



**SAINT MARY OF THE CROSS (MARY MACKILLOP) SUNDAY 8TH AUGUST 2021**

***Today, on the 8th of August, we celebrate the feast of St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop, Australia's first Saint. She was canonised by Pope Benedict XVI in St Peter's Square, Rome on Sunday, October 17, 2010.***

***We honour St Mary MacKillop today, who embodied the characteristics that typify the best of the Australian spirit. There is that sense of Mary "going in to bat" for the battlers of life, to give a helping hand to the needy irrespective of colour, culture or creed.***

***Mary had an extraordinary trust in the providence of God, while at the same time, was not one to wait around passively. She was an extraordinary doer.***

***She may have been on the brink of disaster again and again, but mysteriously and marvelously Mary MacKillop never failed.***

***Her trust in God, strange as it may seem to us, and extremely risky as it may have been, never failed her and her sisters.***



We Acknowledge the traditional owners of this land the Awabakal Peoples. And pay our respects to the elders past and present, and any that may be with us today.

**PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM:**

Foundation	Leader	In Office
1. Identity and Community		
2. Worship and Prayer.	Uta France	Mon
3. Formation and Education		
4. Mission and Outreach.		
5. Leadership and Structure.	John France & Juliet Hutchins	Sat & Sun Tues

Email: [morparishplt@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:morparishplt@mn.catholic.org.au)

If you have any concerns or questions you can also talk to any member of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) who are: Mal and Pam Melvey, Kerry Lendon, and Rod Hay.

**PRIEST SUPERVISOR:** Fr Geoff Mulhearn

**PRIEST IN RESIDENCE:** Fr Kevin Corrigan, Sacramental Priest

**Parish Secretary:** Mrs Rosanna Suckling Mon— Fri 9am-2pm

**OFFICE:** 60 Yambo Street, Morisset, PO Box 87,  
**Office Hours:** 9.00 am to 2.00pm—Monday to Friday  
**Ph:** 02 4973.6859, Fax 02 4973.2937

Morisset Parish email: [morparish@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:morparish@mn.catholic.org.au)

Morisset Parish Web site: [www.vianneymorisset.org](http://www.vianneymorisset.org)

Morisset Parish Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/stjvparish>

Morisset Parish Bulletin Items: [morparish@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:morparish@mn.catholic.org.au)

Morisset Parish Presbytery: Ph: 02 4973 1537

(Please submit all Bulletin Notice requests to the parish office by 2pm Wednesdays)

If you would like to receive an electronic copy of our Parish bulletin, please call the parish office or send an email request to [morparish@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:morparish@mn.catholic.org.au)

***Due to current Stay-at Home Orders all Services up until 12.01am Friday 13th August are cancelled.***

**UPCOMING WORSHIP TIMES :**

Sunday	15th August 9.30am Mass— Morisset
Tuesday	17th August 9.30am Mass— Morisset
Sunday	22nd August 9.30am Mass— Morisset
Tuesday	24th August 9.30am Mass— Morisset

**DUE TO VERY LIMITED CAPACITIES BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL.**

Book via the Eventbrite App or Website:

<http://vianneymorisset.eventbrite.com> or click on the Book for Services button on the Parish Website, or call the Parish Office.

**When you come to Mass or Liturgy you will need to check in electronically with a QR code or via the Service NSW website .**

**It is compulsory that Face Masks are to be worn Indoors, when lining up outdoors, sharing any transport with people who do not live with you .**

**PASTORAL CARE**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK WITH A PRIEST PLEASE CONTACT FR KEVIN ON 02 4973 1537 .**

**PARISH OFFICE**

**DUE TO THE CURRENT COVID RESTRICTIONS THE PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED AS ROSANNA IS WORKING REMOTELY THE BEST CONTACT METHOD IS VIA EMAIL OR YOU CAN CALL THE OFFICE NUMBER AND SPEAK TO A PLT MEMBER.**

### **CURRENT COVID RESTRICTIONS—STAY AT HOME ORDERS**

All Places of Worship in the Lake Macquarie, Hunter and Upper Hunter are currently closed at this stage until 12.01am on Friday 13th August 2021. The only exception is for a Funeral or Memorial Service which can only have a maximum of 10 immediate family members attend.

We will be placing copies of the Parish Newsletter in the holders located at the doors under the breezeway. The Newsletter contains a Sunday Prayer Service that everyone can use at home. If you know someone who doesn't have access to the internet please let them know they can pick one up from outside the Church.

### **REFLECTION FOR FEAST OF ST MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP 8TH AUG 2021**

I'm sure most of us can recall the Song "Don't Worry Be Happy", written by Bobby McFerrin in 1989 - it was a "one hit wonder" as they say- a catchy laid back song that stills pops up now & then in Film & TV Soundtracks. In some respects it became the catch cry of a generation who were overwhelmed at that time by the pace of change that was occurring in society, technology & the world in general!

Fast forward to 2021---it certainly feels like a replay does it not?

At first glance, the pairing of today's Gospel with St Mary's Feast Day might seem to be an odd choice, but it makes good sense when we consider Mary's vocation in life. Indeed the teaching of Jesus conveyed through the passage characterises perfectly her life & work. She knew that apart from the most obvious necessities of life for the "least" of those in society, the Schooling of the young was a proven path out of poverty.

In the mid to late 19th Century, as a young woman, she showed deep concern for the plight of the poor & marginalised in the Colonies which later became the Commonwealth of Australia. Mary's vision & her tireless, selfless efforts in providing Aid, Education & Example to so many really exemplifies how FAITH through WORKS is carried out. She was an extremely hard worker who always put the needs of others first- she possessed something of the larrikin spirit- often in dispute with the authorities but pressing on, regardless! She was a prolific writer, constantly sending messages to her Sisters in the Schools around Australia- always offering words of comfort & encouragement to them. She understood their commitment that required great faith, true grit & the determination to overcome great hardship. Her most well known quote " never see a need without trying to do something about it" sets the bar extremely high, doesn't it?

From quietly & unobtrusively teaching in a stable in 1866, to founding a Religious Order which spread throughout & beyond our Continent, it showed that Mary's spiritual journey was truly focused on "God's saving justice" & that He seeks to answer the day's troubles -- THROUGH US .

In the Gospel, at first glance, we might think that Jesus, too, seems to be saying

"don't worry, be happy". As we read on, however, it is clear that his message is NOT as simple as that! Rather, by comparing the beauty & needs of the birds in the sky, & the flowers in the fields- declaring that their needs are met by our Heavenly Father, we are urged not to be DISTRACTED or CONSUMED by earthly pursuits & wondering what we will

eat or wear- but to set our hearts & minds on God's Kingdom- as did St Mary MacKillop--DAY by DAY.

Richard Rohr reassures us that the "only time Jesus talks about future time is when He tells us not to worry about it. Don't worry about times & seasons, don't worry about when He will return, don't worry about tomorrow." Trust in God always.

Mt6:34 also reassures us- "So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today".

We are immersed in a Societal culture that values outward signs of success above all else & our difficulties lie in being overly caught up in these distractions- like the Gentiles! By keeping up regular prayer & reflection on God's Word, never losing sight of his will for justice in the world, each one of us can certainly make a difference, even if only in the little things.

The last thoughts for the week from St Mary MacKillop



"Let us, one & all, try to remember why God called us here". (1878)

"Do all you can with the means at your disposal & calmly leave the rest to God." (1891) Heather White

### **SUNDAY 8TH AUGUST IS THE FEAST OF ST MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP, AUSTRALIA'S FIRST SAINT.**

Mary MacKillop was born in 1842 in Fitzroy, Melbourne. Inspired by a meeting with Fr. Julian Tenison-Woods, Mary MacKillop took her vows at the age of twenty five, and the religious name, "Mary of the Cross".

In doing so, she founded the congregation of the Sisters of St Joseph. Soon after taking her religious vows, Mary MacKillop founded several schools.

Today, many Australians can say that they too have felt the impact of the enormous work started by St. Mary of the Cross (MacKillop), having been educated or cared for, by the Sisters of Saint Joseph.

She was declared a Saint by Pope Benedict XVI on the 17th October 2010.

Our parish has a connection with Mary, as she established a school in the church at Cooranbong in 1880, with an enrollment of 80 pupils.

The Sisters of St Joseph acquired land on Matthews Valley Rd around the corner from Martinsville Rd and erected a two-story house .

At the time Martinsville Rd was Cooranbong's central business area. Mary visited Cooranbong on several occasions checking on the welfare of her sisters.

With the construction of the Sydney – Newcastle rail line passing through Morisset in preference to Cooranbong, the numbers of children attending the Cooranbong convent/school dropped dramatically and the school closed in 1896.

### **FAN THE FLAME— PLENARY COUNCIL**

*'Set your hearts on his kingdom first, and on his righteousness, and all these other things will be given you as well'* Matthew 6:25-34

The Church signifies and builds up the shared life of God's kingdom. This calls all members of the Church to continual conversion from self-serving egoism to self-giving love and a willingness to "bear each other's burdens" (Gal 6:2). (Instrumentum Laboris #83)

## **HELP A PERSON IN NEED THROUGH CATHOLICARE'S AUGUST APPEAL**

At CatholicCare Social Services Hunter-Manning, everybody is welcome. However, our Community Programs receive no government funding, so we're calling on the broader community to help us raise enough funds to continue providing these vital services. And after a difficult eighteen months, we expect to be welcoming even more people through our doors.

SARAH JAMES PUBLISHED AUGUST 02, 2021

Our Community Programs include our Refugee Hub, Community Kitchens, and Food Programs. By giving to our inaugural August Appeal, you can ensure no one is turned away and that all are welcomed and supported with food, shelter, and a smile.

### **Community Kitchens**

Our Community Kitchens located in Taree and Forster-Tuncurry offer practical help for people in need. Since opening their doors in 2016, these Community Kitchens have served approximately 44,000 hot and nutritious meals. On average, we serve about 30 meals each day of operation, but the kitchen offers far more than a hot meal. With the assistance of volunteers, CatholicCare has created a space where people can feel safe and enjoy the company of others. The kitchen is also an opportunity for disadvantaged people to access other services via information and referral.

### **Food Programs**

Working together with local communities to help ease the burden of homelessness and food insecurity, CatholicCare Food Programs provide hot, nutritious meals across the region. Our Food Programs support 400 people per week across Newcastle, Lake Macquarie, Maitland, and Port Stephens. In the past 18 months alone, our Food Programs provided 20,500 meals to those in need across these areas.

### **Refugee Hub**

At CatholicCare's Refugee Hub, we support people from refugee, asylum-seeker, and vulnerable migrant backgrounds to settle into life in Australia. An average of 14 new families are referred to our service each month, with our small team currently providing active casework support to 34 families. Most families are from refugee background (mainly Syria, Congo and Afghanistan), some are asylum seekers, and a small number are migrants or temporary visa holders who are vulnerable or disadvantaged for other reasons.

Team Leader of CatholicCare's Community Programs, Mirja Colding-Moran describes the community's support as essential in providing CatholicCare's services to the many families from refugee backgrounds who face significant challenges as they rebuild their lives in Australia.

"Donations allow us to provide both practical and material support to families in need. The donations will go towards emergency relief for families in crisis as well as towards the programs we run to build people's skills and confidence to enable them to become independent, happy and productive members of the community. Examples of these programs include English lessons, tutoring for school children, beach safety workshops and our weekly Men's and Women's programs," she said.

### **Our August Appeal**

Director of CatholicCare Social Services Hunter-Manning, Gary Christensen said, "Our programs make a real difference

in our local community. They provide food, social connection, pathways to support, and opportunities to learn valuable life skills to help people settle into their life in Australia. Our Community Programs help people who have nowhere else to turn."

"We can't do this work without the generosity of our local community and people like you behind us. Please consider donating to our appeal today. Every dollar counts."

You can help. **Donate today**

**Send your cheque to PO Box 775 Newcastle 2300**

**Give a gift online [www.catholiccare.org.au/augustappeal](http://www.catholiccare.org.au/augustappeal)**

## **LOCK-DOWN WEEK A KIND OF RETREAT TIME- FR KEVIN**

Started Thursday. We hope and pray it will smother the spread.

Most of us will be just that mostly/completely 'locked down' important for community and personal wellbeing. A few months ago I was in a more 'voluntary' lockdown- I was doing a 6 day silent Retreat. Its called a Directed Retreat. It involved basically one short personal interview each day with the Retreat Director. Apart from that; a daily silence as basis for periods of prayer/reflection through the day. I also prayed for others- including parishioners here!

I thought, perhaps our lock down- one week or more we don't know- may be a time for prayer times through our day... a keeping vigil... praying for the many others who struggle here locally in Oz, and around the world. And praying for the world, and its leaders... for the need of changed hearts for nations to embrace the pathway which rebuilds goodwill, and the kind of peace taught by Jesus in the beatitudes... the peace of the Kingdom of love. There is a lot to pray for- and why not in lock down time... and to also 'feed our souls' by efforts like simply choosing to re-read the readings of Scripture of this Sunday through the week, and to do so prayerfully?

YOU ARE WELCOME TO PHONE ME AT THE PRESBYTERY PARTICULARLY OVER THIS WEEK IF YOU WISH... SIMPLY TO CHAT, OR TO CHAT ABOUT THE WEEK AND OF YOUR REFLECTION OR PRAYER TIMES IF YOU LIKE. THE PRESBYTERY NUMBER IS 49731537 ( I WILL BE 'IN' EXCEPT PERHAPS WHEN I HAVE STEPPED OUT FOR THE (PERMITTED) OUTDOOR EXERCISE TIME).

TAKE CARE FR KEVIN

TIMES THIS WEEK.

## **SEASONS OF CREATION – FILM COMPETITION**

Do you love making TikTok videos or short films? Amidst the climate crisis and the coronavirus pandemic, our sisters and brothers are clamoring for hope and restoration. NOW is the time to come together and take action! #SeasonOfCreation. You are invited to participate in a film contest which involves creating a 2-minute film that explores the 2021 Seasons of Creation theme – A Home for All.

For more information, visit <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/adult-faith-formation/upcoming-events/>

or contact [rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au)

**Live stream Mass every Sunday at 9.30am at <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream/>**

### **PRAYING THE GOSPELS**

You are invited to connect and pray with each other across the Diocese from your own home.  
God speaks to us through the words of the Gospel and then through artist's images of the Gospel message.  
Join us each Wednesday 5.00-5.45pm.

Zoom link: <https://mncatholic.zoom.us/j/96144217758>

Password: pray

For more information contact:

[rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au)

### **SUPPORTING OUR PARISH**

We thank everyone who has continued their support for our Parish during these very different times.

As cash is deemed a transmission hazard by NSW Health they recommend that donations and payments be made electronically.

There is an online parish payments button on the Parish Website Home page or alternatively you can deposit directly into the Parish Account, Account Name: CDF 5004 Morisset Parish BSB:062815 Account Number: 00328161 Ref: 5004 2nd Collection or 5004 PG and Giver Number.

If you would like to make contributions to support the Diocese Clergy / 1st Collection the Bank Account Details are:  
Account Name: CDF 96020 Morisset Parish BSB: 062815  
Account Number 00328161 Ref: 5016 1st Collection

**Live stream Mass every Sunday at 9.30am at <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream/>**

**The Latest Aurora is available at the back of the Church.**

### **WEEKEND ROSTERS**

		<b><u>THIS WEEK</u></b>	<b><u>NEXT WEEK</u></b>
<b><u>Presiders</u></b>	9.30	No Service	Mass
<b><u>PROCLAIMER:</u></b>	9.30		H White
<b><u>PSALMIST:</u></b>	9.30		U France
<b><u>UNIVERSAL PRAYER</u></b>	9.30		U France
<b><u>SERVERS</u></b>	9.30		V Paulo
<b><u>AV:</u></b>	9.30		T Alexander
<b><u>SOUND/ VIDEO:</u></b>	9.30		J France
<b><u>COVID-19 SAFETY TEAM</u></b>	9.30		H White T Alexander R Hay J France
<b><u>COMMUNION USHERS</u></b>	9.30		COVID-19 Safety Team
<b><u>CLEANERS</u></b>	9.30		COVID-19 Safety Team

### **UPCOMING FEAST DAYS MEMORIALS AND SOLEMNITIES**

SAINT MARY OF THE CROSS (MARY MACKILLOP) - 8TH AUGUST  
SAINT LAWRENCE— 10TH AUGUST  
SAINT CLARE— 11TH AUGUST  
SAINT MAXIMILIAN MARY KOLBE— 14TH AUGUST  
THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY— 15TH AUGUST  
SAINT BERNARD— 20TH AUGUST  
SAINT PIUS X— 21ST AUGUST  
SAINT BARTHOLOMEW—24TH AUGUST

**Please pray for those who are sick, in hospital or recovering at home:**

Bishop Bill Wright, Mark Patrick, Robert Jay, Michelle Clipsham.

**Please pray for those who have been called to eternal life may they always be in our prayers.**



### **PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE BULLETIN**

If you would like the parish to pray for a **family member who is sick, recently deceased or you would like remembered** please call or email the parish office or complete a prayer card for each person and place in the mail box near the parish office door. Cards are available at the back of the church and at the Parish Office.

**All prayer requests require permission from a family member or the person. Due to Australian privacy laws.**

### **AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

My Jesus,  
I believe that You  
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.  
I love You above all things,  
and I desire to receive You into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment  
receive You sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace You as if You were already there and unite  
myself wholly to You.  
Never permit me to be separated from You.  
Amen.







## Liturgy Matters: Rich in Diversity

One of the exciting signs of hope in the diocesan Synod Paper is the sound of the people's voice longing for a rich diversity of prayer and worship both personally and communally.

**LOUISE GANNON RSJ** PUBLISHED AUGUST 03, 2021

This longing has been heard for many years. It has taken a new focus with COVID-19. With shut churches and limited numbers, we have come face to face with the importance of prayer and worship in the 'domestic church' – in our homes and in our circles of family, friends, communities, ministry groups and other gathering of people seeking to nurture their relationship with God. What we hear in the [Synod Paper](#) resonates with the voice of the people heard in the liturgy survey that the Diocesan Liturgy Council (DLC) undertook last year in partnership with National Church Life Survey (NCLS).

Our experience has revealed to us the importance of BOTH the prayer and worship of the domestic church AND the more formal public worship of the church when it gathers, particularly on Sunday, to celebrate Eucharist. Each nurtures the other.

Many do have a rich personal and communal prayer life in addition to the celebration of the public liturgy, most commonly eucharist. That's great. However, we are hearing the voice of others who are longing for more diverse opportunities for prayer that nurture their relationship with God. These longings suggest that some don't have the personal resources or communal networks to find what they are longing for.

I was particularly moved by the longing for parishes and communities to become 'centres of prayer'. What a blessing such a longing is, not only for those individuals, but for the community. What a blessing it is to hear people longing for opportunities for faith sharing within the context of less formal or structured prayer.

An important aspect of reflecting on the diocesan Synod Paper to find meaning and direction, is to identify the gaps, the important things that are missing. One of the glaring gaps is scripture, particularly though not exclusively, regarding prayer and worship. Interestingly, scripture in general, and more particularly the importance of the Word of God in prayer and liturgy, was a significant theme in the responses to the 2020

liturgy survey mentioned above. One of the blessings of our COVID experience people identified was a rediscovery of praying with scripture and a desire for more.

And so, the question for all of us, not only the DLC and its various subgroups, is how do we respond? How do we open up the deep and wide treasury of Catholic prayer and liturgy that belongs to all of us?

As hinted at above, any response needs to be mindful of our changed context. '[The times they are a-changing](#)' as the song says. We can no longer presume that people discover our many forms of prayer and worship by osmosis, by just hanging around the Catholic community. The longings we hear in the Synod Paper bear this out. They point to the need for more intentional responses that empower individuals and communities and don't promote a sense of dependence often heard echoing in Synod Paper phrases such as 'that the diocese provide.'

The DLC has only begun the journey of listening to the diocesan Synod Paper and other important data including the 2020 Liturgy Survey report from NCLS. As a very initial response to the longings we have heard, **we offer the following invitations for the consideration of individuals and communities.** The most significant ones focus on praying with scripture.

Essentially, these are invitations to experience a few different ways of praying with scripture. In each case we will pray and then reflect on the experience of prayer. These are not invitations to commit to a new group. Rather, we hope these experiences will be like dropping pebbles in a pond. We hope they will help anyone who participates to develop her/his personal prayer life AND perhaps, when confident, invite others to join them to pray. And so, the ripples will hopefully spread through the community as people invite others into new circles of prayer and worship that also facilitate faith sharing. In this way we all help our parishes and communities to become centres of prayer.

Please complete the form located at : <https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=x2JU50ZySU-2DkekM06p1vLFKQR7EyhFv0HilElle4hUOVZWNIFCMzFQTK1FUUwxOVg5RUU5MDIzTS4u&web=1&wdLOR=c7F32696A-D5CF-48F4-B2C6-4DB5E94DE7D3> if you are interested in joining with others for an experience of

- Lectio Divina – an ancient way of praying with scripture.
- Mystagogical Reflection – an ancient way of focusing on our experience of Christ and then reflecting on the meaning of that experience personally and for the Church, its connection with life, and its call to a change of heart. We will begin by reflecting on Christ's presence in the Sunday Gospel.
- The Examen Prayer – an ancient prayer used to review the day.
- The Prayer of the Church – morning and/or evening prayer. Also known as the Liturgy of the Hours.
- Christian Meditation.

All we are inviting you to do now is **express interest by the end of Sunday 22 August.** We will shape a response according to the need. We are hopeful that the expressions of 'longing' heard through the Synod and Plenary Council process, and the 2020 Liturgy Survey will translate into expressions of interest.

We are starting small, planting mustard seeds. Let's see how the domestic church grows.

For further context you might like to read the previous Liturgy Matters, [Unity in Diversity](#).

## Acknowledgements

Image: © 2019 Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle.



## Out of Africa

Born in Nigeria into a devout Catholic family, Fr Camillus Chinenye Nwahia attended daily Mass with his mother. This seed, nurtured over time and continents, eventually led him to a rewarding position as a Catholic chaplain at the University of Newcastle and as the assistant priest of Holy Trinity, Blackbutt North.

**LIZ BAKER** PUBLISHED AUGUST 03, 2021

"It was not a surprise to my parents and others close to my family when I started altar serving as a young boy," he says. "On reflection, that was the beginning of my vocation journey."

Fr Camillus's early religious influences initially led him to join a religious community at age 20 in pursuit of becoming a priest. However, while in his final year at the seminary, his mother died and for the first time in his life he found himself at a crossroads.

"My mother was my biggest fan. After her death, I felt I needed time to be able to reflect and gain clarity about what I should do with my life." He left Nigeria to discern his future.

"I had lived most of my life as someone preparing to be a priest, and people were already seeing me as one. It was humbling, but I thought I would benefit from taking time out."

Fr Camillus, then aged 30, was close to completing his theological degree at the seminary when he reached out to a friend who had moved to Newcastle. Following this conversation, he applied to the University of Newcastle to study a Master of Education (Leadership and Management). It was accepted, and within six months he had boarded a plane for Australia.

"I did not know much about Australia. I knew about the kangaroos, of course, but did not bother much about the time difference and other practical things." That life-changing flight more than a decade ago opened a world of possibilities.

"I arrived in the country two days before lectures commenced, and I did not have time to make friends. Initially I struggled to understand the Aussie accent and for Aussies to understand mine."

Fr Camillus spoke fluent English, but he relied on reading textbooks to get through his studies. All the while he was battling jetlag, homesickness, culture shock, differences in weather conditions, and the food. The combination of study and stress started impacting Fr Camillus's health, and an appointment at the university medical clinic was the next significant turning point in his journey.

"I thought the doctor was going to prescribe some medications," Fr Camillus says. "But instead, she asked me to tell her a bit of my story. I spoke of my friends and family and about my faith. It was following this that she suggested I visit the university's Chaplaincy Centre."

Keen to take steps towards better health, Fr Camillus followed her advice. He credits the contact he had with the chaplaincy team as changing the trajectory of his stay in Australia.

"The chaplaincy team became a spiritual guide. I also met other people at the centre, and it wasn't long before I started to be invited to dinners and events like the Diocese's 'Pints with Purpose'. Through these contacts I was asked to play on a soccer team and in a very short time I had formed a circle of friends, and all my concerns started to settle.

"Life became a little bit easier for me."

Fr Camillus still remained true to his intention of using his time in Australia to discern his vocation. In 2013, he approached Bishop Bill Wright to pursue once more his vocation to the ministerial priesthood, albeit in Australia. Bishop Bill was supportive of Fr Camillus's request and in 2016 he was ordained in front of a large crowd at Sacred Heart Cathedral.

Fr Camillus's passion for supporting others who find themselves facing a similar plight led Bishop Bill to suggest he return to the university, but as a Catholic chaplain rather than a student.

That was six years ago, and Fr Camillus still gets the same joy working as part of the chaplaincy team that supported him through those difficult early years in Australia.

No two days are the same and he spends time accompanying students and staff on their own journey, supporting them and helping them find a balance between their study and the rest of life's elements.

"Once I tell them I have been exactly where they are, they feel free to talk to me. Most of our discussions are not about faith and religion. Being a chaplain at the university allows me to be part of the spiritual and academic journey of so many, and I feel blessed that my experiences have served as food for others."

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# SUNDAY PRAYER SERVICE

**Saint Mary of the Cross (Mary MacKillop)**

**Sunday 08 Aug 2021**

## **The Introductory Rites**

### **Gathering**

The Lectionary/Roman Missal or a Bible may be placed on a table together with a candle and a cross.

A short hymn might be sung.

### **Sign of the Cross**

Leader:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All:

**Amen.**

### **Greeting**

Leader:

Blessed be Jesus who makes us one,  
and strengthens us  
by the power of his Spirit.

All:

**Blessed be God forever.**

### **Introductory Remarks**

Leader (in these or similar words):

Friends in Christ,  
although we cannot celebrate the Eucharist this day,  
we gather in God's name  
for when two or more come together  
God is always with us.

We worship in union with the whole Church  
keeping this day of the Lord holy.

## Opening Rite

### LITANY OF PRAISE

Leader:

Before listening to the Word of God  
let us praise the Lord Jesus Christ  
who has raised us to new life.

A brief period of silence follows.

Leader:

Lord Jesus, you are the sacrifice that takes our sins away: Lord, have mercy.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Christ Jesus, you have shown us the way of love: Christ, have mercy.

**All: Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are the saviour of the world: Lord, have mercy.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader:

May almighty God have mercy on us,  
forgive us our sins,  
and bring us to everlasting life.

All:

**Amen.**

## Opening Prayer

Leader:

Let us pray.

All pause for silent prayer.

O God, source of all goodness,  
who have shown us in Saint Mary  
a woman of faith living by the power of the Cross,  
teach us, we pray, by her example  
to live the Gospel in changing times  
and to respect and defend  
the human dignity of all in our land.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

All:

**Amen.**

# The Liturgy of the Word

## First Reading

### 1 Kgs 17:7-16

A reading from the first book of Kings

*The jar of meal shall not be spent according to the word of the Lord spoken through Elias.*

And then the word of the Lord came to Elijah, 'Up and go to Zarephath, a Sidonian town, and stay there. I have ordered a widow there to give you food.' So he went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks. Addressing her he said, 'Please bring a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please,' he said 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives,' she replied 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel:

"Jar of meal shall not be spent,  
jug of oil shall not be emptied,  
before the day when the Lord sends  
rain on the face of the earth."

The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah.

*To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:*

The word of the Lord.

*All reply:*

**Thanks be to God.**

## Responsorial Psalm

### Ps 62:1-8

**(R.) My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.**

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;  
for you my soul is thirsting.  
My body pines for you  
like a dry, weary land without water. **(R.)**
2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary  
to see your strength and your glory.  
For your love is better than life,  
my lips will speak your praise. **(R.)**

3. So I will bless you all my life,  
in your name I will lift up my hands.  
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,  
my mouth shall praise you with joy. **(R.)**
4. On my bed I remember you.  
On you I muse through the night  
for you have been my help;  
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. **(R.)**

## Second Reading

### Col 3:12-17

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

*Bear with one another, forgive each other.*

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you, and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful.

Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

*To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:*

The word of the Lord.

*All reply:*

**Thanks be to God.**



## Gospel

Reader:

From the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

All:

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Mt 6:25-34**

*Do not worry about your life.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

I am telling you not to worry about your life and what you are to eat,  
nor about your body and what you are to wear.

Surely life is more than food, and the body more than clothing!

Look at the birds in the sky. They do not sow or reap or  
gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them.

Are you not worth much more than they are?

Can any of you, however much you worry,  
add one single cubit to your span of life?

And why worry about clothing?

Think of the flowers growing in the fields;  
they never have to work or spin: yet I assure you that  
not even Solomon in all his royal robes was clothed like one of these.

Now if that is how God clothes the wild flowers growing in the field  
which are there today and thrown into the furnace tomorrow,  
will he not much more look after you, you have so little faith?

So do not worry; do not say, "What are we to eat?

What are we to drink? What are we to wear?"

It is the gentiles who set their hearts on all these things.

Your heavenly Father knows you need them all.

Set your hearts on his kingdom first, and on God's saving justice,  
and all these other things will be given you as well.

So do not worry about tomorrow: tomorrow will take care of itself.

Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Reader:

The Gospel of the Lord.

All:

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*All are seated.*

## Reflection on the Word

*A short period of reflection may be observed.*

Q. Why might the gospel writer have chosen this style rather than a parable to convey this teaching?

Q. In what ways do the questions Jesus poses apply to our contemporary society?

Q. In what ways does this gospel present a challenge to you personally?

Q. Why would it be inaccurate to interpret this passage as encouragement to “opt out” of trying?

## Profession of Faith

Leader:

In union with the whole Church  
let us profess our faith.

All:

**I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,**

*At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow.*

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting. Amen.**

## Prayer of the Faithful

Leader: We know that God loves and cares for each one of us. Let us now bring our prayers before God.

Reader: That the Church, inspired by the lives of the saints, will be open to the Spirit in times of change and uncertainty.

*(pause)*

With the saints we pray:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That nations will share their wealth with the poor and oppressed.

*(pause)*

With the saints we pray:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That, through word and example, parents and teachers continue to pass on their faith to the children entrusted to their care.

(pause)

With the saints we pray:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That in these months leading up to the First Assembly of the Plenary Council: we will have the courage to speak boldly and the ability to listen humbly with hearts open to where the Spirit is leading our Church in Australia.

(pause)

With the saints we pray:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That the Sisters of St Joseph may be richly blessed as they continue the work begun by Mary MacKillop.

(pause)

With the saints we pray:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That all who are sick and housebound will know the love of Christ through our care and support, especially those in our community and families.

(pause)

With the saints we pray:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That all who have died, including deceased members of the Josephite community, along with those in our community and families, may be received into eternal light, happiness and peace.

(pause)

With the saints we pray:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Loving God, we know that you hear the prayers of all your children. Help us to live our lives as followers of your Son Jesus. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

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## **The Lord's Prayer**

Leader:

At the Saviour's command  
and formed by divine teaching,  
we dare to say:

All:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

## **The Concluding Rite**

### **Blessing**

**Leader:**

**May the Lord be with us  
and protect us  
now and for ever.**

**All make the sign of the cross during the blessing.**

**All:**

**Amen.**

### **Dismissal**

**Leader:**

**Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.**

**All:**

**Thanks be to God.**

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