

OUR LADY OF THE WAY PARISH, EMU PLAINS

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What does the Lord require of you but to act justly, to love tenderly, and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8

Sunday, 12th April, 2026 2nd Sunday of Easter. Year A - Divine Mercy Sunday.

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

Entrance Antiphon [1 Peter 2:2](#)

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

First Reading [Acts of the Apostles 2:42-47](#)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles *The faithful lived together and owned everything in common.*

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.

The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone.

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.

They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

Responsorial Psalm [Ps 117:2-4, 13-15, 22-24. R. v.1](#)

(R.) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

1. Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'
Let the sons of Aaron say:
'His love has no end.'
Let those who fear the Lord say:
'His love has no end.' (R.)
2. I was thrust, thrust down and falling
but the Lord was my helper.
The Lord is my strength and my song;
he was my saviour.
There are shouts of joy and victory
in the tents of the just. (R.)
3. The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.
This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad. (R.)

Second Reading [1 Peter 1:3-9](#)

A reading from the first letter of St Peter
He has given us a new birth as his children, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead.

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though

you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

Gospel Acclamation. [John 20:29](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Alleluia!

Gospel. [John 20:19-31](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
After eight days Jesus came in and stood among them.

In the evening of that same day, 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.' Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen

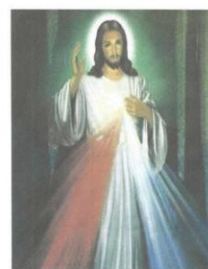
the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

Communion Antiphon Cf [John 20:27](#)

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

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JESUS | TRUST IN YOU

Jesus Promised-"I want to grant a complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My mercy." *Diary 1109*

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

COME & CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF DIVINE MERCY WITH OUR PARISH AT

ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA CHURCH,
326 HIGH ST, PENRITH

2:30PM on 12th APRIL 2026

- ❖ Blessing of Divine Mercy Image
- ❖ Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- ❖ Stations of the Cross
- ❖ Homily and Benediction
- ❖ Reconciliation till 5PM
- ❖ Afternoon Tea from 4:15PM-5:15PM
- ❖ Divine Mercy Mass 6PM

Let us pray: We pray for recently deceased Bob Scott, and for Noel Sheather whose death anniversary is 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, Phillip Fitzgerald, Jenny Griffiths, Greg Wood, Noelene Bangel, David Finn, Karen Allen, Julie Young, Gabriel Manouk, 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, Sr Patricia Holligan, Greg Pigott, 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. For privacy reasons, consent is required from the person, who is unwell, or from their next of kin.



Parish Notices:

Change of Mass Time

Dear Parishioners,
I hope you are well.
To support the needs of our Community, especially our older members, the Saturday Vigil Mass time will change. Mass will now commence at **5.30pm** instead of the usual **6.00pm**. This adjustment takes effect from **2nd of May 2026**. This will affect our Tuesday Mass, and reconciliation times too. Tuesday's masses will begin at 5.30pm, and reconciliations times will be on Saturdays 4.30pm to 5.15pm.
Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we make this change for the convenience and safety of our parish community.
With every blessing.
Fr Michael Gitau Gathuku PP Our Lady of The Way

Cuppa and a Chat: Please join us this Sat April 11 after the 6pm Mass, and Sun April 12 after the 9.30am Mass. All welcome!

Playgroup: Every second Tuesday (during school term) at 10am in the parish hall. Resumes Term 2, date tbc.

Children's liturgy: Every 4th Sunday of the month at the 9:30am Mass. *Next children's liturgy: 26 April*

Upper Primary Youth Group (yrs 4-7) 2nd Friday, 7-8:30pm in the Parish Hall.

Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
April 11/12 2nd Easter	C: Trish Ryan R: Mary Balam Stevenie Harman Debra Gleeson JS1: Alex JS2: Felicity	C: Geraldine Waters R: Maria Sirotti Mark Norbury Barbara Ryan JS1: Elizabeth JS 2: Jacob	C: Denise Robens R: Marianne Castor Deacon Batsirai Michael Blair Kay Walker (Visit) JS 1: Rocco JS 2: Ottavia
April 18/19 3rd Easter	C: Debra Gleeson R: Isabella Rose John Cowen Stevenie Harman Beth Nowland JS: Josie	C: Alex Jarominek R: Paul Ryan Mary Marsh Deacon Batsirai JS1: Rocco JS2: Ottavia	C: Joanne Hamilton R: Lisa Samojowicz Lara Roser David Green Denise Robens (Visit) JS: Jonah

Congratulations Nicholas, Leanne and Arlia who were Baptised and received their first Holy Communion last Saturday night at the Easter Vigil Mass. Nicholas and Leanne were also Confirmed. Welcome to Our Lady of the Way Church family.



Wrap with love knitters group meets on Thursdays from 9am -12pm in the parish hall. For more information, please contact Judy Prendergast (0407101254)



This is a recent donation by the Wrap with Love group to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Nepean Hospital. Thank you to all the ladies who donate their time each week creating such special blankets for those in need. Thank you to Lily Cowen who knitted the beautiful bears.

Project Compassion: Please kindly return boxes/envelopes to the church or parish office.

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 5.30pm To resume in May

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.

Parish Notices- continued

Catholic Care Food Appeal 2026: Our monthly food drive will take place **next weekend 18/19 April**. Catholic Care have asked that we let you know that they are truly overwhelmed your generosity each month and appreciate all that you give to assist their vulnerable clients. They are currently in need of Toilet Rolls; Soap; Cereal; Tinned Vegetables; Tinned Soup and Cup-a-Soups. Please place bags of food on the table at the rear of the church. **Thank you** once again for your very generous response

Life Ascending Meeting: This will be at **10 am 15 April** at the home of Kay Walker, 197 River Rd, Leonay. New members are welcome! Life Ascending is a group for spiritual enrichment and friendship for the over 50 age group. For more information see the Parish Booklet available at the rear of the church.

Diocese of Parramatta Notices

Ministry of Care courses: 3-24 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. The course will take place every Wednesday in June at 7pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. Please register via parracatholic.org/ministry-of-care-courses to reserve your spot. For enquiries, please contact ofw@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795. **If you are interested in attending, please call the office for an opportunity to carpool with other parishioners.**

Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Renewal Training, **MODULE 6**, will be held on 2 May at St Joseph's Parish, Kingswood. Please register directly for this training or for other convenient dates and locations by clicking on the training event at: <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>. For more information, please email: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

Liturgical Ministry Formation Course: If you would like to become involved as a Reader, Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist, Minister at the Altar or Minister of Communion to the Sick and Dying, the Liturgical Ministry Formation Course will commence in September at the Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. Please contact the Parish Office if you would like more information, or to pick up an enrolment form. *Please be advised that this course fills up very quickly.*

Feast days of the week:

April 13th – St. Martin I, Pope and Martyr
April 14th – St. Peter Gonzales
April 15th – St. Paternus of Wales
April 16th – St. Bernadette Soubirous
April 17th – St. James of Cerqueto
April 18th – St. Apollonius

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