

Dear friends,

### Ending and beginning

With the Ascension this weekend we look towards next weekend's feast of Pentecost and the end of the Easter Season. I've been asking myself how I've received Easter into my life this time around that was different to the last. What about you? I was thinking that it's both the challenge and the comfort of our lives in faith that we repeat the cycle of our worship each year; a challenge in that life question of how we're changing and growing – but also a comfort in that the life of faith is not about having to have it all sorted out once and for all. Rather, life in faith IS an ongoing cycle of seasons and possibilities, as we live the joys and the struggles in God's untiring desire to accompany us. And so as we near the end of the Easter season, we also near the beginning of the next phase of the journey; another beginning; hopefully an opportunity to entrust the power and hope of the season past into our next steps and circumstances.

### Ascension

Perhaps the Ascension this weekend can be a conscious preparation to entrust ourselves to God for what's next. As we hear the first reading assuring us that the physical departure of Jesus is part of something ongoing for us, we also hear Jesus' own promise in the Gospel that we can receive God's power into our lives on earth. The promise of the sending of the Spirit speaks of God's desire to be in the here and now with us in our lives. And of course that's what we'll celebrate with next weekend's Pentecost.

### A 'One for One' parish

Last week I wrote to you about this concept of consciously striving towards being what we might call something like a 'one for one' parish; the idea that for every dollar we need to spend on looking after the 'home base' of our parish and its operating costs – we'd strive to match a dollar towards outreach that makes a difference. Just like any family situation, we know that it costs heaps in hidden expenses to keep a house and essentials paid for. And as a parish we're like a large version of exactly that. But imagine the sense of purpose if we could, as that parish family with its 'family costs', aim for something like a one for one outreach in our activating of God's mission to make a difference!

### Mass – a strange but relevant word

As we know the word 'Mass' comes from the Latin for 'Dismissal'. For us then, the idea of 'going to Mass' carries the sense that what we believe and pray and celebrate when we come together, gets dismissed out into the world each week. *CONTINUED OVER PAGE.*



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*

As we celebrate Ascension and Pentecost, we receive again that awesome promise of God's presence given to us; a presence that empowers us to make an awesome difference in the world.

***With friendship in God's mission, fr Paul.***

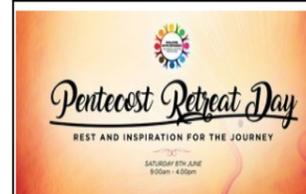
**THIS SUNDAY JUNE 2ND 2019: FIRST EUCHARIST PREPARATION**

**Big morning tea after the 9.30am Mass— *Everyone is Welcome.***

The children who are participating in their First Eucharist preparation and their families will be attending our morning tea prior to their formation activities.

**Bishop's Good Shepherds Appeal – OLOW Appeal weekend will be—15 & 16 June**

When God calls, will you help them answer? The Holy Spirit Seminary in Harris Park is training 15 young men to be true shepherds of Christ's flock and future priests for the Diocese of Parramatta. Your gift to Parramatta Catholic Foundation will support our seminarians to prepare for the priesthood and a life of community service. Please give generously via the Bishop's Good Shepherds Appeal envelopes or online at [yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal](http://yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal)



Carole Burke and Kay Walker will be attending this Pentecost Retreat on the 8th June and are happy to transport up to two people if needed. See noticeboard for more information. Kay can be contacted on 0430193000.

**SRE teacher** needed for a Year3 class for few weeks at LEONAY Public School on Thursday at 9.15 am. If you can assist please contact Michelle Harris 0404875143. Thank you

**ARE YOU COELIAC/GLUTEN INTOLERANT?** If you are – we have LOW GLUTEN hosts to enable you to receive The Body of Christ in communion. Please see Father or an Acolyte before Mass and they will arrange for the LOW GLUTEN host to be available for you.

#### PARISH TEAM

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

#### CONTACT US

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emuplains@parra.catholic.org  
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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 1.00 pm

#### 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 4.45pm-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 Recently Deceased *Bernadette Dearie (Nee Collins)* and the Anniversary of *Gordan Thompson.***



**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, Barbara Grant, Gregory Clare & William Simmonds.*