



Image by Sr Dorothy Woodward rsj

# Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop Parish, Warnervale.

*We gather as a community of believers in Jesus,  
to grow as his disciples,  
using our gifts, to proclaim the Gospel*

## THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD 1ST JUNE 2025, YEAR C

**Readings:** Acts 1:1-11  
Eph 1:17-23, Lk 24:46-53

### Response:

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:  
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Go and teach all people my gospel.

I am with you always, until the end of the world.

**Alleluia, alleluia!**



Today's feast of the Ascension reminds us of our deepest spiritual quest—our longing for union with God. Like the ancient story of the Holy Grail, our search can lead us down many paths, sometimes in the wrong direction. The Gospel tells us Jesus was "carried up into heaven," yet his followers rejoiced, sensing his presence in a new and deeper way.

The Ascension is not about Jesus leaving us, but about his presence moving inward—into our hearts and lives. As Thomas Merton once said, this is the feast of silence and solitude—where we meet God not in the clouds, but in the stillness within.

In a noisy world, even a few minutes of daily silence can open our hearts to the God who is always near. This is the grace of Ascension: to be lifted into the quiet place where God dwells within.

### Sacrament of Confirmation

The Sacrament of Confirmation is for children who have been baptised Catholic and are in year 3 or older in school).

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on **Thursday, 31 July, at 6:30 pm.**

A parent information night will be held on Thursday, 19th June, at 7:00 pm in the Church, with classes beginning on **Sunday, 22nd June, during the 10:00 am Mass** for 4 weeks.

We are looking for volunteer teachers and assistants to help prepare children for the sacraments. No experience is needed—all resources and support are provided. If you have a heart for sharing your faith and guiding young hearts closer to God, we'd love to have you join us.

Please contact the parish office to learn more about this rewarding opportunity!

### Project Compassion Thank you



**THANK YOU**

Thank you for your generosity our Parish raised **3,840.45** for Caritas.

**Diocese of Broken Bay**  
Ancestral home of the  
Darkinjung people

### Sunday Mass

Sat (Vigil) 5pm,  
Sun 8am, 10am, 5pm

### Family Mass

Every Sunday at 10am  
Includes Children's Liturgy

### Weekday Mass

Mon 7:30am  
Tues, Thurs, Fri & Sat  
9.15am  
Wednesday 8:45am

### Monthly BBQ

4th Sunday of each month  
after 5pm Mass

### Devotions

Rosary after weekday Mass  
Tues 6pm Rosary

**St Joseph's Men's Group**  
2nd & 4th Wednesday at 7pm

### Anointing Mass

3rd Saturday of the Month  
at 9:15am

### Reconciliation

Sat 4pm - 4.45 pm

### Baptisms

Sunday 11.30am Contact the  
Parish Office for details.

### Baptisms Preparation

3rd Tuesday of each month at  
7pm in the church

### Weddings

By appointment

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Tues to Sat/ 8am to 9am

### Parish Luncheon

2nd Thursday of the month  
12noon at The Ary (Ziva),  
Main Rd, Toukley

### Men's & Women's Breakfast

4th Saturday of the month at  
8am at Warnies Café.

### Syro-Malabar Mass

1st Friday at 6pm  
1st & 3rd Sunday at 7pm

**Parish Priest:** Fr Philip Thottam MSFS (philip.thottam@bbcatholic.org.au)

**Assistant Priest:** Fr Joshi Nadupppura CFIC (joshi.nadupppura@bbcatholic.org.au)

**Secretary:** Kim McCarthy

**Church:** Cnr Minnesota & Sparks Rd, Woongarra

**Telephone:** 8379 1740

**Office email:** warnervaleparish@bbcatholic.org.au

**Office hours:** Tues—Fri 8:30am—3:00pm

**Parent Engagement Co-ordinator:** Lucy Marien Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (lucy.marien@dbb.catholic.edu.au)

### Safeguarding:

**When safeguarding is embedded in Parish leadership, governance and culture; members of the Parish recognise that it is a shared responsibility to safeguard children, young people and adults at risk.**

'Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility'

If you have any concerns please contact our Safeguarding officer - Bill Mifsud ([bill@earthgold.com.au](mailto:bill@earthgold.com.au)) 0412 051 839

One Communion of Faith with MacKillop Catholic College

## Jubilee Year—Pilgrimage

### SHRINE FOR PRIESTS AND VOCATIONS

JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE  
2025

6 RAGLAN ST, MANLY 2095 9977 5822

We will journey on **Saturday, 14th June**, with a visit to **Manly Parish** and the Shrine of St John Vianney where we will also have Mass with Fr Sam French and Seminarian Alfred Soliman.

All participants are asked to meet in the parish carpark at 8:15am for an 8:30am departure.

Fr Philip has arranged a bus to travel down to Manly. There are 20 seats available, so please ensure you write your name (one name per line) on the sign-up sheet that is available at the back of the Church.

We warmly invite you to join us for this special opportunity for prayer, fellowship, and spiritual renewal.

### Reflection Day Time to Rejuvenate

Take a day to refresh your body, mind, and spirit with gentle movement, walking meditation, vision boarding, and storytelling. Leave renewed with energy and hope.

**When:** Sunday, 15 June 2025

**Time:** 10am–4pm

**Where:** Mary MacKillop Spirituality Centre, 8 Humphreys Rd, Kincumber South

**Facilitator:** Vicki Hancock

**Cost:** \$180 (no GST) | \$198 (incl. GST) – includes morning tea & lunch

**Bookings essential:** (02) 4368 2805

[reception.sjr@sosjspirit.org.au](mailto:reception.sjr@sosjspirit.org.au)

[www.mmsm.org.au](http://www.mmsm.org.au)

### Salesian Thought

*Generous devotion does not wish to have companions in all that it does, but only in its aim, which is the glory of God and the advancement of our neighbor in divine love.*

(Spiritual Conferences, 1)

### Rosary Prayer Group



Come pray with us for our families, the parish and the world, every **Tuesday at 6pm in the Church**.

Prayer meetings for the month of **June** will be on **Thursday 19th** at 7pm at the home of Bill and Dianne at 56 Irving Court, Hamlyn Terrace. For more information, you may contact Dianne on 0413 454 547. All are welcome to come.



Children's Liturgy runs every **Sunday during the 10am Mass**. This wonderful program offers children the opportunity to engage with the Word of God in a manner that is accessible and meaningful to them. Through age-appropriate teachings, activities, and discussions, children can better understand and appreciate the scriptures.

We are always looking for volunteers to join this rewarding ministry. If you are interested in helping to break open the word for the children of our parish, we would love to hear from you. Please call the parish office for more information.

### SAINTS DAYS

**Monday 2 June**

**Tuesday 3 June**  
Charles Lwanga

**Wednesday 4 June**

**Thursday 5 June**  
St Boniface

**Friday 6 June**

**Saturday 7 June**

**Sunday 8 June**  
Pentecost Sunday

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### Return and Earn

This week we raised: \$



Thank you to everyone who continually supports our Return and Earn fundraising project and commitment to sustainability and environmental responsibility for our community.

#### Please remember:

- ♦ containers need to be empty of all liquid;
- ♦ not crushed or broken;
- ♦ labels must be on the containers;
- ♦ cans and bottles must have 10c re-fund logo.
- ♦ Please place glass bottles in crates

**Thank you for your continued support!**

### Find us on Facebook

Keep up with parish happenings on Facebook at [St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Parish, Warnervale](https://www.facebook.com/StMaryoftheCrossMacKillopParish), please "like" our page.

### Tuggerah Sports & Spinal Physiotherapy

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**Please remember our sick:** Ronald (Royce) Wright, Adam Death, Pili Menardo Leal, Judy White, Cecelia Henry, Joset Gatt, Magdalena Santos, Sheila Marquez, Charity M. Macapagal.

**Anniversaries:** Fr Tony Reynolds, Charles Firmstone, Emilio Nacua Sr, Geof Bull, Angelija & Adam Laukait, Connie & George Drover, Mavis & Lance Davie, Kilduff family, Sr Fran Nolan Sgs, Alejandro Mabaquiao Jr, Jimmy Alcoid, Deacon Jim Caulfield, Michael Bourke, John Luamann, Glenn Arnold, Maureen Fenner.

**Recently Deceased:** Finn McConnon, Jacqueline Thomas, James Mahony, Pope Francis, Ada Smith.



# The Ascension of the Lord, Year C

## First Reading

### Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11

**Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven.**

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.' As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

The word of the Lord.

## Responsorial Psalm

**God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:  
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.**

All peoples, clap your hands,  
cry to God with shouts of joy!  
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,  
great king over all the earth. **R**

God goes up with shouts of joy;  
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.  
Sing praise for God, sing praise,  
sing praise to our king, sing praise. **R**

God is king of all earth.  
Sing praise with all your skill.  
God is king over the nations;  
God reigns on his holy throne. **R**



# The Ascension of the Lord, Year C

## Second Reading

Letter of St Paul to the Ephesians 1:17-23

**He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.**

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

The word of the Lord.

## Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Go and teach all people my gospel.

I am with you always, until the end of the world.

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

## Gospel

Luke 24:46-53

**While blessing them, he was taken to heaven.**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.

'And now I am sending down to you what the Father has promised. Stay in the city then, until you are clothed with the power from on high.' Then he took them out as far as the outskirts of Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. Now as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and was carried up to heaven. They worshipped him and then went back to Jerusalem full of joy; and they were continually in the Temple praising God.

The Gospel of the Lord.