

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, 26th October, 2025 Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time- Year C.

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

Entrance Antiphon *Cf Psalm 104:3-4*

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice;
turn to the Lord and his strength;
constantly seek his face.

First Reading *Sirach 35:12-14, 16-18*

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

The prayer of the humble will penetrate the heavens.

The Lord is a judge who is no respecter of personages. He shows no respect of personages to the detriment of a poor man, he listens to the plea of the injured party. He does not ignore the orphan's supplication, nor the widow's as she pours out her story. The man who with his whole heart serves God will be accepted, his petitions will carry to the clouds. The humble man's prayer pierces the clouds, until it arrives he is inconsolable nor will he desist until the Most High takes notice of him, acquits the virtuous and delivers judgement. And the Lord will not be slow, nor will he be dilatory on their behalf.

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 32:2-3, 17-19, 23. R. v.7*

(R.) The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. **(R.)**
2. The Lord turns his face against the wicked
to destroy their remembrance from the earth.
The just call and the Lord hears
and rescues them in all their distress. **(R.)**

3. The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;
those whose spirit is crushed he will save.
The Lord ransoms the souls of his
servants. Those who hide in him shall not
be condemned. **(R.)**

Second Reading *2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18*

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy

*All that remains is the crown of righteousness
reserved for me.*

My life is already being poured away as a libation, and the time has come for me to be gone. I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that Day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his Appearing. The first time I had to present my defence, there was not a single witness to support me. Every one of them deserted me – may they not be held accountable for it. But the Lord stood by me and gave me power, so that through me the whole message might be proclaimed for all the pagans to hear; and so I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from all evil attempts on me, and bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation. [2 Corinthians 5:19](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.

Alleluia!

Gospel. [Luke 18:9-14](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The publican returned to his home justified; the pharisee did not.

Jesus spoke the following parable to some people who prided themselves on being virtuous and despised everyone else, 'Two men went up to the Temple to pray, one a Pharisee, the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood there and said this prayer to himself, "I thank you, God, that I am not grasping, unjust, adulterous like the rest of mankind, and particularly that I am not like this tax collector here. I fast twice a week; I pay tithes on all I get." The tax collector stood some distance away, not daring even to raise his eyes to heaven; but he beat his breast and said, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner." This man, I tell you, went home again at rights with God; the other did not. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

Communion Antiphon Cf Psalm 19:6

We will ring out our joy at your saving help and exult in the name of our God.

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Congratulations Ottavia!

Ottavia Stillisana will serve her first Mass this weekend after being commissioned by Father Michael. She joins her brother Rocco as a junior altar server at OLOW. Congratulations Ottavia! We pray for you in this wonderful journey of service to our Lord Jesus.



HSC (and IB) Students: Please continue to pray for those sitting the HSC or Year 12 IB exams this year. May they be free from anxiety and trust in God for their futures. If you know someone who is sitting the exams, we have 'HSC Survival Pack's' still available.

Let us pray: We pray for recently deceased Mary Dyer and Chrissie Finn; and for those 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, Phyllis Goderie, John Farragher, Ray Dukes, Danko Caran, Sean Murray, Franco Di Napoli 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 for All Saints Day will be held on Saturday, 1 November, at 9am.

Children's liturgy: This Sunday, 9.30am Mass. Please complete the sign on sheet prior to Mass if you would like your child/children to attend.

Cuppa and a Chat: Please join us for light refreshments after the 9.30am **Mass this Sunday, 26 Oct.** Next weekend, 1 Nov, we will gather after the 6pm Vigil

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 (during school term) at 10am in the parish hall.
Next playgroup: 11 November.

Upper Primary (Yrs4-7) Youth Group: The next youth group will be **Friday 14 Nov from 7-8pm** in the Parish Hall.

All Souls' Day Mass Liturgy: **All Souls' Day**, is a day of prayer and remembrance for the souls of those who have died. It is observed by Catholics and other Christian denominations annually on November 2. A special **All-Souls Mass Liturgy will be held on Tuesday Nov 4 at 6.00pm.** Supper will be served in the Parish Hall after the liturgy. Please invite family and friends to join us in praying for and remembering our loved ones who have gone before us.

During November, we will have the Remembrance Book at the front of the church. Mass intention envelopes are currently available at the rear of the church, and will be collected during the week for names to be added to the Remembrance Book. During the month of November, the priest will say Mass daily for people in the Book of Remembrance. November Masses are requested from the family and are an offering for the faithful departed. You're free to offer any amount, but the suggested amount is \$20.

Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
25/26 October 30 th Ordinary	C: Debra Gleeson R: Isabella Pamintuan Stevenie Harman Anne Deutscher JS 1: Josie Henderson JS 2: Rocco Stillisano	C: Paul Ryan R: Kevin Balkin Michael Blair Pat Edwards JS: Evie Milroy	C: Lisa Samojlowicz R: Joanne Hamilton Deacon Batsirai John Cowen Kay Walker (Visit) JS 1: Nicholas Hamilton JS 2: Jonah Ellis
1 / 2 November All Saints/All Souls	C: Victor Tuballa R: Louise Goderie Deacon Batsirai Stevenie Harman JS 1: Alex Tuballa JS2: Felicity Tuballa	C: Sue Mouthaan R: Kay Walker Mark Norbury John Lo Cascio JS 1: Elizabeth Baptista JS 2: Jacob Baptista	C: Don Robens R: Brett Wright Lara Roser Connie Reid Denise Robens (Visit) JS: Hugo Watson

Parish Gardening Morning: Saturday, 8 Nov, between 8 - 11am. HELP IS NEEDED to maintain our gardens, no heavy work involved. Come and go as you please. We welcome any contribution, no matter how small. All you need is a hat and sunscreen. Contact the parish office on 4735 1041 if you have any questions.

Laudato Si Reflection

15 senior parishioners gathered by the river for a time of reflection and prayer based on the Pope Francis encyclical **Laudato Si.**

With the background of the river and the bird songs from the bush, we reflected on the life of a river and the ways in which the river reflects our spiritual lives with texts from the mystics, poetry and verses from the bible. We all appreciated the opportunity to gather together and get to know one another through our sharing and an enjoyable lunch afterwards!

Our grateful thanks to Meryl Hancock for her insightful presentation and to Bishop Vincent for recognising the needs of senior parishioners and appointing a ministry partner to guide us.



Sacramental News: Please join me in praying for the four primary school children and their families who are preparing to be baptised on 15th November here at OLOW.



Heavenly Father, we ask for blessings on all the children and families who are taking part in the sacramental program. We pray for the Holy Spirit to touch each one of them so they may experience your great love, presence and mercy in their life.
Amen

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

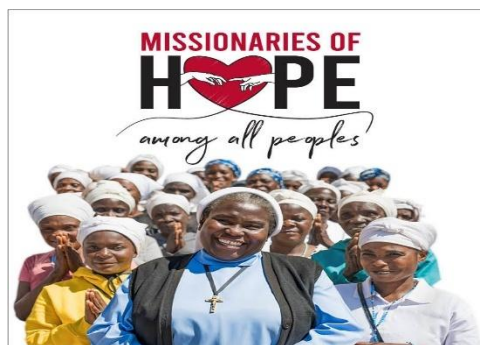
Thursday of the month.

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:



We would like to thank you for your generosity supporting the Church in Zambia and missionaries like Sr Jane and Kayula.

Thanks to your kindness, women like Sharon will have the skills to provide for their families, and mothers like Grace can give birth with dignity. Your gift will also support a variety of Church programs around the world.

To learn more about the impact your support is making, please visit catholicmission.org.au/our-work. Here, you can also sign up to our regular newsletter to keep up to date with the latest news.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to give, please do so at catholicmission.org.au/mission. Your action will make a profound change on people's lives.



Freecall: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/mission



FaithLIFE Ministry: 5 + 19 November Wanting to refresh your skills in ministry? Seeking or currently involved in ministry with your faith community? Sign up now for the 2-session FaithLIFE Ministry short course with Alison & Donnie from the Mission Enhancement Team (MET) on Wednesday 5 NOV + 19 NOV 6:30pm – 8:30pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, 1-5 Marion Street Blacktown, cnr Flushcombe Road! Details via <https://tr.ee/sAMkSrihAl> OR get in touch with the team via met@parracatholic.org

Blue Mountains Deanery Christ the King Eucharistic Procession: 23 November – procession update The Blue Mountains Deanery will be commemorating the Solemnity of Christ the King with a Eucharistic Procession on Sunday 23 November in Springwood. The procession will start at 9.30am at from the sports field within St Thomas Aquinas Primary School and go to St Thomas Aquinas Parish, where Mass will be celebrated at 10am. Morning tea will follow Mass. All are welcome to attend.

Young adults faith formation: Young adults from 18-35 are invited to come along on Sunday 9th November and learn about the early Church Father **St Basil the Great**. Speaker **Dr Kevin Wagner** will lead the faith formation session at Sacred Heart Parish Hall (9 Ropes Creek Rd, Mt Druitt) at 7pm, followed by **free** pizza and fellowship! Call Mark with any questions on 0477 004 678.

Feast days of the week:

Oct 27th – St. Abraham the poor

Oct 28th – Ss. Simon and Jude, Apostles

Oct 29th – St. Gaetano Errico

Oct 30th – St. Dorothy pf Montau

Oct 31st – St. Quentin

Nov 1st – ALL SAINTS DAY

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