

PARISH BULLETIN Christmas 2025



PAX in Societate Nostra et Familiis (Peace in our Society and Families)

Christmas holds a unique significance to all Christians and particularly for us Catholics. It is this time that we are invited to reflect upon God entering our human history. The famous saying is; history repeats itself. After the completion of his act of creation, God saw everything good. He wrote his story on human hearts. Then darkness entered human history when they turned their back to God. This is still evident in our time that is pushed away from societies. The beautiful creation turned into chaos again. In his nature as a merciful and compassionate God, he planned the renewal of his creation, and introduced his salvation. Christmas is the fulfilment of time in history, Christ is born the Immanuel; God is with us.

It was a quiet and dark night when the brightest of the stars shined, which stirred suspicious minds of the three shepherds. This fulfills the prophecy in the book of Isaiah 9: 2; "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, then has the light shined". Christ is the light that illuminates our darkest human history, and dispels the darkness in every human heart. This true light wants to reshine in our society and families today. Our society suffers, hatred, wars, violence, and divisions. Our families suffer brokenness, fear, sorrow, and high cost of living. In the midst of all these; we cry out for solution to our restlessness.

I as your Priest admit my inability to provide words of comfort to soothe your discomfortness. What I can offer on this Christmas is; let the peace of Christ, the Immanuel, be with our society, our families, and in every human heart. Let me conclude this reflection by wishing you all our Parishioners of St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop parish of Oran Park and Leppington, a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year. I reiterate the beautiful words of Jesus; Peace be with you all.

Fr Feleki Tautunu – Parish Administrator

TAKE ME

IN OUR PARISH

Friday 26 December

9.30am Mass

Saturday 27 December

4pm Reconciliation & 5pm Mass, Oran Park

Sunday 28 December

8am Mass, **Leppington** 8am Mass, Oran Park 10am Mass, Oran Park

5pm Mass, Oran Park

Chaldean Holy Mass

12:00noon Sunday

Monday 29 December 1pm Rosary, Leppington.

Tuesday 30 December

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

Wednesday 31 December

8am Mass

Thursday 1 January

10am Mass

Friday 2 January

10am Mass

The Anointing Mass

CHRISTMAS

"Christmas is not a day, Christmas is not a season, Christmas is a way of living"

During the next weeks, we will celebrate the **Season** of Christmas. This Season of the Church's Year is marked by 3 Feast Days: the Feast of the Holy Family (Sunday, 28 December), the Epiphany (Sunday, 4 January) and the Baptism of the Lord (Sunday, 11 January).

NEW to our Parish?

Whether you are here for the very first time, or have been here for a while, we would love to connect with you. Please scan the QR

Please scan the QR Code and a member of our Welcome Ministry will be in touch soon.



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.

Anthony Vella, Frank Tipler, Margaret Noronha, Joe Tabone, Fernando Bareto Daluz, Anna Torcaso, Juliet Decruz, V.I.Issac

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



Prayer to the Holy Family

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in you we contemplate the splendour of true love; to you we turn with trust.

Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that our families too may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic churches. Holy Family of Nazareth, may families never again experience violence, rejection and division; may all who have been hurt or scandalized find ready comfort and healing.

Holy Family of Nazareth, make us once more mindful of the sacredness and inviolability of the family, and its beauty in God's plan.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Graciously hear our prayer. Amen.

(Pope Francis, Amoris Laetitia, 325)







PARISH 10TH ANNIVERSARY BOOK

Orders are now open for you to purchase your copy of our Parish 10th Anniversary Book for \$30 per copy. Please scan the QR Code or use the link https://bit.ly/10ANN to register your order and a member of our Parish Admin. Team will contact you to arrange collection.



10ANNBOOK

Cash purchases are now available at Oran Park (Piety Stall) and Leppington (Welcome Table).

2026 SACRAMENTAL CALENDAR

Our Parish 2026 Youth Sacramental Calendar is now available on the Parish Website. Those families wishing to enrol their children in 2026 for RCIC, 1st Holy Communion or Confirmation are asked to visit the website and note when online enrolments will be available.

2026 CARMELITE RETREAT PROGRAM

Through a range of day, weekend, and weeklong retreats, this year's Carmelite Retreat Program offers opportunities for prayer, reflection, spiritual growth and community. Whether you are new to Carmelite spirituality or a seasoned pilgrim, you'll find nourishment and inspiration for your journey with God. Please collect a flyer from the Welcome Table or contact the Mt Carmel Retreat Centre: bookings@mtcarmel.com.au

RCIC (Rite of Christian Initiation of Children)

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 1st Reconciliation and/or 1st Holy Communion by taking part in our Parish RCIC (Rite of Christian Initiation of Children) program prior to enrolling in our 1st Reconciliation/1st Holy Communion preparation program. Those families interested in being a part of RCIC are asked to send an email to oranpark@dow.org.au. Enrolments for RCIC will be available on the Parish website from 2 Feb 26. Answer: St. John was in the prison. Answer to match up puzzle: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk; lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them.

