



St Mary MacKillop
Catholic Parish
ORAN PARK

PARISH BULLETIN

Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C

21 September, 2025

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYERS

We pray for our faithful departed who have died recently and whose anniversaries are remembered at this time. We also join in prayer for those who are unwell or in need of extra prayers :

**Bryan Auld, Frank Raymont, George Zarb,
Jimmy Mifsud, Leonard Hoven, Kelly
Masterson, Eva Fenech, Emily Novak,
Grahame Maythers**

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

LITURGY OF THE WORD

1st READING Amos 8:4-7: The Lord God spoke against those who buy the poor for money.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 112:1-2, 4-8: R. Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.

2nd READING 1 Tim 2:1-8: Let prayers be offered to God for everyone; he wants all people to be saved.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor, to make you rich out of his poverty.
Alleluia! (2 Cor 8:9)

GOSPEL Lk 16:1-13: **You cannot be slaves both of God and of money.**

TAKE ME HOME

This weekend's scripture reading contains the Parable of the Unjust Steward, which presents a complex lesson on stewardship, worldly wisdom, and loyalty to God.

In the parable, a rich man hears that his steward has been squandering his possessions and decides to fire him. The steward, realizing that he is about to lose his job, acts shrewdly by reducing the debts of his master's debtors, hoping they will repay him by offering hospitality after he is dismissed. The master commends the steward for his prudence, not for his dishonesty but for his cleverness in securing his future.

At first glance, it might seem like Jesus is promoting unethical behaviour, but the key message is not about dishonesty but about wisdom and preparedness. Jesus calls his followers to be just as wise in securing their eternal future as the steward was in securing his earthly future.

The parable invites us to reflect on how we handle the resources God has entrusted to us. Are we acting with the same urgency and foresight for our spiritual lives as we do for our material needs? Do we use what we have in terms of time, talents, and treasures in order to advance God's Kingdom? And, importantly, do we recognize that our loyalty must ultimately lie with God, not with the fleeting comforts of this world?

At times in our lives, we find ourselves in difficult and frightening situations. At these times do we turn to God? Do we trust God to give us another chance? The gift is: God always gives us another chance! Our part is to trust that God will never leave us!

The call is clear: We are stewards, and our greatest wealth lies in our relationship with God, not in our material possessions. The way we manage both can reveal where our hearts truly lie.

Deacon Sam



Monday 22 Sep

1pm Rosary, Leppington
(7pm – Men's Ministry meet)

Tuesday 23 Sep

9:30am Rosary on Zoom
5pm Devotions, Oran Park
6pm Reconciliation,
Adoration
6:40pm Evening Prayer,
Benediction
7pm Mass, Oran Park

Wednesday 24 Sep

8am Mass, Oran Park

Thursday 25 Sep

9.30am Rosary
10am Mass, Oran Park

Friday 26 Sep

9.30am Mass, Oran Park

Saturday 27 Sep

4pm Reconciliation, Oran Park
5pm Mass, Oran Park

Sunday 28 Sep

8am Mass, Leppington
8am Mass, Oran Park
10am Mass, Oran Park
5pm Mass, Oran Park

Chaldean Holy Mass

Sunday 12:00noon

PARISH TENTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION 2025



Our Parish's Tenth anniversary celebration was officially closed with the Parish Family Trivia Night which was held on 23rd of August 2025. It was a wonderful night full of fun. The great news is my team won the Q&A. Let me share with our parishioners the greatest good news. The Parish Tenth Anniversary Celebration brings into our parish a profit of \$10,657.39. I just want to take this opportunity to thank the parish event planning committee for their hard work, their dedication to make this occasion as memorable, and profitable for our Parish. God knows all of you who work both behind-the-scenes and at the forefront of this successful event. Rejoice and be glad your rewards are greater in heaven. Thank you very much indeed.

Fr. Feleki Tautunu

CHURCH 'COMFORT SPACES'

Our Parish Administration Team is currently discerning utilising the Tenison Woods Room and the Confessional at our Oran Park Church for the purpose of 'Comfort Spaces' during Mass. These spaces would allow parents with young children to step away from the Mass without missing it. These rooms would provide a private space for a person to cry, calm a child, or handle a disruption while still being able to view and hear the service.

We would value your feedback and comments in this matter by completing a very brief survey using the following QR Code or email the Parish Office.



CALMING SPACES

TAKE ME HOME

DEACON SINH → FATHER SINH

Dn. Sinh Le will be ordained to the priesthood through the Sacrament of Holy Orders, scheduled for 13th Dec 2025

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

- Parish Sacramental Coordinator
- Parish SRE Catechist Coordinator

Together We walk for Fr David



St Mary MacKillop Parish community
Join Us This October

Walk in memory of **Fr David Catterall** as we come together to raise funds and awareness for cancer. Let's honour his legacy, support a meaningful cause, and make every step count.

The walk will begin at **St Mary MacKillop Catholic Church, Oran Park**, and continue through to **Gregory Hills Hotel** for lunch.

Raffle prizes will be drawn on the day. All proceeds will go directly to the Cancer Council.

VOLUNTEERS needed to assist on the day (first aid, checkpoint markers and walkers who can monitor as the walk progresses). If you are available to join this team, please contact the Parish office.

REGISTRATION for the walk



Donate Here



Sunday 19 Oct 2025
after 10.00am Mass

PRAISE & WORSHIP WITH ADORATION

FIRST FRIDAY
OF EVERY MONTH

6:30pm to 7:30pm

St. Mary MacKillop
Parish, Oran Park



Starts Friday,
3 October 2025

BISHOP BRIAN'S APPEAL

"Our faith calls us to help one another through prayer and action. Offering dignified support and care for our retired clergy, who have always cared for us; and the sound and holistic formation of our Seminarians, our future priests, are my responsibilities as your Bishop. I seek your prayers and practical support to help me ensure that I can do this. Your donation to this appeal is very much appreciated." + Bishop

Brian To Donate online visit

<https://www.dow.org.au/giving/ENVELOPES> ON WELCOME TABLE

Anything that is done against conscience is a sin – Thomas Aquinas

ST. MARY MOTHER OF GOD CHURCH, LEPPINGTON. CHRISTMAS RAFFLES 2025.

TO BE DRAWN ON 21 DEC2025.

TICKET PURCHASE CONTACT :

DOMENIC 0400 588 248

23 SEP : ST. PIUS OF PIETRELCINA / ST. PADRE PIO

ITALIAN SAINT, PRIEST, STIGMATIST & MYSTIC

Saints of the week

"PRAY, HOPE, AND DON'T WORRY"

Despite facing investigations, restrictions on his ministry, and periods of suffering, including spiritual attacks and physical pain, he remained steadfast in his faith & obedience to Church authority.

His life was marked by reported mystical experiences, including the ability to read souls, bilocation, and levitation.



27 SEP: ST. VINCENT DE PAUL (1581-1660)

French Catholic priest renowned for his dedication to serving the poor and marginalized. Venerated as a saint in both the Catholic Church and the Anglican Communion. His life was marked by profound compassion, humility, and a commitment to charitable works, leading to the founding of the Congregation of the Mission (Vincentians) and the Daughters of Charity of Saint Vincent de Paul.



JOIN AN INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT

Members of the Society of St Vincent de Paul (NSW) are part of a global movement that offers the hand of friendship, love and compassion to people in every area of need.

Today the Society has 800,000 members in over 150 countries.

BECOME A MEMBER

New members join a 'conference' (a group of like-minded people) to coordinate fundraising and outreach activities and reflect together on these experiences.



"Embrace the whole world in a network of love."

Frederic Ozanam
Founder, The Society of St Vincent de Paul

NEW CONFERENCE MEMBERS IN NEED FOR ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

In the 2023/24 financial year around 100,000 people reached out to our members for assistance in NSW.



60,700

hours of support provided through our members, increasing by 20% from last year



4 in 5

people requesting food assistance



99,500

people assisted, increasing by 14% from last year



151,500

interactions with people through office appointments, phone calls and home visits, increasing by 23% from last year

As a member you will help the Society raise funds and offer early intervention support such as food, shelter, financial relief, referrals and advocacy.

Members work with people in need to offer assistance and to show them they are not alone.

USE YOUR SKILLS FOR GOOD

Members receive training, support and encouragement from those around them to ensure they are able to help in the best way possible.

MEMBERS OF ALL AGES

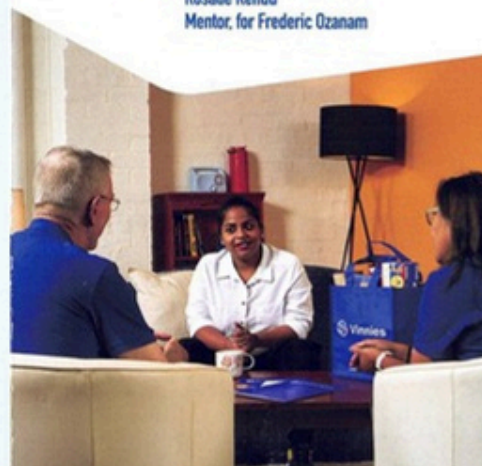
Youth and Young Adult Members engage in a range of support programs, including early intervention programs, social justice campaigns, fundraising and other forms of assistance.

For more information, go to:
www.youthnsw.vinnies.org.au



"Be kind and love, for love is your first gift to the poor."

Rosalie Rendu
Mentor, for Frederic Ozanam





**JUBILEE OF
CATECHISTS**
26-28 Sep 2025

Venue: Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church
Address: 80 Demetrius Rd, **Rosemeadow**
Date: **Friday 26th September 2025** . Time: 9:30am – 2:30pm
Spouses are welcome. Morning Tea is provided. Please BYO lunch. **Register**—<https://web.thankqportal.com/cdowa/ccd-retreat-2025/#/stepper?pagelid=17035>

Stay tuned to learn how you can be part of this mission and help create a future filled with hope.



MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT WEEKEND

We are offering an opportunity for you to learn to become the best version of yourselves together and live your best life in love! Come and join us on **24-26 Oct 2025** at a Marriage Encounter Weekend in a Covid safe environment at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, **Varroville**, NSW – a stunning & tranquil oasis on the edge of Syd. Book online at www.wwme.org.au or contact Christine & Terry Mahony on 0490 774 419 or nswbookings@wwme.org.au

The Way of Hope – **National Alpha Catholic Conference 2025**, Fri 31 Oct – Sat 1 Nov 2025, Liverpool Catholic Club, Sydney. Register: <http://dow.org.au/events/alpha-catholic-conference-2025/>

Bishop Brian, in his Vision for Parishes in the Diocese of Wollongong, tells us that "to come and see means to personally encounter Jesus and remain with him – to become disciples. We encounter Jesus in the Word and sacraments, **but also in prayer and community...We encounter him through sharing our faith & life with one another**". To receive Faith Circles articles, sign up at faithcircles.dow.org.au



**"For where two or three meet in my name,
I shall be there with them."**

MATTHEW 18:20

PHIPA DR JOANNA HOWE **BIRD FLIP**

SAVE OUR GIRLS BILL 2025 SPEAKING TOUR

Unborn baby girls are being aborted just because they are girls. There is undeniable evidence of **gendercide** happening in NSW, and this **targeted killing is legal**. John Ruddick MLC is tabling a bill to stop this practice. Join us to learn about the bill and how you can help it pass.

**SAT 27 SEP
7 PM - 9 PM**
**SHELLHARBOUR
COMMUNITY CHURCH**
FREE
RSVP HERE

**Sex-selective abortion is wrong.
It must end.**

Join people across churches and all walks of life for an event in Shellharbour with the formidable Dr Joanna Howe as a part of our "Save Our Girls" Speaking Tour. Girls are selectively aborted at an alarmingly higher rate in NSW. Hear why John Ruddick NSW MLC is introducing a bill to end this and how you can help. Please join us to hear from Dr Jo with opportunity for Q&A as well as supper at the end. **To register:** drjoannahowe.com.au/speakingtour2025-shellharbour

MOVING IN THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

CAMPBELLTOWN Tue 14 October, 7-9 pm
Registration: <https://dow.sh/fpoc2025>
Cost: **Free**

This formation will explore how we can grow in openness to the Spirit's presence, learn to recognise His promptings, and move confidently in His power.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL

Pilgrimage to the Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF), taking place at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre from **30 Nov to 2 Dec 2025**. National celebration of faith, drawing together thousands of young people (Year 9 to 25 years old) from across Australia. To register or find out more, visit dow.org.au/cymw or contact Arnie Hurdoyal at arnie.hurdoyal@dow.org.au

Registration MUST BE received by 29 September



POPE RENEWS APPEAL FOR GAZA CEASEFIRE: INVIOABLE HUMAN DIGNITY OF ALL MUST BE RESPECTED

At the conclusion of his weekly General Audience, Pope Leo XIV expresses his “deepest” sympathy for the people of Gaza. He renews his appeal for a ceasefire, the release of hostages, a diplomatic solution to the crisis, and full respect for international humanitarian law.

POPE PRAYS FOR CHARLIE KIRK AND BEREAVED FAMILY

Pope Leo XIV expresses concern about political violence and is praying for the late American activist Charlie Kirk, his wife, and two children, according to the Holy See Press Office.

CHINA: GIUSEPPE MA YAN’EN INSTALLED AS AUXILIARY BISHOP OF ZHANGJIAKOU

Vatican Press Office Director Matteo Bruni describes the civil recognition and official assumption of office of the prelate as auxiliary bishop as “The fruit of dialogue between the Holy See and the Chinese authorities.”

POPE GIVES THANKS FOR CANONIZATION OF CARMELITE MARTYRS OF COMPIÈGNE

Pope Leo XIV expresses his participation to the faithful gathered in Notre-Dame Cathedral, Paris, for the Mass of Thanksgiving following the canonisation of the 16 Carmelite Sisters of Compiègne.

MEXICO-U.S. BISHOPS: MIGRANTS FACE INHUMANE, DANGEROUS CONDITIONS

Following a recent meeting in Piedra Negras, Coahuila, the bishops from along the Mexico-U.S. border once again denounce the dire circumstances affecting thousands of people and call for accountability of the violations against human dignity faced by those fleeing war, violence, and extreme poverty.



POPE LEO HOLDS FIRST AUDIENCE FOR ARMENIAN CATHOLICOS KAREKIN II

HOLY SEE: RESPECT FOR HUMANITARIAN LAW IS A RESPONSIBILITY TOWARDS HUMANITY

Addressing a UN “Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions” Archbishop Ettore Balestrero says humanitarian treaties constitute moral commitments to present and future generations.



RELIGIOUS SISTERS WORK FOR AN INDIGENOUS CHURCH WITH AN AMAZONIAN FACE

In the heart of the jungle in Cuzco, Peru, Sr. Giovanna Llerena Alfaro, a Dominican Missionary of the Rosary, walks alongside the Indigenous communities of Bajo Urubamba, promoting an Indigenous Church and a form of evangelization that arises from contemplation.



HOLY SEE ANNOUNCES PROGRESS IN BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH VIETNAM

A Holy See Press Office statement says a meeting of the Viet Nam – Holy See Joint Working Group in the Vatican to promote bilateral relations took place on Friday in an atmosphere of friendship, trust and mutual respect.



“Just as in the first centuries, so too in the third millennium, the blood of the martyrs is the seed of new Christians.” – Pope Leo XIV

POPE LEO XIV (14 September 2025)

WHAT IS STIGMATA ?

STIGMATA REFERS TO THE MIRACULOUS APPEARANCE OF THE WOUNDS OF JESUS CHRIST'S CRUCIFIXION ON A PERSON'S BODY.

THESE WOUNDS USUALLY APPEAR IN THE SAME PLACES WHERE CHRIST WAS INJURED DURING HIS PASSION:

- HANDS OR WRISTS (NAIL MARKS)
- FEET (NAIL MARKS)
- SIDE (WHERE CHRIST WAS PIERCED WITH A LANCE)
- SOMETIMES ON THE FOREHEAD (CROWN OF THORNS) OR BACK (SCOURGING MARKS)

IMPORTANT FACTS:

- STIGMATA ARE CONSIDERED A SUPERNATURAL GIFT GIVEN TO SOME MYSTICS WHO SHARE DEEPLY IN CHRIST'S SUFFERING.
- THEY MAY BE VISIBLE AND BLEEDING, OR INVISIBLE BUT PAINFULLY FELT.
- THE PHENOMENON CANNOT BE EXPLAINED BY NATURAL CAUSES AND IS VERY RARE.
- THE CHURCH INVESTIGATES SUCH CASES CAREFULLY TO RULE OUT FRAUD, ILLNESS, OR PSYCHOLOGICAL CAUSES.

FAMOUS STIGMATICS: ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI (THE FIRST RECORDED CASE, 1224), ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA, ST. PADRE PIO, ST. RITA OF CASCIA, ST. GEMMA GALGAN & FEW MORE

👉 IN SIMPLE TERMS: STIGMATA IS WHEN A HOLY PERSON MYSTICALLY BEARS THE WOUNDS OF JESUS AS A SIGN OF DEEP UNION WITH HIS PASSION.

G	Q	D	X	L	J	Q	M

X	L	G	X

J	H

V	T	Q	S

G	M	G	J	Q	H	X

I	T	Q	H	I	J	S	Q	I	S

J	H

G

H	J	Q

Cryptogram: "Moral Compass"

X	L	T	Y	G	H

G	C	U	J	Q	G	H

TAKE ME HOME



👉 PADRE PIO LIVED WITH THE VISIBLE WOUNDS OF CHRIST FOR 50 YEARS, ENDURING THE PAIN HUMBLY AND OFFERING IT AS A SACRIFICE FOR SOULS. HIS STIGMATA WAS ONE OF THE MOST WELL-DOCUMENTED IN HISTORY. SHORTLY BEFORE HIS DEATH ON SEPTEMBER 23, 1968, THE WOUNDS COMPLETELY HEALED, LEAVING NO SCARS — ANOTHER UNEXPLAINED PHENOMENON.

The Catholic & Greek Orthodox clergy and religious in Gaza have confirmed they will stay to care for all those who wish to remain, despite recent evacuation orders. More than 700 Christians, including children & the elderly, are sheltering in the Catholic Holy Family parish & the Orthodox compound of St Porphyrius. There is also a group with disabilities, being cared for by the Missionaries of Charity sisters. **Please pray for these good shepherds who, like Christ, refuse to abandon their flock. Pray for the frightened Christians – young and old – facing terrible danger. Pray for them and with them for peace and deliverance.**

<https://aidtochurch.org/>

