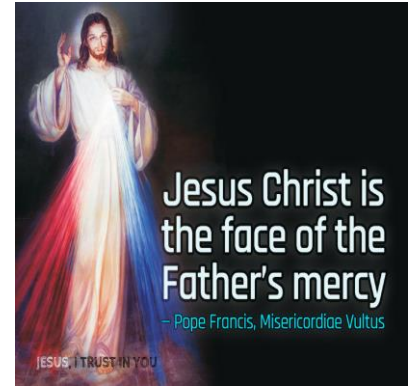




St Mary MacKillop
Catholic Parish

WEEK OF MERCY

For many of us Catholics, both those brought up in the Church since childhood and those formerly from other Christian traditions or non-Christian faiths, Reconciliation (that we sometimes still refer to as ‘Confession’) can seem a bit frightening.



Perhaps it has been a long time since we’ve made a confession. Perhaps we struggle with disbelief, with despair, with human weakness, with addictions, or with lingering resentment or grief. And yet, how wonderful it would be to be freed from these chains!

What is the *heart* of confession? Yes, without a doubt, there is the confession of sins, after which one receives pardon, absolution, and a *penance of healing*. But there is something deeper, something much more profound. What *brings* us to confession, to what the Fathers of the Church called “second Baptism”? It should be the same thing that brought us to our first Baptism: faith. When we approach a priest for Sacrament of Reconciliation, we confess - really, we *profess* - our faith, our *trust* in the God who forgives and heals us, the God of *eternal mercy and love*. *We encounter the Face of the Father’s Mercy*.

*During the final week of Lent
(from Monday 18 March until Saturday 23 March)*

we are being invited to participate in a parish ‘Week of Mercy’.

During this week the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated at several times, in addition to our regular Reconciliation/Confession times, at our Oran Park Mass Centre:

- Monday 18/3 : 8am – 9am (prior to 9.30am St Patrick’s Day Mass)
- Tuesday 19/3: 5.15pm – 6.45pm (prior to 7pm St Joseph’s Day Mass)
- Wednesday 20/3: After 8am Mass, till 9.30am
- Thursday 21/3: After 10am Mass, till 11.30am
- Friday 22/3: After 9.30am Mass, till 11am
- Saturday 23/3: 3.30pm – 4.45pm (prior to 5pm Saturday Vigil Mass)

Also, in addition to these times, we will celebrate the 2nd Rite of Reconciliation (with 3 priests available) on Thursday 21/3 at 7pm.

Haven’t been to confession in a while? Worry you don’t remember what to say or how to give a good confession? No problem. Simply pick up a Reconciliation brochure (that will be available at the Welcome Table on the weekend of 16/17 March) for helpful “how-to” guidance and an ‘Examination of Conscience’.

Jesus, our most merciful, loving, forgiving God will be waiting right here for you during this Lenten “Week of Mercy”

MASS TIMES

SATURDAYS St Mary
5PM MacKillop Church
ORAN PARK
94 Oran Park Drive

SUNDAYS St Mary Mother
8AM of God Church
LEPPINGTON
Cnr Ingleburn &
Dickson Roads

SUNDAYS St Mary
8AM MacKillop Church
10AM ORAN PARK
5PM 94 Oran Park Drive

SUNDAYS Chaldean Mass
12.00 NOON ORAN PARK

THIS WEEKEND IN THE LITURGY

10 MARCH 2024
4th Sunday of Lent (Year B)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Let my tongue be silenced,
if I ever forget you!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER 3
Lenten Preface 4

PARISH CLERGY

Fr David Catterall | Parish Priest
Fr Feleki Tautunu | Assistant Priest
Dn Sam Gennaoui | Deacon

CONTACT YOUR PARISH OFFICE

Phone : (02) 4648 2226
Email : oranpark@dow.org.au
Office Hours : 9am-1pm Monday - Friday

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

MONDAY 11 MARCH

1pm Praying of the Rosary,
Leppington

TUESDAY 12 MARCH

6pm Eucharistic Adoration,
Oran Park

6pm Sacrament of
Reconciliation,
Oran Park

7pm Mass, Oran Park

WEDNESDAY 13 MARCH

8am Mass, Oran Park

THURSDAY 14 MARCH

9.30am Praying of the Rosary,
Oran Park

10am Mass, Oran Park

FRIDAY 15 MARCH

9.30am Mass, Oran Park

7pm Stations of the Cross,
Oran Park

SATURDAY 16 MARCH

4pm Sacrament of
Reconciliation,
Oran Park

7pm Chaldean Recital,
Oran Park

St Mary MacKillop Parish Oran Park complies with the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth) and the Australian Privacy Principles when collecting personal information, including sensitive information, to enable the Parish to provide religious services to its community including administering the sacraments, and pastoral care to the faithful, including to children of the faithful. For more information about how the Parish collects and handles your personal information, see our privacy policy available at the Parish website.

STIR THE PASSION IN OUR HEARTS TOWARDS OTHERS LENTEN RECITAL

On Saturday evening, 16 March, the Chaldean Catholic Community will be hosting a Recital at our Oran Park Church at 7pm.

All are welcome to join as we listen to the beautiful choir perform hymns and verses from the Bible.

PROJECT COMPASSION

'DO SOMETHING SUNDAY' MARCH-APRIL

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow
for all future generations.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes or envelopes available from our Welcome Table or by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

Boxes and envelopes are to be returned on the weekend of Palm Sunday (23-24 March).

Little Joey's Playgroup

welcomes all children 0-5 years and their parents / grandparents / carers. Join our Playgroup on Thursday mornings during School Terms at 9.30-11am

2024 KINDERGARTEN BAG BLESSINGS

Over the past few years, Fr David has blessed the bags of children enrolled in Kindergarten at St Justin's Primary School. Last Sunday at our 5pm Mass, two Kinder classes from St Justin's had their school bags blessed. This Sunday, **10 March**, at our 5pm Mass, two more 2024 Kinder classes from St Justin's will be bringing their school bags to Mass for the blessing.

Then, at the 5pm Mass on Sunday, **17 March**, Kindergarten students attending other schools are welcome to bring their school bags to Mass for a blessing.

To assist those preparing for the Kinder bag blessing for children in schools other than St Justin's (on Sunday, 17 March) please RSVP via the following link:



Giving / Stewardship

First Offering – at time of Offertory - supports the clergy of our Diocese.

Second Offering – after distribution of Communion - helps with all the costs related to supporting the ministries and works of our parish: including parish staff wages, loan repayments, utilities, liturgy expenses, etc.

One way that you can enable the mission and vision of your Parish, is by 'sharing your God-given gift of financial treasure' through 'planned giving'. Contact the Parish Office for more information or use the QR code to access the 'sign up' giving form.



HOLY WEEK MINISTRIES

Our Holy Week Masses have now been finalised and we are now asking for any Liturgical Ministers who are able to serve to add your names to the Sign-Up Sheet on our Welcome Table.

We thank you for your gift of time at this special time of the year.

1st Reconciliation/1st Communion Enrolments

As advertised, enrolments for our 2024 1st Reconciliation/1st Holy Communion preparation program closed on Friday 8 March at 5pm. No further enrolments can now be submitted.

LITTLE CHURCH

A stewardship initiative for our young parishioners

'Little Church' is a way for children to embrace our Parish Vision EMBRACE - NOURISH - RESPOND – SERVE which is built around TIME - TALENT - TREASURE and the call to be a 'disciple of Jesus', who recognises, as Jesus did, that everything good comes to us from God to be cherished and cared for lovingly and to be shared generously. For Christians, it means to be responsible for nurturing all the gifts and talents God has given us, and it means being generous to others not for the sake of any reward, but out of gratitude for the blessing we have received from a generous and loving God.

Children in our parish can have their own set of 'Little Church' envelopes that they can write on the front of the envelope their "gift of time, talent and treasure". For those children who attend Mass at our Northern Mass Centre at Leppington, Little Church envelopes can be placed in the 2nd Collection basket. For those children who attend Mass at our Southern Mass Centre at Oran Park, Little Church envelopes can be placed in the 'Little Church' near the Processional Cross during the 2nd Collection.

While some families encourage their children to place in their Little Church envelope their own 'monetary offering' such as from their pocket money. Some families also encourage their children to place in their Little Church envelope a hand drawn picture or a little letter of some way they have put their 'faith into action' during the week (such as helping their family members around the home, playing with siblings, helping a school friend, praying for sick people).

While it would be great for children to use these Little Church envelopes, it's also fine if any children would rather just bring forward during the 2nd collection their 'monetary offering' to place in the Little Church. Any monies collected in 'Little Church' each week go to support children's ministries in our Parish, such as KidsChurch and Little Joeys Playgroup.

Sets of 'Little Church' envelopes are available every weekend from the 'Welcome Table' - so once a child runs out of 'Little Church' envelopes, they are encouraged to collect a new set.

THIS WEEKEND, at our Oran Park Mass Centre, sets of 'Little Church' envelopes will be distributed by 'MacKillop Youth Group members' at an outside table after weekend Masses.

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

16 MARCH

Chaldean Recital

17 MARCH

Kindy Bag Blessing

19 & 20 MARCH

1st Reconciliation/1st Holy Communion Information Sessions

19 MARCH

Journey to Pentecost Information Session

18 - 23 MARCH

Parish "Week of Mercy"

24 MARCH – PALM SUNDAY

Project Compassion Boxes to be returned

PALM SUNDAY

As there may be a limited number of small pieces of palm available for distribution this year, you are encouraged to bring a piece of palm or olive branch or some other 'piece of greenery' from home to be blessed.

ST PATRICK'S FEAST DAY

To celebrate the Feast of St Patrick, there will be a 9.30am Mass on Monday 18/3, at our Oran Park Mass Centre followed by Morning Tea.

SCRIPTURE IN SCHOOLS

In 2024 volunteer catechists are going into 7 state schools within our Parish which will see over 1000 children receiving religious education. To partner with this important ministry of evangelisation and outreach to young parishioners, we are inviting parishioners in 2024 to consider sponsoring the \$5 workbook of one or more children.

'Sponsorship Envelopes' are available from the Welcome Table and can be placed into a collection basket over the coming weeks.

ENTRANCE HYMN **COME AND SET US FREE**

Trevor Thomson

Refrain:

Come, come, Lord Jesus.
Come, come save your people.
Come and set us free.

1. Awaken our hearts to the pow'r of your love.
Awaken our hearts to your mercy.
Free us, O Lord, from the power of sin.
Set us free.
2. Awaken our hearts to the pow'r of your truth.
Awaken our hearts to your justice.
Teach us and guide us for you are the way.
Set us free.

PENITENTIAL ACT **HAVE MERCY ON US, O LORD**

Musical notation for the Penitential Act. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff is for the Priest, Deacon, or Cantor, with lyrics: 'Have mer-cy on us, O Lord. For we have sinned a -'. The second staff is also for the Priest, Deacon, or Cantor, with lyrics: 'gainst you. Show us, O Lord, your mer - cy. And'. The third staff is for the Priest, with lyrics: 'grant us your sal - va - tion.'. The fourth staff is for the Assembly, with lyrics: 'A - men.'. The music is in 4/4 time and G major.

Music: *Mass of Christ, Light of the Nations*, Tony Alonzo, © 2016, GIA Publications, Inc.

OFFERTORY SONG **WILL YOU LOVE ME**

Brian Boniwell. © 1978 Spectrum Publications

1. Will you give me your life forever?
Will you carry my cross every day?
Will you walk in the light of my presence?
Will you follow the truth of my ways?

Refrain:

Will you love me as I have loved you?
Will you live with me the darkness as I die?
For the moon and the stars will be gone like the night,
And the sun will be shining on you.

2. Like the purest of gold in the furnace,
Is your love strong enough to endure?
Does your faith carry on through the shadows?
Does it shine in the night for the world?
3. Can you walk in the footprints of silence?
Through the wilderness sands in the sun,
From the desert of doubt and temptation.
To the glorious mountain of fire?

COMMUNION

Instrumental Music

SONG OF PRAISE

10,000 REASONS

(Jonas Myrin & Matt Redman)

Refrain:

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;
worship his holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul;
I'll worship your holy name.

1. The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,
it's time to sing your song again.
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,
let me be singing when the evening comes.
2. You're rich in love and you're slow to anger.
Your name is great and your heart is kind.
For all your goodness, I will keep on singing:
ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

SENDING FORTH **BE NOT AFRAID**

© Bob Dufford

1. You shall cross the barren desert,
but you shall not die of thirst.
You shall wander far in safety
though you do not know the way.
You shall speak your words in foreign lands
and men will understand.
You shall see the face of God and live.

Refrain:

Be not afraid. I go before you always.
Come follow me, and I will give you rest.

2. If you pass through raging waters
in the sea, you shall not drown.
If you walk amid the burning flames,
you shall not be harmed.
If you stand before the pow'r of hell
and death is at your side,
know that I am with you through it all.
3. Blessed are your poor,
for the kingdom shall be theirs.
Blessed are you that weep and mourn,
for one day you shall laugh.
And if wicked men insult and hate you
all because of me, blessed, blessed are you!