

Dear friends,  
**MONDAY NIGHT 7.30pm - HAVE YOU BEEN TO A 'SECOND RITE' OF RECONCILIATION?**

Rather than assume everyone is familiar, here's a quick word about the Sacrament of Reconciliation we'll be celebrating in the parish on Monday night at 7.30pm: When people go to Reconciliation by themselves in the one to one mode, it's known as the 'First Rite' of Reconciliation. The 'Second Rite' is when we come together communally and have some prayer, music, reading and homily/reflection – then each person is invited to go briefly and individually to any one of the priests and share something in which they seek God's forgiveness. We will have four priests who will be positioned around the church. The priest will respond, also briefly, and suggest an action or prayer as a penance before praying the prayer of absolution. While each person is taking this moment, there's some quiet music etc. And when each person has had a chance for that brief individual time, they return to their place and we conclude the ceremony with a communal prayer, sign of peace and blessing. Somebody asked me 'is this considered proper confession?' And the answer is yes. The Second Rite is the same Sacrament – but it's celebrated in that more communal way. One thing to highlight is that the individual part of it with the priest is kept fairly brief. If we seek more time in Reconciliation with a priest the ordinary 'First Rite' is the way to go. Anyway, welcome for Monday night's Sacrament of Reconciliation which should be a helpful and reflective way into Holy Week.

**INSTITUTE FOR MISSION (IFM) POSSIBILITIES HERE AT EMU PLAINS**

As you know, when Bishop Vincent recently appointed me to be the priest of Emu Plains, it was in addition to my continuing full time role as director of the Diocese's Institute for Mission (IFM) at Blacktown. The hope of the Bishop and Diocese, as shared before I accepted the appointment, is that Emu Plains might be happy to become a host parish and expanded location for some periodic activity of the Institute for Mission. The idea is that this is a great location for people from the greater Penrith and the lower mountains rather than only having Blacktown as a venue for the life-faith enrichment activity offered by the IFM. My team at Blacktown is only small (one other full time and two part time) and we have a full program there and across the diocese so obviously the development of an Emu Plains focus needs to be gradual. So far however, the IFM has either supported or organised i) the Listening Circles evening we had here a few weeks ago ii) last week's great visit of the leader of Bethlehem University and iii) the Gospel of Luke small group sessions recently completed. Another scripture sequence will be available in Spring and some other options were discussed with the Parish Pastoral Council. In the meantime, you might want to mark your calendar for the next IFM offering here at Emu Plains.

**PARISH TEAM**

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

**CONTACT US**

**Parish Office**  
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 Email  
 olowpar@pnc.com.au OR  
 emuplains@parra.catholic.org  
 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



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

**Wednesday night 8<sup>th</sup> May** – 7.15 for 7.30 start – An IFM presentation: **'The Jewish Jesus in our Eucharist'**. This enjoyable presentation aims to enhance our regular experience of Mass by making the background Jewish connections to what we celebrate today as the Christian Eucharist.

**THANKS TO OUR HIGH SCHOOL** In the program of our various Holy Week and Easter liturgies at OLOW, McCarthy College is generously leading our Stations of the Cross at 10am Good Friday.  
**With friendship in God's mission, fr Paul**

**HOLY WEEK & EASTER CELEBRATIONS**

<b>Holy Thursday:</b>	<b>7.30pm</b>
<b>Good Friday: Stations of the Cross</b>	<b>10.00am</b>
<b>Commemoration of the Lord's Passion</b>	<b>3.00pm</b>
<b>Easter Vigil Mass:</b>	<b>7.00pm</b>
<b>Easter Sunday Mass:</b>	<b>8.00am &amp; 9.30pm</b>

**Reconciliation during Holy Week: Monday 15th April -Combined 2nd Rite with St. Finbar's Parish—7.30pm at Our Lady of the Way.**  
**Holy Thursday 18th April 9.00am—9.45am**  
**Good Friday 19th April after the Stations of the Cross until 11.30am**

**COMMENTATOR AND READER'S ROSTER:** New Roster is available in the Church foyer. Included is the Roster for the Easter ceremonies. Thank you to Marianne Castor for organising the Roster and all who have volunteered.

**EASTER CHOIR: Please note final rehearsal will be on TUESDAY 16TH April at 7.30pm Thank you.**



**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY:** Devotions will be held at St. Nicholas of Myra Penrith commencing at 2.30pm on 28th April 2019 and will conclude with Mass at 6pm.

**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 or  
[emuplains@parracatholic.org](mailto:emuplains@parracatholic.org)  
  
**R.C.I.A :** The process for adults interested in becoming Catholic. Office: 4735 1041

Please pray for *the Anniversaries of Noel Sheather, Johnny Joyce, Willey McCafferty & Margaret Joyce, Peter Voeten, Joe Currie, Carol & Joseph Sherry and John Walsh.*

**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, 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 & Gregory Clare.*