



St Mary MacKillop
Catholic Parish
ORAN PARK



*'Let's be united and pray
for each other at the crib
and at the altar.'*
ST MARY MACKILLOP

MASS TIMES

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

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

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

SUNDAYS 12.00 NOON Chaldean Mass
ORAN PARK

To assist families already wanting to plan for Christmas 2023, we are pleased to announce that the schedule for our 2023 Christmas Masses is now available:

Christmas Eve - Sunday, 24 December

5pm & 7pm - School Hall, Oran Park
Chaldean Holy Mass 9.30pm – St Mary MacKillop Church, Oran Park

Christmas Day - Monday, 25 December

8am - St Mary Mother of God Church, Leppington
9am - St Mary MacKillop Church, Oran Park

Our 5pm and 7pm Christmas Eve Masses will be held in the Hall between St Justin's and St Benedict's. Seating will be provided in the Hall. Families or groups who would like to be seated together are encouraged to arrive together.

The Christmas schedule can also be found on our Parish website: bit.ly/2023christmassmass



THIS WEEKEND IN THE LITURGY

10th DECEMBER 2023
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

FIRST READING

Isaiah 30:19, 30

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Lord, let us see your kindness,
and grant us your salvation.

SECOND READING

Peter 3:8-14

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Prepare the way of the Lord, make
straight his paths: all people shall
see the salvation of God.
Alleluia!

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER and
Preface (to be chosen by priest-
celebrant)**

our vision

Sharing the sacred land of the Dharawal people, the parish of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop at Leppington and Oran Park is a family of diverse families.

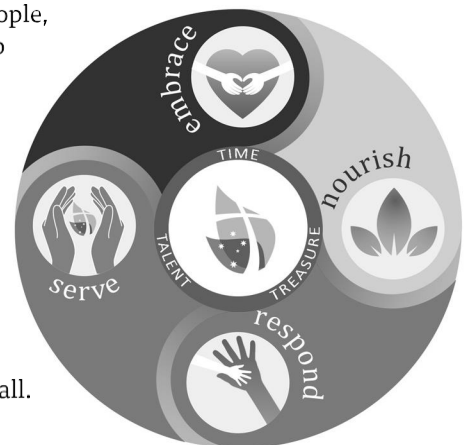
We are sustained by the **Sacraments** and nurtured in our faith in **Jesus Christ**.

We are a parish that **embraces** everyone with radical hospitality.

We are a parish that **serves** with humility.

We are a parish that **nourishes** the faith of all.

We are a parish that **responds** to the needs of our neighbours, wherever they may be.



We are the parish of Mary MacKillop.

We acknowledge the Dharawal People, the first inhabitants of this place from time beyond remembering. We honour them for their custodianship of the land on which our Parish Mass Centres are built.

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 DECEMBER

1pm Praying of the Rosary,
Leppington

TUESDAY 12 DECEMBER

6pm Eucharistic Adoration,
Oran Park

6pm Sacrament of
Reconciliation,
Oran Park

7pm Mass, Oran Park

WEDNESDAY 13 DECEMBER

**NOTE: PARISH OFFICE WILL
BE CLOSED TODAY**

THURSDAY 14 DECEMBER

9.30am Praying of the Rosary,
Oran Park

10am Communion Service,
Oran Park

FRIDAY 15 DECEMBER

9.30am Mass, Oran Park

SATURDAY 16 DECEMBER

4pm Sacrament of
Reconciliation,
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.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

The Parish Office will be closed from
Wednesday, 27 December 2023 to Tuesday, 2 January 2024

“TOY RAFFLE” SUPPORTING RIO’S LEGACY DO SOMETHING SUNDAY FOCUS FOR DECEMBER

Our ‘Do Something Sunday’ focus for DECEMBER will be to support ‘Rio’s Legacy’ and specifically their goal to build Australia’s fourth children’s hospice here in Western Sydney.

At the heart of our December ‘Do Something Sunday’ focus will be a special Toy Raffle – with all proceeds going to support ‘Rio’s Legacy’ and specifically their children’s hospice appeal.

Tickets are on sale after weekend Masses THIS weekend.

To coincide with the draw of our **Toy Raffle**
we would like to invite you to a

Special Morning Tea

following the 10am Mass on
Sunday, 17 December, at Oran Park.

Our Morning Tea will be Christmas themed to celebrate as a Parish Family the gifts we are thankful for in our lives. So, all are invited to bring ‘Christmas themed’ morning tea items to share, and to wear Christmas clothing.

While we are celebrating, we will be drawing the prizes of our Toy Raffle. In addition to several major prizes to be won, there will be many minor prizes which winners will get to **choose themselves** from the display in the Parish Office.

“PARTNERS IN MISSION” PASTORAL LETTER FROM FR DAVID

As we embrace a new liturgical year with the Season of Advent, and we look forward in hope to the coming year 2024, our Parish Priest, Fr David, has written a pastoral letter to draw our attention to a matter of significant importance regarding our Parish’s future and the sustainability of our vital works and ministries. Please collect a copy of ‘Partners in Mission’ from the Welcome Table or, alternatively, a copy of the letter can be downloaded here:

bit.ly/adventpastoralletter

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.



To Witness and Accompany with Christian Hope

On Monday 27th November, the Australian Catholic Bishops released a new document to guide priests, chaplains and pastoral workers who are asked to provide pastoral support to Catholics who are considering euthanasia. The publication of the document, *To Witness and to Accompany with Christian Hope*, follows the legalisation of euthanasia in all Australian states. The document points out that “Catholic teaching on euthanasia flows from our understanding of the human person”. “Euthanasia contradicts the goodness and dignity of each human person, created in the image of God - a unique, irreplaceable individual,” it says. “Accompanying someone who is expressing a desire for euthanasia is an act of charity that should be offered in a way that does not require the pastoral companion to suspend their firm commitment to the Church’s clear teaching that euthanasia is never morally permissible.”

Copies of the document can be found at: bit.ly/WitnessandAccompany

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

13 DECEMBER
Parish Office Closed

17 DECEMBER
Special Morning Tea &
Toy Raffle Draw

PARISH NATIVITY WALL

This Christmas marks the 800th anniversary of St Francis of Assisi creating a Living Nativity Scene/Creche in the small Italian village of *Greccio*, to bring Bethlehem close to those who would never have the chance to be in the birthplace of Jesus Christ.

To celebrate this great anniversary, you are invited to take a photo of your nativity scene (or of a nativity scene that is special to you) and to upload it onto our ‘virtual Nativity Scene wall’ via the bit.ly link or QR code:

bit.ly/nativitywall



We are also invited during Advent to visit this virtual wall and to celebrate the richness and diversity of our Nativity Scenes.

GAUDETE SUNDAY 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Next Sunday, we celebrate the 3rd Sunday of Advent - also known as Gaudete Sunday. The term Gaudete refers to the first word of the Entrance Antiphon, "Rejoice". Rose vestments are worn to emphasize our joy that Christmas is near and we also light the rose candle on our Advent wreath. **Consider wearing something ROSE or PINK** to Mass next weekend - it is a wonderful way to celebrate this halfway point on our Advent journey.



'MORNING PRAYER @ HOME' COMES TO A CLOSE

One of the initiatives that began during 'covid lockdowns' in 2020 was 'Morning Prayer @ Home' - that was a weekly opportunity every Friday for parishioners to gather via Zoom to proclaim the scripture readings of the day, and to share a time of prayer. It has been discerned by the participants to cease this gathering. In saying that, **Tuesday Rosary will still be prayed over Zoom** at 9.30am, and we will still have **Thursday Rosary over Zoom** at 9.30am, and **Thursday Mass over Zoom** at 10am. More info on these 'online prayer opportunities' can be found on the 'Mass Times' page on our website.



Imagine a free, fun, informal evening, where everyone can come to the table with questions about life, faith and meaning – that’s Alpha.

Alpha is a series of group conversations that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith in an open, friendly environment. Everyone is welcome.

No matter your background or beliefs, you’re invited !

If you would like to join our 2024 Alpha (numbers are limited), beginning February 2024, please register using this QR Code or visit the Alpha Table after Mass to collect an Invitation Card.



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.

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS SONG

ONE BREAD ONE BODY © John Foley S.J.

One bread, one body
One Lord of all.
One cup of blessing which we bless.
And we, though many,
throughout the earth.
We are one body in this one Lord.

1. Gentile or Jew, servant of free,
Woman or man, no more.
2. Many the gifts, many the works,
one in the Lord, of all.
3. Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
gathered to one, for all.

COMMUNION SONG

BREAD OF HEAVEN Jesse Manibusan and Sarah Hart

Refrain:

Bread of heaven, Savior broken,
cup of life outpoured;
we your people thirst and hunger.
Come renew us, Lord; come renew us, Lord.

1. From the mountain, blessing spoken
where we came to pray;
with the simple truth before us:
love them in my name; love them in my name.
2. From the garden dark with sorrow,
from the tears you wept,
bloomed the flower of salvation:
new life born of death, new life born of death.

3. From the tomb that could not hold you
in the dark of night,
broke that morning of redemption,
raising us to life, raising us to life.

SONG OF PRAISE

WE ARE TRAVELLERS

© Trisha Watts and Monica O'Brien 2008

Refrain:

We are travellers here,
Called to embrace the world, inspired to love,
United we stand as one.
We are travellers here,
Stirred by a burning desire,
Christ offers hope, a spirited holy fire!

The world is in need of healing and grace,
Crossing the bridges of culture and race.
With pioneer courage, make sacred this place.
We offer our lives as pilgrims of peace,
working and praying so love may increase,
a heart full of yearning that hardship may cease.

Our hands are a blessing of care and concern.
We reach out to others, so others may learn;
The Spirit is with us, this we believe!
No boundary, no challenge will silence our dream;
A fire of justice the world has not seen,
Christ ever shining, the life giving stream!

SENDING FORTH

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, 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.