

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, 6th July, 2025. Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C.

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

Entrance Antiphon *Cf Psalm 47:10-11*

Your merciful love, O God,
we have received in the midst of your temple.
Your praise, O God, like your name,
reaches the ends of the earth;
your right hand is filled with saving justice.

First Reading *Isaiah 66:10-14*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I will send toward Jerusalem peace like a river.

Rejoice, Jerusalem,
be glad for her, all you who love her!
Rejoice, rejoice for her,
all you who mourned her!

That you may be suckled, filled,
from her consoling breast,
that you may savour with delight
her glorious breasts.

For thus says the Lord:
Now towards her I send flowing
peace, like a river,
and like a stream in spate
the glory of the nations.

At her breast will her nurslings be carried
and fondled in her lap.
Like a son comforted by his mother
will I comfort you.
And by Jerusalem you will be comforted.

At the sight your heart will rejoice,
and your bones flourish like the grass.
To his servants the Lord will reveal his
hand.

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 65:1-7. 16. 20. R. v.1*

**(R.) Let all the earth cry out to God
with joy.**

1. Cry out with joy to God all the earth,
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise.
Say to God: 'How tremendous your
deeds! (R.)
2. 'Before you all the earth shall bow;
shall sing to you, sing to your name!
Come and see the works of God,
tremendous his deeds among men. (R.)
3. He turned the sea into dry land,
they passed through the river dry-shod.
Let our joy then be in him;
he rules for ever by his might. (R.)
4. Come and hear, all who fear God.
I will tell what he did for my soul.
Blessed be God who did not reject my
prayer, nor withhold his love from me. (R.)

Second Reading *Galatians 6:14-18*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Galatians

*The marks I carry on my body are those of Jesus
Christ.*

The only thing I can boast about is the
cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through
whom the world is crucified to me, and
I to the world. It does not matter if a
person is circumcised or not; what
matters is for him to become an
altogether new creature. Peace and
mercy to all who follow this rule, who
form the Israel of God.

I want no more trouble from anybody after this; the marks on my body are those of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, my brothers. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation [Colossians 3:15, 16](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and the fullness of his message live within you.

Alleluia!

Gospel. [Luke 10:1-12, 17-20](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Your peace will rest upon him.

The Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them out ahead of him, in pairs, to all the towns and places he himself was to visit. He said to them, 'The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest. Start off now, but remember, I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. Carry no purse, no haversack, no sandals. Salute no one on the road. Whatever house you go into, let your first words be, "Peace to this house!" And if a man of peace lives there, your peace will go and rest on him; if not, it will come back to you. Stay in the same house, taking what food and drink they have to offer, for the labourer deserves

his wages; do not move from house to house. Whenever you go into a town where they make you welcome, eat what is set before you. Cure those in it who are sick, and say, "The kingdom of God is very near to you." But whenever you enter a town and they do not make you welcome, go out into its streets and say, "We wipe off the very dust of your town that clings to our feet, and leave it with you. Yet be sure of this: the kingdom of God is very near." I tell you, that on that day it will not go as hard with Sodom as with that town.'

The seventy-two came back rejoicing. 'Lord,' they said, 'even the devils submit to us when we use your name.' He said to them, 'I watched Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Yes, I have given you power to tread underfoot serpents and scorpions and the whole strength of the enemy; nothing shall ever hurt you. Yet do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you; rejoice rather that your names are written in heaven.'

Communion Antiphon [Psalm 33:9](#)

Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed the man who seeks refuge in him.

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Let us pray: We pray for those recently deceased, and for Helen McInnes and Margaret Esther Rogers 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, Terry Melbin, Laurie Doohan, Arlo Amoroso, Michelle Gardam, Bradley Gardam, Michelle Hadden, Cecilia Fanning, Kathleen Bell, Cohen Hadden, Peter Joseph Apap, Vengie Pangilinan, Jo Von Schomburg, Sr Patricia Holligan, Greg Pigott, 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:

Children's liturgy: Sunday, July 27, at 9.30am Mass.

Cuppa and a Chat: Please join us next Sunday, July 13, after the 9.30am Mass as we celebrate Fr Michael's 30th anniversary, and the commissioning of our catechists. We invite you to 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). *Please note that during the winter months, this group will meet in the Parish Office.*

Playgroup: Playgroup meets every second Tuesday at 10am in the parish hall. The next group will be in Term 3, on July 29. All welcome!

Caring for our common home: Recycling at our Parish: Important changes. Monday to Friday **Blister packs** with cardboard or plastic need to be as flat as possible and then **cut into pieces** with no more than 3-4 individual bubbles in each piece. 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).

Catechists Commissioning Mass - July 13:

Next weekend at the 9.30am Mass, some of our parishioners will be commissioned as SRE Catechists. This is a special moment where they commit to sharing their faith in the public schools. Through their efforts, these catechists bring the light of hope and faith to young minds, planting seeds of love and understanding that will flourish over time.

Nepean Hospital Chaplaincy: Fr Zvonimir Gavranovic has been appointed full time chaplain at Nepean Hospital. Fr Zvonimir can be contacted for a visit on request to hospital staff, from a patient or relative during the day. Should you or a loved one require an after-hours visit in an emergency, staff will direct your request to an on- call register of a local priest.

Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
July 5/6	Deacon Batsirai John Cowen JS: Felicity Tuballa & Alex Tuballa C: Debra Gleeson R: Marie McLennan	Mark Norbury Noeline Bangel JS: Evie Milroy C: Paul Ryan R: Kay Walker	Lara Roser Beth Nowland (Visit) Connie Reid JS: Matthew Hamilton & Nicholas Hamilton C: Lisa Samojlowicz R: Joanne Hamilton
July 12/13	Stevenie Harman Anne Deutscher JS: Josie Henderson & Rocco Stillisano C: Mary Balam R: Victor Tuballa	Matthew Topp John Lo Cascio JS: Evie Milroy C: Sue Mouthaan R: Kevin Balkin	Deacon Batsirai Michael Blair Denise Robens (Visit) JS: Hugo Watson C: Brett Wright C: Don Robens

Sacramental news

Confirmation 2025 – The preparation program for the sacrament of Confirmation for **children in yr 6** and above begins on **Wednesday 6th August**. If you would like to enrol your child, please contact the parish office on 47351041. The dates for the program are on the notice board in the church foyer. Blessings, Cate.

Congratulations to Eamon who made his First Holy Communion at Mass last Saturday night.



Next weekend, on the **13th July**, we will be celebrating **Fr Michael's 30th anniversary of priestly ordination** after the 9.30am Mass. We kindly invite you to bring a plate to share.

We are also planning to gift Fr Michael, as a way of appreciation from our community. There will be a collection after the weekend Masses next weekend in recognition of this significant milestone.

Pray for our Pilgrims! Please pray for the young adults in our Diocese who will embark on the Jubilee of Youth Pilgrimage from 19 July to 5 August. May God bless their journey, deepen their faith, and guide their steps as they follow in the footsteps of St Paul and join the celebrations in Rome. Let's ask the Holy Spirit to inspire and protect them throughout this transformative experience.

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.

Fr Michael, on his 30th Anniversary of Priestly Ordination

With a heart of gratitude, I give thanks to Almighty God for the incredible gift of priesthood. As I mark 30 years since the day I first stood by the altar as a priest, I am filled with awe and gratitude not only for the gift of this vocation, but for you, the people who have been part of my journey.

These three decades have brought joys and sorrow, light and shadows, ups and downs, but through it all, God's grace and your companionship have sustained me. I thank God for every Mass celebrated, every sacrament shared, every tear wiped, and every smile exchanged. These moments have shaped my priesthood and reminded me daily of the deep beauty of serving God's people. Each baptism, funeral, wedding, confession and Sunday Eucharist has been a thread woven into the tapestry of my priesthood.

As I reflect on this sacred journey, I am deeply moved by God's faithfulness and mercy. These three decades have been marked by moments of joy, and challenges of growth and grace, and through it all, I have never walked alone. All the places I have ministered, from Kenya to various Parishes in our diocese, have brought me profound joy and fulfilment.

I am grateful to you beloved people of God; for your love, prayers, and unwavering support you have shown throughout the years. You have welcomed me into your lives, trusted me with your stories, and allowed me to walk with you in faith. Thank you for allowing me into your lives, your homes and your hearts.

As I look to the years ahead, my prayer is simply that I may continue to walk with you as a servant of Christ's love, and that our journey together will lead us more deeply into the mystery of God's Love and mercy.

Yours, Fr Michael

Feast days of the week:

July 7th – St. Peter To Rot, Martyr
July 8th – St. Priscilla
July 9th – St. Paulina
July 10th – St. Alexander
July 11th – St. Benedict
July 12th – St. Louis & Azelie-Marie Guerin Martin

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