

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, 25th May, 2025. Sixth Sunday of Easter, Year C.

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

Entrance Antiphon Cf Isaiah 48:20

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard;
proclaim to the ends of the earth:
The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

First Reading Acts of the Apostles 15:1-2, 22-29

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and ourselves
not to burden you beyond what is essential.*

Some men came down from Judaea and taught the brothers, ‘Unless you have yourselves circumcised in the tradition of Moses you cannot be saved.’ This led to disagreement, and after Paul and Barnabas had had a long argument with these men it was arranged that Paul and Barnabas and others of the church should go up to Jerusalem and discuss the problem with the apostles and elders.

Then the apostles and elders decided to choose delegates to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; the whole church concurred with this. They chose Judas known as Barsabbas and Silas, both leading men in the brotherhood, and gave them this letter to take with them: ‘The apostles and elders, your brothers, send greetings to the brothers of pagan birth in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia. We hear that some of our members have disturbed you with their demands and have unsettled your minds. They acted without any authority from us, and so we have decided unanimously to elect

delegates and to send them to you with Barnabas and Paul, men we highly respect who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accordingly, we are sending you Judas and Silas, who will confirm by word of mouth what we have written in this letter. It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials: you are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from fornication. Avoid these, and you will do what is right. Farewell.’

Responsorial Psalm Ps 66:2-3, 5-6, 8. R. v.4

(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!

1. O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help. **(R.)**
2. Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth. **(R.)**
3. Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him. **(R.)**

Second Reading Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse
He showed me the holy city coming down out of heaven.

In the spirit, the angel took me to the top of an enormous high mountain and showed me Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down from God out of heaven. It had all the radiant glory of God and glittered like

some precious jewel of crystal-clear diamond. The walls of it were of a great height, and had twelve gates; at each of the twelve gates there was an angel, and over the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel; on the east there were three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. The city walls stood on twelve foundation stones, each one of which bore the name of one of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

I saw that there was no temple in the city since the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were themselves the temple, and the city did not need the sun or the moon for light, since it was lit by the radiant glory of God and the Lamb was a lighted torch for it.

Gospel Acclamation [John 14:23](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!
All who love me will
keep my words,
and my Father will
love them and we
will come to them.
Alleluia!



Gospel. [John 14:23-29](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

The Holy Spirit will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you.

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our home with him. Those who do not love me do not keep my words. And my word is not my own: it is the word of the one who sent me. I have said these things to you while still with you; but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you. Peace I bequeath to you, my own peace I give you, a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. You heard me say: I am going away, and shall return. If you loved me you would have been glad to know that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. I have told you this now before it happens, so that when it does happen you may believe.’

Communion Antiphon [John 14:15-16](#)

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia.

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Let us pray: We pray for recently deceased Barry Walsh and Liliana Antolovic, and for Graham Skinner, Helen Dimech, Aniela Barglik and Zofia Rzepecki 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, Michelle Hadden, Cohen Hadden, 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:

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

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: Children's Liturgy will be on THIS SUNDAY, 25th May, at the **9am Mass**.

Cuppa and a Chat: Please join us for light refreshments after the 9am Mass this Sunday (May 25), and then on June 8 after the 9.30am Mass.

Caring for our common home: Recycling at our Parish: Important changes. We cannot accept blister packs which have cardboard or plastic with them UNLESS each pack is made as flat as possible and then cut into pieces with no more than 3-4 individual bubbles in each piece. The cutting can be readily done with scissors. It's ok to leave the remaining cardboard or plastic on the cut off pieces. See side of box for examples. Thank you. Jim (0421 125 722).

Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
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
May 31/June 1 Ascension	Deacon Batsirai Stevenie Harman JS: Rocco Stillisano & Felicity Tuballa C: Trish Ryan R: Mary Balam	Matthew Topp Pat Edwards JS: Evie Milroy C: Kevin Balkin R: Maria Sirotti	Michael Blair Rebecca Carberry (Visit) Connie Reid JS: Jonah Ellis & Matthew Hamilton C: Marianne Castor R: Denise Robens

Sacramental news



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

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.

Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal for our Holy Spirit Seminarians: May 31 & June 1

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, and can be returned next week. Thank you for your continued support.

Project Compassion receipts are now available in the church foyer for those who requested one. Thank you to all who gave so generously to this year's Project Compassion.

Diocese of Parramatta's Adult 35 years+ Jubilee Pilgrimage: Bookings close 31 May Join a life-changing 19-day pilgrimage from 7 to 25 September 2025, exploring sacred sites in Greece, Turkey, and Rome. Open to adults aged 35 and over, this journey follows St. Paul's path and the early Church, culminating in the Jubilee Year of Hope in Rome. Bookings close on 31 May 2025, with a deposit of \$800 required at the time of booking. The final payment is due by 7 July 2025. Don't miss this incredible faith experience. For more information and to register, visit parracatholic.org/jubilee2025/

<p><u>Parish Information</u></p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Weekend Mass times: Saturday 6 pm, Sunday 8am, 9:30am Filipino Mass, 3rd Sunday of the month: 12pm</p> <p>Weekday Masses: Tuesday 6pm; Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday 9am.</p> <p>Adoration of Blessed Sacrament at 8.30am Thursday before Mass. Benediction last Thursday of the month. First Fridays of the month – healing Mass.</p> <p>Reconciliation: Saturday 5pm.</p> <p>Sacraments: baptisms and weddings by appointment. Please contact the parish office (emuplains@parracatholic.org) for information on reconciliation, communion and confirmation.</p>
<p><u>Diocese of Parramatta Notices:</u></p> <p><u>Positions Vacant</u> Safeguarding: Healing and Support Counsellor: Diocese of Parramatta Senior Facilitator – Parish Engagement Lead Property Lawyer: Diocese of Parramatta More details at: parracatholic.org/about/jobs/</p> <p>Low Cost Counselling Services Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains provides low cost and affordable counselling services for individuals seeking support. Whether you're looking for general guidance or assistance with specific challenges like grief, loss, or family matters, Catholic Care is here to help. Call Catholic Care on 8843 2500 for a friendly chat today.</p> <p>Catholic Charismatic Renewal NSW & Emmaus Prayer Community Pentecost Celebrations: 8 June Please join the Catholic Charismatic Renewal NSW in celebrating Pentecost at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Greystanes, on Sunday 8 June from 2pm. There will be prayer, praise, testimonies, talks, and prayer ministry, based on the theme of “HOPE - Opening our hearts & minds to the presence of the Holy Spirit in Times of Change.” Enquiries Adrian 0408649327 or Desiree 0477765772.</p> <p>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</p>	
<p><u>Feast days of the week:</u></p> <p>May 26th – St. Philip Neri May 27th – St. Augustine of Canterbury May 28th – Bl. Stefan Wyszyrski May 29th – St. Paul VI, Pope May 30th – St. Joan of Arc May 31st – The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</p>	<p><u>Parish bank details:</u></p> <p>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</p>