

# 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, 24th May 2026 Pentecost Sunday, Year A.

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

### **Entrance Antiphon** *Wisdom 1:7*

The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world and that which contains all things understands what is said, alleluia.

### **First Reading** *Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak different languages.*

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. ‘Surely’ they said ‘all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language?

Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and

Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.’

### **Responsorial Psalm** *Ps 103:1-2, 24, 27-30, 35. R. see v.30*

**(R.) Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

1. Bless the Lord, my soul!  
Lord God, how great you are,  
How many are your works, O Lord!  
The earth is full of your riches. (R.)
2. You take back your spirit, they die,  
returning to the dust from which they came.  
You send forth your spirit, they are created;  
and you renew the face of the earth. (R.)
3. May the glory of the Lord last for ever!  
May the Lord rejoice in his works!  
May my thoughts be pleasing to him.  
I find my joy in the Lord. (R.)

### **Second Reading** *1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13*

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

*In the one Spirit we were all baptised, making one body.*

No one can say, ‘Jesus is Lord’ unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit. There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them.

The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose. Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

### **Sequence**

Holy Spirit, Lord of light,  
From the clear celestial height  
Thy pure beaming radiance give.

Come, thou Father of the poor,  
Come with treasures which endure;  
Come, thou light of all that live!

Thou, of all consolers best,  
Thou, the soul's delightful guest,  
Dost refreshing peace bestow;

Thou in toil art comfort sweet;  
Pleasant coolness in the heat;  
Solace in the midst of woe.

Light immortal, light divine,  
Visit thou these hearts of thine,  
And our inmost being fill:

If thou take thy grace away,  
Nothing pure in man will stay;  
All his good is turned to ill.

Heal our wounds, our strength renew;  
On our dryness pour thy dew;  
Wash the stains of guilt away:

Bend the stubborn heart and will;  
Melt the frozen, warm the chill;  
Guide the steps that go astray.

Thou, on us who evermore  
Thee confess and thee adore,  
With thy sevenfold gifts descend:

Give us comfort when we die;  
Give us life with thee on high;  
Give us joys that never end.



**Gospel Acclamation.** [Matthew 28:19-20](#)

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. **Alleluia!**

**Gospel.** [John 20:19-23](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.  
*As the Father sent me, so I send you: Receive the Holy Spirit.*

In the evening of 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.'

**Communion Antiphon** [Acts of the Apostles 2:4,11](#)

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.

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**Let us pray:** We pray for recently deceased John Purcell, and for Aniela Barglik, Maria Mikuszewski, Nita Lindsay, Jackie Powell and Helen Dimech, 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, Antony McLaughlin, Joe Gray, Michael Hatch, 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:** Saturday Vigil Mass is now at **5.30pm**. Tuesday's Masses are at 5.30pm, and reconciliation times on Saturdays are 4.30pm to 5.15pm. **There is no 8am Sunday Mass this weekend due to the Parish Feast Day.**

**Cuppa and a Chat:** Please join us after both masses (Saturday 5:30pm and Sunday 9:30am) this weekend to celebrate our Parish Feast Day.

**Communion for the sick:** If you, or a family member, is sick or no longer able to attend Mass and would like communion in the home, please call the office on 4735 1041.

**Playgroup:** Every second Tuesday (during school term) at 10am in the parish hall. **The next playgroup will be on June 2.**

**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.

**Children's liturgy: To be held this Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> May at the 9.30am Mass**, and every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month thereafter. A friendly reminder to sign your child/children in prior to the commencement of Mass.

**Upper Primary Youth Group (yrs 4-7)** 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month from 7-8:30pm in the Parish Hall. Next Youth group is Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June. For more information, contact the parish office on 4735 1041.

**Church cleaning:** We are in need of volunteers to assist with church cleaning, every second Friday. If you can help, or for more information, please contact the Parish office on 47 351041.

### Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
<b>May 23/24 Pentecost</b>	C: Victor Tuballa R: Louise Goderie <b>Deacon Batsirai</b> John Cowen Stevenie Harman JS1: Josie JS2: Felicity JS3: Rocco	<b>No Mass Parish Feast Day</b>	C: Lisa Samojlowicz R: Maria Farah <b>Deacon Batsirai</b> Lara Roser <b>Rebecca Carberry (Visit)</b> JS1: Nicholas JS2: Jonah
<b>May 30/31 Trinity</b>	C: Louise Goderie R: Phillip Youngman <b>Deacon Batsirai</b> Stevenie Harman JS1: Alex JS2: Josie	C: Kevin Balkin R: Kay Walker Matthew Topp Barbara Ryan JS1: Jacob JS2: Elizabeth	C: Matthew Hamilton R: Brett Wright Michael Blair David Green <b>Beth Nowland (Visit)</b> JS1: Hugo JS2: Ottavia

**Parish Feast Day:** The 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2026, is Pentecost Sunday, and we will also be remembering our Parish Patron Feast Day. To enhance this day and ensure fuller participation, we shall have **two Masses this weekend**. 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 this 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.*

We warmly invite every family and individual to join us as we gather in thanksgiving, prayer and joyful fellowship, and **you are invited to wear something blue!**

### **Sacramental News: First Holy Communion**

Please join me in praying for the children and their families who are preparing for their first Holy Communion here at OLOW.



### **2026 OLOW Volunteers' Campaign:**

Did you know, by joining a Parish volunteer ministry we are directly participating in the mission of Christ? Parish volunteer ministries give us the opportunity to serve God and others. By actively participating in Parish activities, we grow in faith, evangelise and breathe life into the community. This is Jesus Christ's mission which we can joyfully participate in. **The 2026 OLOW Volunteers' Campaign begins this Sunday (Pentecost Sunday). It is a great opportunity for everyone and for our Parish. With the gift of the Holy Spirit we can all be volunteers. "Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love".**

**National Count of Attendance:** Thank you for your cooperation and patience as we have been counting your attendance over the past few weeks. This weekend, we will conclude the count and be recording age groups as well as the total number of Mass attendees.

## Parish Information

**Parish office open Tuesday to Thursday 9am to 3pm; Friday 9.30am-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 5.30pm, Sunday 8am, 9:30am  
Filipino Mass-3<sup>rd</sup> 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 4.30pm.

**Sacraments:** baptisms and weddings by  
appointment. Please contact the parish office  
([emuplains@parracatholic.org](mailto: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 by scanning the QR code, at [parracatholic.org/appeal](http://parracatholic.org/appeal), or through the envelopes available at the rear of the church. Thank you for supporting the future priests of our Church.



**Corpus Christi Eucharistic Procession: 4 June** This year, for the Feast of Corpus Christi the Diocese of Parramatta and the Maronite Eparchy are coming together for a vibrant [Eucharistic Procession](#) from Our Lady of Lebanon Co-Cathedral to St Patrick's Cathedral on Thursday 4 June at 6pm. If you would like to get involved or learn more information about the event, contact [Fr Tom Green](#), Assistant Parish Priest at Mary Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown.

## **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/](http://parracatholic.org/contribute/papal-diocesan-awards/)

**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](http://parracatholic.org/ministry-of-care-courses) to reserve your spot. For enquiries, please contact [ofw@parracatholic.org](mailto:ofw@parracatholic.org) or 0460 037 795.

## Feast days of the week:

May 25th – Our Lady Help of Christians  
May 26th – St. Philip Neri  
May 27th – St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop  
May 28th – St. Stefan Wyszynski  
May 29th – St. Paul VI, Pope  
May 30th – St. Joan of Arc

## 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