



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

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT 10TH DECEMBER 2023, YEAR B

Diocese of Broken Bay
Ancestral home of the
Darkinjung people

Readings: Is40:1-5, 9-11
2Pet 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

Response:

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!



Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve

Children's Mass 5pm
(in the school hall)
Youth Mass 8pm
Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

Mass 8am
Mass 10am



NO EVENING MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY

Second Rite of Reconciliation



The second (communal) rite of Reconciliation will be celebrated on: **Thursday 21 December at 6:30pm.**

First rite of Reconciliation available every Saturday from 4pm to 4:45pm

Cleaning Bee and Decorating the Church for Christmas

Parishioners are invited to help with the cleaning bee and decorating of the Church in preparation for Christmas. This will be held on Saturday 16th December from 10:30am to approximately 12:30pm.

Special Annual Collection for Missionaries of St Francis De Sales (MSFS)



Next weekend (16/17 December), we will be having a special annual collection for the Missionaries of St Francis De Sales (MSFS). All money collected will go towards the formation of the seminarians to support of the congregation to which Fr Philip belongs. The collection has been approved and endorsed by the Dioceses. Envelopes will be available at the back of the Church and at the end of each pews. Envelopes can be put in any collection or placed in the donation box outside the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

Farwell Mrs Ferguson and Mr Cohen

Parishioners are invited to attend a Mass on Sunday 17th December at 10am to farewell Mrs Debra Ferguson, High School Principle and Mr Frank Cohen, Primary Principle.

Sunday Mass

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

Family Mass

Every Sunday at 10am
Includes Children's Liturgy

Weekday Mass

Mon—Communion Service
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 Wallarah Bay Club

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

Priest: Fr Philip Thottam MSFS, Administrator (philip.thottam@bbcatholic.org.au)

Secretary: Kim McCarthy **Bookkeeper:** Johnson Mani

Church: Cnr Minnesota & Sparks Rd, Woongarrah **Mail:** PO Box 4367, Lake Haven, 2263

Telephone: 8379 1740 **Parish Mobile:** (out of hours) 0423 279 263

Office email: warnervaleparish@bbcatholic.org.au **Web:** www.bbcatholic.org.au/warnervale

Office hours: Tues—Fri 8:30am—3:00pm

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) 0412 051 839

St Vincent de Paul Appeal



This year we are accepting monetary donations or gift vouchers to help the needy in our community. There will be envelopes available at Masses over the weekend. Donations and envelopes can be placed in the Vinnies Box outside the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, all donations over \$2 are tax deductible. Donations can also be made online at <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/christmas-kindness>

Beautiful Vinnies Christmas Cards will be available in the breezeway.

Communion to those who are Housebound in our parish



Fr Philip will be visiting the homes of those who are unable to join us in person to give them communion during advent season. If you or someone you know would like to receive communion at home, please contact the parish office on 8379 1740 or email warnervaleparish@bbcatholic.org.au to arrange a visit.

Salesian Thought

Desire to grow well, so that you may serve Him, but do not refuse to continue sick, that you may obey Him, and dispose yourself for death, if it be His pleasure, that you may praise Him.

(Introduction to the Devout Life, Part III, Chapter 3)

Find us on Facebook

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

Catechist Corner



I would like to thank our wonderful catechists and their assistants: **Br Shayne, Maureen Mulheron, Lorette Kelty, Paul Kelly, Christine**

Sassine, Jason Vassallo, Amelia Wyn, Jiby Linto and Michael Tebbutt.

I would also like to thank Fr Philip, Kim McCarthy, Michael Tebbutt our Regional Coordinator, and all the wonderful CCD staff for their kind support and help throughout the year.

Well, another successful and rewarding year for our catechists ministry (SRE) in our public schools with 5 new recruits, all classes with a teacher which was achieved with the help of Michael Tebbutt and a couple of teachers taking more than one class and last but not least 3 successful Christmas Assemblies.

Many children heard stories from the Bible and how God cares for them and our world.

Our school year has now concluded and we look forward to the 2024 school year.

If you would like to join us next year please contact me.

A blessed and Happy Christmas to you all.

Kerrie Dedera, Catechists Coordinator
Kerrie.dedera@bbcatholic.org.au or 0402815633

The Voluntary Assisted Dying Act 2022

The Voluntary Assisted Dying Act 2022, came into effect in NSW on 28 November 2023. Bishop Anthony Randazzo and the Diocese has produced a booklet, an *Interim Pastoral Guideline on Voluntary Assisted Dying*, which includes a full explanation of the Voluntary Dying Act as well as the Catholic Response.

This document is titled *To Witness and to Accompany with Christian Hope*.

Both booklets are available on the Diocese website as a flipbook and can also be downloaded at this link

<https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/news/latest-news/euthanasia-now-legal-in-nsw>

SAINTS DAYS

Monday 11 December
St Damasus

Tuesday 12 December
Our Lady of Guadalupe

Wednesday 13 December
St Lucy

Thursday 14 December
St John of the Cross

Friday 15 December

Saturday 16 December

Return and Earn

This week we raised \$71.70



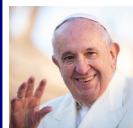
Thank you to all the parishioners who continually support our Return and Earn fundraising project.

Just a few reminders as we come into the BBQ and socialising weather.

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 refund logo.

Thank you for your continued support!



Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for DECEMBER

For persons with disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programmes with value their active participation.



PREPAID FUNERAL PLANS AVAILABLE

- ✓ Lock in the price today
- ✓ Document your wishes

24/7 care line **4324 1533**

creightonsfuneralservice.com.au

Please remember our sick: Joel Diaz, Finn McConnon, Betty Scicluna, Robyn Donnelly, Helen Cohen, Lucy Hardman, Bill McGuinness, Len Carlos, Caterina Allen.

Anniversaries: Peter Larkin, Alice Joseph, Venancio Villalba, Frank Costa, Abraham K, Bill Rogers, C.V Vincent, Kathleen Nolan, Christine Burns, Baker Travers, Jill and Bob Mulheron.

Recently Deceased: Jim Speight, Alf James, Jason Davis, John O'Reilly, Ronnie O'Loughlan.



Second Sunday of Advent, Year B

First Reading

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Prepare the way for the Lord.

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it
'Console my people, console them'
says your God.

'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her
that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for,
that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.'

A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord.

Make a straight highway for our God across the desert.

Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low.

Let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley;

then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it;
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion.

Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem.

Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah,

'Here is your God.'

Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him.

The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him.

He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms,

holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

R. Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace,
peace for his people.

His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land. **R.**

Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven. **R.**

The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps. **R.**

Second Sunday in Advent, Year B

Second Reading

Second Letter of St Peter 3:8-14

We wait for new heavens and a new earth.

We are waiting for the new heavens and the new earth

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, 'a day' can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up.

Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 1:1-8

Make straight the paths of the Lord.

A voice cries in the wilderness: prepare a way for the Lord

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah:

Look, I am going to send my messenger before you;
he will prepare your way.

A voice cries in the wilderness:

Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.

and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

The Gospel of the Lord.