



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 21 MAY 2023, YEAR A

Diocese of Broken Bay  
Ancestral home of the  
Darkinjung people

**Readings:** Acts 1:1-11;  
Eph 1:17-23; Mt 28:16-20

**Response:**

God mounts this 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!**



‘I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS.’ When Christ ascended into heaven he did not abandon his disciples. Matthew’s Gospel begins with the angel’s words that Jesus will be called Emmanuel, which means God-is-with-us, and it ends with Jesus’ promise: ‘Know that I am with you always, yes, to the end of time.’ In a special way Emmanuel is with us in his Eucharist for ‘where two or three are gathered in my name, I shall be there with them.’

### Confirmation Classes



Preparation classes start next Sunday 28th May at 10am Mass and continue for the next 4 weeks—4th June, (no classes 11th June, long weekend) 18th June and 25th

June. Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on Saturday 1st July at 9am and 11am with Bishop Anthony Randazzo.

If you would like to volunteer to help prepare the children, please contact the parish office.

### Next Weekend—28 May

Next weekend 28th May is Pentecost Sunday. Pentecost occurs on the fiftieth day after Easter and brings the Easter season to an end. It is represented by the colour red, to signify the presence of the Holy Spirit in our community and our unity in Christ. Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful. It would be lovely to see people wearing something red to mass next weekend

### Monthly Youth Mass & BBQ

Next Sunday (28th May) is the monthly parish/school Youth Mass at 5pm. After Mass the parish will have a sausage sizzle for everyone to enjoy, and the youth leaders will run some games to enjoy. Everyone is welcome to come along. If any parishioners would like to volunteer to cook the sausages please contact the parish office.

### Project Compassion—Caritas

Our parish made a combined donation of \$2,579.55 to Project Compassion this year. Thank you to everyone who donated to Well done!

### Annual May Mass Count

During the month of May we will count the number of people attending Saturday and Sunday Masses. This has been done throughout the Diocese and provides us with important information for allocation of resources and planning for the future.

### 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 9.15am  
Wednesday 8:45am  
**1st & 3rd Sat 9:15am**

### Monthly BBQ

4th Sunday of each month  
after 5pm Mass

### Devotions

Rosary after weekday Mass  
Tues 6pm Rosary

### Anointing Mass

3rd Saturday of the Month  
at 9:15am

### Reconciliation

Sat 4 - 4.30 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 Fri 8am to 9am

### Parish Luncheon

2nd Thursday of the month  
12noon at Wallarah Bay Club

### Men’s Breakfast

4th Saturday of the month at  
Warnies Café.

### Syro-Malabar Mass

1st Friday at 6pm  
1st & 3rd Sunday at 7pm  
2nd and 4th Saturday 9.15am

**Priest:** Fr Philip Thottam MSFS, Administrator ([philip.thottam@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto: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](mailto:warnervaleparish@bbcatholic.org.au)

**Web:** [www.bbcatholic.org.au/warnervale](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/warnervale)

**Office hours:** Tues—Fri 8:30am—2:30pm

**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

## New Ministry Opportunity - Welcome & Hospitality Team

*Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God - Rom 15:7*

In the wake of Covid and with considerable numbers of new families moving to the area, all are invited to be a part of our new *Welcome and Hospitality Team*. We are hoping to provide warm welcomers at all four Mass times, particularly to reach out to newcomers. Some guidance will be provided and you may volunteer as much or as little as you would like.

For hospitality, we are looking for a couple of people to bring along a plate of morning tea for after each Sunday 10am Mass (this does not need to be onerous - e.g. you are very welcome to simply provide some packets of biscuits).

**Please contact Rita on 0448 742 591 for more information or pop your details on the Expression of Interest form at the back of the church.**

## Rosary Prayer Group

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

The prayer meetings for **May will be on Thursday evenings 25th May at 7pm**, in the home of Bill & Dianne 56 Irving Court, Hamlyn Terrace. Phone 0413 454 547. Everyone is welcome.



## 20th Anniversary of the Parish Celebrations

We are asking parishioners to write suggestions on what they would like to do as an 20th anniversary gift to the parish. There is a **suggestion box** set up in the breezeway where you can write your suggestions and place it in the box. The committee will then meet and collate the ideas.

## Creighton Funeral Services Grief Seminars

Creighton's Funeral Services are holding 2 workshops

1. **Vicarious Trauma and Self-Care Workshop** On Wednesday 7th June at 1pm
2. **Developing Emotional Literacy in Children** on Wednesday 16th August at 5pm.

All seminars will be held at Hillside Chapel, Palmdale Lawn Cemetery, 57 Palmdale Rd, Palmdale. To book your seat please call 1300 130 955. Please see notice board for more information about the seminars.

## Voice to Parliament Webinar Series

Catholic Social Services Victoria and Catholic Social Services Australia are offering a three-part webinar series on this year's Voice to Parliament referendum.

The *Indigenous Voice to Parliament: Moments for healing this country* event will bring together a range of speakers on this important topic. On May 25, Professor Melissa Castan will explore questions including: What is the history surrounding the referendum? Should First Nations people have a Voice in Parliament? Why is it being proposed as an adaption to the Australian Constitution?

The second webinar on June 29 will be given by Fr Frank Brennan SJ, who will look at how the Church has engaged in Aboriginal affairs, and why Catholics should take serious interest in the referendum.

The final session on July 27 will feature three different voices of First Nations peoples who will consider what the Voice means for them, for their communities and for Australia. Details: [www.trybooking.com/CHXKH](http://www.trybooking.com/CHXKH)

## SAINTS DAYS

**Monday 22 May**  
St Rita of Cascia

**Tuesday 23 May**

**Wednesday 24 May**  
Our Lady, Help of Christians

**Thursday 25 May**

**Friday 26 May**  
St Philip Neri

**Saturday 27 May**  
St Augustine of Canterbury

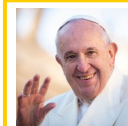
## Return and Earn

**This week we raised \$34.30**



Please remember containers need to be empty of liquid; not crushed or broken. Please place glass containers in the crates. Cans and Bottles must have 10c refund logo.

**Thank you for your continued support!**



## Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for May

**For church movements and groups**  
We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.

## Salesian Thought

*If you reflect and bring your eyes back-ward upon yourself to see how you look when you look upon God, it is not now He that you behold but your own behaviour — yourself.*

*(Treatise on the Love of God, Book 9, Chapter 10)*



## PREPAID FUNERAL PLANS AVAILABLE

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

24/7 care line **4324 1533**

[creightonsfuneralservice.com.au](http://creightonsfuneralservice.com.au)

**Please remember our sick:** Jeff Gill, Finn McConnon, Salvacion Mabaquiao, Martin Duffy, Robert Seddon, Rommell, Toni Grace, Christina Edwards.

**Anniversaries:** Domonic & Josephine Galea, Mary Borg, Josephine Belli, Deacon Jim Caulfield, Richard Murphy, Kathri Chacko, Grahame Lesha, Mary Gatt, Nicholas Gatt, Eileen & Vince Mulheron.

**Recently Deceased:** Bob Egan, David Smith, Lilas Roche (Bishop Walker's sister), Robert Skewes.



# The Ascension of the Lord, Year A

## 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 one 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 of 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 the power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judea 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

**R. 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 the 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 A

## Second Reading

## St Peter 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 infinity is 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 this right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, authority, Power of 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!**

## Gospel

## Matthew 28:16-20

**All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.**

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

The Gospel of the Lord.