



St Mary MacKillop
Catholic Parish
ORAN PARK

PARISH BULLETIN

The Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C
3 August, 2025



"Remember, we are but travellers here"

ST. MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP

Mary Helen MacKillop RSJ (in religion Mary of the Cross; 15 January 1842 – 8 August 1909) was an Australian religious sister. She was born in Melbourne but is best known for her activities in South Australia. Together with Fr Julian Tenison-Woods, she founded the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart (the Josephites), a congregation of religious sisters that established a number of schools and welfare institutions throughout Australia and New Zealand, with an emphasis on education for the rural poor.

The process to have MacKillop declared a saint began in the 1920s, and she was beatified in January 1995 by Pope John Paul II. Pope Benedict XVI prayed at her tomb during his visit to Sydney for World Youth Day 2008 and in December 2009 approved the Catholic Church's recognition of a second miracle attributed to her intercession. She was canonised on 17 October 2010, during a public ceremony in St Peter's Square at the Vatican. She is the first Australian Catholic saint. Mary MacKillop is the patron saint of the Archdiocese of Brisbane and of Australia.

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, Dolores Doyle, Carmelo Galea, Carlo Muscatello, Jan Macri, Sam Camilleri & Venancio Soares

Please Pray for:
Doris Gauci

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 – 4th August

1pm Rosary, Leppington

Tuesday – 5th August

9:30am Rosary on Zoom

5pm Devotions, Oran Park

6pm Reconciliation, Adoration

6:40pm Evening Prayer, Benediction

7pm Mass, Oran Park

Wednesday – 6th August

8am Mass, Oran Park

Feast day of Transfiguration of our Lord

Thursday – 7th August

9.30am Rosary

10am Mass, Oran Park

Friday – 8th August

9.30am Mass, Oran Park

Solemnity of St. Mary MacKillop

Saturday – 9th August

4pm Reconciliation, Oran Park.

5pm Mass, Oran Park

Sunday – 10th August

8am Mass, Leppington

8am Mass, Oran Park

10am Mass, Oran Park

5pm Mass, Oran Park

Chaldean Holy Mass

Sunday 12:00noon

Wow it is August already and what a journey it has been so far for our parish.

We are gradually recovered from the loss of our beloved

Fr. David because we are people of the resurrection.

This coming Friday is our Parish Feast Day, St. Mary MacKillop. As our patroness saint reminds us; we are travelers in this place. Therefore, we are to travel with faith and hope in the Lord who guides us through.

As Christians, we are called not only to be bearers of Christ's love here on earth, but also to fix our eyes to heaven where Christ is seated at the right hand of God the father. Jesus issued a strict warning to us all; Watch and be on your guard against avarice of any kind, for a man's life is not made secure by what he owns, even when he has more than he needs.

The word avarice simply means extreme greed for wealth or material gain. Surely our Lord has nothing against being rich and having plentiful, but rather he is challenging the wrongful attitude of someone who is rich and thinks of himself not needing God in his life. Earthly wealth should serve our purpose to achieve the highest richness in the heavenly kingdom, but not for us to be the slave to earthly wealth that will be rotten and eaten by mammoth.

What does it profit the man to gain the whole world but forfeit his soul (Mk 8:36).

Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added unto you (Mt 6:33).

This is our theme song this week.

May God bless you all.

From Fr. Feleki

Parish Administrator



IN OUR PARISH



10 Year Anniversary *family* **TRIVIA NIGHT**

Organise your team and register now!



- Date:** Saturday 23rd August
- Time:** 6.45pm for a 7pm start
- Location:** St Justin's / St Benedict's School Hall, Oran Park
- Tickets:** \$15 per person (+ booking fee)
- Kids in Year 4 and under:** FREE!
- Tables:** Max 10 people per table
- Please organise your team ahead of time and make one booking per table**
- Please note all Under 18's must attend with a parent / guardian**

Mary MacKillop Place

7-11 Mount Street, North Sydney

Saint Mary MacKillop Feast Day **8 Aug 2025**

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:

Mary MacKillop Memorial Chapel at 8:00 am & 6:00 pm

Glen Roy Green at 10:00 am and 1:00 pm

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

Congratulations

to the winners of our
10th Anniversary Celebration raffle:

1st Prize : Rosemary

2nd Prize : John

3rd Prize : Erin

**We thank everyone who purchased
a ticket to support our 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**



Friday, 8 August : MacKillop Youth 6.30pm

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

If you currently use registered envelopes for your Planned Giving, these are now available for collection from the Welcome Table or Parish Office. Please advise the Parish Office if you would like your envelopes sent to St Mary Mother of God Church Leppington, for collection.

**Will you make a difference
in the lives of people
experiencing homelessness?**

Join our Vinnies Community Sleepout or donate to help us rebuild lives for people experiencing homelessness.

Date: Friday 8 August, 2025

Time: 6:30pm

Location: Macarthur Square, Gilchrist Drive, Campbelltown (Community Space off the Purple Carpark)

To join or make a donation see: <https://my.fundraise.vinniesnsw.org.au/vinnies-community-sleepouts/macarthur-vinnies-community-sleepout>

Nat from Vinnies - call 0429656886 or email nat.nicastr@vinnies.org.au

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, social & print media.**

To support this ministry, we are also forming a group to manage the **powerpoint slides for Holy Mass** - this opportunity to serve is open to all, **including high school students.**

We are inviting those who are interested to contact the Parish Office or complete the sign up sheet at the Welcome Table.

Join Our Kids' Church Ministry!

Our parish is looking for more volunteers to help lead Kids' Church—a rewarding ministry where you can assist in the faith development of our youngest parishioners.

No teaching experience is needed!

Leaders follow a simple book and worksheet, and you'll be supported by a welcoming team.

The only requirement is a Volunteer Working with Children Check (this means you need to be 18 years and older).

To express your interest, please email the parish office -

oranpark@dow.org.au.

We'd love to have you join us!



On **15th AUGUST**, men from around the world will be stepping into an ancient tradition of the Church:

SAINT MICHAEL'S LENT

An ancient call to prayer, fasting & penance - not for comfort, but for conversion

Join along with other men of our parish. Contact Parish Office

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!

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 - St Justin's School Library



St Mary MacKillop
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ORAN PARK

Homines de Cruce
ST. MARY MACKILLOP PARISH ORAN PARK MEN'S MINISTRY
MEN OF THE CROSS
"Come," He replied, "and you will see."
John 1:39

Monday nights at 7pm, Penola Room

- 1st Mondays: Discussions/check-ins
- 2nd Mondays: Adoration/Benediction
- 3rd Mondays: Faith formation
- 4th Mondays: Whiskey nights

For more information contact the parish office:
OranPark@dow.org.au

Fr. David Prayer Cards

Available at the Church Welcome Table.

Northern Mass Centre - Children's Choir

St. Mary Mother of God, LEPPINGTON

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

Saints of the week

Mary MacKillop

ST. MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP

Solemnity (Australia) Feast (New Zealand) : **8th August, Friday**

Saint John Vianney

8 May 1786 - 4 August 1859

FEAST DAY : **4th August, Monday**

A **French** Catholic priest, known for his priestly and pastoral work in his parish in Ars, France, resulting in the radical spiritual transformation of the community and its surroundings.

Catholics note his saintly life, mortification, persevering ministry in the sacrament of confession, and ardent devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. He was canonized in 1925.

He is the **patron saint of parish priests.**

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.

What is Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus ?

(6 August 2025)

This is an event described in the New Testament where Jesus is transfigured and becomes radiant in glory upon a mountain.

The Synoptic Gospels (Matthew 17:1–8, Mark 9:2–13, Luke 9:28–36) recount the occasion, and the Second Epistle of Peter also refers to it.

Jesus and three of his apostles, Peter, James, and John, go to a mountain to pray. On the mountaintop, Jesus begins to shine with bright rays of light. Then Moses and Elijah appear, and he speaks with them. Both Moses & Elijah had eschatological roles: they symbolize the Law and the prophets, respectively. Jesus is then called "Son" by the voice of God the Father, as in the Baptism of Jesus.

Many Christian traditions, including the Eastern Orthodox, Catholic, Lutheran and Anglican churches, commemorate the event in the Feast of the Transfiguration, a major festival.

In Greek Orthodoxy, the event is called the metamorphosis.



"Then war broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels battled against the dragon. The dragon and its angels fought back, but they did not prevail and there was no longer any place for them in heaven."

(Revelation 12:7–10)

LEARN A PRAYER

Prayer to St. Michael, The Archangel

(Promulgated by Pope Leo XIII)

**St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle;
be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the devil.
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou,
O prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God,
cast into hell Satan and all the other evil spirits
who prowl through the world seeking the ruin of souls.
Amen.**

*St. Michael is one of God's most powerful angels. The Archangel of Faith and Justice, Slayer of Demons, and Great Prince of Heaven, he not only protects us, but he wages spiritual warfare against the devil. Michael the Archangel came to the aid of Daniel, Moses, and St. Francis.
He is waiting for you to ask him to help you, too.*

Holy Spirit

ADVOCATE
AWE
COMFORTER
COUNSEL
DISCERNMENT
FAITHFULNESS
FEAR
FIRE
FRUIT
GENTLENESS
GIFTS
GUIDE
JOY
KINDNESS
LIFE
LORD
LOVE
PEACE
PIETY
PNEUMA
PROPHECY
RUAH
SELF-CONTROL
STRENGTH
WISDOM
WONDER

Y C E H P O R P L C O G
M O D S I W U L O V E G
C O M F O R T E R N C I
S S E N L U F H T I A F
S R D F E A R L N L E T
T E F I L H E F O E P S
R T N E M N R E C S I D
E E P N E U M A F N E E
N W A S I D R O L U T D
G A S T G F I R E O Y I
T K I N D N E S S C O U
H E E T A C O V D A J G

CROSSWORD

Answers in the bulletin

LEARN A BIBLE VERSE

**I can do all things through Christ
who strengthens me.**

Philippians Chapter 4 Verse 13

Mother Mary MacKillop,

with her sister Annie & brother Father Donald.



AROUND OUR WOLLONGONG DIOCESE

Jubilee Pilgrimage

St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kangaroo Valley -
Bishop Brian will attend this diocesan pilgrimage site on
Saturday, 30 August, to impart the papal blessing.

A Vocation View

Jesus calls us to be generous with the gifts that he
has given. When we share our treasures with others, we will have
true treasure in heaven. (Luke 12:12-21)

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

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)

SANCTUS SUMMIT Monthly adoration for youth and young adults of
the Diocese. Eucharistic Adoration:

Wednesday, 20 August at

Our Lady Help of Christians Church, **Rosemeadow**.
Eucharistic Adoration from 6.30 - 7.30pm, followed by

Dinner at Ambarvale Hotel. Come along to pray
before Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament - and bring a friend with you

Compass: **"Bush" family CAMPING weekend.**
(organised by Bishops Office, Diocese of Wollongong)

Start Date: Friday **12 September, 2025**

End Date: Sunday **14 September, 2025**

Time: 5pm Friday - 3pm Sunday

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

Accommodation Options: This is a beautiful campsite, with plenty
of space for families to set up a tent, caravan, camper trailer or
swags. These are unpowered and unwatered sites, but drinking
water is available on site. All rubbish must be taken home with us.

Bunk Rooms: There is an option to register spots for separate
male or female bunk rooms which will be allocated on a first-
come-first-served basis. If there aren't too many needing this,
then we have 4 clear spaces for 4 individual families.

Toilets and Showers: There is a male/female toilet block for
campers and a toilet in each of the bunkhouses. There are only 4
showers - but plenty of **hot water**, so we will get a family roster
happening for their use.

Food and Cooking Facilities: This is a self-catered weekend, so
families need to plan their own meals. There is an awesome camp
kitchen and eating area with access to the following. Note- the
lights are all 12 volt powered by battery - with a couple of 240
volt sockets to charging phones - but not for running appliances.

Activities/Games:

There is plenty of space for fun and games such as:

Soccer / Touch footy / Basketball / Volleyball /
Bocce / Finska / Board games

Bushwalks / Bike riding (BYO) Music - campfire singalong
(Bring an instrument if you play)

HOLY MASS: Mass in a beautiful bush chapel on either
Saturday night or Sunday morning (TBA)

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

RSVP: Friday 31 August 2025

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



Level 1 Catechist Course

Join on Zoom or In-person (Wollongong)

CCD Level 1 Catechist Course (Term 3) via Zoom

starts on Monday, 4 August for four **Mondays**.

Dates: Mondays, **4, 11, 18, 25 August** (via Zoom)

Time: **9:30am - 1:30pm**.

Beginning and experienced SRE Catechists
are invited to register by following this link:

CCD Level 1 Course Aug 2025

{ <https://web.thankportal.com/cdowa/ccd-level-1-course-on-zoom-aug-25/#/stepper?pageId=16904> }

or contact Sue Clark at support@ccdwoollongong.com.

Please note that the first day of the
Level 1 course includes the Child Protection and Classroom
Management training update that must be
revisited by SRE Catechists every three years.

**Celebrating 25, 30, 40, 50, 60 or over 60 years
of marriage this year ?**

Invite you to celebrate 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

menALIVE Regional Weekend

9 - 10 August 2025,

Xavier Conference Centre, Wollongong
register: <https://menalive-weekend-2025>

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

Coat of arms of
Bishop Brian Gregory Mascord
Bishop of Wollongong





Pope's August prayer intention: For mutual coexistence
Pope Leo XIV releases his prayer intention for August, 2025, inviting us to pray "that societies avoid internal conflicts due to ethnic, political, religious or ideological reasons" and encouraging us to "seek paths of dialogue" and "respond to conflict with gestures of fraternity."

Jubilee Films for Pilgrims of Hope: **'Fallen Leaves'**
Finnish film director, Aki Kaurismäki's 20th full-length film, "Fallen Leaves", released in 2023, is part of the works chosen by the Dicastery of Evangelization to accompany pilgrims of hope on their jubilee journey. Fr Greg Apparcel reviews the movie and expresses his desire to see more Kaurismäki movies.

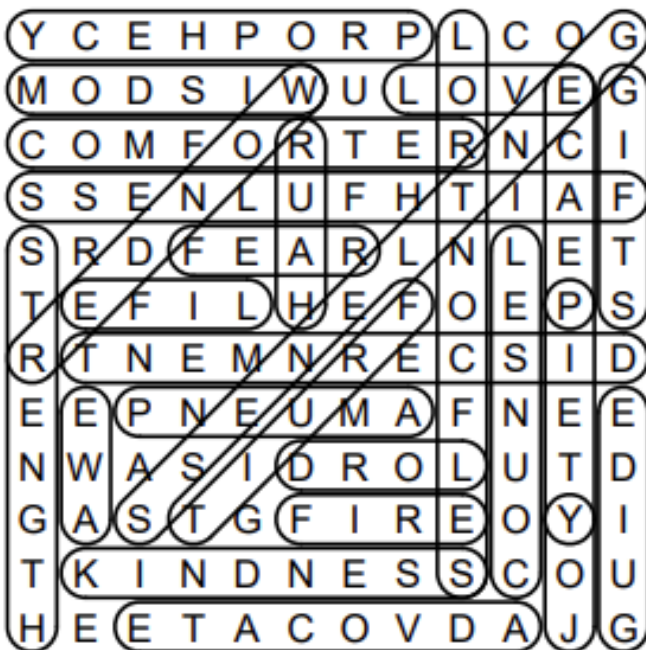
Twin brothers launch online platform to
"give a voice" to Eastern Christians
Digital missionaries Charbel and Giovanni use social media to share the culture and traditions of
Christians in the Middle East in the midst of persecution.

Pope to young pilgrims: "Your voices will be heard to the ends of the earth"

At the opening of the Jubilee of Youth, the Holy Father welcomes young people to St. Peter's Square, inviting them to pray for peace: "Let us walk together with our faith in Jesus Christ."

Young people for young people: Mary's Meals brings hope to the Jubilee

As the Jubilee of Youth takes over the streets of Rome, the young people of Mary's Meals are sharing their mission, as they remind the world that each and every one of us is capable, through the smallest of actions, of bringing hope where hope has been lost.



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

Pope at Angelus:

We cannot cheat death, only serve life to gain eternal life

Pope Leo XIV prays the Angelus with the faithful in Castel Gandolfo, and reminds Christians that we gain eternal life by caring for others in service and love, not by cheating death.

Pope Leo on DRC attack: I pray for persecuted Christians

In the wake of the deadly attack on a church in the **Democratic Republic of Congo**, Pope Leo XIV launches an impassioned appeal for all efforts to be made to prevent such tragedies, and reassures all Christians suffering violence and persecution that he is praying for them.

St John Henry Newman set to become newest Doctor of the Church
Pope Leo paves the way for St John Henry Newman to be formally declared a **"Doctor of the Church"**.

Azerbaijani becomes 56th language available on Vatican News
Vatican News launches our Azerbaijani edition, expanding the Dicastery for Communication's multilingual service to 56 languages to enhance communication, strengthen faith, and foster interreligious dialogue.

Pope at Audience: May our means of communication heal you and not trouble you
During his wednesday General Audience, Pope Leo encourages the faithful to learn to **speak properly, using words that heal and not hurt**.

"Work with Us": Website to apply for a job at the Vatican

The Vatican Secretariat for the Economy launches a new webpage to accept job applications for laypeople who wish to apply for vacant positions at the Holy See.

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.

Catholic Music Awards 2025 celebrate faith, music, and unity

The first-ever Catholic Music Awards, or 'Catholic Grammys,' took place Sunday evening at Rome's Auditorium Conciliazione and the award ceremony marked a historic global event in the Catholic music world.

Archbishop Gallagher celebrates Mass at **Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine**

The Vatican's Secretary for Relations with States and International Organizations, Archbishop Paul Richard Gallagher, celebrates Mass at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe during his visit to **Mexico** this week.

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.