



# MARY, QUEEN OF THE FAMILY PARISH, BLACKTOWN

## Our Parish Mission Statement

Mary, Queen of the Family Parish is a welcoming, diverse, multicultural, Catholic community. We seek: to live, teach and share the joy of the Gospel; to grow as disciples of Jesus through prayer, witness and action and to respond to the needs of the family in the Blacktown community and beyond.

**We acknowledge the Darug people, the traditional custodians on whose land we worship.**

**Sunday, 29 Apr 2018: Fifth Sunday of Easter - Year B**

## KEEP CONNECTED!

Anyone who has spent time in the parish office would know that I am somewhat techno-phobic. Wondering how in retirement I will cope without my present support, a senior's computer course is on my bucket list. Some have called me a *Luddite*, a term used to describe people who dislike new technology. Its origins can be found in the 19th century labour movement that railed against the economic fallout of the Industrial Revolution. They called themselves "Luddites" after Ned Ludd, a young apprentice who was rumoured to have wrecked a textile machine in the late-18th century which was destroying the artisan approach.

Frankly, I find a good deal of *social media* rather *anti-social*. Check out a café or restaurant with four people around a table, all on their devices! The art of conversation seems to have been diminished by such devices. Yet even though I have been dragged kicking and screaming into the world of IT, I find myself more and more dependant and incredibly frustrated when I am not connected.

**Today the Church encourages us to keep connected.** The image of branch and vine speaks to us of the importance of being connected. We the branches have no life if we are not connected to Christ the vine. We as a community of branches, whose lives are intertwined and bearing fruits that differ, need to recognise our need for mutual connectedness in Christ, the root and branch.

In a world connected by every possible device, we meet alienation and isolation manifested in youth suicide and depression across the generations. While general wisdom has taught us to focus on two things as we age - diet and exercise - it now adds a third - **connectedness**. What is true of our life journey is equally true of our life journey in faith. Beyond any pious practice we might have there is the need both individually and as a community of faith, to be grounded in the person of Jesus Christ.

So next time you are told, *sorry the computers are down* or you find yourself frustrated because your own server is down, take a breath and reflect. In all our multiple devices, how connected are we to what really counts: conversation with others, with our deepest hidden self and with the mystery of God in our lives? **Keep really connected!**

—Fr Peter

## CONTACT US

### PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest: Fr Peter Confeggi  
Assistant Priest: Fr Luis Herrera  
Deacon: George Bryan  
Business Manager: Jacqueline Castillo-Anchique  
Pastoral Associate: Lisa Bright  
Pastoral Care Coordinator: Antoinette Mangion  
Family Life Coordinator: Erin Kennedy  
Parish Assistant: Aaron Pinto  
Parish Assistant: Franchesca Tenedora  
Parish Assistant: Georgia Scott

### Parish Team Meetings each Monday from 1.00 - 2.00pm

#### St Michael's Church

58 Orwell St  
Blacktown  
Office Hours:  
Sunday 8.30am - 11.30am

#### St Patrick's Church

51-59 Allawah St,  
Blacktown  
Office Hours:  
Mon - Fri: 9am - 4pm

Tel : 9622 1125  
A/H : 9621 3146  
Fax : 9671 6425

Email: [admin@mqofblacktown.org.au](mailto:admin@mqofblacktown.org.au)

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## LITURGY TIMES

### WEEKDAY MASSES

**St Michael's**  
Mass 8:00am Mon, & Fri & 7.30pm Wed  
Communion Service 8.00am Tues & Thurs

**St Patrick's**  
Mass 9.00am Tues & Thurs & Sat  
Communion Service 9.00am Mon, Wed, Fri  
First Friday 7.30pm St Patrick's

### SUNDAY MASSES

5.30pm Saturday Vigil (St Patrick's)  
7.00am Sunday (St Patrick's)  
8.00am Sunday (St Michael's)  
9.30am Sunday (St Michael's)  
10.00am Sunday (St Patrick's)  
11.30 am 4th Sunday - Filipino Mass (St Michael's)  
2:00pm - Sudanese Mass (St Patrick's)  
3.30pm - Syro Malabar Mass (St Michael's)  
5.30pm Sunday (St Patrick's)  
6.00pm Sunday (St Michael's)

### Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Wednesday 7.00pm—7.25pm (St Michael's)  
Saturday 9.30am - 10.25am (St Patrick's)

### Anointing of the Sick

First Saturday during 9.00am Mass (St Patrick's)  
or by appointment contact Parish Office

### HOLY HOUR:

6.30pm - 7.30pm Wednesday @ St Michael's  
6.30pm - 7.30pm First Friday @ St Patrick's

### Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals

by appointment. Please contact office for details

## CONNECT

### PARISH SCHOOLS

**St Michael's Primary** 9622 9910  
**St Patrick's Primary** 9621 4122  
**Nagle College** 8887 4501  
**Patrician Brothers College** 9671 3000  
**Catholic Early Learning Centre** 8814 8406  
(St Michael's)

**Institute for Mission** 9831 4911  
Fr Paul Roberts (Director)  
[paul.roberts@ifm.org.au](mailto:paul.roberts@ifm.org.au)

**Diocesan Ministry Centre** 8838 3460

**Catholic Care** 8822 2222  
[Blacktown@ccss.org.au](mailto:Blacktown@ccss.org.au)



[www.mqofblacktown.org.au](http://www.mqofblacktown.org.au)



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# YEAR OF MARK - YEAR B

## Fifth Sunday of Easter

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Cf. Ps 97:1-2

O sing a new song to the Lord,  
for he has worked wonders;  
in the sight of the nations  
he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

### FIRST READING: ACTS 9:26-31

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PS 21:26-28. 30-32. R. V.26**  
I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

### SECOND READING: 1 JN 3:18-24

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Jn 15:4-5

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;  
my branches bear much fruit.  
Alleluia!

### GOSPEL: Jn 15:1-8

Jesus said to his disciples:  
'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.  
Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and  
every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear  
even more.  
You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have  
spoken to you.  
Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.  
As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain  
part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me.  
I am the vine, you are the branches.  
Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in  
plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing.  
Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has  
been thrown away – he withers; these branches are collected  
and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt.  
If you remain in me and my words remain in you,  
you may ask what you will and you shall get it.  
It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much  
fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Cf. Jn 15:1,5

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord.  
Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty,  
alleluia.

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### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

**Anniversaries:** Bernabe Urbano Sr, Dominic  
**Special Intentions:** Delia Valmeo, Hermogena Alonso, Rosa  
Tabusares  
**Recently Deceased:** Cynthia Castilla, Salud Cubelo,  
Dorothy Jean Ransom

**We remember and pray for those who are ill at home or in hospital at this time:** Kevin Clout, Melanie Randa, Carlos Braithwaite, Lois Roy, Paul Clemson, Tony Clarke, Doreen Stanslaus, Dr Cherry Ann Wy, Michael Hiriwo, Sr Margaret Picone

**If you would like to include in the bulletin the name of a loved one who is ill or you are going into hospital and would like to be anointed, please contact the Parish Office on 9622 1125 or email [admin@mqofblacktown.org.au](mailto:admin@mqofblacktown.org.au).**



**M 30 Apr:** Acts 14:5-18 , Jn 14:21-26  
**T 01 May:** Acts 14:19-28, Jn 14:27-31  
**W 02 May:** Acts 15:1-6, Jn 15:1-8  
**Th 03 May:** 1 Cor 15:1-8, Jn 14:6-14  
**F 04 May:** Acts 15:22-31, Jn 15:12-17  
**S 05 May:** Acts 16:1-10, Jn 15:18-21  
**S 06 May:** Acts 10:25-26. 34-35. 44-48, 1 Jn 4:7-10 , Jn 15:9-17

Daily  
Readings



### SAFETY FIRST

To everyone at St Patrick's Church, in the interest of safety, please leave the green chairs where they have been placed. All the green chairs have been put out for people to use. Please do not re-stack chairs in storage areas or move chairs to make new rows. Please keep the exits at the back of the church clear for cases of emergency. **If there is a reason for chairs to be moved on a more permanent basis, please call the Parish Office to inform them of your suggestions. Thank you.**

Join us for a

## SCRIPTURE REFLECTION EVENING

In our liturgical year, the Feast of Pentecost provides an opportunity to re-focus our energies and prepare ourselves to experience the Holy Spirit anew. Come along, be welcomed and allow Dr (Sr) Michele Connolly to unpack some treasures from the Pentecost scriptures. This evening will be a great way to connect with the word of God in preparation for our upcoming celebration of this important feast.

**When:** Monday, 14 May

**Time:** 6.45pm—Refreshments, 7pm—Start

**Where:** The Institute for Mission,  
1-5 Marion St, Blacktown (cnr Flushcombe Rd)

RSVP [online](#) or to Charbel on 9296 6369 or by email [charbel.dib@ifm.org.au](mailto:charbel.dib@ifm.org.au).

**RSVPs close on the Thursday 10 May.**



God of wisdom and might,  
we praise you for the wonder of our being, for mind,  
body and spirit. Be with our children as they begin a  
new school term. Bless them and their teachers and  
staff. Give the strength and grace as their bodies grow;  
wisdom and knowledge to their minds as they search  
for understanding; and peace and zeal to their hearts.  
**We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### VINNIES PANTRY

Can you help by donating the following food items to the Vinnies Pantry: **Sugar, Tinned Fish (Tuna/Salmon), Tinned Spaghetti, Rice, Soap and Toilet Rolls.** Your donations can be left in the baskets at the church doors.

Recently we have had items donated that expired in 2015.

When donating to Vinnies, please ensure that all food products are within the expiry date. Please remember that through this ministry we aren't giving away our rubbish, **we are helping people who are doing it tough and deserve good things.**



At Mary, Queen of the Family Parish we WELCOME, GROW and ACT

# BE BOLD WITH THE *holy spirit*

Our Parish Pentecost Party is fast approaching and to help celebrate the church's birthday party, we are asking for volunteers. Can you help with the following:

**Ministry Stall** to promote your ministry to the community

**BBQ** to feed our guests

**Performances** to entertain and share your talents

*If you or your ministry would like to be part of our local celebration, contact the Parish Office on 9622 1125.*

**PENTECOST PARTY**  
20 MAY 2018 11AM - 1PM

St Patrick's Primary School  
51-59 Allawah St Blacktown 2148

## VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

Blacktown Neighbour Aid, a program with Catholiccare, are looking for volunteers to support our clients in the Blacktown area who are over 65 and living in their own home. You may be able to spare a couple of hours once a week or fortnight to take a client out shopping or to a medical appointment or just stop by for a cuppa and a chat. *If this interests you please contact the Manager, Deb Woolacott on 8843 2541 or 0418 114 055.*



Join a celebratory breakfast with Bishop Vincent, CYP and young people from across all walks of the Diocese.

**When:** Saturday, 12 May  
**Time:** 9.00am—11.30am  
**Where:** Waratah Rm, Rooty Hill RSL  
\$5 Donation buffet breakfast & coffee

Submit your questions to the [Youth Ministry Team](#) and we will present your question for you. Otherwise you can ask your question live on the day!

Leave a message for Franchesca, Chris or Aaron at 9622 1125 or [admin@mqofblacktown.org.au](mailto:admin@mqofblacktown.org.au) for more information about Youth Ministry and upcoming events.



### Jean's Bus Tours

Everyone had a great time on the 5 day trip to Yass Valley. Thank you to everyone who made it so memorable.

**Next Tour: 8 May 2018 Australian Broadcasting Company Tour, Ultimo**

Lunch at Ashfield RSL Club. Departs Blacktown St Pat's 8.30am  
Cost is \$55pp inc. bus, tour and lunch.  
Call Jean for more information on 99203401 or 0425251754.

## Frankly Speaking...

"There are no difficulties, trials or misunderstandings to fear, provided we remain united to God as branches to the vine, provided we do not lose our friendship with him, provided we make ever more room for him in our lives."

- Pope Francis

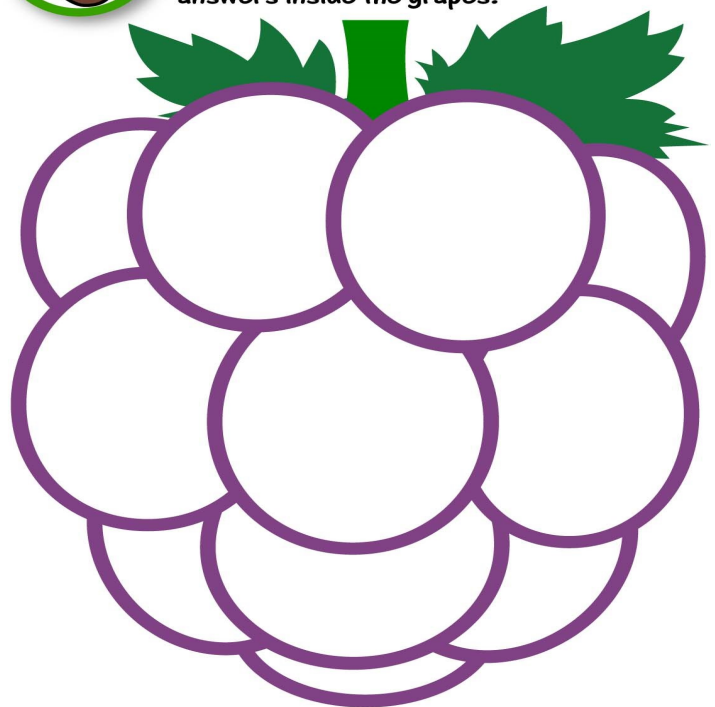


## SHARING THE GOSPEL WITH YOUR CHILDREN

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Jesus says that we must be fruitful disciples. What are some of the ways that you can be a disciple to Jesus? Write or draw your answers inside the grapes.



## SACRAMENTAL PROCESS 2018



The Sacramental Process for 2018 begins next weekend. Let us pray for the children and families who will be journeying to know God more deeply through the sacraments.

Information about each Sacrament can be found via our parish website [www.mqofblacktown.org.au](http://www.mqofblacktown.org.au) and then by clicking on the Sacraments tab, or contact Parish Office on 9622 1125, [sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au](mailto:sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au).

## Be a volunteer OUT THERE

Communities in Myanmar, PNG, Samoa, Timor Leste, Kiribati and Kenya seek volunteers to mentor locals and build capacity. Palms volunteers don't do quick fixes, but immerse themselves in overseas communities for long-term skill exchange. If you have teaching, medical, business, admin or trade skills, share them with our global family!



Palms Australia

Come to a **Palms Info Session:**  
**Saturday 26 May 9am**  
**St Patrick's Cathedral Hall**  
**1 Marist Place, PARRAMATTA**  
(car entry via Victoria Road)

Go to [www.palms.org.au/volunteer](http://www.palms.org.au/volunteer) or Contact Palms on 02 9560 5333

## ANNULMENTS WITHIN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Each year CatholicCare Solo Parent Services presents a Seminar to assist people understand the process of Marriage Annulments in the Catholic Church. The evening is open to anyone who is interested in this process.

**Date:** Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May **Time:** 7pm – 9pm.

**Venue:** St. Patrick's Cathedral Hall, 1 Marist Pl, Parramatta.

**Registration Essential:** Call Rita. PH: 8843 2575 or Email:

[soloparentservices@ccss.org.au](mailto:soloparentservices@ccss.org.au)



## MQOF ALPHA

**Registrations for Alpha:1 have closed but there are ways of being part of this program:**

**Join our hospitality team.** Prepare a meal, or help the team serve and clean up after dinner.

**Join our prayer team.** Prayer is this the heart of our mission, let Alpha:1 be no different!

**Be part of our Children's Ministry Team.** To run the same time as Alpha.

Visit the Parish website and register your interest to assist or sign up on the sheets at the doors of the church.

Please return all prayer flags to the Parish Office by the 29 April.

**Please contact the Parish Office if you have any questions about Alpha or how you can be involved.**

## Erin Kennedy Family Life Coordinator



We welcome **Erin Kennedy** to the role of **Family Life Coordinator**. Erin will join the parish team for 15 hours per week and assist with the areas of Children's Ministry and the Sacramental Process. Please make Erin feel welcome as you see her around the grounds.

**What are a few of your favourite things?** My all-time favourite thing to do is spend time with my family, sharing Thai and watching a movie at home, I'm a bit of a home body. Whenever I have a few days spare I love to escape to our Nation's Capital and stroll through the Library or the War Memorial, and catch up with friends. Or if the sun is shining you could find me at the beach with my feet buried in the sand, with a good book.

**Who inspires you in living your faith to the fullest?** I don't think I can pin point one person..... so many people have inspired me and continue to inspire me every day. I try to live like, and walk with Christ every day, in everything I do. Mary is my 'Motherly' role model, I strive to be like her in how I raise my own children. My parents have been a huge inspiration to me growing my own faith, growing up our faith was an important part of our family, and it's now an important part of my own family and the values I hope to instil in my own children.

**What is your favourite saying, quote or piece of scripture?** "If you cannot do great things, do small things in a great way." – Napoleon Hill.

**What are your hopes about the role of Family Life Coordinator at MQOF?** I am excited to be part of the MQOF team at Blacktown and I hope to continue to carry Christ's light into the world.



**Tony Saba**  
Director

Mobile: 0404 390 620  
Website: [fivestارشuttles.com](http://fivestارشuttles.com)  
Email: [fivestارشuttles@outlook.com](mailto:fivestارشuttles@outlook.com)

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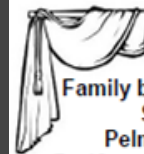
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