



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*

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
26TH JULY 2026, YEAR A

Readings: 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12;
Rom 8:28-30;
Mt 13:44-52

Response:
Lord, I love your commands.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven
and earth, you have revealed to little ones
the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

World day for Grandparents and the Elderly



World Day
for Grandparents
and the Elderly
2026

This Sunday (26th July) we celebrate World day for grandparents and the elderly. Overview of the **Message from Pope Leo XIV**. Reflecting on the words of Isaiah, "I will never forget you" (Is 49:16), Pope Leo XIV reminds us that God's love is constant, especially for those who may feel lonely or forgotten.

He invites us to mark this World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly by visiting grandparents, older family members, neighbours and those who have no one to visit them. Through simple acts of kindness and our presence, we become signs of God's enduring love.

The Holy Father also encourages older people to embrace their vocation as witnesses of faith, hope and peace, reminding them that they remain deeply loved, valued and never forgotten by God.

St Mary MacKillop Feast Day Saturday 8th August

You are warmly invited to join our parish community as we celebrate the Feast of **St Mary of the Cross MacKillop** with a special Mass at **10:00am** in the **School Hall**. Following Mass, everyone is welcome to stay for 'a



cuppa with Mary' shared morning tea.

Please note that **there will be no 9:15am Mass** on Saturday, 8 August.

For catering purposes, we kindly ask that you add your name to the RSVP sheet located at the back of the church if you plan to attend. If you have any questions please call Sr Marea on 0418 267 178 or Judy White on 0428 168 193.

We look forward to celebrating this special occasion with you.

St Mary MacKillop Feast Day Sunday 9th August

*You're Invited to Our Parish Feast
Day Celebration!*

On **Sunday, August 9th**, we warmly invite all parishioners to come together as a community to celebrate the **Feast Day of our patron saint** a joyful and meaningful occasion for our parish and school community.

We'll begin with a **special Mass at 10:00am**, followed by a **bring-a-plate lunch** in the school cola area.

This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with one another, share delicious food, and celebrate the spirit of our community.

Please bring a dish to share and join us in making this a truly memorable day for everyone.

We look forward to celebrating with you!

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

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

One Communion of Faith with MacKillop Catholic College

Catechist News

Farewell to Paul Kelly

Please join us at the **10.00 am Mass on Sunday, 2 August**, as we farewell **Paul Kelly** and thank him for his many years of dedicated service to our parish community.

Paul has been a faithful member of our parish for many years and has served as a valued Special Religious Education (Catechist) teacher in our local public school for the past eight years. We are deeply grateful for his commitment, generosity, and witness to the faith, and we wish him every blessing for the future.

All parishioners are warmly invited to attend the Mass and join us in expressing our heartfelt thanks and best wishes to Paul.

Volunteers Needed

We have recently farewelled three long-serving catechists and are now seeking new volunteers to continue this important ministry in our local public schools.

If you would like to learn more about becoming a catechist or catechist assistant, please speak with **Fr Joshi** or contact the parish office on **8379 1740**. Your support can make a lasting difference in sharing the faith with the next generation.

Rosary Prayer Group



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

AUGUST 2026: The prayer meetings will be held on **Thursday, 6th & 20th August 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 welcome.



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Central Coast Santa Maria Committee invite you to their Santa Maria Lunch

Bookings close **Friday, 31 July 2026**. Be sure to secure your tickets so you don't miss out on this wonderful event.

Venue: Toukley Golf Club

Date: Saturday, 15 August 2026

Time: 12.00 pm – 4.00 pm

Join us for an enjoyable afternoon of delicious food, great company and live entertainment.

Tickets: \$45 per person

For tickets or further information, please contact one of the committee members:

- Charlie Scicluna – 0404 194 020
- Rita – 0448 742 591
- Dianne Mifsud – 0413 454 547
- Ellen Hardcastle – 0423 916 014

Santa Maria Feast Day

The Central Coast Santa Maria Committee warmly invites all parishioners to join us in celebrating the **Feast of Santa Maria on Sunday, August 16th**, in our parish.

The schedule of events is as follows:

- Mass at 3:00 PM
- Procession at 4:00 PM, followed by Benediction
- Fireworks display at 6:00 PM

Please note that there will be NO 5:00 pm Mass on this day.

Salesian Thought

“GOD WILL DO YOUR WORK WITH YOU IF YOU WILL DO HIS WORK WITH HIM.”

St. Francis de Sale.



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

SAINTS DAYS

Monday 27 July

Tuesday 28 July

Wednesday 29 July

St Martha, St Mary and St Lazarus

Thursday 30 July

Friday 31 July

St Ignatius of Loyola

Saturday 1 August

St Alphonsus Liguori

Return and Earn

This week we raised \$41.60



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.



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admin@nestworksagedcare.com.au
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5 Dulmison Ave, Wyong NSW 2259

Please remember our sick: Hetti Damanik, Cesar Raque Martinez, Edgar Ramon Savichez, Vincent Abela, Corazon Armonio, Julie Granero, Mary Swift, Anne Levett, Ivan Dzido, Barry Bateson, Chiara Wallace, Jo O'Loughlin, Cecelia Henry, Joset Gatt, Sheila Marquez.

Anniversaries: Maureen Hassan, Charlie Spiteri, Jolly, Ronald Wright, Eliezer Deganos, Paul Mifsud, Andrew Fenech, Charlie Gatt, Felicidad Silverio Sevilla, Emmanuel Francis.

Recently Deceased: Aubrey Crockers, Manuel Gatt, Joe Refalo, Jenny Paul, Pat Pate, Karen Pearson & Gary, Peter Gill, Elliott Gill, Gina Mathias, Maria Grundy, Roslyn Smith, Angela Polito.





20 July 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

A PASTORAL LETTER TO THE PEOPLE OF GOD IN THE DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY ON RECENT EVENTS IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA

As we embark upon our journey during this period of Diocesan Administration awaiting the appointment of our next Bishop, I write to you mindful of the concerns and questions that many carry regarding events presently unfolding in the life of the Church in Australia.

Over the coming weeks, a number of matters will attract considerable public attention: the commencement in Perth on Tuesday 21 July of a 15-day trial by jury of Bishop Christopher Saunders, formerly of the Diocese of Broome, for multiple historical sexual offence charges; the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) inquiry involving Catholic Schools NSW (CSNSW) commencing in Sydney on Monday 27 July; and the continuing scrutiny of the liability of the Religious Congregation of the Christian Brothers in Australia.

The events to unfold over the coming weeks touch different dimensions of ecclesial life. Some concern questions of personal conduct and accountability; others concern governance and stewardship; still others remind us of the changing face of Religious Life in Australia and the responsibility that must be carried for those who have been wounded by the crime of sexual abuse. Together they may prompt anxiety and confusion, disappointment, sadness, or uncertainty among us.

In particular, the reports of the ICAC Inquiry may have raised some questions about the role of CSNSW in respect to our own diocesan Catholic schools. It is important to note that CSNSW has no governance or operational role in our schools. CSNSW does support the work of Catholic Schools Broken Bay (CSBB) by liaising with the Federal and State governments, particularly in relation to regulatory compliance, and it plays a key role in distributing government funding to CSBB and other Catholic School Systems. Yet, while CSNSW has an important role in promoting and supporting Catholic education, CSNSW does not run, manage, make day-to-day operational decisions, or collect school fees for CSBB schools. The Director of Schools and the Board of Catholic Schools Broken Bay are responsible to the Bishop for the governance and operations of our Parish Primary and our Secondary schools.

At such moments as those we are about to enter, the Word of God offers wisdom and perspective. In the Gospel of this last Sunday, the 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Jesus presented the parable of the wheat and the weeds (Matthew 13:24-43). A field sown with good seed is found also to contain weeds. The servants, disturbed by their presence, seek immediate action.

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Yet the master counsels patience: "Let both of them grow together until the harvest." Jesus' teaching does not excuse wrongdoing, nor does it diminish the seriousness of human failure. Rather, it acknowledges a reality that runs throughout history of salvation: God's work unfolds within a human community marked by both grace and frailty. The Church is holy because Christ is holy. Yet, she is also a pilgrim people whose members continually require repentance, purification, and renewal.

Subsequently, the Gospel invites us to embrace three dispositions. First, we are called to remain committed to truth. We must never fear the truth. Where there are questions to be examined, they should be examined honestly. Where accountability is required, it must be pursued. Where justice is sought, it must be respected. The credibility of our witness to the Gospel depends not upon the absence of human weakness but upon our willingness to walk in the light of truth. Christ himself assures us that the truth sets us free.

Second, we are called to persevere in hope. Public inquiries, court proceedings, and institutional challenges can easily dominate headlines and shape perceptions. Yet they do not tell the whole story of the Church. Every day throughout our Diocese, the Gospel continues to be proclaimed, children continue to be educated in faith, the vulnerable continue to be served, families continue to gather for prayer, and communities continue to celebrate the Eucharist. The quiet and faithful work of God's Kingdom rarely commands public attention, but it remains the deeper reality.

Third, we are called to trust in the providence of God. The parables that follow in Matthew's Gospel speak of the mustard seed and the yeast. Both images remind us that God's Kingdom often advances in ways that are hidden, gradual, and surprising. At times the Church may appear diminished, challenged, or overshadowed by events beyond her control. Yet the Holy Spirit continues to guide the Church as has been the case throughout every age. As Catholics, we do not place our hope in the absence of difficulties. Rather, we place our hope in the promise that God continues to bring forth good even amid challenge, purification, and change.

For this reason, I ask us all to pray in the months ahead for all victims of abuse and injustice, for those involved in judicial and investigative processes, for those entrusted with leadership and governance within the Church, for religious communities facing uncertainty about the future, and for our Diocese during this time.

At this particular moment, our local Church is itself living through a period of waiting. Such times can feel uncertain. We naturally look towards the future and wonder what lies ahead. Yet the Scriptures repeatedly teach us that waiting is not an absence of God's action. Rather, it is often the privileged place where God's purposes quietly unfold. The Gospel's image of the wheat and the weeds reminds us that growth takes time and that God's work is not always immediately apparent. The farmer does not abandon the field because difficulties arise within it. He remains confident in the harvest to come. So, too, must we remain confident in the Lord's fidelity to his Church. Indeed, if we look back over the forty years of our Diocese, we see abundant signs of God's providence. Through changing circumstances, the Holy Spirit has continued to guide and sustain us. New communities have emerged, ministries have flourished, schools and agencies have grown, vocations have been nurtured, and countless people have encountered the love of Christ through the life of our Diocese.

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The same Spirit who has guided us in the past continues to accompany us now. As we await the next chapter in the life of our Diocese, let us resist discouragement and cultivate instead the virtue of Christian hope. Hope is not optimism that circumstances will always be favourable. Hope is the confident trust that God remains at work, even when the path ahead is not yet fully visible. It is the conviction that the Lord, who has begun a good work among us, will bring it to fulfilment.

The harvest of which Jesus speaks belongs ultimately to God. The final word over the Church is not failure, scandal, decline, or uncertainty. The final word belongs to the risen Christ, who continues to gather, purify, and strengthen His people.

Entrusting us all to the maternal care of Mary, Star of the Sea, I assure you of my prayers and ask you to remember me in yours.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

First Reading:

First book of the Kings 3:5, 7-12

You have asked for wisdom.

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

R. Lord, I love your commands.

My part, I have resolved, O Lord,
is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more to me
than silver and gold. **R.**

Let your love be ready to console me
by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come to me and I shall live
for your law is my delight. **R.**

That is why I love your commands
more than finest gold.
That is why I rule my life by your precepts:
I hate false ways. **R.**

Your will is wonderful indeed;
therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light
and teaches the simple. **R.**

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Second Reading

St Paul to the Romans 8:28-30

He predestined us to become true images of his Son.

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory. The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 13:44-52

He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

The Gospel of the Lord.