

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, 8th June, 2025. Pentecost Sunday, Year C.

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

Entrance Antiphon *Wisdom 1:7*

The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world
and that which contains all things
understands what is said, alleluia.

First Reading *Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to
speak different languages.*

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and

Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 103:1. 24. 29-31. 34. R. v.30*

**(R.) Lord, send out your Spirit
and renew the face of the earth.**

1. Bless the Lord, my soul!
Lord God, how great you are,
How many are your works, O Lord!
The earth is full of your riches. **(R.)**
2. You take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth. **(R.)**
3. May the glory of the Lord last for ever!
May the Lord rejoice in his works!
May my thoughts be pleasing to him.
I find my joy in the Lord. **(R.)**

Second Reading *1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13*

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

In the one Spirit we were all baptised, making one body.

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in

which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

Gospel Acclamation [Matthew 28:19, 20](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come, Holy Spirit; fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Alleluia!



Gospel. [John 20:19-23](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

As the Father sent me, so I send you: Receive the Holy Spirit.

In the evening of 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.'

Communion Antiphon [Acts of the Apostles 2:4,11](#)

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.

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Let us pray: We pray for recently deceased Tom Barlow and Patricia Anne Knoke, and for Marie Kershaw, Frank Lindsay and Grazia Gauci 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, 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:

Parishioners are invited to attend Tom Barlow's funeral to be held at our Church on Wednesday 11th June at 12 noon.

Tom and Heather have been very active Parishioners for more than 30 years. Tom was the 'backbone' of Vinnies for 25 years and never hesitated to assist those in need of accommodation, food, furniture etc,. He was also instrumental in providing food to Mama Lana's Community Foundation, who provide meals for homeless people, and Tom was a valuable member of our Parish grounds committee for many years. A true legend, who will be sorely missed, RIP Tom.

Children's liturgy: The next Children's Liturgy will be on Sunday 22nd June at the 9.30am Mass.

Cuppa and a Chat: Please join us for light refreshments after the 9.30am Mass this Sunday (June 8), and next Sunday (June 15) 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 June 17. All welcome!

Safeguarding Sunday Prayer

Let your grace and love fall gently now upon our children and adults at risk, giving them the inner strength, peace and resilience to seek out assistance when required. We ask this prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.

From: ACBC (2022)

Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
June 7/8 (Long Weekend) Pentecost	John Cowen Stevenie Harman JS: Alex Tuballa & Felicity Tuballa C: Debra Gleeson R: Marie McLennan	Mary Marsh John Lo Cascio JS: N/A C: Paul Ryan O: Kay Walker	Deacon Batsirai Lara Roser Denise Robens (Visit) JS: Matthew Hamilton & Nicholas Hamilton C: Lisa Samojlowicz R: Joanne Hamilton
June 14/15 Holy Trinity	Stevenie Harman Michael Manton JS: FelicityTuballa & Josie Henderson C: Louise Goderie R: Victor Tuballa	Deacon Batsirai Mark Norbury JS: Evie Milroy C: Sue Mouthaan R: Jessica Topp	Michael Blair Kay Walker (Visit) David Green JS: Hugo Watson C: Brett Wright R: Don Robens

Pentecost Reflection

As Jane Adams, the social reformer and Nobel prize winner said, "Action is indeed the sole medium of expression for ethics". So, if you believe it Live it! This is what we should strive to do this Pentecost.

The preacher Charles Spurgeon might easily have been compared to a lighthouse. His faith shone out and many saw it. But not everyone is called to that role, and he acknowledged that when he said, "If you cannot be a lighthouse, you can be a night-light". A tiny light in someone's darkness might be more important than a mighty beam shining across the sea. Always remember that Jesus accomplished much when he walked on the other side of the road. He speaks of the Holy Spirit, which would be given after His glorification, to those who believe in Him.

So, as we celebrate Pentecost let us be filled with the Holy Spirit and ensure that all people are welcome in Christ's church. The greatest gift of the Holy Spirit is love, God is dwelling in each one of us as we are called to carry Christ's message to the world - whether that world be filled with darkness or light.

Stevenie Harman

Sacramental news

Holy Hour: There will be a special holy hour for the children and their families who are preparing to receive their First Holy Communion. This will be on **Friday 13th June** between **7-8pm**. Come join us in prayer for as long or as little as you like.

First Holy Communion at 9.30am Mass, Sunday 15th June At the 9.30am Mass on Sunday 15th June, 10 children will be receiving their first Holy Communion. Please be aware that the children and their families will be sitting in the front part of the church and that Mass will go for a little bit longer than normal. Thank you for your support and prayers for them. Blessings, Cate Kensey



Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal: Please give generously to the Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal to support our Holy Spirit Seminarians. You are able to donate online at parracatholic.org/appeal, or envelopes are available in the church foyer. Please kindly return donations by next weekend. Thank you for your continued support.

<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. 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>Ministry of Care Courses: 4- 25 June Those who visit the sick and are involved in the Ministry of Communion to the Sick and Dying in Hospitals, Aged Care Facilities and in Homes are invited to attend this course on the Ministry of Care. It will be held every Wednesday evening at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre in Blacktown. Attend all 4 sessions to receive a certificate of completion or just attend the session(s) that interest you. Please visit parracatholic.org/events/OFW to reserve a spot. For enquiries, please contact ofw@parracatholic.org or 0488 000 211.</p> <p>Expressions of Interest now open for Australian Catholic Youth Festival The Diocese of Parramatta will be joining the Australian Church at the Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) in Melbourne from 30 November to 3 December 2025! Join thousands of young Catholics from across Australia for an unforgettable festival featuring inspiring guest speakers, artists, and musicians. For more details and to express your interest by 25 August 2025, see parracatholic.org/connect/acyf or email hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org</p> <p>Registrations now open Diocesan Retreat Opportunities The diocese is hosting retreat opportunities for adults of all ages to engage more with this Jubilee Year of Hope. Take time away 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 options of retreats below: August 16: https://parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-retreat-16-august/ November 15: https://parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-retreat-15-november/</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, call Catholic Care on 8843 2500 for a friendly chat today.</p>	
<p><u>Feast days of the week:</u></p> <p>June 9th – Mary, Mother of the Church June 10th – St. Timothy, Bishop & Martyr June 11th – St. Barnabas, Apostle June 12th – St. Christian June 13th – St. Anthony of Padua, Doctor June 14th – St. Anastasius XVII</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>