



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 EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS 14TH SEPTEMBER 2025, YEAR C

Readings: Num 21:4-9

Phil 2:6-11;

Jn 3:13-17

Response:

Do not forget the works of the Lord!

Alleluia, alleluia!

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your cross you have redeemed the world.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Reflection

Today we celebrate Christ Jesus, who transformed human suffering by embracing the Cross and offering us eternal life. The Scriptures remind us that just as the serpent was lifted up in the desert for healing, so too the Son of Man was lifted up for our salvation. In his self-giving love, Christ shows solidarity with all who suffer and opens the way to new life. As Pilgrims of Hope in this Jubilee year, we pray especially for those who endure persecution, injustice, or war, that they may find healing and strength in the Cross of Christ.

Parish Office

The Parish Office will be **closed on Wednesday, 17 September**. During this time, please leave an email or a voicemail message, and all enquiries will be responded to the following day.

Pilgrimage Opportunity

Next year, Fr Carmelo is planning to visit Malta, his country of birth and the parish where his priestly vocation was first nurtured, as well as several Marian shrines across Europe. He will be accompanied by a female friend and is seeking either another woman or a couple to join them and complete the travel group. The pilgrimage is expected to last approximately five weeks. For further information please contact Fr Carmelo directly on **0480 559 410**.

Parish Consultation —Relocation of the Tabernacle

In consultation with the Parish Pastoral Council, Finance Committee, and Liturgy Committee, all parishioners are warmly invited to join us on **Saturday, 1 November, the Solemnity of All Saints**.

The day will begin with **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 8:00–9:00am**, followed by **Holy Mass at 9:15am**. After Mass, we will gather for **morning tea**.

Following this, **Fr Philip will offer a presentation and consultation with parishioners regarding the proposed relocation of the tabernacle**, in the spirit of the ongoing Synodal process.

We encourage every member of our parish community to take part in this important time of prayer, fellowship, and discernment.

Upcoming Parish Event

SAVE THE DATE

We are pleased to announce that our Parish Dinner will be held on **Saturday, 22 November**, following the 5:00pm Mass, in the school hall. Tickets are **\$25 per adult, \$15 for children aged 6–10, and free for children under 6**.

Further details about the menu and ticket sales will be shared in the coming weeks.

**Please mark the date in your calendars—
We look forward to celebrating together!**

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, Woongarrah

Telephone: 8379 1740

Office email: warnervaleparish@bbcatholic.org.au

Office hours: Tues—Fri 8:30am—3:00pm

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

Bookkeeper: Johnson Mani

Mail: PO Box 4367, Lake Haven, 2263

Parish Mobile: (out of hours) 0423 279 263

Web: www.bbcatholic.org.au/warnervale

Pastoral Letter from Bishop Randazzo

Copies of Bishop Anthony Randazzo's *Pastoral Letter – The Mystery of Faith: Encountering Jesus Christ in the Eucharist* are available on the table at the back of the Church.

Parishioners are warmly encouraged to take a copy home for prayerful reading and reflection.

Rosary Prayer Group



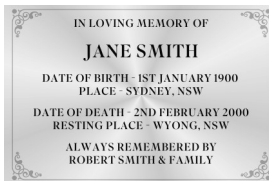
Come pray with us for our families, the parish and the world, every **Tuesday at 6pm in the Church.**

Prayer meetings for the month of **September** will be on **Thursday 18th** at 7pm at the home of Bill and Dianne at 56 Irving Court, Hamlyn Terrace. For more information, you may contact Dianne on 0413 454 547. Everyone is welcome to come.

Memorial Wall

The Parish Pastoral Council is progressing with plans to establish a **Memorial Wall** along the retaining wall beside the Church driveway. Each plaque (size 16cm by 10.5cm) will include: Name of the deceased, Date of birth and place, Date of death, Resting place, Donated by.

A registration sheet is available at the back of the Church for parishioners wishing to register their interest and indicate the number of plaques required. The cost is a one-off fee of **\$100 per plaque**, payable by bank transfer or cash. Further details regarding payment will be provided soon.



Central Coast Santa Maria Committee invite you to their Christmas lunch

Location: Toukley Golf Club,

Time: 12.00 noon to 4:00pm

When: Sunday, 7th December 2025

Menu: 2 course lunch prepared and served at your table which will include: baked ham, turkey, pork, baked potatoes, pumpkin, mixed vegetables, and a bread roll. Gluten Free options available, please let the committee know when booking. **Desert:** Christmas pudding with custard or apple pie with ice-cream. Drinks to purchase at the bar at your own expense.

Live entertainment, provided by Tony Remedios.

Tickets: \$45 per person. Book and pay by 22nd November 2025.

For tickets and information please phone a member of the committee,

- Charlie Scicluna on 0404 194 020
- Rita 0448 74 2591
- Charlie & Connie on 4396 3704
- Rita Meilak 0411 894 387 (The Entrance)

Salesian Thought

Any devotion which is in opposition to, or not in conformity with, man's true calling is not an authentic devotion.

(The Spirit of St. François de Sales, XXI, 3)

Baptism Information Evening

Our monthly Baptism Information Evening will be held this Tuesday, **16 September, at 7:00pm in the Church.** Parents who wish to have their child(ren) baptised are warmly invited to attend.

SAINTS DAYS

Monday 15 September

Our Lady of Sorrows

Tuesday 16 September

Sts Cornelius and Cyprian

Wednesday 17 September

Thursday 18 September

Friday 19 September

Saturday 20 September

Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gon & Paul Cong



Premium
Pure Water

Exclusive Offer 10% Off & \$1 per unit
Donated to SMOTC MacKillop Parish

Use Promo Code MACKCP

More info go to earthgold.com.au

Return and Earn

This week we raised: \$40.50



Thank you to everyone who continually supports our Return and Earn fund-raising 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!

Find us on Facebook

Keep up with parish happenings on Facebook at [St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Parish](https://www.facebook.com/StMaryoftheCrossMacKillopParish), [Warnervale](https://www.facebook.com/Warnervale), please "like" our page.



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Please remember our sick: Ivan Dzido, Bill McGuinness, Barry Bateson, Ken Grigg, Olivia Curtis, Chiara Wallace, Jo O'Loughlin, Pili Menardo Leal, Cecelia Henry, Joset Gatt, Sheila Marquez.

Anniversaries: Alejandro Mabaquiao jnr, Joan Firmstone, Victor Gatt, Joyce Nord, T.D Varghese, Darrell Travers, Terence McBride OCDS, Dorothy McGinlay, Gladys De Lange.

Recently Deceased: Dionisio Tolentino, Magdalena Santos, Shannon Murray, William (Billy) Hardman, Praveen Thomas, Elamma Chacko, Ronald (Royce) Wright, Emmanuel Francis.



The Exaltation of the Holy Cross,

First Reading

Book of Numbers 21:4-9

When those that were afflicted looked upon it, they were healed.

On the way through the wilderness the people lost patience. They spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt to die in this wilderness? For there is neither bread nor water here; we are sick of this unsatisfying food.'

At this God sent fiery serpents among the people; their bite brought death to many in Israel. The people came and said to Moses, 'We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you. Intercede for us with the Lord to save us from these serpents.' Moses interceded for the people, and the Lord answered him, 'Make a fiery serpent and put it on a standard. If anyone is bitten and looks at it, he shall live.' So Moses fashioned a bronze serpent which he put on a standard, and if anyone was bitten by a serpent, he looked at the bronze serpent and lived.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Do not forget the works of the Lord!

Give heed, my people, to my teaching;
turn your ear to the words of my mouth
I will open my mouth in a parable
and reveal hidden lessons of the past. **R**

When he slew them then they would seek him,
return and seek him in earnest.
They would remember that God was their rock,
God the Most High their redeemer. **R**

But the words they spoke were mere flattery;
they lied to him with their lips.
For their hearts were not truly with him;
they were not faithful to his covenant. **R**

Yet he who is full of compassion
forgave their sin and spared them.
So often he held back his anger
when he might have stirred up his rage. **R**

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross,

Second Reading

Letter of St Paul to Philemon 2:6-11

He humbled himself, therefore God was exalted him.

The state of Jesus was divine,
yet he did not cling to his equality with God
but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave,
and became as men are;
and being as all men are,
he was humbler yet,
even to accepting death,
death on a cross.

But God raised him high and gave him the name
which is above all other names so that all beings
in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld,
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus
and that every tongue should acclaim
Jesus Christ as Lord,
to the glory of the Father.
The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,
because by your cross you have redeemed the world.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel

John 3:13-17

The Son of Man must be lifted up.

Jesus said to Nicodemus:
'No one has gone up to heaven
except the one who came down from heaven,
the Son of Man who is in heaven;
and the Son of Man must be lifted up
as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert,
so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.
Yes, God loved the world so much
that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost
but may have eternal life.
For God sent his Son into the world
not to condemn the world,
but so that through him the world might be saved.'

The Gospel of the Lord.