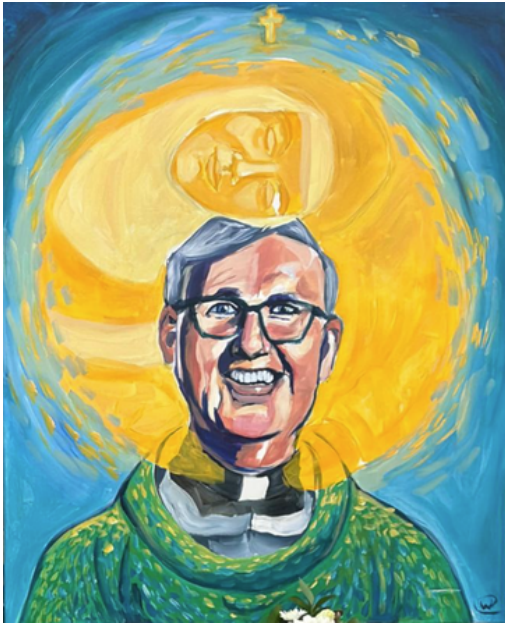




St Mary MacKillop
Catholic Parish
ORAN PARK

**The Seventeenth Sunday in
Ordinary Time – Year C**
27th July, 2025



A PRAYER FOR Fr. DAVID

Heavenly Father We entrust to your loving care the soul of your faithful servant, Fr David John Catterall. May his service to your Church and people find fulfilment in the peace of your heavenly kingdom. Comfort all who mourn his passing, and inspire us to follow his example of faith and love. Grant him eternal rest, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen. St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, pray for us. Servant of God Eileen O'Connor, pray for us.

Let us continue to pray for the repose of Fr David's soul, his family, and all who mourn his passing.

A message from Dn. Sam

This weekend, where we have just laid to rest our beloved Fr David, let us continue to keep him and his family in our prayers and the large number of people who turned out on Wednesday evening for his mass of remembrance is a testament to the love and respect people had for him.

Luke's gospel, from which we are reading these days, Jesus encourages us to pray the prayer of petition, to petition God, 'Ask, and it will be given to you; search and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you', literally, 'Keep on asking... keep on searching... keep on knocking'.

In first century Judaism, hospitality was a sacred duty. It is inconceivable that someone in desperate need who knocks on the door of a friend would be refused hospitality, even if it was in the middle of the night. Jesus is saying, "if that is how hospitable you are, think of how hospitable God is". If you are prepared to get up in the middle of the night when a friend knocks on your door, then you should never be slow to knock on God's door. Jesus encourages us in this weekend's reading, to knock on God's door, to seek out God, to petition God. It is a ringing endorsement of the power of prayer. What are we to ask God for? At the end of that Gospel reading Jesus declares that what God wants to give us is the Holy Spirit. "How much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him". God wants to give us what we most need, and what we most need is the Holy Spirit. It is the Spirit who empowers us to take the path God wants us to take, the path that leads to fullness of life for ourselves and for others, here and now and in eternity.

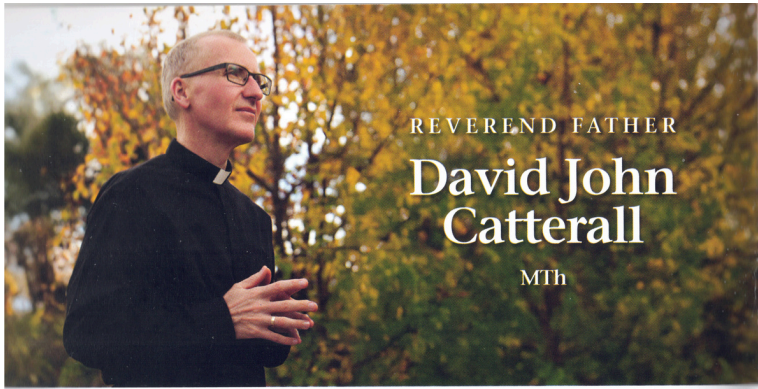
Thank You for your support & presence at Fr. David's Mass of Remembrance :
Staff & students of St. Justin's School and St. Benedicts College



marymackillopparish.org.au



facebook.com/oranparkparish



REVEREND FATHER
David John Catterall
 MTh

David John Catterall was born in Port Kembla on 3 July 1973, to John and Pam Catterall (née Batchelder). Baptised at Holy Family Catholic Church, Windang, on 26 August 1973, he later received the sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation at St Paul's Catholic Church, Albion Park. His education included primary school at Oak Flats Public School and secondary school at St Joseph's Catholic High School, Albion Park.

While pursuing a Bachelor of Arts at Wollongong University, David discerned a vocation to the priesthood. He entered seminary formation at St Patrick's College, Manly, in 1993, earning a Bachelor of Theology and a Master of Theology. He completed his studies in 1998 at the Seminary of the Good Shepherd, Homebush.

David was ordained a transitional deacon by the late Bishop Philip Wilson on 18 June 1999 at St Paul's,

Albion Park, and a priest on 25 March 2000 at St Francis Xavier's Cathedral, Wollongong. Weeks before his ordination, David was diagnosed with male breast cancer, a challenge that would shape his ministry and deepen his faith. Over the years, he also faced Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma, prostate cancer, and Acute Myeloid Leukemia, diagnosed in October 2024.

As a deacon and assistant priest, David ministered in the parishes of Wollongong, Nowra, Camden, Campbelltown, and Rosemeadow. In 2006, he was appointed administrator of St Paul's, Albion Park, and in 2007, he became its parish priest. On 22 June 2015, the late Bishop Peter Ingham DD appointed him the foundation parish priest of St Mary MacKillop Parish, Oran Park.

At the first Mass for St Mary MacKillop Parish, held in St Justin's School library—used as a Mass Centre—Fr David addressed the congregation:

"Today, you and I are making history ... as together we build Australia's newest Catholic parish ... I promise you ... you won't ever hear me as parish priest say: 'My parish, my church, my schools.' For I firmly believe that a parish is not owned by the priest, or even by the people. It is owned by God, who calls us to name and nurture the gifts He has given us, and to place these gifts at the service of others ... I also want to say how deeply moved I am that Bishop Peter discerned to place our parish under the protection of St Mary MacKillop. I truly believe that St Mary MacKillop offers each of us a special window into the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

Fr David's ministry reflected Pope Francis' vision of parishes as: "A community of communities, a sanctuary where the thirsty come to drink in the midst of their journey, and a centre of constant missionary outreach" (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 28).

Beyond his parish roles, he served the diocese and Church in many capacities, including Chair of the Council of Priests, Diocesan Liturgy Commission, and Director of Clergy Life and Ministry, just to name a few. He was also diocesan Vocations Director and accompanied pilgrim groups as chaplain, attended international conferences, and served as a priest-minister of Holy Communion at St Mary MacKillop's Canonisation Mass in Rome. In 2014, he walked part of the Camino de Santiago, further deepening his spiritual journey.

Fr David drew spiritual strength as a Josephite Companion and Camaldolese Benedictine Oblate.

Following his leukemia diagnosis, he retired as parish priest of St Mary MacKillop Parish on 13 October 2024.

The Scripture readings for this funeral Mass are deeply personal. The first reading, from Jeremiah, was a reflection passage he focused on during a seminary retreat, resonating with his trust in God's plans. The second reading, from St Paul, included the verse: "We are but earthen vessels that hold this treasure," which was also printed on the back of his ordination card. The Gospel from St John sustained him with hope throughout his ministry and illness.

Two quotes guided Fr David's life and ministry: "Remember, we are but travellers here" (St Mary MacKillop), and "No other means save love" (Eileen O'Connor). In a reflection for the *Illawarra Breast Cancer Support Group*, he shared:

"Life is not always easy, but I find great courage and strength knowing that I am loved by my God, a faith community, and my supportive family ... I've come to believe that all of us are given a task in life—clearly mine is living with and through my own weakness, so as to give others strength to face their own."

After a life of faithful service, Fr David entered eternal life on 8 July 2025. He will be remembered as a loving son, brother, uncle, pastor, colleague, and friend who served the Church as a missionary disciple of Jesus.



IN OUR PARISH

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

We pray for our faithful departed who have died recently and whose anniversaries are remembered at this time.

**Robert Michael Watson,
Monique & Claude Serret, Janos Toth,
Sandra O'Sullivan**

We join in prayer for those who are unwell or in need of extra prayers.

We invite you to share the names of those who are sick or in need of extra prayers by emailing the Parish Office

Monday - 28th July

1pm Rosary, Leppington

Tuesday - 29th July

9:30am Rosary on Zoom

5pm Devotions, Oran Park

6pm Reconciliation, Adoration

6:40pm Evening Prayer, Benediction

7pm Mass, Oran Park

Wednesday - 30th July

8am Mass, Oran Park

Thursday - 31st July

9.30am Rosary

10am Mass, Oran Park

Friday - 1st July

9.30am Mass, Oran Park

Anointing of the sick

Saturday - 2nd July

4pm Reconciliation, Oran Park

Trivia Night - POSTPONED

In light of the recent passing of Fr David, the decision has been made to postpone the upcoming trivia night, out of respect and to allow our Parish community time to mourn. We understand this news may be disappointing, and we truly appreciate your understanding and support during this time.

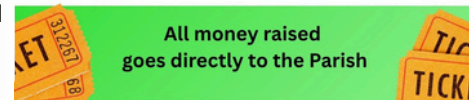
Once a new date is confirmed, we will share it with the Parish community and look forward to gathering together as many people as possible in celebration of the vibrant Parish that Fr David played such a key role in building



**1st Prize: Artwork
2nd Prize: Crocheted Church
3rd Prize: Bible and Missal**

Tickets will be sold at the Fiesta and at Masses on weekends of 28/29 June, 1 July, 12/13 July, and 19/20 July.

Draw will take place week of 21-25 July. Winners will be announced in the Parish bulletin on 26/27 July.



Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Indian community invites you for the solemn Mass on the feast of "Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary" & celebration of **India's Independence Day** on **15th August 2025, at 6pm.**

The Mass will be celebrated at St Mary MacKillop parish Oran Park.

Our parish is building a new **Media & Communications Ministry** to help us more effectively use our digital and print media to engage our parish and share our faith to the wider community. The

Media & Communications Ministry will use their time and talents to **look after our parish website and social and print media**, and we are inviting those who have a background in or are interested in digital marketing, graphic and website design, multimedia art, or film and photography to contact the Parish Office or complete the sign up sheet at the Welcome Table.

To support this ministry, we are also forming a group to manage the Powerpoint presentations for Mass, which have been a welcome contribution to our Mass celebrations that we would like to continue to offer. Members of this group will prepare the Powerpoint slides ahead of time and run the Powerpoint during Mass. This opportunity to serve is open to all, including high school students, and we invite anyone who is interested to contact the Parish Office, or complete the sign up sheet at the Welcome Table.



On 15th August, men from around the world will be stepping into an ancient tradition of the Church: St. Michael's Lent.

An ancient call to prayer, fasting & penance - not for comfort, but for conversion
Join along other men in our parish. Contact Parish Office

WOMEN OF THE CROSS

Catholic Women's Group 2025:

May 21st
June 18th
July 16th
August 20th
Sept 17th
Oct 15th
Nov 19th
Dec 10th

Wednesday nights - 7pm - Penola Room



St Mary MacKillop
Catholic Parish

JOIN US FOR
MACKILLOP YOUTH
TERM 3 2025



Friday Nights

Juniors (Years 7-9)
Seniors (Years 10-12)

Friday 8th August (Week 3)

Friday 22nd August (Week 5)

Friday 5th September (Week 7)



Annual MacKillop Youth
Pilgrimage

Combined (Years 7-12)

Saturday 20th September (Week 9)

Further details to be provided
closer to the event

PLEASE JOIN US FROM
6:30PM - 8:30PM IN THE
PENOLA ROOM



Mary MacKillop Place 7-11 Mount Street, North Sydney Saint Mary MacKillop Feast Day 8 Aug 2025

Spend the day at Mary MacKillop Place as they celebrate the
Feast Day of Saint Mary MacKillop!

Whether you've been here many times or it's your first visit,
this is a day to pause, come together, and remember the life
and legacy of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop
- a woman who still inspires many today.

Join for Mass at the following venues and times at Mary
MacKillop Place.

Mary MacKillop Memorial Chapel at 8:00 am and 6:00 pm
Glen Roy Green at 10:00 am and 1:00 pm

For more Info Visit : <https://www.marymackillopplace.org.au/>

🎵 Northern Mass Centre - Children's Choir 🎵 St. Mary Mother of God, Leppington

Starting from this month, July 2025, we'll have a children's
choir during the mass at Leppington Church. They will
serve/sing every 4th Sunday of the month. If any children
would like to join the choir,
please see Lani and Rosa after the mass.
or Rosa 0433 741 325

🎵 Join Our Parish Choir ! 🎵

Do you love to sing or have a heart for music and worship?
We warmly invite you to share your gift by joining one of our
parish choirs at the different Masses.

Whether you're a seasoned singer or just starting out, your
voice is welcome!

To express your interest or find out more, please contact
Margie or Deacon Sinh.

Margie: dowlingmargie@gmail.com
Let's lift our voices together in praise!

Saints of the week

Saint Ignatius of Loyola

priest, Founder of the Jesuits
Spanish Catholic priest and theologian (1491-1556)

FEAST DAY: 31st July

Iñigo López de Loyola thirsted for fame and glory. The boy, born
in 1491 into the lesser nobility in Spain's Basque country, learned
sword-fighting and all things military.

Thanks to a broken leg, this fame-seeking soldier became the
founder of the Society of Jesus, or the Jesuits,
drawing from his own experience nearly unparalleled insight into
the spiritual life.

St. Alphonsus Maria de' Liguori

Bishop and Doctor of the Church,
Founder of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer

FEAST DAY : 1st August

Italian Catholic bishop and saint, as well as a spiritual writer,
composer, musician, artist, poet, lawyer, scholastic philosopher,
and theologian. He founded the Congregation of the Most Holy
Redeemer, known as the Redemptorists, in November 1732.

He was canonized in 1839 by Pope Gregory XVI and proclaimed a
Doctor of the Church by Pope Pius IX in 1871. One of the most
widely read Catholic authors, he is the **patron saint of**
confessors.

AROUND OUR DIOCESE

59th
Annual
Event

Campbelltown Catholic Club Mass & Communion Luncheon

Sunday 10 August 2025

To be concelebrated by Bishop Brian Mascord DD and Fr John Ho PP St John the Evangelist Catholic Church, 35 Cordeaux Street, Campbelltown at 10:30am.
At the conclusion of the Mass a luncheon will be served at 'THE CUBE' Campbelltown Catholic Club, 20-22 Camden Road Campbelltown at 12:30pm.

This event is 18+ only.



\$25 per person. Includes 2 course lunch.

Scan this QR Code or see Reception to book your place by Friday 25 July 2025.



Jubilee Year – Prayers of the Faithful

28 July– 3 August: **Jubilee of Youth**

For young people, may the Holy Spirit in this Jubilee Year, grace them with powerful encounters with the risen Jesus. May they through the intercession of Carlo Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassati, grow in courage to generously commit themselves to God's service. Let us pray to the Lord.



Register Now :

<https://www.dow.org.au/events/menalive-diocesan-weekend-2025/>

Positions Open – Diocesan Youth Council

A vibrant team of lay people, clergy, and religious who serve as both an advisory body and implementation team to the Bishop for youth and young adult ministry in the Diocese of Wollongong. Meeting quarterly, the DYC helps guide, support, and implement initiatives that foster mission, faith, and community among young people. Members have the opportunity to be co-partners in shaping diocesan priorities in this important area of ministry. The Bishop is currently seeking to appoint four new members to the Council. Selections will follow a structured process that ensures a broad representation of voices, experiences, and demographics across the diocese.

Applications are now open and will close on **4 August**.
To apply, visit: dow.sh/4ewILkU

Rosemeadow Jubilee pilgrimage day

Venue: Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church

Date: Saturday **6 September**, 2025

Time: 10:00am - 4:00pm

Speaker: Elise Duval

Topic: A Call to Live the Jubilee

Cost: FREE (BYO lunch)

Marriage Anniversaries Mass 2025

If you are celebrating 25, 30, 40, 50, 60 or over 60 years of marriage this year, we invite you to the celebration of Significant Marriage Anniversaries, to be **celebrated with Bishop Brian Mascord on Sunday 24 August 2025 at 2pm at the St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Wollongong**.
Mass will be followed by light refreshments in the Xavier Centre Conference Room.

Please register online at <https://dow.sh/MA2025> by no later than Monday, 11 August 2025.

Any enquiries please email Helen Bennett
helen.bennett@dow.org.au

Vocaris 'Beer and Beads'

Inviting all young adults (over the age of 18).
A Catholic twist on the classic "Paint & Sip".
Instead of painting, we will be making your own set of Rosary beads! Please BYO Drinks.

When : Saturday **9 August** 5.30pm to 10pm

Where: Wilton Community Centre: Main Hall.
20 Broughton Street, WILTON, NSW, 2571

A Vocation View

We are called to love with our whole being. God is inviting you to love through ministry to the Church.

Pray for generosity to
serve God's people. (Luke 10:25-37)

If you want to talk about your vocation, please contact the diocesan vocations director, Fr Duane Fernandez at
vocations@dow.org.au

Compass: "Bush" family camping weekend

Start Date: Friday **5 September**, 2025

End Date: Sunday **7 September**, 2025

Time: 5pm Friday - 3pm Sunday

Venue: Guntawang - Wooglemai Catholic Camping Facility (40 minutes drive from Oran Park)

Cost: \$50 per adult or \$100 per family

RSVP: Friday 29 August 2025

Register : <https://www.dow.org.au/events/compass-bush-family-camping-weekend/>

FROM THE VATICAN

Blessed Carlo Acutis and Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, will be canonized as Saints on 7 September 2025 by Pope Leo XIV.

When a phone call becomes a prayer

A conversation between Pope Leo XIV and astronaut Buzz Aldrin, on the 56th anniversary of the Moon landing, becomes a moment of prayer. The Prefect of the Dicastery for Communication reflects on how it underscores the sacredness of each and every life and the urgent call for peace in a world torn by war.

Dicastery for Promoting Christian Unity

The task of the Dicastery for Promoting Christian Unity is the growth, within the Church, of an authentic ecumenical spirit. It is active in all areas that can contribute to the promotion of the unity of Christians through fraternal relations, collaborations, and theological dialogues with other Churches and Christian Communions.

The prefect is Cardinal Kurt Koch, while the secretary is Archbishop Flavio Pace. Relations with other Churches and ecclesial Communities are managed by two sections: the Eastern section, for the Orthodox Churches of Byzantine tradition and for the Oriental Orthodox Churches (Coptic, Syriac, Armenian, Ethiopian, Malankara), as well as for the Assyrian Church of the East; and the Western section, for the various Churches and ecclesial Communities of the West.

Hear from Pope Leo XIV

Sunday Echo is a limited-release resource the Diocese of Wollongong has developed that contains, using the Holy Father's most recent homily or reflection and accompanying discussion questions. **Each issue will be released the day after Pope Leo XIV gives a homily or reflection on the most recent Sunday Gospel readings** go to:

<https://www.dow.org.au/media-resources/faith-circles/> to access or sign up to have sent straight to you.

Digital missionary priest helps young people

'move from the screen to the altar'

In the context of the Jubilee of Digital Missionaries and Catholic Influencers, which will be held in Rome July 28-29, **Mexican priest Father Heriberto García Arias**, author of the upcoming Spanish-language book "Digital Missionaries: Influencers or Witnesses of Christ Today?", offered a reflection on the role of evangelizers on social media and the importance of their presence in the digital environment.

With more than 2 million followers on his TikTok account @heribertogarciaar and more than 200,000 on Instagram, the young priest gave an interview to the Spanish-language broadcast edition of EWTN News, "EWTN Noticias," from the Eternal City emphasizing that the Catholic Church "is taking very important steps to be present throughout the digital context."

Pope Leo XIV on vocations crisis:

God continues to call and is faithful to his promises

For Leo XIV, forming priests who are friends of Christ means "forming men capable of loving, listening, praying, and serving as a community." He thus reiterated that "it is necessary to pay great attention to the preparation of the formators, since the effectiveness of their work depends above all on the example of life and the communion among them."

"The very existence of seminaries reminds us that the formation of future ordained ministers cannot happen in isolation," he emphasized.

Referring to vocations, the pontiff noted that, despite the signs of crisis affecting the life and mission of priests, "God continues to call and remains faithful to his promises," and Leo therefore called for the creation of appropriate conditions "to hear his voice."

In this regard, he expressed the importance of creating "environments and forms of youth ministry imbued with the Gospel, where vocations to the total gift of self can emerge and mature. Have the courage to offer powerful and liberating proposals!" he exclaimed.