



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 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

To assist families already wanting to plan for Christmas 2024, we are pleased to announce that the schedule for our 2024 Christmas Masses is now available:

Christmas Eve - Tuesday, 24 December

5pm & 7pm - School Hall, Oran Park
Chaldean Holy Mass 9.00pm – St Mary MacKillop Church, Oran Park

Christmas Day - Wednesday, 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/ChristmasMassTimes2024



THIS WEEKEND IN THE LITURGY

22 DECEMBER 2024
4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done.
Alleluia!

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER
(chosen by the 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.

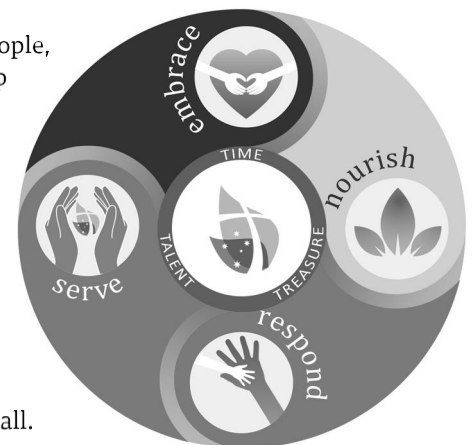
We are sustained by the **Sacraments** and nurtured in our faith in **Jesus Christ**.

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.



PARISH CLERGY

Fr Feleki Tautunu | Administrator
Dn Sam Gennaoui | Deacon

CONTACT YOUR PARISH OFFICE

Phone : (02) 4648 2226

Email : oranpark@dow.org.au

Office Hours : 9am to 1pm Monday - Friday

marymackillopparish.org.au



facebook.com/oranparkparish

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

**MONDAY –
23 DECEMBER**

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

1pm Rosary, Leppington

**TUESDAY –
24 DECEMBER**

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

5pm Christmas Eve Mass,
Oran Park
(School Hall)

7pm Christmas Eve Mass,
Oran Park
(School Hall)

9pm Chaldean Holy Mass,
Oran Park
(Church)

**WEDNESDAY –
25 DECEMBER**

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

8am Christmas Day Mass,
Leppington

9am Christmas Day Mass,
Oran Park (Church)

**THURSDAY –
26 DECEMBER**

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
NO WEEKDAY MASS

**FRIDAY –
27 DECEMBER**

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
NO WEEKDAY MASS

**SATURDAY –
28 DECEMBER**

4pm 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.

SHARE HOPE THIS CHRISTMAS INVITE OTHERS TO CHRISTMAS MASS

All of us know friends and family who are disconnected from faith. If we are courageous enough to invite, there's a good chance you will encounter someone who will say 'yes' or at least be open to considering your invitation.

It is not about them needing to go to Church, it is about you inviting them to come with you to Church. In reality, all that's needed is presence, relationship, willingness to listen, and the courage to say, "hey, this is a bit out there, but I was wondering if you'd like to come to Church with me this Christmas?"

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM OUR EMERITUS PARISH PRIEST, FR DAVID

As you can imagine, this Christmas feels very different from the many I've experienced during my years of priestly ministry. In the past, my focus was on preparing for and celebrating large Christmas Masses. This year, however, after the shock of my Acute Myeloid Leukaemia diagnosis in October and my recent chemotherapy treatments that have left me neutropenic and unable to gather in large crowds, I find myself gifted with an unexpected "blessing."

That blessing is the opportunity to spend Christmas with my immediate family and celebrate Mass with them in our family home.

I want to thank you for your ongoing prayers for me and my family.

My "Christmas gift" to each of you is my prayer: that God, who became incarnate in the birth of the healing Child of Bethlehem, will bless you abundantly.

As we celebrate Christmas this year, I make the words of Mary MacKillop my own:

"Though many of us will be apart, we can be united in spirit and pray for each other at the Crib and at the Altar." (7 Dec 1899)

I wish you a blessed Christmas.

Grace and peace,
Fr David



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 2025 Alpha (numbers are limited), please register your details using this QR Code and a member of our Alpha Team will contact you in the new year.



NEW PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Please note, from Friday, 27 December 2024, due to staffing changes in our Administration Team, the Parish Office will be closed on Mondays.

The new Parish Office hours from this date will be Tuesday to Friday, 9am to 1pm.

LITTLE JOEYS PLAYGROUP COORDINATORS WANTED

We are looking for additional coordinators to assist with the Little Joeys Playgroup which meets in the Penola Room on Thursday mornings from 9:30am to 11:00am during school terms.

This is an opportunity to engage with other parents, carers and young children. The coordinators facilitate the running of the playgroup and share in setting up of the room, making new attendees feel welcome, organising activities for the children and pack up of the room.

For further enquiries or to express interest, please contact Bernadette on 0404386494.

CARMELITE RETREAT PROGRAM 2025

Set in the scenic hills of the Macarthur region, Mt Carmel caters to a wide range of groups including School, Church, Corporate and Special Interest groups.

Mt Carmel is set on beautiful grounds and offers a lush and peaceful setting for any retreat experience. They offer a wide range of facilities with comfortable, contemporary accommodation.

For more information on the Carmelite Retreat Program 2025, please collect a flyer from the Welcome Table or visit the website: (<https://mtcarmel.com.au/>)

DO SOMETHING SUNDAY FEBRUARY St Vincent de Paul 'Food Pantry Drive'

Our first 'Do Something Sunday' for 2025 will be in February. We will again be supporting the Camden/Oran Park Chapter of St Vincent de Paul by 'restocking their pantry'. Over Christmas and the New Year period, St Vincent de Paul will assist many local families by opening their Food Pantry.

St Vincent de Paul will provide a list of items shortly which are not easily accessible from other sources and will complement the basic pantry items they currently hold. Items can then be delivered to the Church over 2 weekends (8/9 February and 15/16 February) and a team of volunteers will then transport these to St Vincent de Paul on the weekend of 22/23 February.

If your family would like to assist in sorting the donations or transporting them to Camden on the weekend of 22/23 February, please send your details to the Parish Office.

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

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

Sue Gersbach, Daad Sorouni, Harvi Chessell, Macario Reyes, Amparo Rodil, Isabelo Sitjar, Dolores Sitjar, Maria Teresa Sitjar, Mai La Rice, Dolores Doyle, Shelly Dempsey, George Zarb, Jimmy Mifsud, Juliet Decruz, Stephen McLaren

If you would like a Mass offered for friends or family who have died recently or whose anniversaries are remembered at this time, please leave a Mass Offering envelope, available from the Welcome Table, in the box provided.

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

2025 RCIC

Children aged 7 years or older who are not baptised, or who have been baptised in a Christian Church other than Catholic, are still able to make their 1st Reconciliation and/or 1st Holy Communion by taking part in our RCIC program prior to enrolling in our 1st Reconciliation/1st Holy Communion preparation program.

Those interested in being a part of RCIC are asked to send an email to the Parish Office.

Enrolments for RCIC will open on 3 February 2025.

ENTRANCE

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.

OFFERTORY

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

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, 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.