

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

We acknowledge the Darug people, the traditional custodians on whose land this Church was built.

Sunday, 20th September 2026 Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A.

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

Entrance Antiphon

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.
Should they cry to me in any distress,
I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

First Reading

[Isaiah 55:6-9](#)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

My thoughts are not your thoughts.

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near.
Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts.
Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him, to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks.
Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.

Responsorial Psalm.

[Ps 144:2-3. 8-9. 17-18. R. v.18](#)

(R.) The Lord is near to all who call Him.

1. I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever.
the Lord is great, highly to be praised,
his greatness cannot be measured. **(R.)**

2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. **(R.)**

3. The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts. **(R.)**

Second Reading

[Philippians 1:20-24. 27](#)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

For me to live is Christ.

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

Gospel Acclamation.

[See Acts of the Apostles 16:14](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Open our hearts, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.
Alleluia!

Gospel. [Matthew 20:1-16](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Why are you jealous because I am generous?

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the

evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

Communion Antiphon [Psalm 118:4-5](#)

You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

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Let us pray: We pray for recently deceased, Flavio Varnier, Florence Nyavor and Eva Klincke; and for Mary Cook, Keith Goderie, Daisy May Hatch and William James Hatch 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, Barry Smith, Stacey Mazzerella, Didi Barnes, Riley Beecham, Jeremy Everett, 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 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:

Cuppa and a Chat: Please join us after the 8am Mass on Sunday 20th Sept, and next weekend, 27th Sept after the 9.30am Mass. All welcome!

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.

Wrap with love knitters group meets on Thursdays from 9am -12pm in the parish office during winter. 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. *The next playgroup is Tuesday 22nd Sept.*

Children's liturgy: Every 4th Sunday of the month at the 9:30am Mass. Next children's liturgy: 27th September.

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.

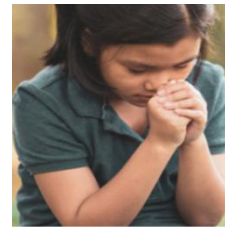
Bishop's Father's Day Appeal: Thank you for caring for our spiritual fathers. At Our Lady of the Way, we have raised over \$1100 to provide much-needed care and support for those who have dedicated their lives to serving our community. Your generosity and love ensure they receive the care, comfort and dignity they deserve in this next chapter of their lives. If you haven't had a chance to donate, please visit parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal, or there are envelopes available at the rear of the church. Thank you for your support.

SAVE THE DATE: All volunteers are invited to a formation afternoon on **Saturday 10th October** from 2pm-5pm in the Parish Hall. More details to come.

Readers/ Commentators roster:

Dates:	5.30pm	8.00am	9.30am	
19/20 September 25th Sunday Ordinary	C: TBA R: Sue Schembri John Cowen Anne Deutscher JS1: Felicity JS2: N/A	C: Kevin Balkin R: Kay Walker Deacon Batsirai Michael Blair JS1: Chelsea JS2: Daphne	C: Denise Robens R: Brett Wright Lara Roser David Green Rebecca Carberry (Visit) JS1: Rocco JS2: N/A	CONFIRMATION MASS 12 Noon John Cowen Stevenie Harman JS: Charlotte
26/27 September 26th Sunday Ordinary	C: Victor Tuballa R: Phillip Youngman Stevenie Harman Beth Nowland JS1: Joseph JS2: Charles	C: Maria Sirotti R: Geraldine Waters Matthew Topp Barbara Ryan JS1: Jacob JS2: Elizabeth	C: Don Robens R: Marianne Castor Deacon Batsirai Lara Roser Charity Maringeohi (Visit) JS1: Nicholas JS2: Ottavia	

Sacramental News



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

'I am Catholic Cards': We currently have a limited number of 'I am Catholic Cards' available. These cards can be kept in your purse/wallet in case of emergency. The cards also come with a card holder which can be kept in an accessible location at your home. The card holders have prayers printed on one side, and space to write emergency contacts on the other side. If you would like a card & card holder, please contact the Parish Office on 47 351041.

Mass at Edinglassie: Fr Michael will celebrate Mass at the Good Shepherd Chapel this week for our parishioners who reside at Edinglassie. Please join us at 11am on *Thursday 24th Sept* for this service. All are welcome.



ST CARLO ACUTIS

MAJOR PILGRIM RELIC VISIT

ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

Parramatta

28-30 SEPTEMBER

Come and pray before the Major Pilgrim Relic of St Carlo Acutis and experience the Vatican International Exhibition of The Eucharistic Miracles of the World. All welcome.



EXHIBITION

Monday 28 September 4:30pm - 6:00pm
Tuesday 29 September 8:00am - 8:00 pm
Wednesday 30 September 8:00am-12:00 pm



THE RELIC

The Major Pilgrim Relic will be housed in the Chapel for personal prayer and veneration throughout the visit.

MONDAY 28 SEPTEMBER

4:30-6:00pm: St Carlo's Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition Open
6:00pm: Holy Mass to Welcome St Carlo's Major Pilgrim Relic
7:00pm: Talk on St Carlo & his relic by Friends of St Carlo Acutis in the Cathedral
7:30-8:00pm: Individual Blessing with the Relics of Saint Carlo

TUESDAY 29 SEPTEMBER

6:30am: Mass with Relic present in the Chapel
7:00am: Talk on St Carlo & his relic by Friends of St Carlo Acutis
7:30am-7:30am: Individual Blessing with the Relics of Saint Carlo
8:00am-11:15am: Relic Veneration in the Chapel
8:00-8:00pm: St Carlo's Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition in the Cloister Hall
11:15am: Confession available
11:15-12:00pm: Adoration, Benediction in the Cathedral
12:00pm: Angelus & Rosary with Meditations from St Carlo Acutis
12:30pm: Mass
130pm: Talk on St Carlo & his relic by Friends of St Carlo Acutis in the Cathedral
130pm - 8:30pm: Veneration of the Relic in the Chapel
6:30pm: Individual Blessing with the Relics of Saint Carlo
7:00-8:00pm: Holy Hour & Benediction in the Chapel

WEDNESDAY 30 SEPTEMBER

6:30am: Mass with Relic present in the Chapel
7:00am: Talk on St Carlo & his relic by Friends of St Carlo Acutis
7:30am-7:30am: Individual Blessing with the Relics of Saint Carlo
7:30am-11:15am: Relic Veneration in the Chapel
8:00-12:30pm: St Carlo's Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition in the Cloister Hall
11:15am: Confession available
11:15-12:00pm: Adoration, Benediction in the Cathedral
12:00pm: Angelus & Rosary with Meditations from St Carlo Acutis
12:30pm: Mass (St Carlo departs following Mass)

Mass • Relic Veneration • Blessings • Adoration • Confession • Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition

COME AND PRAY WITH ST CARLO ACUTIS



Parish Information

Parish office open Tues-Thurs from 9am to 3pm; Fri from 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 5:30 pm, Sunday 8am, 9:30am
Filipino Mass-3rd Sunday of the month: 12pm

Please note on 20.09.26 the Filipino Mass will be held at St Nicholas of Myra, Penrith, at 1pm

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday 9am

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:

Bishop Vincent Presents: Kim Daniels on 'AI, Pope Leo and the future of human dignity'

Join us on 13 October at 6 pm to hear from one of the Church's foremost experts on Catholic Social Thought and its importance in the age of artificial intelligence. A lawyer by training, Ms Daniels served for 10 years as a member of the Vatican Dicastery for Communication until 2026, and during the Synod on Synodality from 2021-2024 was an expert participant and coordinator of the study group that focused on the Church's mission in the digital age. **Registration is essential, visit parracatholic.org/kim-daniels**

Express your interest to be a Stall Holder or Performer at LIFTED Live in the Forecourt 2026! Be part of a vibrant evening filled with music, dance, activities, food, and community fun hosted by Catholic Youth Parramatta on Saturday, 24th October, within the precinct of St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. We invite local performers, small business and organisations to express their interest via the links below! Expressions of Interest close Sunday 20th 11:59pm. Stall Holder

EOI: <https://forms.gle/9cbyafAiumdgWW1dA> Performer EOI: <https://forms.gle/cza7pTd48eNL9MxM6>

Annual Marian Procession at Our Lady of the Rosary, Kellyville: 10 October

The Marian Procession is a special parish celebration honouring Our Lady of the Rosary, the Patroness of our parish and community. Following the 6:00pm Vigil Mass on Saturday, 10 October 2026, parishioners will process from Our Lady of the Rosary Church to the Shrine of the Franciscan Shrine of the Holy Innocents, Kellyville, praying the Rosary and singing Marian hymns.

Catholic Care WSBM – Free Legal Clinic – Fortnightly from 7 September

Access FREE legal advice on matters including Family Law, Care and Protection, Local Court matters, Wills and Estates, Traffic offences. When: Every second Monday from 11 am starting 7 September.

Where: Catholic Care, 3/163 Macquarie Rd, Springwood. To make a booking call (02) 8843 2500 or (02) 8843 2545. Walk-ins welcome.

Feast days of the week:

Sept 21st – At. Matthew, apostle and evangelist

Sept 22nd – Our Lady, Queen of Peace

Sept 23rd – At. Pio of Pietrelcina

Sept 24th – Our Lady of Walsingham

Sept 25th – Bl. Herman "the Cripple" of Reichenau

Sept 26th – Ss. Cosmas & Damian, Martyrs

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