seemed lost for His followers. Jesus was promised to be "the hope of the world" Mt 12:21. Jesus was hung on the cross and buried in a grave, but three days later, He rose from the grave, overcoming death.

The Friday on which Jesus died is called Good Friday. One may wonder why 'good' when it brought doom and sadness? This is because, from His death, there came wholeness and the promise of eternal life, a new beginning. In His death, there was forgiveness of our transgressions. Jesus gave His life in place of ours. On the cross, He took the brokenness and sin of all humanity upon Himself, and in exchange offers us his righteousness - that is, right standing with God. That's why we call Good Friday, 'good'. It was a Friday that brought hope and joy.

The Easter story does not end on Friday, with Jesus' crucifixion and death. The miseries of his followers turned to hope when He rose to life on the following Sunday (Easter Sunday). With the theme of this year, Jubilee of Hope, the Easter message reminds us that we are not alone, and there is hope and renewal in our world, which is faced with many uncertainties.

Even though sometimes we are stifled by all kinds of challenges, and we feel overwhelmed by political situations, climate aberrations, economic instability, pandemic uncertainty, poverty, violence and other dangers lurking around every corner of our lives, the Easter message reminds us that we are not alone. Christ has conquered death, and His victory is our hope.

Borrowing Patrick O' Reagan, Archbishop of Adelaide's words, "As a Church, our mission is to be bearers of hope and peace to others". We are called to be a welcoming community, where everyone finds hospitality, hope and above all love.

May this Easter fill your hearts and homes with the radiant joy of the Risen Christ. Once again, I wish you all and your family a Happy Easter.

*Fr Michael G Gathuku PP  
Our Lady of The Way. Emu Plains.*

## Parish Information

**Parish office open Tuesday to Friday from 9:00am to 3pm. (ph: 4735 1041) *Office closed April 22***

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;

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.

## **FACE TO FACE SAFEGUARDING TRAINING**

Maria Kervin will be presenting training Face to Face in the upcoming month at St Finbar's Parish Glenbrook.

Everyone is welcome to complete this independently online at: <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au/>

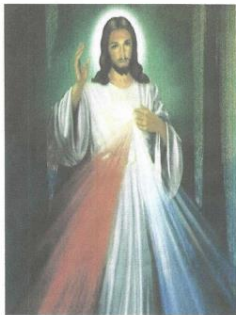
For parishioners who have completed their Cycle 1 Training Modules 1-3 in 2023. The parish is offering Cycle 2 Renewal Training Modules 4 and 5 Face-to-Face Training on the following dates:-

**Cycle 2 – Renewal Modules 4 and 5**

**Tuesday 6th of May at 7pm** in the parish hall. Module 4 – Applying the Child Safe Standards to Safeguard Children and Adults at Risk (90min), and

**Thursday 22nd of May at 7pm** in the parish hall.

Module 5 – Legal Compliance: Risk of Significant Harm and Reportable Conduct (90min)



**JESUS | TRUST IN YOU**

Jesus Promised-"I want to grant a complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My mercy." *Diary 1109*

## **DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

COME & CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF DIVINE MERCY WITH OUR PARISH AT

ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA CHURCH,  
326 HIGH ST, PENRITH

**2:30PM on 27th APRIL 2025**

- ❖ Blessing of Divine Mercy Image
- ❖ Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- ❖ Stations of the Cross
- ❖ Homily and Benediction
- ❖ Reconciliation till 5PM
- ❖ Afternoon Tea from 4:15PM-5:15PM
- ❖ Divine Mercy Mass 6PM

 **CARITAS AUSTRALIA** | **PROJECT COMPASSION**  
**Easter Sunday**  
20th April 2025

**Happy Easter from all of us here at Caritas Australia!**

As we celebrate this season of hope and renewal, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your support through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion this Lent.

As we reflect on the Easter message of love, compassion, and new beginnings, we are reminded of the incredible impact your contributions make. Together, we are building a world where no one is left behind.

Thank you for standing with us, as we **Unite Against Poverty** through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2025 Lenten appeal.



**UNITE AGAINST POVERTY**  
this Lent

**It's not too late to donate.**

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](https://caritas.org.au/project-compassion)  
Or by calling: 1800 024 413

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

## **Saints of the week:**

April 21st – Easter Monday. St Anselm.

April 22nd – Easter Tuesday.

Bl. Maria Gabriella Sagheddu

April 23rd – Easter Wednesday. St. George

April 24th – Easter Thursday. St. Mary Clopas

April 25th – (Anzac Day). St. Mark

April 26<sup>th</sup> – Easter Saturday. St. Aldo

## **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