

OUR LADY OF THE WAY PARISH, EMU PLAINS

19 Troy St, Emu Plains
Phone: 4735 1041
Email: emuplains@parracatholic.org
Web: <https://catholicparishemuplains.org.au/>



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, 28th June 2026 Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A.

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

Entrance Antiphon *Psalm 46:2*

All peoples, clap your hands.
Cry to God with shouts of joy!

First Reading *2 Kings 4:8-11. 14-16*

A reading from the second book of the Kings

That is the holy man of God, let him remain there.

One day as Elisha was on his way to Shunem, a woman of rank who lived there pressed him to stay and eat there. After this he always broke his journey for a meal when he passed that way. She said to her husband, 'Look, I am sure the man who is constantly passing our way must be a holy man of God. Let us build him a small room on the roof, and put him a bed in it, and a table and chair and lamp; whenever he comes to us he can rest there.' One day when he came, he retired to the upper room and lay down. 'What can be done for her?' he asked. Gehazi (his servant) answered, 'Well, she has no son and her husband is old.' Elisha said, 'Call her.' The servant called her and she stood at the door. 'This time next year,' Elisha said 'you will hold a son in your arms.'

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 88:2-3. 16-19. R. v.2*

(R.) Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord; through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth. Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever, that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. **(R.)**

2. Happy the people who acclaim such a king, who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face, who find their joy every day in your name, who make your justice the source of their bliss. **(R.)**

3. For it is you, O Lord, who are the glory of their strength; it is by your favour that our might is exalted: for our ruler is in the keeping of the Lord; our king in the keeping of the Holy One of Israel. **(R.)**

Second Reading *Romans 6:3-4. 8-11*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Having been buried with him through baptism, we shall walk in a new life.

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life.

But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him any more. When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation. [1 Peter 2:9](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy people. Praise God who called you out of darkness and into his marvellous light.

Alleluia!

Gospel. [Matthew 10:37-42](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Anyone who does not accept his cross is not worthy of me. Anyone who welcomes you, welcomes me.

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who prefers son or daughter to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who does not take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me. Anyone who finds his life will lose it; anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it.

'Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me; and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me.

'Anyone who welcomes a prophet because he is a prophet will have a prophet's reward; and anyone who welcomes a holy man because he is a holy man will have a holy man's reward.

'If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is a disciple, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

Communion Antiphon [Cf Psalm 102:1](#)

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all within me, his holy name.

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Let us pray: We pray for recently deceased Mark McInnes, Mary Marsh and Dr Luis Gallur, 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, Antony McLaughlin, Joe Gray, Michael Hatch, Phillip Fitzgerald, Jenny Griffiths, Greg Wood, Noelene Bangel, Karen Allen, Julie Young, Gabriel Manouk, Danko Caran, Sean Murray, Franco Di Napoli Laurie Doochan, 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:

Funeral of Mary Marsh will be held at Our Lady of the Way Church Emu Plains on Monday 29th June at 10am. A private burial will follow the Requiem Mass. Please wear a **touch of red** for Mary, her favourite colour.

Please allow time for parking, as the carpark and street parking on Troy St will be very limited.

Change of Mass Time: Saturday Vigil Mass is now at 5.30pm. Tuesday's Masses will be at 9am, and reconciliation times on Saturdays are 4.30pm to 5.15pm. For this coming week, Tuesday Mass will be at both 9am and 5.30pm.

Cuppa and a Chat: Please join us after the 9.30am Mass this weekend. All welcome!

Wrap with love knitters group meets on Thursdays from 9am -12pm. *During the winter months, we will meet in the Parish Office.* Any donations of 8ply acrylic wool would be gratefully accepted. For more information, please contact Judy Prendergast (0407101254).

Playgroup: Playgroup meets every second Tuesday (during school term) at 10am in the parish hall. *Playgroup will resume in Term 3. Date TBA.*

Children's liturgy is on this Sunday, 28th June at the 9.30am Mass, and every 4th Sunday thereafter. Parents, please ensure that you have signed your child/children in prior to Mass commencing.

Upper Primary Youth Group (yrs 4-7): 2nd Friday of the month, 7-8:30pm, in the Parish Hall. For more information, contact the parish office on 4735 1041.

Senior Parishioners have been asked to participate in a primary school program called **Emmaus Encounters**. The program is 4 sessions of 1 hour duration each. The sessions are fortnightly and will be run next term (from end of July). The aim is for students to see the witness of Christ in the other. They are calling the parishioners 'wisdom figures'. The structure of the program can be seen on the flyer at the back of the church. If you are interested, please contact the parish office.

Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
27/28 June 13th Sunday Ordinary	C: Victor Tuballa R: Phillip Youngman Stevenie Harman Michael Mantou JS1: Josie JS2: Ottavia	C: Kevin Balkin R: Kay Walker Deacon Batsirai Michael Blair JS1: Jacob JS2: Elizabeth	C: Trish Boyle R: Matthew Hamilton Lara Roser David Green Denise Robens (Visit) JS1: Jonah JS2: Hugo
4/5 July 14th Sunday Ordinary	C: Louise Goderie R: Trish Ryan Deacon Batsirai Stevenie Harman JS1: Rocco	C: Maria Sirotti R: Geraldine Waters Matthew Topp Barbara Ryan JS: N/A	C: Marianne Castor R: Don Robens John Cowen Connie Reid Rebecca Carberry (Visit) JS1: Nicholas

BE THE WITNESS — THE MUSICAL

Be The Witness — The Musical production rehearsals commence in a couple of days. Have you got your tickets yet ?

This powerful live production telling the story of Jesus through the eyes of St Peter will be staged at the Riverside Theatre, Parramatta from 10–13 September 2026.

Special Parish Group Offer — Limited Time
Group bookings (10+) receive up to 20% off
Offer ends 10 July — limited seats available so get in early.

This is a wonderful opportunity to attend together as a parish community — with family, friends, ministries and groups — and encounter the Gospel in a powerful and accessible way.

👉 Book early to secure your seats

Scan the QR code or visit the website to organise your group booking.



Be The Witness
— THE MUSICAL —
The story of Jesus, through the eyes of Peter

10–13 September 2026
Riverside Theatres
Parramatta

SPECIAL PARISH GROUP OFFER
GROUP BOOKINGS 10+
UPTO 20% OFF!

Offer ends July 10. Book Now Limited Seats

SCAN TO BOOK YOUR GROUP TODAY!

www.bethewitness.com.au

With the support and encouragement of Bishop Vincent Long

Presented by Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown

Catholic Outlook magazine. The latest Catholic Outlook magazine is out now. Inside this edition, you'll find: Celebrating 40 years as a Diocese, Catholic entrepreneurs providing hospitality and welcome, Giving thanks for our new Deacons, Hospitality in our Parishes, and much more. Pick up a copy at the rear of the church, or read online at catholicoutlook.org/e-edition.

Toongabbie Legal Centre (TLC) volunteers will be selling raffle tickets **this weekend**, along with some merchandise items. All proceeds will directly support their free legal clinic provided for over 17 years to disadvantaged, marginalised and vulnerable people of Western Sydney. Tickets are \$2.00 each or \$20.00 for a book of 10 tickets with ten prizes. There will be pancakes for sale after the 9.30am Mass: 2 for \$5.

Parking: A friendly reminder to be mindful when parking on Troy St, that you leave enough room for other drivers to get in/out of parking spots.

Parish Information

Parish office open Tues to Thurs from 9am to 3pm; Frid 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 9am and 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 – 5:15pm.

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:

MET Natural Fertility Seminar – Introductory Session for Couples Hoping to Conceive: 8 July Hear about Restorative Reproductive Medicine and natural methods of achieving pregnancy www.fccau.org on **Wednesday 8 July 7-8pm via Teams (online)**. This session is of particular interest to couples that are trying to conceive a child where they may have infertility issues and are seeking medical intervention to help them.

MET Natural Fertility | Billings Ovulation Method® Initial Instruction: 7:30pm, 7 July Track your fertility cycle, space out pregnancies and identify the best time to achieve pregnancy. Following this instruction, you'll be set up to chart immediately. The session will be via Teams. For more information and to register, please visit parracatholic.org/natural-fertility

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. Held on Saturday 29 August, 9.30am – 2.00pm at Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. A light lunch will be provided. 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 1 September 2026 at 7:30pm at the St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Please Note: Enrolment forms and a copy of Baptismal Certificates should be sent to OFW before Monday 18 August 2026. For more information, please contact the Office for Worship ofw@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795.

Discernment retreat for women by The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth: 4 July

The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth invite women 18-35 for one day discernment retreat on Saturday, 4 July 2026, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at 116–132 Quakers Road, Marayong. The retreat offers Mass, adoration, inspiring talks, small group sharing, and quiet reflection time. Bring your questions, your hopes, and an open heart as we listen to God together. Cost is free.

Feast days of the week:

June 29th – Ss. Peter and Paul, Apostles.
June 30th – The first martyrs of the church of Rome
July 1st– St. Junipero Serra
July 2nd– St. Bernadino Realino
July 3rd– St Thomas, Apostle
July 4th – St. Pier Giorgio Frassati

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