



St Mary MacKillop
Catholic Parish



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

MASS TIMES

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

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

SUNDAY 8AM St Mary
MacKillop Church
ORAN PARK
94 Oran Park Drive

SUNDAY 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

24th DECEMBER 2023
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

FIRST READING
2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16

RESPONSORIAL PSALM
For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

SECOND READING
Romans 16:25-27

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

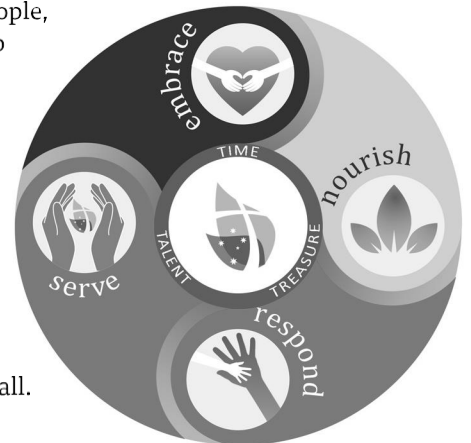
We are sustained by the **Sacraments** and nurtured in our faith in **Jesus Christ**.

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

AS PREVIOUSLY ADVISED, THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED THIS WEEK

PLEASE NOTE:

THERE WILL BE NO WEEKDAY MASSES AT THE ORAN PARK MASS CENTRE THIS WEEK

PLEASE NOTE ALSO:

THERE WILL BE NO WEEKDAY MASSES (WITH THE EXCEPTION OF TUESDAY EVENING AND ANOINTING MASSES) DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY

**SATURDAY
30 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 and re-open Tuesday, 2 January 2024

On 1 January, we celebrate the Feast Day of the patroness of our Northern Mass Centre,
St Mary Mother of God.

We thank God, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, for the blessings of 2023 and we ask for God's guidance as we begin this New Year of Grace 2024.



Holy Mary,
Mother of God,
pray for us.

DO SOMETHING SUNDAY JANUARY/FEBRUARY

St Vincent de Paul 'Food Pantry Drive'

In 2024, our 'Do Something Sunday' focus will revert back to the '2nd Sunday every 2 months'

Our first 'Do Something Sunday' will be the weekend of 10-11 February. On this weekend, we would like to support the Camden/Oran Park chapter of St Vincent de Paul by 'restocking their pantry'. Over the Christmas and New Year period, St Vincent de Paul have assisted many local families by opening their Food Pantry.

St Vincent de Paul have provided a list of items, which are not easily accessible from other sources, which will complement the basic pantry items they hold.

Please collect the list of required items from the Welcome Table.

In conjunction with the Office of the Bishop, and other diocesan agencies, we are in the process of developing a 20 year vision for the future pastoral and spiritual needs of the parishioners and community of St Mary MacKillop Parish. **We are in the process of establishing a Working Party with a specific charter to look at the future needs of the parish, and we are seeking 'expressions of interest' from anyone with skills in a number of areas including finance, construction, town planning, property development.**

If you would like to be considered for membership of this Working Party, please submit a brief CV to the Parish Office via email: oranpark@dow.org.au

Expressions of interest to be submitted by 31 January 2024.

2024 PARISH PILGRIMAGE

Join fellow parishioners for our 2nd parish pilgrimage in the 'Footsteps of St Mary MacKillop'

Following our inaugural Mary MacKillop Parish Pilgrimage in October 2022 - that Fr David and parishioners were privileged to share with people from across our nation - the good news is that a new 2024 pilgrimage itinerary for the 'Footsteps of St Mary MacKillop Pilgrimage' has been released. There are a couple of new features of the pilgrimage for the 2024 departure. It is the hope of Fr David to be chaplain on the October 2024 departure. **Please share this news with family, friends and fellow parishioners and encourage them to give themselves a great Christmas/New Year gift - through putting in their 'expression of interest' and deposit for the October 2024 departure.** As it's expected that this October pilgrimage will 'sell out' everyone wanting to attend is encouraged to submit your deposit asap. **More info, including the costs and itinerary, can be found here: bit.ly/2024parishpilgrimage**

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF CHILDREN FOR CHILDREN WHO ARE NOT BAPTISED CATHOLIC

Children 7 years and above who are not baptised or who have been baptised in a Christian church other than Catholic, are still able to make their First Reconciliation and/or First Holy Communion, by taking part in a 4-week preparation process – prior to enrolling in a 1st Reconciliation/1st Holy Communion program.

This preparation process, sometimes called the Rite of Christian Initiation of Children (RCIC) will be an opportunity for these children, supported by their adult family members, to ‘meet in a small group’ to learn more about what it means to be a Catholic-Christian and to prepare for their Baptism (or for those already baptised in another Christian church, their ‘Reception into the Catholic Church’).

Children who journey through RCIC (and have completed the 4 week RCIC program along with the 1st Reconciliation/1st Holy Communion program) will, as set down by liturgical practice, receive their Baptism/Reception into the Catholic Church, 1st Holy Communion and Confirmation all during the one Mass.

(The RCIC Mass for 2024 will be held on Tuesday, 18 June, at the regular 7pm evening Parish Mass).

Those interested in being a part of RCIC are asked to send an email to oranpark@dow.org.au no later than Friday, 9 February 2023.

MACKILLOP YOUTH ‘TASTER SESSION’

As we near the end of 2023, plans for MacKillop Youth (our two Parish Youth Groups for Years 7-9 and Years 10-12) are already being made for 2024. **One of these plans is to hold a MacKillop Youth ‘Taster Session’ for those who will be Year 7 students in 2024 and are able to come to MacKillop Youth for the first time.** This gathering will be on Friday, 9 February 2024, from 6.30pm. Adult family members are asked to collect a flyer from the Welcome Table and complete the ‘Expression of Interest Form’.



As the end of the year approaches, many couples are wondering if their marriage is going to make it. They’re not as connected as they used to be, and they may even be struggling.

One of the simplest ways our Parish can support couples is to encourage them to be proactive in nurturing their marriage and it has never been easier to do with online marriage enrichment.

An enrichment course for married couples wanting a lasting, passionate relationship as God intended.

Accessed from the privacy of your home on your own timetable, this online course will energise your relationship, revitalise your passion and equip you with practical tools for every day. To find out more, visit:

smartloving.org/marriage-kit

For 50% off, use coupon code:
Advent



2024 SACRAMENTAL CALENDAR

A reminder that our 2024 Sacramental Calendar is now available for download from the ‘Youth Sacraments’ page on our Parish 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.