

Dear friends,  
**Longer term parishioners will remember 'housie'**

When I was briefly the priest administrator at Emu Plains over 20 years ago, I well remember the very active 'Housie' (like 'Bingo' for those not familiar) that operated. It was a major fundraising activity of the parish, thanks to the enormous commitment of some parishioners who ran it! Something I remember of the 'housie' funds raised here was the way they enabled OLOW to offer great outreach support to a number of other special mission causes and communities. It's a part of the local history of care about which parishioners can feel enormously proud.

**Smoking laws**

As some will know, the ban on smoking in public places was one of the factors that led to 'housie' ending because many who frequented housie liked to play the game along with having a few smokes! Whilst we don't have this funding source any more, we can be enormously thankful for what it achieved. For some years since and still now, the parish's capacity to fund its presence, ministry and outreach has depended on the weekly collections. And so we can be enormously thankful for people's week to week generosity in sharing a portion of their resources!

**A 'One for One' community?**

This week at the parish finance committee and pastoral council meetings, we had a first discussion about the idea of aiming towards a 'one for one' concept in our parish funding. In a nutshell, this is the idea of being a parish that aims to match at least dollar for dollar two big priorities;

1. the priority to pay for being a parish here in this place – including property, church and maintenance, operating and insurance, core recurrent costs etc – 'funding to be and maintain'
2. the priority to fund outreach, mission priorities and works of the Gospel that express how we make a difference and why we're the Church of God's people together – 'funding to act and mission out'. More on all this ahead – but I wanted to share with you that such a review and conversation of our story and possibilities is under way.

**In immediate practical terms – THANKS TO ALL**

Under priority 1. above, a significant amount of guttering on the church needs renewing. It's custom stainless steel external box guttering and the quotes include some necessary ridge capping on the roof. The finance committee has settled on a quote for \$9,490 and this will proceed shortly. Further to this, investigations are being made to clean the church roof

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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*

and there is major expense approaching (prompted by Penrith Council requirements) for attention to trees and tree roots. So, again, thanksgiving for all whose sharing in weekly collections enables hidden costs to be met. Hope to share lots more on priority 2. above as well, ASAP.

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

**REST IN PEACE NOEL NEEDHAM:** A funeral service for Noel, was held in our church, last Friday. Our prayers and condolences are extended to Noel's family and friends at this sad time.

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

**Big morning tea after the 9.30am Mass and communal prep session** – Let us celebrate the children and parents of our First Eucharist group by our prayer support, welcoming presence and hospitality. Children will participate in a 45 minute activity in the Hall and their parents will have a preparation talk in the church at the same time.



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

**Church Warden—A Church Warden is required for the 9.30am Mass, please consider volunteering and contact the Parish Office 4735 1041.**

**Bishop's Good Shepherds Appeal – 1 and 2 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)

**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

**PARISH TEAM**

- Fr. 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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 Email  
 olowpar@pnc.com.au OR  
 emuplains@parra.catholic.org  
 www.catholicparishemu.plains.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 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 4.30 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 Recently Deceased Noel Needham and the Anniversary of Helen Dimech**



**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 & William Simmonds.*