

**Dear friends,  
Fathers' Day**

I look forward to celebrating this weekend's Masses especially for the intentions of fathers of families! I know not everyone has the positive experience of the following simple, yet quite profound anonymous quote - but I'll print it here to acknowledge the courageous 'yes' given many times over by ordinary flesh and blood dads who stretch and strive to give the beautiful and selfless service of their vocation to bless and nurture children!

**"When you're young, you think your dad is Superman. Then you grow up, and you realize he's just a regular guy who wears a cape."** Happy Fathers' Day men!

**Diocesan Forum**

*"Do not be afraid to convey the Gospel in new ways and launch into the deep."*

That was one of the messages our Bishop Vincent shared at the inaugural Diocesan Forum in July. The Forum called Diocesan representatives to respond to the signs of the times as we listen to what the Spirit is saying through our own communities and through the Plenary Council process. Representatives of our parish actively participated, as you may know from the recent feedback. The Pastoral Planning Office of the Diocese has now prepared some informative and interesting follow up and is sharing it with the Diocese via a website link:

[www.parracatholic.org/forum2019](http://www.parracatholic.org/forum2019) - You can see the bishop's address, materials prepared for the Forum, reports from the Forum data and images from the day. Further opportunities will invite us all to engage in Deanery and Diocesan initiatives coming out of the Forum.

**'Diocesan Forum' – Is this the same as 'Plenary 2020'?**

No, it's not directly the same. The Plenary is a major national process for Church review and renewal in Australia that has the endorsement of Pope Francis. Bishop Vincent, now three years into his leadership in our Diocese, has been wanting a local process of Diocesan review and renewal involving the new Deanery Councils and other reps of the diocese. So, he decided to insert a special Forum into the timeline of our Diocese's involvement in the national process. He did this so that we didn't have to only wait on the outcomes of the very important but also time demanding national process. He hoped that it could encourage and support some good transparent communication and evaluation on the local level now – along with some fresh missionary outreach, welcome and inclusion across the diocese.

**Plenary 2020 - an opportunity here at Emu Plains this weekend**

By the time you see this bulletin there will have been a special Saturday afternoon Information



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

Session for the next phase of the Australian national Plenary process of the Australian Church. This was previously advertised for all to feel welcome. These info sessions concern the next phase of the Plenary process which is about listening and discernment. These info sessions are being held in many places and we've provided the parish hall here for one.

*I look forward to hearing our parishioners' responses following the special Saturday afternoon session – I have tons of Saturday weddings to celebrate in different locations that are mostly booked into my calendar a year in advance – hence my apologies to our parishioner reps for my absence from the Saturday Plenary info session here this weekend.*

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

**BISHOP'S FATHERS' DAY APPEAL**

We do this appeal each year to look after retired clergy who've given their lives and care. Envelopes are available in the foyer for people's sharing but to spread out the timing of various special focuses we're going to hold off on this appeal for two weeks.

**We honour VICTORIA VELLA;** a long time OLOW parishioner (from Orchard Hills - wife of Felix RIP). Victoria went to the Lord this week and her funeral will be at Luddenham on Tues 3 Sept at 10.30am. We offer our condolences and prayers to Victoria's family and friends.

**2020 VISION: EAST TIMOR IMMERSION :** 8 Days 9 Nights. Departing Darwin 5th January 2020 - for more information please contact Celia Carroll 0419445858 or Flavio Varnier 0408369824 *See Noticeboard for more details.*

**VINNIES WINTER APPEAL OUTCOME:** The recent St. Vincent De Paul Winter appeal was again successful, raising \$4,817.00. This money goes to helping the poor in our Parish and our Diocese. As usual you have been very generous in supporting our various Vinnies endeavours. Thank you—Barry Harris (*Chair of OLOW Conference*)

**YOUTH BLUE MOUNTAINES DEANERY YOUTH EVENING:** Parish hall 7pm this Wednesday 4th September. Youth leaders from our deanery are meeting to reconnect with each other and with the youth of our Parish. **Age ( Yr 11—30 yrs) most welcome!!!**



**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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**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 Victoria Vella and for The Anniversaries of John Vanderloo & Sam & Grazia Gauci.**

**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), Joyce Dukes, Beryl Page, Frances Payne, Val Smith, Barbara Grant, Gregory Clare, William Simmonds, Judy Chesters, Maria Apap, Paul Cudmore, Angela Lonergan, Ken Skillicorn & Frank Cummins.*

