



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



## OUR LADY OF WAY PARISH

### PARISH TEAM

**Fr. Paul Roberts**  
Parish Priest  
**Chris Rannaste**  
Parish Secretary  
**John Cowen**  
Parish Council Chairperson  
**Jim Prendergast**  
Finance Committee  
Chairperson

### CONTACT US

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**FR. PAUL'S BLOG:**  
[paulfromifm.org.au](http://paulfromifm.org.au)

### MASS TIMES

**Weekend Masses**  
Saturday 6:00 pm  
Sunday 8:00 am & 9:30 am  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Month**  
Filipino Mass 11:00 am  
**Weekday Masses**  
Wednesday 9.15 am  
Thursday 8.15am &  
Friday 7.15am.  
**Children's Liturgy**  
During 9.30 am Mass on the  
1st & 3rd Sundays each month

### SACRAMENTS

**Reconciliation**  
Saturday 4.30 pm-5:30 pm  
**Baptisms:** By appointment  
**Weddings:** By appointment  
**First Holy Communion  
and / or Confirmation**  
Please contact Parish Office  
olowpar@pnc.com.au  
**R.C.I.A :** The process for  
adults interested in becoming  
Catholic. Office: 4735 1041

### From Fr Paul

Dear friends,

I hope you might still have some time for Christmas season catch ups with friends or family before the new year momentum kicks in.

#### Time to appreciate

I was glad to have started here as parish priest in time for Christmas. It allowed me, for example, to appreciate the mission outreach of the St Vincent de Paul, with the participation of parishioners, to many families living with struggles. It also allowed me to appreciate those in liturgical/serving/warden/welcome and music/choir ministries who contributed so richly for Advent and Christmas Masses. I saw the generous service of hospitality at morning teas during the Advent weeks and then there's that less seen ministry of the altar society with their humble work of constantly washing linen for Mass and keeping spaces organized and tidy. A good number of people either met someone spontaneously who was here at Our Lady of the Way for Christmas – or brought someone along and made them welcome. Such gestures are so encouraging and are foundational channels for the experience of life in faith to be enriched for people.

#### Watching the grass grow

For Christmas and continuing throughout these hot weeks of rapid grass growth, I've also fast gained an appreciation of the grounds teams in the parish. If some others could imagine doing an occasional part of their fitness routine through exerting some energy towards the care of parish grounds, please let me know and I'll introduce you to some excellent people. What a great service they do.

#### A coincidence of trees!

One small symbolic coincidence I'll share concerns my mother's last Christmas before she died in January 2015. I was driving her through Richmond to visit my brother's family in Kurrajong and she was blown away by a row of pink flowering crape myrtle trees and how they reminded her of her street in Kogarah as a

as a young child. Since she died (just a few weeks after) those types of trees (that I could not even identify until then) have been my 'mum trees' whenever I've seen them. Moving into Emu Plains last week, I looked in the back yard of the presbytery and what did I see? Two pink flowering crape myrtles! One of my jobs ahead will be to clear the overgrown stuff around the trunks of those trees and make them a bit of an outdoor reflection space. I'll look forward to some 'mum inspiration'!

#### Into the new year

If you haven't seen it already I've got various bits and pieces on my blog as an extra way of keeping in touch with the parish. See [paulfromifm.org.au](http://paulfromifm.org.au) from any device or computer. I hope the blog will be a helpful additional way to share reflection with the parish, especially once I'm back at work from early January in my other full time role at the Institute for Mission.

Encouragement to all for your hopes and goals for 2019. Happy New Year.

*With friendship in God's mission,*

*Fr Paul*

### Masses this coming mid-week

The new trial Mass times continue this week (as you know we needed new time due to the constraints with my other work role).

Wednesday 9.15am / Thursday 8.15am / Friday 7.15am

### New Year's Day Mass

We'll add a Mass time this week at 9.15am New Year's Day – Tuesday. There'll be a chance if you wish during that Mass to place your new year hopes, goals or resolutions on the altar.

### Epiphany Pilgrimage Mass

You are welcome to attend Wednesday's 9.15am Mass as we pray with the pilgrimage walkers who will then set off on their week long journey into the mountains. We'll welcome Bishop Richard Umbers from Sydney Archdiocese to join us for this Mass and we'll share morning tea with the walkers before cheering them on their way.

**Please pray for the Anniversaries of Frank & Aniela Barglik  
& Judwiga Buniowska**

