

**Dear friends,
Confirmation and Saints**

We welcomed Bishop Vincent for a second time in less than a week on Thursday night as we celebrated Confirmation here in the parish for almost fifty young people. We weren't to have Bishop Vincent as the minister of Confirmation but a late change to his schedule on the day itself surprised us with his arrival. Saint Rocho (*Rocco, Roch – or other language variations*) was among the more creative saints sourced by our candidates – the patron saint of dogs – or of infectious diseases as claimed by another historical commentary.

Communion of Saints

In any case, this custom of choosing a name can put us in touch with the stories of our faith. And it can put us in touch with the many people known or unknown in our wider faith family ancestry on whose shoulders our ongoing living - of life in faith - stands. It's an awesome concept in our Catholic Christian faith that even now we can consider ourselves as members of the *communion of saints* – a people united across earth and heaven who recognise that in God, life is one integrated journey.

Beyond fear

What a gift of our faith it is that we believe we don't live the real life just here on earth and then drift into some kind of sleepy, less real kind of existence afterwards! Rather, we can say that in faith, a full and enduring real life is under way! Bit by bit, our invitation is to participate with God in making the life we see now - AND that bigger enduring picture of life beyond what we can see - into ONE - united reality. In this kind of understanding, this life matters - and all creation matters – because it is this life and this creation that is the arena for us right now, of God's process of grace and transformation. We are on a journey in which all of God's creation is unfolding towards the fullness of life – which is God's desire for us now and forever. Such a vision is given by the 'incarnate' – or enfleshed – Jesus, who came into the heart of this life and creation – who showed us that our connection to the divine is in and through our flesh and blood and the created world. What a joy it is that the more we can take this to heart, the more we can live to the full, now, beyond fear. Life, forever, has begun.

With friendship in God's mission, fr Paul

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

MASS TIMES

Weekend Masses
Saturday 6:00 pm
Sunday 8:00 am & 9:30 am
3rd 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



**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*

BISHOP'S FATHERS' DAY APPEAL

We do this appeal each year to look after retired clergy who've given their lives and care. Our appeal will be held this weekend. Envelopes are available on your seat. Thank you for your generosity.

Plenary Council 2020

The Plenary Council invites people to continue to participate in the journey towards the Council sessions in 2020 and 2021. The "Listening and Discernment" phase recently opened and a guide has been developed to encourage groups to take part in communal discernment on the National Themes for Discernment. Learn more about the Christian practice of discernment and download the guide, "Let's Listen and Discern", at www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au

Australian Catholic Youth Festival, Perth: 7 – 11 December 2019

Time is running out to register to join Bishop Vincent and Catholic Youth Parramatta at ACYF19 in Perth. ACYF19 is a biennial national gathering of Catholic young people established by the Bishops of Australia. If you are a school student that missed out on being selected, you can register to join a diocesan small group with a guardian. Free twin-share hotel accommodation is still available, but for a limited time. For more information and to register visit www.catholicyouthparramatta.org



CATECHIST MEETING: (SRE) will be held on **Monday 23rd September at 9.45am** in the Parish office. Thank you

BLESSINGS AND CONGRATULATIONS: To **Trish and John Boyle** who celebrated their **50th Wedding Anniversary** last week. May the Lord continue to bless you both with a happy and healthy future. Your witness of married love is a blessing to us all. Thank you!



We also offer our **Congratulations to Kate Easthope and Nathan Walker** who were married this weekend. Kate is our much loved Director of our Before and After School care. We pray every blessing for this couple as they embark on their journey of life together.

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

Please pray for the Anniversaries of Geoffrey McAlary & Linda Prendergast

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, Emma Woods, Brian O'Hara, Bruce Gillett & Denis Woodward

