



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*

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 10TH MAY 2026, YEAR A

Readings: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17
1 Pet 3:15-18; Jn 14:15-21

Response:

Let all the earth cry out to
God with joy

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will
come to them.

Alleluia!

HAPPY MOTHERS DAY!!



As we celebrate Mother's Day, we pray for the guidance of Mary, Mother of all believers. Let us reflect on the way we have related to our mothers (living and deceased) and to all the special woman in our lives.

We acknowledge and pray for all the mothers and special women of our Parish. We pray that throughout the world, all woman will be treated with dignity and respect, and that everywhere motherhood and family life will be valued and protected.

Understand the Church Evolution & Development of Church Buildings

The church building is more than just four walls and a steeple; it is a physical manifestation of theology, community, and history. While the "Church" (with a capital C) refers to the body of believers, the "church building" has evolved over two millennia to serve as a sacred space for liturgy and gathering (continuation from last week's bulletin)

The Layout

Cruciform Shape: Many traditional churches (especially Gothic and Romanesque) are built in the shape of a cross.

Orientation: Historically, churches were

"east-facing." The altar was placed at the east end so the congregation would face the rising sun—a symbol of the Resurrected Christ.

3. Evolution of Style

The way we build churches has shifted based on the theological emphasis of the era:

Romanesque (10th–12th C): Thick walls and small windows; felt like a fortress or a "citadel of God."

Gothic (12th–16th C): Pointed arches and flying buttresses allowed for massive stained-glass windows. The goal was light (lux nova) and verticality to draw the eye upward.

Reformation/Modern: Many Protestant traditions moved away from ornate "sacred" spaces toward "meeting houses." The focus shifted from the Altar to the Pulpit (the Word of God). Modern designs often emphasize community and transparency over mystery and ritual.

4. The Core Meaning

Ultimately, the church building serves three primary functions:

Liturgical: A "sacred place for worship" designed around the Eucharist or the preaching of the Word.

Communal: A "Home for the Family of God."

Iconographic: A "Sermon in Stone," where even the windows and floor plan teach the theology of the faith to those who enter.

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 Naduppura CFIC (joshi.naduppura@bbcatholic.org.au)

Secretary: Kim McCarthy

Church: Cnr Minnesota & Sparks Rd, Woongarrah

Telephone: 8379 1740

Office email: warnervaleparish@bbcatholic.org.au

Office hours: Tues—Fri 8:30am—3:00pm

Bank Details: Account Name: St Mary MacKillop Parish, Account # 10000 5628, BSB: 062-784

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) 0412 051 839

Pastoral Works, Broken Bay (PWBB) Appeal



This weekend, we will hold our final Pastoral Works Broken Bay Appeal for the financial year. Envelopes will be available in the pews and with the parish bulletin.

The Appeal supports essential ministries that bring Christ's love to those in need and help share the faith within our community. These include the **Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD)**, where over 700 volunteer catechists teach more than 12,000 Catholic students in public schools, and the **Hospital Chaplaincy & Pastoral Care Program**, which offers spiritual care, prayer, and Holy Communion to patients and families in local hospitals.

Funds also support **St Lucy's School, St Edmund's College, and the Ephpheta Centre.**

Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

Thank you for your generous support of this important work.

Salesian Thought

If you have the gift for mental prayer, always reserve for that the principal place above private vocal prayers.

(Introduction to the Devout Life, Part II, Chapter 1)



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Rosary Prayer Group



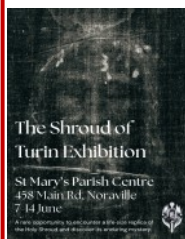
Come pray with us for our families, the parish and the world, every **Tuesday at 6pm in the Church.**

May 2026: The prayer meetings will be held on **Thursday 14th and 28th May at 7:00pm**, at the home of **Bill and Dianne**, 56 Irving Court, Hamlyn Terrace. For further information, please contact Dianne on 0413 454 547. All are most welcome to attend.



Due to the availability of our Children's Liturgy volunteers, Children's Liturgy will only be held during the 10.00am Mass on Sunday 24th May for this month.

Holy Shroud Exhibition



From 7-14 June, St Mary's Church, Toukley will host a full-sized replica of the Shroud of Turin, together with replicas of the instruments of the Passion, presented by Aid to the Church in Need.

A highlight of the week will be a presentation by Shroud expert Francine Pirola, *Decoding the Shroud*, on Monday 8 June (King's Birthday public holiday) from 3:00-5:00pm. Tickets are \$5 to cover costs, with registration available at <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1574638>.

For further information, please visit www.thatcatholicshop.com/holyshroud.



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SAINTS DAYS

- Monday 11 May
- Tuesday 12 May
- Wednesday 13 May
- Our Lady of Fatima**
- Thursday 14 May
- St Matthias**
- Friday 15 May
- Saturday 16 May
- Sunday 17 May

The Ascension of the Lord

Return and Earn

This week we raised \$43.60



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;
- ♦ No wine bottles or spirit bottles.
- ♦ Please place glass bottles in crates

Thank you for your continued support!

MacKillop Online Newsletter



Please scan the QR code to subscribe to our weekly email *MacKillop Online* newsletter, sent each Friday.

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.

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Please remember our sick: Vincent Abela, Corazon Armonio, Julie Granero, Mary Swift, Alan Smith, Anne Levett, Ivan Dzido, Barry Bateson, Chiara Wallace, Jo O'Loughlin, Cecelia Henry, Joset Gatt, Sheila Marquez.

Anniversaries: Dinoi Scania, Cecil Robert, Peter Whallan, Anne Firmstone, Rick Walters, Violet Gove, Corazon Armonio, Conchita, Mary & Angelo Spiteri, Neville & Zlatka Pikulich.

Recently Deceased: Roslyn Smith, Antonio (Tony) Macapagal, Angela Polito, Fr David Taylor, Emmanuel De Battista, Pamela Jennings, Adolphe Parfait, Lynette Desforges.



MacKillop Formation Retreat Day Sunday 24 May 2026

All parishioners are warmly invited to a day of prayer, reflection, and community at the MacKillop Formation Retreat on Sunday 24 May, beginning at 11.30am in the Library Foyer with registration and morning tea.

The retreat will include a keynote address by Mr. Martin Scroope, "*Pentecost – Work of the Spirit in our Lives,*" reflecting on how the Holy Spirit continues to guide, strengthen, and renew us in our everyday faith journey.

Throughout the afternoon, participants are invited to choose from a range of engaging workshops designed to deepen prayer, inspire creativity, and strengthen parish life.

Options include

- Music Ministry,
- The Examen
- The Spirit of Julian Tenison-Woods,
- Colours of Pentecost
- Expression of Faith
- Adoration and Rosary.
- Mindful Movement activity for students.

The retreat will conclude at 4.00pm, followed by a Youth Mass at 5.00pm in the Church. A Community BBQ will then be held at 6.00pm, with all parishioners warmly welcome to attend.

This promises to be a grace-filled day of formation, reflection, creativity, and fellowship as we prepare our hearts for the celebration of Pentecost.

RSVP: Please sign the sheet at the back of the Church, indicating your workshop preferences or contact the parish office at warnervaleparish@bbcatholic.org.au

Program Overview

11.30am – 12.00pm

Arrival, Morning Tea, Welcome & Icebreaker

12.00pm – 1.00pm

Keynote: *Pentecost – Work of the Spirit in our Lives*

1.00pm – 1:55pm

Lunch

2.00pm – 3.00pm

Workshop Sessions (choice of activities from list above)

3.00pm – 4.00pm

Workshop Sessions (choice of activities from list above)

4.00pm

Retreat Conclusion & Feedback

5.00pm – 6.00pm

Youth Mass

6.00pm

Community BBQ



Mass of Thanksgiving

Mass will be followed by a farewell supper for the Archbishop.



with **Most Rev Anthony Randazzo**
Prefect, Dicastery for Legislative Texts
Apostolic Administrator Diocese of Broken Bay

The Mass of Thanksgiving

You are all welcome to the 40th Anniversary Mass of Thanksgiving for the Diocese of Broken Bay on Thursday 28 May 2026 at The Light of Christ Centre, end of Yardley Ave, Waitara at 7.00pm.

The Mass will be followed by a farewell supper for Archbishop Anthony.

If you would like to attend, please scan the QR code and register yourself and any accompanying guests.



Sixth Sunday of Easter, Year A

First Reading:

Acts of the Apostles 8:5-8, 14-17

They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.
The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

R. Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Cry out with joy to God all the earth,
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise.
Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds! **R.**

'Before you all the earth shall bow;
shall sing to you, sing to your name!'
Come and see the works of God,
tremendous his deeds among me **R.**

He turned the sea into dry land,
they passed through the river dry-shod.
Let our joy then be in him;
he rules for ever by his might. **R.**

Come and hear, all who fear God.
I will tell what he did for my soul:
Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer
nor withhold his love from me. **R**

Sixth Sunday of Easter, Year A

Second Reading

First letter of St Peter 3:15-18

In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.
The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

Gospel Reading

John 14:15-21

I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate.

Jesus said to his disciples:
'If you love me you will keep my commandments.
I shall ask the Father,
and he will give you another Advocate
to be with you for ever,
that Spirit of truth
whom the world can never receive
since it neither sees nor knows him;
but you know him,
because he is with you, he is in you.
I will not leave your orphans;
I will come back to you.
In a short time the world will no longer see me;
but you will see me,
because I live and you will live.
On that day
you will understand that I am in my Father
and you in me and I in you.
Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them
will be one who loves me;
and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father,
and I shall love him and show myself to him.'
The Gospel of the Lord.