

Dear friends,

**PLENARY GATHERING – PARISH PRIORITIES**

On behalf of everyone, thank you to the committee of the parish that’s been planning the gathering for this Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> Feb after the 9.30am Mass. As for me, having only recently arrived in the parish, I couldn’t be luckier with the timing of this gathering. It gives me the chance to hear more thoroughly from the hearts, minds and hopes of parishioners. You probably know from recent publicity, that this gathering aims to pull together group discussions that have taken place around the parish and submit our parish advice to the 2020 national Church plenary process of renewal.

BUT as you also probably know from John Cowen’s, Kay Walker’s and Jim Potts’ sharing at Masses, we’ll be able to use the gathering this weekend not only to share in the national plenary Church reflection, but to help assess and inform local parish priorities that we might be able to put in place. I’ve got some thoughts from my first ten weeks of observation but am keener to be a listener and observer for this gathering before sharing what I believe could be helpful priorities for the next stage of the parish story here. Certainly I’ve been in other parishes over the years that have been ready for their next steps and with whom I’ve set priorities – but whilst each parish has common elements of call for response to the Gospel, each parish also has its own story to consider and I’m very much looking forward to picking up on a bit more of that this Sunday.

**RECONCILIATION FOR CHILDREN – INVOLVEMENT OF MANY PARISHIONERS – PLEASE COME TO MORNING TEA**

I mentioned last week that part of the upcoming preparation of our children for the Sacrament of Reconciliation will include a big parish morning tea. It’s next Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March after the 9.30am Mass. Can I please warmly and enthusiastically ask as many people as possible to stay for that morning tea? It will be so valuable if parishioners can very intentionally take some moments to befriend and encourage parents who are beginning the preparation for their children’s Reconciliation. During the morning tea we’ll do some fun public interviews with a few of the kids, with separate parent and children presentations after morning tea.

**SCRIPTURE NOURISHMENT OPPORTUNITY – 4 sessions**

I’m glad to say that this opportunity for four ‘around the table’ scripture Thursday evening sessions chewing over the Gospel of Luke is already full. I look forward to sharing some other faith formation opportunities with the parish via the diocese’s Institute for Mission where I work.



**OUR LADY OF THE WAY  
PARISH EMU PLAINS**

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

If by chance you’d like to be on a reserve list in case of cancellations, for the Gospel of Luke sessions starting on March 14, let Chrissy know in the office on [emuplains@parracatholic.org](mailto:emuplains@parracatholic.org) or 47351041. Likewise if you’d like to be put on an Institute for Mission email list for next opportunities, use those same contacts to let me know.

Happy week ahead!

***With friendship in God’s mission,***

***Fr. Paul***

***Enrolments are now open for Kindergarten 2020 :OUR LADY OF THE WAY.***

***There will be an OPEN MORNING on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2019 from 9.15-10.15am***

Come along, tour the school and visit our learning spaces. Morning tea will be provided for Parents and pre-schoolers. If you would like to attend, please RSVP by Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2019 to Julie Irvine on 4777 7200 or email [jirvine@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:jirvine@parra.catholic.edu.au)

**CATHOLIC FOUNDATION : BISHOP’S LENTEN APPEAL:** your support of this appeal will provide pastoral, sacramental and social support, enabling the deaf and hard of hearing, the vulnerable and isolated, to make meaningful connections and participate fully in their community, their faith and Catholic Church Life. ***Envelopes available on the seats.***

**McCARTHY CATHOLIC COLLEGE: Enrolling now for 2020. Open Evening—Tuesday 19 March 2019 Time: 5.00pm—8.00pm.** Meet the Principal, staff and student leaders, Tours of the College; Enrolment packages available; Presentations at 5.15pm, 6.pm &6.45pm Enquiries: 4728 8100 Website: [www.mccarthymuplains.catholic.edu.au](http://www.mccarthymuplains.catholic.edu.au) Like us on Facebook.

**PLANNED GIVING ENEVELOPES: Envelopes available from the church foyer.**

**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](mailto:olowpar@pnc.com.au) or [emuplains@parracatholic.org](mailto:emuplains@parracatholic.org)

**R.C.I.A :** The process for adults interested in becoming Catholic. Office: 4735 1041

***We pray for Recently Deceased Joy Oxley and for the Anniversaries of Nanette Fitzgerald, Gabriella Coldpits & Roy Dalrymple.***

**Please pray for those who are sick in our community:**  
*Grace Perry, Kevin Rose, Karen Gulliksen, Harry Beasley, Maddison Farrugia, Leone Kirton, Vicki Wells, Mark Simmonds, Max Scott, Anita Glynn, Libby Lawson, Paul Dalton, Patty & Bernie Payne, Shirley & Les Coburn, Graham & Christine Hall, Michelle Gardam, Melissa Reardon, Jacqui Walker, Mary Berkout, Patricia, Knoke, Brian Payne, Mervin McCaster, Marie Mahoney, Jeffrey Ridley, Habib Kaltoum Rahme, Michael Mercieca, Carmen Smith, (baby—Jordan Edwards) Moira Thomas Joyce Dukes, Beryl Page, Frances Payne, Val Smith, Bernadette Dearie & Barbara Grant.*



**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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[www.catholicparishemuplains.org.au](http://www.catholicparishemuplains.org.au)

**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