

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, 11th May, 2025. Fourth Sunday of Easter, Year C.

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

Entrance Antiphon *Cf Psalm 32:5-6*

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

First Reading *Acts of the Apostles 13:14, 43-52*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

We are now turning to the gentiles.

Paul and Barnabas carried on from Perga till they reached Antioch in Pisidia. Here they went to synagogue on the sabbath and took their seats.

When the meeting broke up, many Jews and devout converts joined Paul and Barnabas, and in their talks with them Paul and Barnabas urged them to remain faithful to the grace God had given them.

The next sabbath almost the whole town assembled to hear the word of God. When they saw the crowds, the Jews, prompted by jealousy, used blasphemies and contradicted everything Paul said. Then Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, 'We had to proclaim the word of God to you first, but since you have rejected it, since you do not think yourselves worthy of eternal life, we must turn to the pagans. For this is what the Lord commanded us to do when he said:

I have made you a light for the nations, so that my salvation may reach the ends of the earth.'
It made the pagans very happy to hear

this and they thanked the Lord for his message; all who were destined for eternal life became believers. Thus the word of the Lord spread through the whole countryside.

But the Jews worked upon some of the devout women of the upper classes and the leading men of the city and persuaded them to turn against Paul and Barnabas and expel them from their territory. So they shook the dust from their feet in defiance and went off to Iconium; but the disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 99:1-3. 5. R. v.3*

(R.) We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

1. Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Serve the Lord with gladness.
Come before him, singing for joy. **(R.)**
2. Know that he, the Lord, is God.
He made us, we belong to him,
we are his people, the sheep of his flock. **(R.)**
3. Indeed, how good is the Lord,
eternal his merciful love.
He is faithful from age to age. **(R.)**

Second Reading *Revelation 7:9, 14-17*

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

The Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water.

I, John, saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in

their hands. One of the elders said to me, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and because they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb, they now stand in front of God's throne and serve him day and night in his sanctuary; and the One who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. They will never hunger or thirst again; neither the sun nor scorching wind will ever plague them, because the Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.'

Gospel Acclamation [John 10:14](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.

Alleluia!

Gospel. [John 10:27-30](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
I give my sheep eternal life.

Jesus said:

'The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice; I know them and they follow me. I give them eternal life; they will never be lost and no one will ever steal them from me.

The Father who gave them to me is greater than anyone, and no one can steal from the Father.

The Father and I are one.'

Communion Antiphon

The Good Shepherd has risen,
who laid down his life for his sheep
and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

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Schoenstatt's Annual Marian Pilgrimage: 18

May Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv will be celebrating Mass at Schoenstatt Shrine, 18 May at 10:30am. Join us from 9:30am for Reconciliation, Mass, a Eucharistic procession, and more. This is an outdoor event so please bring your own chairs. Drinks & food will be available for purchase. All Pilgrim Mother Coordinators are encouraged to bring along your Pilgrim Mother Shrines. For more information contact Sr. M. Rita: 0493 026 628 srrita@schoenstatt.org.au or visit schoenstatt.org.au or FB page: /MtSchoenstattMulgoa/

Let us pray: We pray for recently deceased June Wilson, and for Jackie Powell, Patrick McVeigh and Maura McGill, 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, 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:

Mother's Day Blessing

Loving God, as a mother gives life and nourishment to her children, so you give life and care for your Church. Bless these women, as we celebrate this day in their honour. May they be strengthened as Christian mothers. Let the example of their faith and love shine forth. Grant that we, their sons and daughters, may honour and appreciate them with a spirit of profound respect. May the example of Mary, mother of Jesus, inspire them to live their vocation as Christian mothers and call their children to faith. Guide and protect them in challenging times and help them to continue to trust in you all the days of their life. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Sourced from www.majellan.media)

Wishing a Happy Mother's Day to all our mothers, grandmothers, mothers-to-be and mother figures!

OLOW Patron Saint's Day: On Sunday, 25th May, we will be celebrating our Patron Saint's Day. Mass will be at 9am followed by a gathering in the hall. Please note that there will **only be one Mass** on the 25th May (the 6pm Vigil on the 24th May will be as normal). We kindly ask that those attending please bring a plate to share. Please contact the Parish Office on 4735 1041 for more information.

Children's Liturgy: The next Children's Liturgy will be on Sunday 25th May at the **9am Mass** (see above).

Cuppa and a Chat: Please join us for light refreshments and a friendly chat this Sunday (11/05) after the 9.30am Mass, and next Sunday (18/05) after the 8am Mass. All welcome!

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 May 13. All welcome!

Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
May 10/11 (Mother's Day)	Stevenie Harman Beth Nowland JS: Felicity Tuballa & Josie Henderson & Rocco Stillisano C: Debra Gleeson R: Marie McLennan	Matthew Topp John Lo Cascio JS: Evie Milroy C: Paul Ryan R: Kay Walker	Deacon Batsirai Lara Roser Denise Robens (Visit) JS: Jonah Ellis & Hugo Watson C: Lisa Samojlowicz R: Joanne Hamilton
May 17/18	Stevenie Harman Beth Nowland JS: Rocco Stillisano & Josie Henderson C: Louise Goderie R: Victor Tuballa	Deacon Batsirai Mary Marsh JS: N/A C: Sue Mouthaan R: Geraldine Waters	Michael Blair Denise Robens (Visit) David Green JS: Jonah Ellis C: Brett Wright C: Don Robens

Sacramental news

The program for the sacrament of First Holy Communion has begun. This weekend we welcome the children who are preparing to receive this sacrament. Please join with me in praying for them and their families. Blessings, Cate



Safeguarding and Working With Children:

We kindly request, for privacy reasons, that any enquiries, safeguarding certificates and WWC documentation (eg. WWC numbers and expiry dates, notification forms) be emailed to emuplains@parracatholic.org. Alternatively, please visit the Parish Office during office hours.

Prayers for the Sick: We are in the process of updating the prayer list in the bulletin. Please go through the list, and contact the Parish Office on 47351041, or email emuplains@parracatholic.org, if you would like someone to remain on this list.

Catholic Care Emergency Food Drive: Our monthly food drive will take place **next weekend 17/18 May**. There are now homeless people using the pop in centre so in addition to the usual canned meat and fish, canned vegetables, baked beans and toilet paper, goods such as *two minute noodles, biscuits, pasta sauces, UHT milk and easy to eat food have been especially requested*. Catholic Care is very grateful for all donations, but have let us know that they are currently well stocked with pasta. Please place goods at the rear of the church. **Thank you** for your very generous response to our Easter collection.

Training for Senior Servers, Readers and Ministers of the Eucharist for our Parish will commence soon. If you are interested, please register by phoning the Parish Office on 47351041 or emailing emuplains@parracatholic.org. Our first meeting will be on Friday 16th May, at the Parish Office meeting room (15 Troy St, Emu Plains), at 5pm.

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.

Diocese of Parramatta Notices:

Nominations open for the 2025 Papal & Diocesan Awards Nominations are now open for the 2025 Papal and Diocesan Awards, recognising individuals—both religious and lay—who have made outstanding contributions to the Catholic Church and its community. Do you know someone who deserves to be recognised? Nominations close at midnight on 31 May 2025. For more information or to submit a nomination, visit parracatholic.org/contribute/papal-diocesan-awards/

Charismatic Healing Mass: Sunday 18 May, 2pm Campion College Chapel, 8-14 Austin Woodbury PI Toongabbie. Celebrant: Fr Brian Steele MGL. Mass will be followed by individual prayer for healing.

African Mass 2025 at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta: 18 May

African Catholics who live in the dioceses of Parramatta, Broken Bay, and the Archdiocese of Sydney invite you to the African Mass 2025: Sunday 18 May, 12:30pm for 1:00pm start, St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta, followed by a community gathering and refreshments. For RSVP or more information contact met@parracatholic.org

FIRE UP MINISTRIES TALK - Being a Fired Up Catholic Guest Speaker: Simon Carrington – Co-Founder of Fire Up Ministries

St Finbar's Catholic Church warmly invites parishioners to a talk by Simon Carrington, co-founder of Fire Up Ministries, on **Sunday, 18 May 2025 at 7:30 PM**, held at the **Parish Hall, 46 Levy St, Glenbrook**. Open to **ages 13 and up**, this event aims to ignite a deeper love for the Catholic faith and inspire us to live it out with boldness and joy.

Topic: *Being a Fired Up Catholic*

Contact: Karen Sukkar – 0406 491 718

We encourage all teens, young adults, parents, and parishioners to attend. Let's come together as a faith community to be recharged and inspired!

Cash donations are welcomed on the night. Also there will be some merchandise for sale after the talk.

Feast days of the week:

May 12th – St. Pancras, Martyr
May 13th – Our Lady of Fatima
May 14th – St. Matthias, Apostle
May 15th – St. Dymphna
May 16th – St. Simon Stock
May 17th – St. Giulia Salzano

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