



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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT 15TH MARCH 2026, YEAR A

Readings: 1 Sam 16:1, 6-7, 10-13
Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41

Response:

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life. **Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!**

Planned Giving Envelopes

Parishioners are invited to collect their new Planned Giving envelopes from the back of the Church. Thank you for your continued generosity and support of our parish. Donations can also be made online via our parish website. Alternatively, you may complete a *First Fruits* envelope and place it on any collection plate or hand it to Fr Philip. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and helps support the life and mission of our parish community.

Palms & Working Bee Holy Week

If any parishioners have palms to donate towards Palm Sunday we will be having a working bee and preparing the church on **Saturday 28th March from 10am**. We would like the palms delivered to the church by 10am on the Saturday. We need long and small palms.

If you can spare an hour to help please put your name on the list at the back of the Church (please bring your secateurs).

Good Friday—Way of the Cross

On Good Friday (3 April 2026) at 10:00am, our parish community will gather to pray the **Way of the Cross**, with the Stations of the Cross held around the outside of the Church. We are seeking families or individuals to assist by preparing and leading one station each. If you are able to help, please add your name to the sign-up sheet at the back of the Church.

24 hours of Adoration and Reconciliation



Commencing on **Wednesday 25th March 2026**, our parish will hold **24 hours of Adoration and Reconciliation**, starting after the morning Mass and concluding with the **9:15am Mass on**

Thursday 26th March. To help ensure continuous participation, please sign up on the form at the back of the Church to indicate the time you will be attending.

We invite everyone to take part in this time of prayer and reflection.

Holy Week Timetable

Holy Thursday (2 April): 7.30pm

Good Friday (3 April)

- Stations of the Cross 10am
- Passion of the Lord 3pm

Holy Saturday (4 April): 7.30pm

Easter Sunday (5 April)

8am, 10am & 5pm

Please Note: there is no 5pm Mass on Holy Saturday (4th April). There will be no 9:15am Mass on Holy Thursday or Good Friday.



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

Chrism Mass 2026

The **Chrism Mass** will be celebrated at **7.30pm on Tuesday 31st March 2026** at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara. 23 Yardley Ave, Waitara

Priests and Deacons of the Diocese of Broken Bay gather for this celebration with Bishop Anthony Randazzo to renew their commitments.

During Mass, the Oils of Catechumens and the Sick are blessed, and the Chrism is consecrated and brought back to each parish for use in various Sacramental liturgies throughout the year. Everyone is warmly invited to attend.

Rosary Prayer Group



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

March 2026: The prayer meetings will be held on **Thursday 26th March 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.

First Holy Communion Dresses / Outfits

With the Sacrament of First Holy Communion being celebrated on 26 April 2026, we are pleased to share *Mary's Faithful Wardrobe* with our parish community. This beautiful collection of sacramental garments is available for families to borrow for their child's special day.

If you require a garment, please contact Lucy Marien lucy.marien@dbb.catholic.edu.au, or the Parish Office.



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Salesian Thought

"Forgiveness is the flower and love; it springs from the heart and frees the soul, for he who forgives imitates God and partakes of His divine mercy"
(Introduction to the Devout Life, Part III)

MacKillop Fun Fest Fair Saturday, 21st March

Our Parish will be hosting a stall selling cakes, slices, biscuits, jams, knitted goods, bric-a-brac and 100s Club. If you can contribute baked goods, crafts or items, please contact **Barbara Cardwell on 0412 506 520**. Come along 10am–3pm for a fun day to support our Parish and school community

Central Coast Santa Maria Mothers Day Lunch

The **Central Coast Santa Maria Committee** warmly invites you to celebrate **Mother's Day 2026** with a special **luncheon!**

Date: Sunday, 3rd May 2026
Venue: Toukley Golf Club, Key St, Toukley
Time: 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Cost: \$45 per person

Enjoy a **delicious 2-course meal** served to your table, featuring: Chicken breast supreme stuffed with feta and spinach, or Grilled Barramundi, potato galette and roasted cherry tomatoes and Fresh bread roll
Tea, coffee & dessert
Live entertainment to make the day extra special!

Bookings & Payment Due by 16th April 2026.

For tickets, please contact:

- **Charlie:** 0404 194 020
- **Rita Dimech:** 0448 742 591
- **Dianne Mifsud:** 0413 454 547
- **Connie & Charlie Tanti:** 4396 3704

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Email: admin@centreofcare.com.au
Phone: 9188 9448 or 0494 169 308

SAINTS DAYS

Monday 16 March
Tuesday 17 March
St Patrick
Wednesday 18 March
Thursday 19 March
St Joseph
Friday 20 March
Saturday 21 March

Return and Earn

This week we raised 63.90

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: Corazon Armonio, Conchita, Mary & Angelo Spiteri, Neville & Zlatka Pikulich, Sue & Dick Charleston, Lisa Jackos, Anita Delos Reyes, Richard Van Doorum.

Recently Deceased: Varghese Anthony, Pamela Jennings, Adolphe Parfait, Lynette Desforges, Jane (Giovanna) Bugeja, Bebang Miro, Belen Roco, Calogero Jerry Picilli, V.C Mani, Bayne Geikie.



MACKILLOP
Catholic College
WARNERVALE

SAT 21 MARCH

Mackillop Fun Fest

**Community Fair
10 am – 3 pm**



**Food Trucks, Market Stalls,
Rides, Games, and Performers!**

91 Sparks Road Warnervale

Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year A

First Reading

Book of Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13

In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel.

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.

Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.

Near restful waters he leads me,

to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.

If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.

You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort **R.**

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.

My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **R.**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. **R.**

Second Reading

Letter of St Paul to the Ephesians 5:8-14

Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light.

That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep,

rise from the dead,

and Christ will shine on you.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;

whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year A

Gospel

John 9:1-41

The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, for him to have been born blind?' 'Neither he nor his parents sinned,' Jesus answered, 'he was born blind so that the works of God might be displayed in him.

'As long as the day lasts

I must carry out the work of the one who sent me;
the night will soon be here when no one can work.

As long as I am in the world

I am the light of the world.'

Having said this, he spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.' So they said to him, 'Then how do your eyes come to be open?' 'The man called Jesus' he answered 'made a paste, daubed my eyes with it and said to me, "Go and wash at Siloam"; so I went, and when I washed I could see.' They asked, 'Where is he?' 'I don't know' he answered.

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

However, the Jews would not believe that the man had been blind and had gained his sight, without first sending for his parents and asking them, 'Is this man really your son who you say was born blind? If so, how is it that he is now able to see?' His parents answered, 'We know he is our son and we know he was born blind, but we don't know how it is that he can see now, or who opened his eyes. He is old enough: let him speak for himself.' His parents spoke like this out of fear of the Jews, who had already agreed to expel from the synagogue anyone who should acknowledge Jesus as the Christ. This was why his parents said, 'He is old enough; ask him.'

So the Jews again sent for the man and said to him, 'Give glory to God! For our part, we know that this man is a sinner.' The man answered, 'I don't know if he is a sinner; I only know that I was blind and now I can see.' They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' He replied, 'I have told you once and you wouldn't listen. Why do you want to hear it all again? Do you want to become his disciples too?' At this they hurled abuse at him: 'You can be his disciple,' they said 'we are disciples of Moses: we know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this man, we don't know where he comes from.' The man replied, 'Now here is an astonishing thing! He has opened my eyes, and you don't know where he comes from! We know that God doesn't listen to sinners, but God does listen to men who are devout and do his will. Ever since the world began it is unheard of for anyone to open the eyes of a man who was born blind; if this man were not from God, he couldn't do a thing.' 'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

Jesus said:

'It is for judgement
that I have come into this world,
so that those without sight may see
and those with sight turn blind.'

Hearing this, some Pharisees who were present said to him, 'We are not blind, surely?' Jesus replied:
'Blind? If you were, you would not be guilty,
but since you say, "We see",
your guilt remains.'

The Gospel of the Lord.