



# St Nicholas of Myra Catholic Parish



**ST MARY OF THE CROSS (MARY MACKILLOP)**  
9 AUG 2021

Tel: (02) 4721 2509 | Website: [www.stnicholasofmyra.org.au](http://www.stnicholasofmyra.org.au) | P O Box 1868, Penrith 2751 |

@SNOMPenrith

## PARISH OFFICE

Office Hours 9am - 5 pm  
Lunch 1pm – 1.30pm (*Office closed*)

### PARISH STAFF

**Parish Priest:** Fr Joe Manjaly E: [joe@stnicholasofmyra.org.au](mailto:joe@stnicholasofmyra.org.au)  
**Asst Priest:** Fr Jessie Balorio E: [jessie.balorio@parracatholic.org](mailto:jessie.balorio@parracatholic.org)  
**Office Manager:** Jacinta Ortiz E: [enquiries@stnicholasofmyra.org.au](mailto:enquiries@stnicholasofmyra.org.au)  
**Admin Assistant:** Mary Goh E: [reception@stnicholasofmyra.org.au](mailto:reception@stnicholasofmyra.org.au)  
**Sacramental Coordinator:** Rodney Howard E: [sacramental@stnicholasofmyra.org.au](mailto:sacramental@stnicholasofmyra.org.au)  
**Catechists:** Fred Keuneman E: [catechist@stnicholasofmyra.org.au](mailto:catechist@stnicholasofmyra.org.au)  
**Volunteer Admin Support:** Margaret Cobden & Ursula Gomez

### PARISH EMERGENCY NUMBER: 4732 3039

During this Pandemic time **Craig Walsh** is our Health & Safety Coordinator. Contact 0428 284 568

**Nepean Hospital Chaplain:** Fr Porathur Joy (PJ)

**Deacon:** Wilfredo (Willy) Limjap

**RCIA Coordinators:** Ina & Norm Heffernan  
[inanorm@optusnet.com.au](mailto:inanorm@optusnet.com.au) Ph: 4732 1751

## PARISH SCHOOLS

St Nicholas Primary Principal : Ms Anita Knezevic Ph; 4752 3300  
St Mary Mackillop Primary Principal : Mr Scott Buchan Ph; 4724 3200



## ONLINE MASSES

Due to stay-at-home orders from the NSW Government, all church buildings, adoration chapels and other buildings used for prayer and religious services are closed. Masses will be live streamed on our Facebook page (@SNOMPenrith) on:

- Monday—Friday at 9.30am
- Saturday at 9.00am and 6.00pm (Vigil)
- Sunday at 10.00am

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

A “one hit wonder” from 1989 was the song by Bobby McFerrin, *Don't Worry, Be Happy*. It was a laid-back, a cappella song that still frequently appears in film and television soundtracks. In some ways, the song became the catchcry of a generation who were overwhelmed by the pace of change that was occurring in society, technology and the world in general. A glance at today's gospel may leave the reader thinking that Jesus, too, is basically saying to us, don't worry, be happy. But the message of Jesus is not as simplistic as that. Instead, he says to us, set your hearts on God's kingdom first and on following God's will for justice in the world and, then, don't worry, be happy. It is not the same throwing of one's hands into the air as the 1980's song. It is not an abandonment of responsibility. Jesus says to us, trust in God, work to bring about the kingdom in our lives and in our world and only then leave the rest to God.

This gospel passage was aptly chosen by the Church to mark the feast of St Mary of the Cross – Mary MacKillop. The teaching of Jesus, conveyed through the gospel passage, characterised much of the life and work of Mary MacKillop. Mary was a prolific writer, sending messages to her sisters in the schools and communities



across Australia. We are fortunate that many of these letters have been preserved and provide an incredible insight into the attitude of Mary MacKillop. One of the quotes attributed to Mary MacKillop that captures the essence of today's gospel is, “Do all you can with the means at your disposal and calmly leave the rest to God.” (1891) Surely this is a more energising and empowering motto for life than don't worry, be happy?

### Historical Context – Mary MacKillop

Mary MacKillop is not only the first Australian to be recognised by the Church as a Saint, she is truly a very Australian saint. She characterises the spirit of the Australian mythology. She was a prodigious hard worker who put the needs of others before herself. She exhibited something of the larrikin spirit: constantly in dispute with authority but pressing on, regardless. She used the strengths of others but also didn't tolerate those who were not genuine. Her commitment to the schooling of children from poor and rural communities established a model of Catholic education that continues to today. A Saint for and of Australia!

Greg Sunter ©

Liturgy Help 2021

## RCIA | NEXT WEEKS GOSPEL REFLECTION

The Gospel -The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
**Luke 1:39-56.**

**The RCIA Group were able to come together via our first Zoom Meeting last Monday evening. It was so good to be able to see each other and share both the gospel reflection and catch up with our news. We are looking forward to sharing with each other via Zoom while the lockdown continues.**

The Gospel this coming week includes the beautiful story of Mary's visit to her cousin Elizabeth, and her song of praise, **The Magnificat**. As we celebrate her Assumption into heaven, we pray to Mary to help the people of our time to live with faith, hope and empathy: *to seek God's kingdom in all we say and do*. With her help may we be open to the presence and action of the Holy Spirit, who transforms our hearts, and enables us to become more open and compassionate to the freedom and dignity of every person.

**Mary is the model Christian who truly heard the Word of God and lived it.** Mary, being *'full of grace'* led to her assumption, body, and soul into heaven. She was never *'weighed down'* by the things that prevent us from having a closer relationship with God - *sinfulness; excessive need for material things; greed; pride, vanity; self-promotion and indulgence*. Mary was *free from sin; poor in spirit, forever pure, humble,*

*and free from self-love that contrasts and conflicts with the love of God.*

One way for us to surrender ourselves to God and be filled with the presence of God like Mary, is through daily prayer. Praying will calm us and enable us to *'tune in'* to God and to our blessed Mother. It is only through prayer that we can truly unite ourselves with Mary by expressing her sentiments:

*"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord  
and my spirit exults in God my Saviour  
because he has looked upon his lowly handmaid."*

### **OUR GOSPEL REFLECTION AND QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT:**

#### **This week reflect on the blessings in your life.**

- ✚ Which ones come from family?
- ✚ Which ones come from the Spirit?
- ✚ Where do these blessings interconnect?
- ✚ How are these blessings like those in the gospels: especially those like Mary received

#### **For more information about joining the Catholic Church:**

Ina & Norman Heffernan  
4732 1751

inanorm@optusnet.com.au

## PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

**RECENTLY DECEASED** : Michael Joseph Lenihan, James McCallum, Yolande Francis, Colin O'Flynn & all those who have died from COVID-19.

**DEATH ANNIVERSARIES** : Rodolf Calub, Rosela Porteria, Leonard Cobden, Marcio Aspera, Margarita Aspera, Virgilio Monte Claro Mahilum, Antonia Samuels, Fa'aiu, Ioane and Vilo Tuliatu, Manuela UY and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

**DECEASED** : Tania Felice, John Nettare, Dennis Bryant, Ron Howe, Margaret Mary Sullivan, Barry Wilson, Anesia Catubigan & all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

**SICK** : Christopher Ware, Alexandra MacDonald, Natasha Sullivan, Majid Lilleh, Easter Kalotay, Lyn O'Hare, Chris Ropati, Daryl Young, Jose Catubigan Sr. Gail Beevor, Tu Tran, Elenita & Lolyn Velayo, Ann & Raymond Thompson, Suzan K. Ferreira, Rebecca Hackney, Terry Donnelly, Olivia Evans, McEwen Pereira, Georgina Rastegorac, Baby William Martines, Ricardo Azores, Romas Levers, Yvonne Kore, Allen & Jackie Cullen, Flordeliza Villanueva, Charlie Camenzuli, Virgilio Cruz, Alexander Diana, Bernadette Garcia, Danilo Monilla, Henry Duffy, Filippa Borg, Nina Muscat, George Bell, Magi Gahli, Carmela Dimunno, Mildred Fitzgerald, Jaime Calero, Theresa Jordan, Jane McCann, Lauren and all who suffer from COVID-19.

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Condolences* Our thoughts and prayers are with the friends and families of:

**James McCallum** Funeral is on the 12th August at 10.20 am and;

**Michael Joseph Lenihan** Funeral is on the 11th August at 3pm. May they rest in eternal peace.

*Thanksgiving* A very Happy Birthday to our young parishioner Madeleine (Maddie) Tucker who turned 21 recently (31 Jul) and to our Young at heart parishioner Joan Renshaw who turned 99 (6 Aug). Our prayers and well wishes are with you on these very special occasions.



*Legion of Mary Zoom Meetings* All parishioners are welcome to join praying the rosary with us on Zoom at 7.30 pm each Tuesday night. All you need to do is download the zoom app on your smartphone, tablet or computer, then enter the following, Meeting ID number, 97833734065 for a password to enter the meeting please contact Eddie Bishara on edmund.bishara@bigpond.com

*Counselling Service for parishioners* Sr Eileen Quade from the Mercy Sisters has generously offered 'over the phone' counselling services to any parishioner who may be experiencing feelings of loneliness, grief and anxiety during this time. Please leave a message with your contact details on Ph: 02 9636 2900 Mobile: 0439 454 670 for a call back.

## An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

## ONLINE PLANNED GIVING

*We are grateful for your stewardship during these difficult times*

### FIRST COLLECTION goes to the Clergy

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### SECOND COLLECTION goes to the support of the Parish

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Acct Name Penrith St Nicholas Catholic Church  
Reference [ENVELOPE N# OR SURNAME]

## COVID-19 SAFETY



- Due to stay-at-home orders from the NSW Government, all church buildings, adoration chapels and other buildings used for prayer and religious services are closed. Public Masses have ceased. Please join us online on Facebook @SNOMPenrith. Mass times are Mon-Fri at 9.30am, Sat at 9am, Sat Vigil at 6pm and Sun 10.30am
- For those who do not have online access, **Mass for You at Home** airs on Channel 10 and WIN at 6am each Sunday, and also on Aurora (Foxtel Channel 173) at 10am.
- Parishioners are advised to contact the Parish via telephone or email for any pastoral needs.

## PARISH ROSTER, MEETINGS & EVENTS

*The roster, any physical parish meetings on our premises and any Sacraments are suspended until further notice.*

## DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 'The Well' offers spiritual nourishment during lockdown

Need some inspiration and spiritual encouragement during lockdown? Why not check out The Well? The Diocese's 'on demand' streaming site has a tonne of video and prayer resources for you to explore and engage with during this difficult time. Check it out on [www.thewell.org.au](http://www.thewell.org.au)

### Social Justice COVID-19 Food and Toiletries Drive

Jesuit Refugee Service and House of Welcome are dealing with a 400% increase in emergency assistance calls and are needing to feed over 1,000 people facing destitution each week. You can help by running a food and toiletry drive or donating yourself. Find more information at [parracatholic.org/diocesanfooddrive](http://parracatholic.org/diocesanfooddrive).

### Euthanasia, Dying and the Dignity of the Human Person Talks

The Diocese of Parramatta is co-hosting a series of talks on euthanasia with the Diocese of Broken Bay ahead of the expected introduction of a draft bill in NSW Parliament to legalise euthanasia. The series of talks will be held via Zoom over three Monday nights starting 2 August at 7.30pm. All are welcome to attend. Information and registration can be found at [parracatholic.org/euthanasiatalks/](http://parracatholic.org/euthanasiatalks/)

**HEMELGROUND—Online Weeknight Diocesan gatherings** While in lockdown, you're invited to 'HOME Ground'. Online every weeknight for the next four weeks, join us for chat, music, prayer, hot topics and most of all – fun and connection. See the free line-up at [parracatholic.org/homeground](http://parracatholic.org/homeground) The Diocese of Parramatta's Mission Enhancement Team look forward to seeing you on HOME Ground soon.  
MET@PARRACATHOLIC.ORG



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