

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, 10th August, 2025. Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C.

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

Entrance Antiphon Cf Psalm 73:20,19,22,23

Look to your covenant, O Lord,
and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever.
Arise, O God, and defend your cause,
and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

First Reading Wisdom 18:6-9

A reading from the book of Wisdom

*Just as you struck our enemies, you made us glorious by
calling us to you.*

That night had been foretold to our
ancestors, so that, once they saw what
kind of oaths they had put their trust in,
they would joyfully take courage.

This was the expectation of your people,
the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of
their enemies; for by the same act with
which you took vengeance on our foes
you made us glorious by calling us to
you. The devout children of worthy men
offered sacrifice in secret and this divine
pact they struck with one accord: that the
saints would share the same blessings
and dangers alike; and forthwith they had
begun to chant the hymns of the fathers.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 32:1. 12. 18-20. 22. R. v.12

**(R.) Happy the people the Lord has
chosen to be his own.**

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.
They are happy, whose God is the Lord,
the people he has chosen as his own. **(R.)**
2. The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine. **(R.)**

3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield.
May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you. **(R.)**

Second Reading Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

We will look for the city designed and built by God.

Only faith can guarantee the blessings
that we hope for, or prove the
existence of the realities that at
present remain unseen. It was for faith
that our ancestors were commended.

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed
the call to set out for a country that
was the inheritance given to him and
his descendants, and that he set out
without knowing where he was going.
By faith he arrived, as a foreigner, in
the Promised Land, and lived there as
if in a strange country,
with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs
with him of the same promise. They
lived there in tents while he looked
forward to a city founded, designed
and built by God.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in
spite of being past the age, was made
able to conceive, because she
believed that he who had made the
promise would be faithful to it.
Because of this, there came from one
man, and one who was already as
good as dead himself, more
descendants than could be counted,

as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

All these died in faith, before receiving any of the things that had been promised, but they saw them in the far distance and welcomed them, recognising that they were only strangers and nomads on earth. People who use such terms about themselves make it quite plain that they are in search of their real homeland. They can hardly have meant the country they came from, since they had the opportunity to go back to it; but in fact they were longing for a better homeland, their heavenly homeland. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their God, since he has founded the city for them.

It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead, and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

Gospel Acclamation [Matthew 24:42. 44](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful and ready: You know not when the Son of Man is coming.

Alleluia!

Gospel. [Luke 12:32-48](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

See that you are prepared.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There is no need to be afraid, little flock, for it has pleased your Father to give you the kingdom.

'Sell your possessions and give alms. Get yourselves purses that do not wear out, treasure that will not fail you, in heaven where no thief can reach it and no moth destroy it. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

'See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

Peter said, 'Lord, do you mean this parable for us, or for everyone?' The Lord replied, 'What sort of steward, then, is faithful and wise enough for the master to place him over his household to give them their allowance of food at the proper time? Happy that servant if his master's arrival finds him at this employment. I tell you truly, he will place him over everything he owns. But as for the servant who says to himself, "My master is taking his time coming", and sets about beating the menservants and the maids, and eating and drinking and getting drunk, his master will come on a day he does not expect and at an hour he does not know. The master will cut him off and send him to the same fate as the unfaithful.

'The servant who knows what his master wants, but has not even started to carry out those wishes, will receive very many strokes of the lash. The one who did not know, but deserves to be beaten for what he has done, will receive fewer strokes. When a man has had a great deal given him, a great deal will be demanded of him; when a man has had a great deal given him on trust, even more will be expected of him.'

Communion Antiphon [Psalm 147:12,14](#)

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord,
who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

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Let us pray: We pray for recently deceased Doris Shaw, John Simpson, Irene Donley, Stephen Buttress and Fr Chris Riley; and for Margaret White and Dr Peter Chang 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, Franco Di Napoli, Terry Melbin, Laurie Doohan, Linda Hicks, Michelle Gardam, Bradley Gardam, Cecilia Fanning, Kathleen Bell, Michelle Hadden, Cohen Hadden, Peter Joseph Apap, Jo Von Schomburg, Sr Patricia Holligan, Greg Pigott, Bob Scott, 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:

Mass Times for the Feast of the Assumption:

Vigil Mass- Thurs. Aug 14 at 6pm

Mass during the day- Fri. Aug 15 at 9am. OLOW school will be in attendance.

Please note that this is a holy day of obligation.

Children's liturgy: Sunday, Aug 24 - 9:30am Mass.

Cuppa and a Chat: Please join us for light refreshments this Sunday, Aug 10, after the 9.30am Mass, and next Sunday, Aug 17, after the 8am Mass.

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. *Next playgroup:* Aug 12

Catholic Care Emergency Food Drive: Our monthly food drive will take place **next weekend 16/17**

August. Catholic Care have advised that they have plenty of pasta but do need cereals, pasta sauces, toothpastes, canned vegies, long life milks, biscuits and tuna/canned meats if possible. **Please note Catholic Care are unable to accept goods that have passed the 'use by' date.**

Thank you for your very generous response.

Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
9/10 August 19 th Ordinary	C: Louise Goderie R: Victor Tuballa John Cowen Beth Nowland JS 1: Rocco Stillisano JS 2: Josie Henderson	C: Paul Devlin R: Sue Mouthaan Mary Marsh John Lo Cascio JS: Evie Milroy	Deacon Batsirai C: Brett Wright R: Don Robens Michael Blair Kay Walker (Visit) JS 1: Hugo Watson JS 2: Jonah Ellis
16/17 August 20 th Ordinary	C: Bellinda Henderson R: Phillip Youngman Stevenie Harman Anne Deutscher JS 1: Felicity Tuballa JS 2: Josie Henderson	Deacon Batsirai C: Gabe Manouk R: Kevin Balkin Matthew Topp JS: N/A	C: Matthew Hamilton R: Trish Boyle Lara Roser David Green Denise Robens (Visit) JS: Hugo Watson

Sacramental news

Confirmation: The Confirmation program has begun! Please join me in praying for these children and their families as they prepare to receive the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Confirmation. Thanks and blessings, Cate



Upper Primary Youth Group: There has been some interest in starting an upper primary (years 4-6) youth group in the parish. Before this can proceed, we need a core group of parents who can commit to assisting with the planning and organising of the youth night. If you feel called to this ministry, there will be a meeting after the 9.30am Mass on Sunday 24th August. If you are unable to attend the meeting, but would like to be involved, please contact the parish office.

NEW TAP and GO collection plates:

Next week, we will be introducing two Tap and Go Collection Plates at weekend Masses.



They will work in a similar way to the Tap and Go terminal in the foyer, however, these plates will be passed around during the collection time at Mass. The donations from these plates will go towards the second collection for use in the Parish.

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.

Reflection for the Feast of the Assumption

With the upcoming Feast of the Assumption, we are reminded of the great dignity of our human condition. That special belief of our Catholic faith, that Mary was assumed into heaven, body, and soul, had long been held by people of faith before being officially proclaimed as a dogma of our faith by Pope Pius XII in 1950.

On top of the darkness of the end of WW2, the Pope proclaimed a powerful story of light; the Assumption of a human – one of us - Mary. As Mary was physically assumed into heaven, and in our spiritual tradition made Queen of Heaven, we were given a special link to the big picture of life. Her prayers of intercession for us are real, adding to the true connection with us and knowledge of us in heaven where we are all known by name.

The American abolitionist and clergyman Henry Ward Beecher once said “The Bible is God’s chart for you to steer by, to keep you from the bottom of the sea and to show you where the harbour is and how to reach it without running on rocks” In other words a valuable aid to guide us through the troubled waters we are charting at present – and we are not alone because Mary is an ever present interceding on our behalf - always – until the end of time.

Such a story and feast proclaim God’s victory for us over all that threatens us. The Assumption, as a feast of human dignity, calls us to leave a legacy. Our whole life is a legacy to the world – it is our chance to say I was here, and I meant something. And what a legacy Mary left for us – Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Diocese of Parramatta Notices:

JOB VACANCY:

Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) is seeking a paid, part-time Volunteer Coordinator to help deepen their connection with parishes across Australia. The role is based at ACN’s national office in Penrith. For all details visit www.aidtochurch.org/jobs or scan the QR code. Applications close 20 August.



Feast days of the week:

Aug 11th – St. Claire of Assisi

Aug 12th – Bl. Isidore Bakanja

Aug 13th – St. Pontian, Pope & Hippolytus, Martyrs

Aug 14th – St. Maximilian Kolbe

Aug 15th– The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Aug 16th– St. Stephen of Hungary

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