

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, 18th May, 2025. Fifth Sunday of Easter, Year C.

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

Entrance Antiphon Cf Psalm 97:1-2

O sing a new song to the Lord,
for he has worked wonders;
in the sight of the nations
he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

First Reading Acts of the Apostles 14:21-27

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*They assembled the church and gave an account of
all that God had done with them.*

Paul and Barnabas went back
through Lystra and Iconium to Antioch.
They put fresh heart into the disciples,
encouraging them to persevere in the
faith. ‘We all have to experience many
hardships’ they said ‘before we enter
the kingdom of God.’ In each of these
churches they appointed elders, and
with prayer and fasting they
commended them to the Lord in whom
they had come to believe.

They passed through Pisidia and
reached Pamphylia. Then after
proclaiming the word at Perga they
went down to Attalia and from there
sailed for Antioch, where they had
originally been commended to the
grace of God for the work they had
now completed.

On their arrival they assembled the
church and gave an account of all that
God had done with them, and how he
had opened the door of faith to the
pagans.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 144:8-13. R. cf. v.1

**(R.) I will praise your name for ever, my
king and my God.**

1. The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. **(R.)**
2. All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,
and your friends shall repeat their blessing.
They shall speak of the glory of your reign
and declare your might, O God,
to make known to men your mighty deeds
and the glorious splendour of your reign. **(R.)**
3. Yours is an everlasting kingdom;
your rule lasts from age to age. **(R.)**

Second Reading Revelation 21:1-5

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

He will wipe away all the tears from their eyes.

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new
earth; the first heaven and the first earth
had disappeared now, and there was no
longer any sea. I saw the holy city, and the
new Jerusalem, coming down from God out
of heaven, as beautiful as a bride all
dressed for her husband. Then I heard a
loud voice call from the throne, ‘You see
this city? Here God lives among men. He
will make his home among them; they shall
be his people, and he will be their God; his
name is God-with-them. He will wipe away
all tears from their eyes; there will be no
more death, and no more mourning or
sadness. The world of the past has gone.’

Then the One sitting on the throne spoke: 'Now I am making the whole of creation new.'

Gospel Acclamation [John 13:34](#)



Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.
Alleluia!

Gospel. [John 13:31-35](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

I give you a new commandment: love one another.

When Judas had gone Jesus said:

'Now has the Son of Man been glorified, and in him God has been glorified. If God has been glorified in him, God will in turn glorify him in himself, and will glorify him very soon. My little children, I shall not be with you much longer. I give you a new commandment: love one another; just as I have loved you, you also must love one another. By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples.'

Communion Antiphon [Cf John 15:1,5](#)

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

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OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY
PARISH
ST MARYS

DISCERNMENT DAY

AGES 18 - 30
Saturday, 14th June
9:00 am to 12:30 pm
at Don Bosco Youth Centre, St Marys

SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER

Listen, reflect, and uncover
how God is calling you to live
with purpose

FREE BBQ LUNCH

Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal for our Holy Spirit Seminarians

Will you help our seminarians to be 'Pilgrims and Sowers of Hope' for God's people? With your prayers and generosity, they can continue to grow in faith and formation, as they prepare to become priests who will sow hope, faith and love in the hearts of God's people.

Please give generously to the Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal at parracatholic.org/appeal. Alternatively, envelopes are available in the church foyer.

Thank you for your support.

Let us pray: We pray for recently deceased Barry Walsh, Liliana Antolovic and June Wilson, and for Jackie Powell, Mick (Gary) McInnes, Nita Lindsay, Helen Dimeh and Philomena Cox, 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, Vengie Pangilinan, Jo Von Schomburg, Sr Patricia Holligan, Greg Pigott, Chris Hall, Bob Scott, Trish Micallef, Deacon George Bryan, Kaye Bryan, Desley Mulock, Pauline Balkin, Mary Gayed, Shirley Harman, Dot Gray, Lucy Mikosic, Bernadette Hoolahan, Elisabeth Robens, Marion Betker, 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:

Our Lady of the Way Day- Sunday, 25th May

The Feast of Our Lady of the Way, also known as Madonna Della Strada, is celebrated on May 24th. It is a feast day within the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) and is rooted in the special devotion of Ignatius of Loyola and his companions to Mary, who they considered to be their guide on their travels. The feast is particularly associated with a chapel dedicated to Our Lady of the Way in the Church of the Gesù in Rome.

In Australia, this feast falls on the same day as another Marian feast: Mary Help of Christians, which commemorates Mary's role as protector and helper of Christian faith, particularly in times of need.

We are privileged, as a Church, to celebrate the two feasts at the same time. Next Sunday, we remember our Patron saint and we celebrate her. Though we will have Sunday readings I invite you all to remember this great day and pray for our Parish community so that we will be guided by Mary "the Way" to Jesus her son and our saviour. Come prepared for the day

NB Put on blue in honour of Our Lady, let us celebrate our Mother.

Prayer for Our Lady of The Way

O Mary, you always brighten our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Our Lady of the Way, who at the cross, took part in Jesus' pain while remaining steadfast in faith.

O loving Mother, you know what we need as a community, and we are confident you will provide for us, as at Cana in Galilee.

Help us, Our Lady of the Way, to conform to the will of the Father, and to do as we are told by Jesus. Who took upon himself our suffering and carried our sorrows, to lead us to the glory of the resurrection. Amen

Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
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
May 24/25	John Cowen Debra Gleeson JS: Josie Henderson & Felicity Tuballa C: Phillip Youngman R: Bellinda Henderson	NOTE: No Mass at 8.00am combined with 9.30am and commencing at 9.00am for Parish Feast Day	NOTE 9.00am start Deacon Batsirai Lara Roser Kay Walker (Visit) JS: Nicholas Hamilton & Hugo Watson C: Trish Boyle R: Matthew Hamilton

Changes to Weekday Mass:

Fr Michael will be away from Tues. 20th May-Fri 23rd May for a Diocesan Clergy Conference. There will be NO WEEKDAY MASS at OLOW during this time.

Mass will be celebrated at St Nicholas of Myra, Penrith, as follows:

Wed 21st May at 9.30am

Thurs 22nd May at 9.30am

Fri 23rd May at 12.10pm

A Communion Service will be held at OLOW on Thurs 22nd May at 9am.

Sacramental news



Prayers for the Sick: We are in the process of updating the prayer list in the bulletin. If you have would like to have someone added to the list, please contact the Parish Office on 47351041, or email emuplains@parracatholic.org.

Life Ascending Meeting: Our next meeting of the year will be at **10 am 21st May** at the home of Kay Walker, 197 River Rd, Leonay. New members are welcome! Life Ascending is a group for spiritual enrichment and friendship for the over 50 age group. For more information contact Noelene Bangle on 0247337481, or see the Parish Booklet available at the rear of the church.

Choir Practice for Our Lady of the Way Day (May 25) will be on Tues 20th May at 7.30pm.

Cuppa and a Chat: Please be advised that there will be no gathering after the 8am Mass this weekend. Please join us next weekend (25th May) after the 9am Mass when we celebrate Our Lady of the Way Day. We kindly ask that you bring a plate to share.

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 May 27 at 10am in the Parish hall. All welcome!

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

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:

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: www.wwme.org.au or contact Christine & Terry Mahony on 0490 774 419 or nswbookings@wwme.org.au

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.

Registrations now open Diocesan Retreat Opportunities

The diocese is hosting three retreat opportunities for adults of all ages to engage more with this Jubilee Year of Hope. Take the time to from your usual routine to experience a diocesan retreat - a sacred space for prayer, reflection, renewal and encounter with God. Registrations are now open. For more details and to register, see the three options of retreats below:

May 24: <https://parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-retreat-24-may/>

August 16: <https://parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-retreat-16-august/>

November 15: <https://parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-retreat-15-november/>

Pentecost Scripture Reflection with Dr Deborah Snoddy: 28 May What does the Holy Spirit look like in your life? How can Scripture stretch our imagination when comes to Pentecost and the Holy Spirit? Register for the Diocesan Pentecost Scripture Reflection Evening with Dr Deborah Snoddy on Wednesday 28 May at 6:30- 8:30pm. RSVP via parracatholic.org/events/pentecost-scripture-night or met@parracatholic.org

Feast days of the week:

May 19th – St. Celestine
May 20th – Bernadine of Siena
May 21st – St. Christopher Magallanes & companions
May 22nd – St. Rita of Cascia
May 23rd – St. Julia
May 24th – our Lady Help of Christians

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