

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, 10th May 2026 6th Sunday of Easter: Year A.

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

Entrance Antiphon Cf Isaiah 48:20

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard;
proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord
has freed his people, alleluia.

First Reading Acts of the Apostles 8:5-8, 14-17

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town. When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 65:1-7.16.20. R. see 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 1 Peter 2:4-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it

is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

Gospel Acclamation. [John 14:23](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

Gospel. [John 14:15-21](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If you love me you will keep my commandments.

I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you for ever, that Spirit of truth whom the world can never receive since it neither sees nor knows him; but you know him, because he is with you, he is in you.

I will not leave you orphans; I will come back to you. In a short time the world will no longer see me; but you will see me, because I live and you will live. On that day you will understand that I am in my Father and you in me and I in you. Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them will be one who loves me; and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I shall love him and show myself to him.'

Communion Antiphon [John 14:15-16](#)

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia.

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2026 National Count of Attendance will continue over the next three weekends of May. The information will provide valuable data to support pastoral planning and resource allocation across our Diocese and the wider Church.

Let us pray: We pray for recently deceased Leo Mederos and Martin Mullen, and for those whose death anniversary occurs 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, Michael Hatch, John Purcell, 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, Joe Gray, 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:

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

We give thanks to God for the love, strength, and faithfulness of mothers, grandmothers, and all women who nurture and care for others. We also remember the mothers who are no longer with us, and whose love continues to shape our lives. May God bless every family with His peace and love.

Change of Mass Time: The Saturday Vigil Mass will now commence at **5.30pm instead of the usual 6.00pm**. Also, Tuesday's Masses will begin at 5.30pm, and reconciliations times will be on Saturdays 4.30pm to 5.15pm.

Cuppa and a Chat: Please join us on Sunday (May 10) after the 9.30am Mass and then next weekend (May 17) after the 8am Mass.

Playgroup: Playgroup meets every second Tuesday (during school term) at 10am in the parish hall. The next playgroup will be on May 19.

Children's liturgy: Every 4th Sunday of the month at the 9:30am Mass. Next children's liturgy: May 24.

Upper Primary Youth Group (yrs 4-7): 2nd Friday of the month from 7-8:30pm in the Parish Hall. For more information, contact the parish office.

Wrap with love knitters group meets on Thursdays from 9am -12pm in the parish hall. For more information, please contact Judy Prendergast (0407101254). Any donations of 8ply wool gratefully accepted.

Sacramental News: Please join me in praying for the children and their families who are preparing for their first Holy Communion 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

Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	5.30 pm Note change	8.00am	9.30am
May 2/3 5 th Easter	C: Phillip Youngman R: Bellinda Henderson Deacon Batsirai Stevenie Harman JS1: Felicity	C: Kevin Balkin R: Kay Walker Mark Norbury John Lo Cascio JS1: Jacob JS2: Elizabeth	C: Matthew Hamilton R: Don Robens Lara Roser David Green Denise Robens (Visit) JS1: Hugo JS2: Jonah
May 9/10 6 th Easter	C: Trish Ryan R: Sue Schembri John Cowen Michael Manton JS1: Alex JS2: Josie	C: Maria Sirotti R: Geraldine Waters Mary Marsh Pat Edwards JS1: Elizabeth JS2: Jacob	C: Trish Boyle R: Denise Robens Deacon Batsirai Michael Blair Beth Nowland (Visit) JS1: Jonah JS2: Nicholas

Catholic Care Food Appeal 2026: Our monthly food drive will take place **next weekend 16/17May**. 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 experiencing an upturn in need and are having to ration food. They say that our monthly donations are preventing some clients from homelessness. This month they have requested cereal, pasta, soups, microwave rice and ready to eat food for those who are homeless. Please place bags of food on the table at the rear of the church. **Thank you** once again for your very generous response

Forthcoming Parish Feast Day:

The 24th May, 2026, is Pentecost Sunday. The joy of Pentecost gives life to the Church. That day, we will also be remembering our Parish Patron Feast Day- a moment of grace and unity for our whole community. As we approach these special celebrations, please take note of the adjusted Mass schedule. To enhance this day and ensure fuller participation, we shall have **two** Masses on that weekend, rather than the usual three. There will be Mass on Saturday evening with Bishop Vincent being the main celebrant, and the other on Sunday at 9.30am. There will be no 8am Mass on that weekend.

23/05: 5.30pm Mass, followed by supper
24/05: 9.30am Mass, followed by morning tea
We kindly ask that you please bring a plate to share for the supper or morning tea- whichever you are attending.

Thank you all for your understanding and cooperation. We warmly invite every family and individual to join us as we gather in thanksgiving, prayer and joyful fellowship.

2026 OLOW VOLUNTEERS' CAMPAIGN

Pentecost Sunday, where we celebrate the descending of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church is fast approaching. The Holy Spirit empowers us to live faithfully, strengthen our prayer life and gives us the energy to serve God in various ways. We are all gifted for the mission of Christ. A vibrant community is one that walk together, encourage and assist each other. *"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms". (1 Peter 4:10).* **This Pentecost Sunday, let us celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit by becoming a member of one of the many Parish ministries. Please see the inset in the bulletin for the details of the 2026 OLOW volunteers' campaign.**

Parish Information

Parish office open Tuesday to Thursday from 9am to 3pm; Friday from 9.30am to 1pm (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 5:30 pm, Sunday 8am, 9:30am
Filipino Mass-3rd Sunday of the month:12pm

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday 5.30pm;
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 4:30 pm.

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:

Bishop's Good Works Appeal: Across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains, people turn to the Church for care, hope, guidance and belonging. Through the Bishop's Good Works Appeal, our Diocese supports vital ministries including Holy Spirit Seminary, Catholic Care, the Ephpheta Centre and the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine. Over the coming weeks, this Appeal will support Holy Spirit Seminary at Harris Park, helping form the future priests our Diocese will need in the years ahead. Your generosity provides education, spiritual formation, pastoral training and safe accommodation for seminarians as they answer God's call. Please give generously at parracatholic.org/appeal or scan the QR code. Thank you for supporting the future priests of our Church.



Nominations open for the 2026 Papal & Diocesan Awards: Nominations are now open for the 2026 Papal and Diocesan Awards, recognising individuals – both religious and lay – who have made outstanding contributions to the Catholic Church and its community. Do you know someone who deserves to be recognised? Nominations close at midnight on 30 June 2026. For more information or to submit a nomination, visit parracatholic.org/contribute/papal-diocesan-awards/

Adult Confirmations 2026: The Office for Worship will host a Catechesis and Formation Day for those candidates (16+) interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this year. This will be on Saturday 29th August, 9.30am – 2.00pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre in Blacktown. A light lunch will be provided on the day. It is recommended that all sponsors attend the catechesis day. A contribution of \$40 is suggested from the candidates to assist in covering the Catechesis Day. The Confirmation will take place on Tuesday 1st September, 2026 at 7:30pm at the Cathedral. Please Note: Enrolment forms and a copy of Baptismal Certificates should be sent to OFW before Monday 18th August, 2026. For more information, please contact the Office for Worship ofw@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795.

Positions Vacant: Housekeeper Supervisor – Holy Spirit Seminary, Harris Park
Parish Secretary – St Monica's Catholic Church, Richmond

More details at: parracatholic.org/jobs

Feast days of the week:

May 4th – St. Peregrine
May 5th – St. Angelo of Jerusalem
May 6th – St Dominic Savio
May 7th – St. Augustine Roscelli
May 8th – St. Boniface IV, Pope
May 9th – St. George Preca

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