



**St Mary MacKillop**  
Catholic Parish  
ORAN PARK

## PARISH BULLETIN

The Twenty Second Sunday  
in Ordinary Time - Year C  
**31 August, 2025**

### Parish 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**

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

**1<sup>st</sup> READING** Sirach 3:17-20, 28-29

*Humble yourself & you will find favour  
with the Lord.*

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** Ps 67:4-7, 10-11

God, in your goodness, you have made a  
home for the poor.

**2<sup>nd</sup> READING** Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24 (JB)

You have to come to Mount Zion and to the city of  
the living God.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Matthew 11:29 (JB)

Alleluia, alleluia! Take my yoke upon you;  
learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart.  
Alleluia!

**GOSPEL** Luke 14:1, 7-14 (JB)

*All who exalt themselves shall be humbled and all  
who humble themselves shall be exalted*

Ahead of  
Canonization  
on 7 Sep  
2025, new  
statue of  
Blessed  
Carlo Acutis  
unveiled in  
Assisi, Italy



### WE REMEMBER IN PRAYERS

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

**Maryanne Saliba, Angel Mangahas Sr, Terence  
Vayani, Angelica Palmos, Francisco Palmos,  
Brigitte Bobillier, James Muscat, Sebastiano  
Crestani, Silvia Aguilar, Gloria Galiluyo, Luis  
Galiluyo, Gladys Kontista**

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

We've all had the experience where we are at the supermarket or waiting in the security line at the airport.

The lines are long and getting longer, and we are getting restless.

Suddenly a new line opens up and we rush to get into the new and shorter line. We try to get ahead of other people, perhaps deep down, we may think we're busier than they are!

It turns out we may not be too different from the people we met in Jesus' parable: guests at a dinner who felt they were more important than other guests, so important, in fact, that they pushed ahead of others to claim places of honour.

In short - the message is about humbling ourselves before the Lord and when we do this, God will lift us up.

The presence of Jesus at dinner in the Pharisee's home turned that event into a symbol of the heavenly banquet to which we've been invited. That banquet begins here and now in the celebration of the Eucharist where Jesus speaks to us through his Word and is present in the sacred Host.

The Gospel reminds us that we who are gathered around this Eucharistic table - the table of the Lord - the banquet of the Lord - we are reminded that regardless of our social status or wealth or power and importance - we come to receive the Eucharist as brothers and sisters of equal standing before God.

It is the Eucharist we are about to receive - when bread becomes God.

When the exalted is humbled and the humble exalted.

We who are about to share in that mystery, in receiving that mystery are also exalted and humbled. Lord, I am not worthy that you should come under my roof. But he does. And we are transformed.

As we prepare to receive Christ in the appearance of bread, we pray to welcome him with humility - to answer in some small way Christ's invitation: **"Come. Be my light."** Deacon Sam

**Monday 1 Sep**

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

**Tuesday 2 Sep**

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

**Wednesday 3 Sep**

8am Mass, Oran Park

**Thursday 4 Sep**

9.30am Rosary  
10am Mass, Oran Park

**Friday 5 Sep**

9.30am Mass, Oran Park  
(Ember Day)

**Saturday 6 Sep**

4pm Reconciliation, Or Pk.  
5pm Mass, Oran Park

**Sunday 7 Sep**

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

**Chaldean Holy Mass**

Sunday 12:00noon

31 August 2025

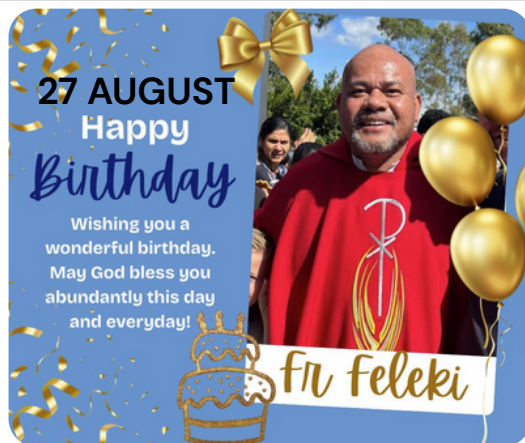
Social Justice

Sunday - Australia

## REGISTRATION FOR Fr. DAVID



## MEMORIALWALK



Fr. Feleki, We appreciate all that you do for our parish. May all the coming years be filled with happiness & God's grace!

### Walk for Fr David

In order to ensure this event is a safe and enjoyable experience, we will need a team of **VOLUNTEERS** 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 Of. & we will forward your details to the organisers.

### DONATIONS to the Cancer Council

(Walk for Fr.David) can be made using the below link or QR code in yellow poster:

[www.doitforcancer.com.au/s/24790/42858/s](http://www.doitforcancer.com.au/s/24790/42858/s)

## 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.

Sunday 19 October 2025  
after 10.00am Mass

Donate Here



### EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

Within the Catholic Diocese of  
Wollongong, an Emergency  
Response Plan (ERP)

has been developed to oversee,  
manage and minimise the  
likelihood and impact of an  
emergency by assisting the  
safety and physical/spiritual  
wellbeing of clergy, staff,  
parishioners and visitors during  
an emergency incident.

In light of this, we are calling for  
anyone who would be interested  
in joining a first response team  
who would be rostered for our  
Masses at both Oran Park &  
Leppington.

If you would like to be contacted  
to join this team, please sign up  
at the Welcome Table & a  
member of our Admin Team will  
be in touch. In addition, it will be  
great if you have a medical or  
nursing background, or  
experience as a first responder.



## Christmas Raffle

ST MARY MOTHER OF GOD CHURCH  
LEPPINGTON

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE 2025

\$2000 + WORTH OF PRIZES

HAMPERS, WINE, GIFT VOUCHERS AND MUCH  
MORE!

TICKETS NOW ON SALE

\$2.00 EACH

\$50 FOR A BOOK OF 25 TICKETS

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE IS TO BE DRAWN ON  
SUNDAY - 21 DECEMBER 2025 FOLLOWING  
SUNDAY MASS AND CHRISTMAS PICNIC DAY  
AT LEPPINGTON CHURCH GROUNDS

NOTE: ALL PURCHASED TICKET BUTTS MUST BE  
RETURNED BY NO LATER THAN 20/12/25

TICKET PURCHASE: CONTACT DOMENIC - 0400 588 248





3 SEP 2025, WEDNESDAY  
POPE GREGORY I,  
COMMONLY KNOWN AS  
ST. GREGORY THE GREAT

64th Bishop of Rome - 3 Sep 590 - 12 Mar 604. Famous for the emphasis he put on missionary work. He sent many people out to bring many to Jesus and into the Church. Anglo-Saxon Britain was, at that time, still on the frontier of Christendom. It was Pope Gregory who dispatched **St. Augustine (of Canterbury)** to Kent in 597.

He made many changes to the Mass, some of which remain today, The position of the **Our Father** in the Mass remains where Pope Gregory placed it.

## Saints of the week



## 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY - PARISH TRIVIA NIGHT



5 SEP 2025, FRIDAY  
**MOTHER TERESA**  
ALBANIAN-INDIAN  
CATHOLIC NUN &  
MISSIONARY (1910-1997)

In 1950, Mother Teresa established the **Missionaries of Charity**, a religious congregation that was initially dedicated to serving "the poorest of the poor" in the slums of Calcutta. Over the decades, the congregation grew to **operate in over 133 countries**, managing homes for those dying from hiv/aids, leprosy, and tuberculosis, as well as running soup kitchens, dispensaries, mobile clinics, orphanages, and schools. Members of the order take vows of chastity, poverty, and obedience and also profess a fourth vow: to give "wholehearted free service to the poorest of the poor."



Table #	Team Name	Final Score
12	2560 <b>1</b>	77
8	Always Wright <b>2</b>	71
9	Makers + Bakers <b>3</b>	69
21	Mens Group <b>3</b>	69
3	Cut Above	68
6	M.G.M	68
1	The Ballards	67
5	The Winners	66
2	"Knit Witts"	65
19	Marvellous Creations	64
4	Sew and Sews	60
11	Magnificent 8	57
14	Destroyers	57
18	The Kelly Gang	55
13	Team Poles	49
16	Barbellos	48
7	Pending	47
15	Girl Power	46
17	Robbo's	31
20	Simmorice	27



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS OF THE TRIVIA NIGHT  
2560 - YOUNG ADULTS GROUP





## WHO IS THE FIRST PATRONESS OF AUSTRALIA ?

Blessed Virgin Mary, venerated under the title of **Mary Help of Christians**. This title was chosen by the early Catholic community in Australia, specifically by Father John Therry and the people, for the Mother Church, making Australia the first nation in the world to adopt her as its principal patroness in **1844**.

The feast of Mary Help of Christians is celebrated on **May 24th**, a date chosen to commemorate Pope Pius VII's return to Rome after imprisonment by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1814, which he attributed to Marys intercession.

The devotion was deeply rooted in the early colonial period when the Catholic community, often without priests, relied heavily on the Rosary for spiritual sustenance.

In addition to Mary Help of Christians, **Australia also has a second patron saint**,

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, who was canonized in 2010 and is recognized as the first Australian saint



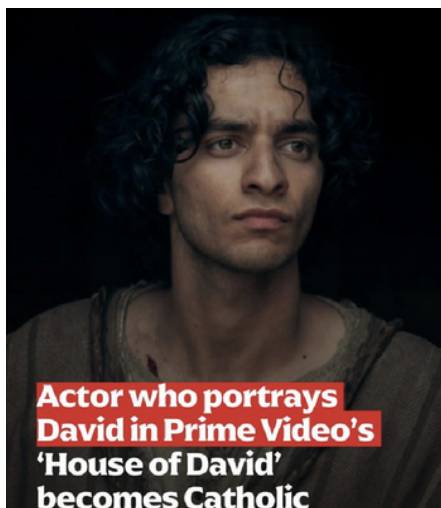
### SUDOKO -SACRED OILS

**RULES:** A 9x9 square must be filled in with the nine different letters found in the title word of the puzzle, with no repeated letters in each line, horizontally or vertically.

C		D		I		A	O	E
A						L		
	R	L	E					
I	O		A			E		
	A	S		L		O	I	
		E			S		A	R
					I	R	D	
		C						A
E	I	O		R		S		L

Michael Iskander, the actor known for playing the lead role of King David in the new hit Prime Video series "**House of David**," announced Aug. 21 that he has become Catholic.

courtesy -catholic news



## WHAT IS EMBER DAY ? 5 SEP 2025, FRIDAY

Ember Days are special days in the Church's calendar where people pray and think about how to be thankful for the gifts God gives us, like food and the seasons.

They happen four times a year, and each time is connected to a different season: winter, spring, summer, and fall.

On these days, people might fast, which means they eat less or give up certain foods to show they are thankful and to grow closer to God.

### WORRY

IS A CONVERSATION YOU HAVE WITH YOURSELF ABOUT THINGS YOU CANNOT CHANGE.

### PRAYER

IS A CONVERSATION YOU HAVE WITH GOD ABOUT THINGS HE CAN CHANGE.

# AROUND OUR WOLLONGONG DIOCESE

## JUBILATIO NIGHT OF PRAISE

Join us MGL Sisters at Our Lady of Mount Carmel parish for a powerful night of praise and worship, preaching, testimony, prayer ministry, and reconciliation. It's a time to encounter his presence, to build community & strengthen our faith.

Date: **Friday 12th Sept**

Time: 7.30-9.30pm

Venue: Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church  
- 193 ST ANDREWS RD **VARROVILLE**

For more information please contact the MGL Sisters on [mgl sisters.sydney@gmail.com](mailto:mgl sisters.sydney@gmail.com)

## CATECHIST

### CREATIVE STORY TELLING & CRAFT MORNING

Build up your confidence in storytelling and create anticipation in your lessons using simple visual items and techniques. We will draw from the spirit of Advent and our upcoming Saints as role-models to guide us.

**ROSEMEADOW: Friday 5 Sept 10am-1:30**

Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Meeting Room,

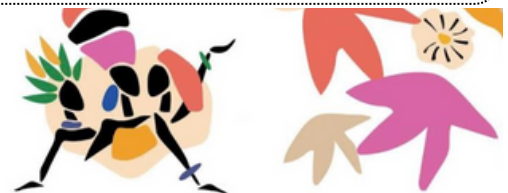
Register: <https://dow.sh/45ne1hV>

Enq: Sue Clark 0457 427 583

Join Healthy Cities Illawarra for the **4th Illawarra Women's Day of Dance and Culture** - Take me to the Islands on **Friday 5 September 2025** from

10.30 to 2.30 at Wollongong Town Hall. We are welcoming women from diverse cultures and backgrounds to connect in a safe space, sharing Pasifika traditional dances and delicious food from Empress Eventz. Come meet **Rosemary Kariuki OAM from Oran Park Parish** who founded this series of events across Sydney and beyond. To get your tickets for this women only event visit Healthy Cities Australia on Facebook or book

online at Merrigong or buy tickets at the Illawarra Performing Arts Centre Wollongong



## ILLAWARRA WOMEN'S DAY OF DANCE + CULTURE

**TICKETS ARE NOW LIVE!**

This year's theme, "Take Me to the Islands" brings the bold spirit and rich traditions of the Pasifika Islands

Wollongong Town Hall | Main Auditorium

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2025 | 10.30am-2.30pm



Tickets & information:  
Adult - \$30 + booking fee  
Children U6 - Free



## "BUSH" FAMILY CAMPING WEEKEND

(organised by Bishops Office, Diocese of Wollongong)

**12 September to 14 September, 2025**

Venue: Guntawang - Wooglemai Catholic Camping Facility  
( 40 minutes drive from Oran Park )

These weekends bring Catholic families of all ages, including couples with or without children, single parents and grandparents, together to celebrate the incredible gift of family life.

Enjoy shared meals, games, music, prayer, and Mass.

**REGISTER NOW :**

[dow.org.au/events/compass-bush-family-camping-weekend](https://dow.org.au/events/compass-bush-family-camping-weekend)

Cost: \$50 per adult or \$100 per family

RSVP: Friday 8 September 2025

C	S	D	L	I	R	A	O	E
A	E	I	S	C	O	L	R	D
O	R	L	E	A	D	C	S	I
I	O	R	A	D	C	E	L	S
D	A	S	R	L	E	O	I	C
L	C	E	I	O	S	D	A	R
S	L	A	C	E	I	R	D	O
R	D	C	O	S	L	I	E	A
E	I	O	D	R	A	S	C	L

## ST JOSEPH CAMINO WALK FOR MEN

Join men from around our Diocese for an overnight St Joseph walk praying for the needs of the Church, our families and the world. The Camino begins on **Friday 5 September** with 8pm Mass at St Joseph's, Como, concluding with 7am Mass at St Aloysius on Saturday 6 September and then hot breakfast and drinks.

Overnight walk will see us visit 6 churches, with Catechesis and Adoration.  
Cost \$35 and booking via: [trybooking.com/Scan](https://trybooking.com/Scan) QR code

For more information regarding Wollongong Diocese Involvement, please email Jude Hennessy [jude.hennessy@dow.org.au](mailto:jude.hennessy@dow.org.au)



## BEING AT HOME IN THE UNIVERSE STORY - JAMBEROO ABBEY

**Friday, 5 September - Sunday 7 September 2025**

Speaker: Sr Mechtild Crawford OSB

You are invited to a gentle retreat which will expand our minds and hearts to the unfolding mystery of the universe, helping us to see our place as human beings within this sacred unfolding. There will be times for listening and learning and times for personal reflection and creativity. Sr Mechtild Crawford leads this retreat at the Benedictine Abbey, Jamberoo. Register and pay for this weekend retreat 02 4236 0011 ext 114 or email [cottageretreats@jamberooabbey.org.au](mailto:cottageretreats@jamberooabbey.org.au)

## CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL NSW

Hosting Jim Murphy from USA

Jim Murphy from the USA a Worldwide Consultant to Renewal Groups is visiting Sydney on the **7 & 8 September**. There are 3 options to hear him -

- Sunday 7 Sept at 10.30 am at Servants of Jesus Centre Seven Hills
- Sunday 7 Sept OLQP Parish Centre Greystanes at 7.15 pm or
- Monday 8 Sept St Elias Speleota Church Ashcroft @7 pm.

Enquiries [AGATENBY@CCRNWSW.ORG.AU](mailto:AGATENBY@CCRNWSW.ORG.AU)





# Vatican News

Sydney newlyweds James Lu and Fiona Choi did the lot, presenting Pope Leo XVI with an iconic Akubra hat while in Rome in August.



Sydney couple raise the roof with Pope Leo hat trick – courtesy Catholic Weekly

**Pope prays for Mozambique:** that the country's leaders restore peace and security

After the Sunday Angelus, Pope Leo turns his thoughts to Mozambique's Cabo Delgado province and to Ukraine, urging prayer and closeness for peoples wounded by violence and war

## Church in Thailand

equips seminarians for deaf ministry

The Catholic Church in Thailand is stepping up efforts to strengthen pastoral care for the Deaf, beginning with a training program for seminarians at Fatima Minor Seminary in the Archdiocese of Thare-Nongseng in the northeast of the country.

Holy See 'supports efforts to restore peace in **Haiti**'

The Holy See has reiterated the Church's closeness to the people of Haiti, reaffirming its constant support for efforts to promote peace and stability in the violence-ridden nation.

Pope: I pray the weapons in **Ukraine** fall silent and the path to dialogue be opened

On Ukraine's national feast, Pope Leo XIV send a message to the president of the war-torn nation, assuring his prayers for the country and its people.

**Tanzania** Catholic youth congress attracts over 4,200 participants in Mbeya

Thousands of young Catholics from across Tanzania gather in Mbeya to share their faith and examine their role in building the future of the country.

Pope commemorates 400th anniversary of first Lithuanian priest in **India**

Pope Leo XIV commemorates the anniversary and witness of Fr. Andrius Rudamina, a Lithuanian-born Jesuit who traveled more than 5,000 miles to India in 1625 to preach the Gospel.



Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, left, and Blessed Carlo Acutis



## CANONISATION – 7 SEPTEMBER 2025

Blessed Carlo Acutis and Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, The two young men from northern Italy will be canonized together by Pope Leo XIV; as the first saints of the new pontificate.

**One served the poor of post-war Turin; the other evangelized from a laptop in Milan**



Pope: **Altar servers** help lead faithful into sacred Mystery of Mass

Meeting with altar servers from **France**, Pope Leo XIV laments the country's lack of priests and upholds the ministry of young people at the altar, saying the dignity of their service helps lead people into the sacred greatness of the Mystery.

Bishop in **Indonesia** calls for tourism that unites people and protects creation. At the opening of Festival Golo Koe 2025, Bishop Maksimus Regus urged that tourism in Indonesia's Labuan Bajo must unite communities, protect creation, and resist the lure of profit-driven exploitation.



**Pope Leo joins Jerusalem Patriarchs' call for peace in Gaza**

