

eeklu Bulletim

Mary, Queen of the Family Parish

St. Michael's Church - 58 Orwell Street, South Blacktown. & St. Patrick's Church - 51 - 59 Allawah Street, Blacktown.

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

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

3RD NOVEMBER 2024

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Mary Queen of the Family (MQOF) parish strives to grow as missionary disciples of Jesus Christ, continuing to deepen in understanding the Sacred Scriptures and Sacred Tradition of the Catholic Church and to live as a faithful and committed Catholic community, evangelising and responding to the needs of the family in the Blacktown community and beyond.

LITURGY TIMES

Sunday Masses

5.30pm Sat Vigil (St Patrick's)

7.00am Sun (St Patrick's)

8.00am Sun (St Michael's)

9.30am Sun (St Michael's)

10.00am Sun (St Patrick's)

11.00am 4th Sun - Filo Mass (St Michael's)

2:00pm - Sudanese Mass (St Patrick's)

1.00pm - Syro-Malabar Mass (St Michael's)

5.30pm Sun (St Patrick's)

6.00pm Sun (St Michael's)

Weekday Masses

St Michael's: 8am Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri

7.30pm Wed only

St Patrick's: 9am Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs,

Sat and 7.30pm Fri only.

RECONCILIATION

St Michael's: Wed 6:30pm-7:20pm St Patrick's: Fri 6:30pm-7:20pm &

Sat 9:30am-10:30am

HOLY HOUR

St Michael's: Wed 6:30pm-7:30pm St Patrick's: Fri 6:30pm-7:30pm

Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals & Anointing of the

Sick by appointment.

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength...You shall love your neighbour as yourself...There is no commandment greater than these. Mark 12: 28-34

In the late 18th Century, the English poet William Blake wrote what might be considered a nutshell summary of today's gospel-reading: "I sought my soul, but my soul I could not see; I sought my God, but my God eluded me; I sought my neighbour, and I found all

With William Blake's words in mind, we can launch into an exploration of what might have moved Jesus to state that the commandment to love God with all of one's being is inseparably linked to the commandment to love one's neighbour. In today's gospel-reading from Mark, we hear tell of an apparently friendly conversation between Jesus and a scribe. Jesus had so many confrontations with Pharisees and scribes trying to catch him out, that we can all too easily conclude that they were all tarred with the same brush. Perhaps the scribe who approached Jesus with his question about the greatest commandment already knew the answer to what he was asking and was only looking to Jesus for confirmation. Jesus responded by linking together two commandments from the Torah which every practicing Jew would have known without even thinking that they were really inextricably linked. The first of those commandments, known as the Shema, was written on every devout Jew's heart, repeated in prayer twice every day and displayed on the doorpost of every Jewish household. It is to be found in Deuteronomy (6: 4-9) as it was taught to the people by Moses following a directive from God. The second: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself" is from Leviticus (19: 18). These two directives joined together by Jesus in answer to the friendly scribe's question are neither metaphors nor recommendations. They are commandments! They are integral to authentically faithful Christian living.

What's more, there are repeated references to them in the New Testament. Luke, for example, records a conversation between Jesus and a lawyer which parallels today's gospel -reading from Mark. In response to the lawyer's question: "And who is my neighbour?" (Luke 10: 29), Jesus responded with the parable of *The Good Samaritan*, making the point that we are to love even those who have been regarded as hostile and/or repulsive. Jesus presented the Samaritan as a model to be imitated, as one who had learned to be merciful to a Jew in need. Moreover, the writer of John's First Letter boldly states: "Anyone who says: 'I love God', and hates his brother, is a liar, since anyone who does not love the brother whom he can see, cannot love God, whom he has never seen" (1 John 4: 20)

Cont'd

Parish Directory

St. Michael's Church - 58 Orwell Street, South Blacktown &

St. Patrick's Church - 51-59 Allawah Street Blacktown.

Parish Office: At St. Patrick's Church. Office Hours: Mon-Fri: 9am-4pm Telephone: 02 9622 1125 A/H: 02 8705 0830.

Website: www.mqofblacktown.org.au Email: admin@mqofblacktown.org.au

Parish Team:

Parish Priest: Fr. Wim Hoekstra.

Assistant Priests: Fr. Ever Bernaldez, MSP & Fr. Andrew Rooney

Deacon: Rev. John Cinva.

Finance Officer: Sarah Canete-Damole Email: accounts@mqofblacktown.org.au Secretary: Gerald "Ged" Oblea (Mon & Tues)

Parish Assistant: Ann Hart (Wed-Fri) Email: admin@mqofblacktown.org.au

Sacramental Coordinator: Gerald "Ged" Oblea. Mobile: 0422 724 008

Email: sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au Catechist Coordinator: Sandra Baker

Parish Pastoral Council: Chair: Cecil Fernandes; Asst Chair: Joshua Carr Secretary: Savita Surendra

Members: Beato Pudadera, Ekhlas Ambili, Erica Luiz, Harlane Petersen, Helena Vea, Sidney Lazum, Fr. Wim Hoekstra, Fr. Andrew Rooney, Fr. Ever Bernaldez, Rev. John Cinva.

Parish Schools:

St Michael's Primary:

P: 8869 6200 https://www.stmichaelsblacktown.catholic.edu.au

St Patrick's Primary: : 8869 6000

https://www.stpatsblacktown.catholic.edu.au

Nagle College:

P: 8887 4500 https://www.nagleblacktown.catholic.edu.au

Patrician Brothers College:

P: 8811 0300 https://www.patsblacktown.nsw.edu.au

Catholic Early Learning Centre (St Michael's):
P: 8814 8406 https://www.celcblacktownsth.catholic.edu.au

Aged Care Facilities:
Opal Nursing Home (37 Kildare Rd, Blacktown NSW 2148) P : 9852 9600

Mulluana Retirement Village (61 Bungarribee Rd, Blacktown NSW 2148) P: 8822 2100

There is a pressing challenge here for every single one of us and for all the parish communities and Church organisations to which we belong. Who exactly are our neighbours? Are they only the people with whom we have cultivated friendships, only those with whom we regularly socialise? What efforts do we make to engage with the residents who live in houses in the vicinity of our parish churches? Do we ever go out of our way to engage with struggling women and men who find shelter at night on the fringes and in the We are a welcoming parish... you are invited, welcomed, accepted, loved fronts?

participants in their helplessness, misery and loneliness. We can become numbed to their need. We regret their misfortune but, somehow, distance ourselves from it. We have an expression for situations that we find repulsive - "I wouldn't touch it with a 10foot pole or a barge pole." One parish wag remarked: "Our Church needs a set of 11-foot poles to help us deal with all those Volunteers are formally registered by filling out a *Join a Ministry* form that is neighbours we wouldn't touch with 10-foot poles!

Jesus' response to the scribe in today's gospel-reading highlights the importance of neighbours in the development, growth and personal formation of everyone of us. We are who we are because we have been shaped by other people parents, mentors, friends, colleagues, neighbours, teachers, sports coaches, writers, wisdom figures and strangers we have not even met. They have all been created in the image of God and God's Spirit in alive, at least in some small way, in everyone of them. Were it not for them, we would have no relationship with our God, Jesuit Priest, Michael Buckley contributed in 2016 to the Christian Century magazine an article entitled: "What Mary Saw at Cana: The indispensability of others". Not only does this article highlight Mary's sensitivity to the embarrassment of those who had invited her and Jesus to their I Tinned Vegetables, Tinned Spaghetti, Tinned Meat, Tinned Chickpeas, wedding, but the vital significance of Jesus' response to his l Tinned Lentils, Pasta Sauce, Baked Beans. Your donations will go to help mother's comment that the wine for the guests had run out. "What I those who are doing it tough in our community and beyond. Thank you for is this to me and to you?" is a question that implied that we all have a role to play in addressing the concerns that impact on the lives of people who belong to the broad category of neighbours. Their concerns all too often are part and parcel of the social-justice agenda of our world and our Christian community. Mary's comment: "They have no wine" was not a request, but it evoked from Jesus a question that raised the need for all his followers to respond with empathy and practical action to all who find themselves in need of support and help. The Gospel that Jesus proclaimed had at its foundation that we are all created equal, with I a right to self-determination and a share in the goodness of creation, enabling us all to live with dignity and be respected by all around us.

As Christians, we have, first of all, to notice situations that arise in our local communities and in our wider world that evoke from us the observation "They have no wine." To live the Gospel demands us to move from the position of spectator to activist. I conclude with one illustration from Michael Buckley: "Women demeaned and threatened by violence and their disproportionate level of financial insecurity, patronised and discriminated against at the highest level of decision-making even within the Church, and by their level of poverty..."They have no wine!"

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Mary's Café Wednesday after the 9am Mass at

St Patricks

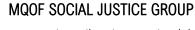
Monday 4 November St. Charles Borromeo

Friday 9 November The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica



doorways of our parish churches and halls, or in nearby shop- and respected by the Catholic Community of Mary, Queen of the Family. If you are not an active member of this Community, consider partaking in what We can easily become spectators, looking at those around us who we have to offer. We serve the Community through outreach, education, are struggling, destitute and overlooked rather than being social activities, sacramental preparation, youth and comfort to the sick and In addition to our spiritual and outreach organisations, perchance you have an interest in joining one of our many liturgical ministries such as: Minister of Holy Communion, Reader/Commentator, Welcomer, Collectors, Minister of DVP/Power Point, Catechists etc.

> then entered into the parish data system (information supplied remains confidential). These forms are available from the parish office or in the church foyer, or for further information call the Parish Office on 9622 1125.



We encourage you to continue to support and donate non perishable items for Mary's Pantry. These are some suggestions: Cereal, Pasta, Instant Noodles, Rice, Biscuits, Milk, Tinned Soup, Tinned Fruit, Tinned, Fish,

your generosity.

Thank you also for continuing to support the MQOF Social Justice Group 10 cents bottle collection.

Please come and join us for a cuppa and a chat at Mary's Café. We are open every Wednesday after the 9am Mass in the Cardinal Clancy Room.

All are welcome!!







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- l 4. Enter your Name and your Email address to register a new account and press "Sign Up";
- 5. Download the FORMED app on your phone and "Sign In" using your email address in step 4;
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THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Psalm 37:22-23

Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me! Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation!

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 6:2-6

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PS 17:2-4. 47. 51. R.V.2

R ~ I love you Lord, my strength.

Second Reading: Hebrews 7:23-28

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: John 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,

and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Mark 12:28-34

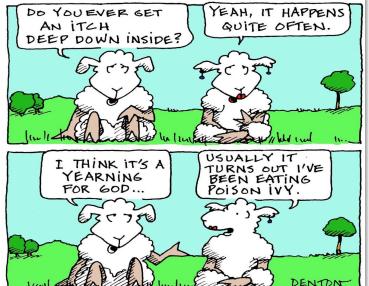
One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him, 'Which is the first of all the commandments?' Jesus replied, 'This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.' The scribe said to him, 'Well spoken, Master; what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself, this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice.' Jesus, seeing how wisely he had spoken, said, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' And after that no one dared to question him any more.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Cf Psalm 15:11

You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.

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"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength."

Sheepish Question:

How do I describe my yearning for God?

GOLF DAY

We would like to thank the Players, Sponsors and all those who assisted in making our Golf Day a success. We raised \$3,630.00.

Next Year's Fundraising Golf Day will be on Friday 24 October 2025.

Please SAVE this date for next year!! Put it in your diary now!!



CHRISTMAS-GIVING TREE



To help create a brighter Christmas for those who are experiencing hardships in the community, Mary's Pantry will place CHRISTMAS GIVING TREES in the foyers of both churches from 3 November to 17 November. We once again parishioners to take a tag or two to help the needy in our community and beyond.

Thank you and God bless.

MARY'S PANTRY

November Masses

November is traditionally the month in which we remember our deceased family members and friends. A book of remembrance has been placed in each Church, where we invite you to write the names of your deceased loved ones. If you would also like to have those who have gone before us remembered in all Masses during November, please write their names on the 'November Mass Offering' envelopes, located in the Church foyer. Place it on either collection plate, or hand it in to the Parish Office. All names will be typed up and placed near the altar for the duration of November.

Please remember our deceased loved ones.

May they Rest In Peace

During November only the names of recently deceased will be published in the parish bulletin.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Ken Brown, Maureen Davis, Philomena Menezes

DEATH ANNIVERSARY

Anthony John Borwne.

SICK

Jean Hart, Ingrid Piu, Fr. Noel Bianco, Alejandra Montero, Katrina Jukic, Angela Mikhaiel, Michael Flanjak.

Names submitted to Parish for the sick list will be published for 4 weeks at a time.

Mass intentions can be requested online by following the link below: https://www.mqofblacktown.org/mass-intention-or-offering-request

THE SACRAMENTS / MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

PASTORAL CARE FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Our clergy and pastoral care ministers bring the sacraments of Eucharist, reconciliation, and anointing of the sick to members who are unable to participate because of illness or aging. For more information and to arrange receiving of the sacraments, please contact the Parish Office on 9622 1125 or after office hours number 02 8705 0830.



PARISH GROUPS

Contact: Richard Desa, richarddesa@bigpond.com

Meeting Time and Venue: Every Thursday, 7:30pm

Meeting Time and Venue: Saturday 9 November 6:30pm

-9:30pm at Sid Mosley Centre, St Michael's Church.

Meeting Time and Venue: Monday 18th November, 10:00 am at Cardinal Clancy room, St Patrick's Church

Contact: Max Rosario, 0490 137 533 (for statue

Meeting Time and Venue: Every Thursday,

at Sid Mosley Centre St. Michael's Church.

Contact: Charles Hyson, 0412 631 602.

Contact: Antoinette Mangion, 0414 735 943

www.holyfamilyfellowship.com

bookings)

All are welcome!

Contact: Sandra Baker

office.

admin@mqofblacktown.org.au

BIBLE STUDY GROUP



HOLY FAMILY FELLOWSHIP PRAYER GROUP

JOSEPHITE COMPANIONS



LEGION OF MARY ST MICHAEL'S



LEGION OF MARY ST PATRICK'S



Contact: Doris Zammit, 0419 274 002(for statue bookings) **Meeting Time and Venue:** Every Monday, 6:30pm at Cardinal Clancy room, St Patrick's Church.

Meeting Time and Venue: Monday 9:30am-10:30am at

1:00pm - 2:30pm at Sid Mosley Centre, St Michael's

MARIAN MOVEMENT OF PRIESTS



MQOF SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP



12pm—2pm at Cardinal Clancy room, St Patrick's Church

Meeting Time and Venue: Sunday 10 November,

Contact: Max Rosario, 0490 137 533

Contact: Glen D'sliva. 0414 062 072

Sid Mosley Centre, St Michael's Church.

ROSARY GROUP



Contact: Diane Zerafa, 0403 554 566

Meeting Time and Venue: Every Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday & Friday after the 8am Mass, at St Michael's church.

CATECHIST MINISTRY



TEHILLAH COMMUNITY



 $\pmb{\text{Contact:}}$ Ash & Rozario Fernando , 0416 861 976 or 0412 195 916

For More Information please contact our the parish

Meeting Time and Venue: Saturday 9 November 2pm - 4pm at the Cardinal Clancy Room, St Patrick's Church.

TRUE LIFE IN GOD PRAYER GROUP



YOUTH MINISTRY



Contact: Parish Office admin@mqofblacktown.org.au For More Information please contact our Youth Minister through the parish office.

SACRAMENT OF INITIATION



With joyful hearts, we welcome our newly Baptised to our parish community: Cohen Higgins

Parents wishing to have their children baptised are to contact the parish office prior to attending a Baptism workshop. The next workshop will on Saturday 7th December 2024 - St. Patrick's Church.

For more information please logon to our website: https://mqofblacktown.org.au/sacraments/#baptism

SACRAMENTAL PROCESS AT THE PARISH

Thank you to all the families who registered for our parish process for First Reconciliation. A gentle reminder that our process has now commenced. Parents who have a candidate registered for this process need to attend the sessions.

Parent Encounters - Tuesday 5th November at 7:00pm at St. Patrick's Church Or Thursday 7th November at 9:00am at the Cardinal Clancy Room next to St. Patrick's Church

Family Workshop - Saturday 8th November 4pm to 5pm or Sunday 9th November 9am to 10am at St. Patrick's School MPA. We look forward to meeting your family.

Please take a Purple Prayer card to pray for a candidate.

Follow the below link for more information about our sacramental process: https://mqofblacktown.org.au/sacraments/

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact our sacramental coordinator on the details below:

Gerald "Ged" Oblea (Sacramental Coordinator) Email: sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au



Join us every Wednesday from 10:00am until 12:00pm at Sid Moseley St. Michael's Church and every Friday from 10:00am till 12:00pm at Cardinal Clancy room at St. Patrick's Church, for our Arts and Crafts activities will include: Embroidery and Embellishment, Crocheting, Knitting, Arts and Crafts (Painting) & Sewing.

Please, note all sessions are free. Materials for the lessons is provided or bring your own materials. Refreshments are provided.

For any inquiries please contact: Noemi Romero on 0475 798 770.

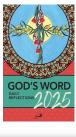
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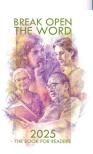
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JOIN US FOR OUR FINAL EVENT OF THE YEAR! JOIN US FOR A DAY OF FORMATION, REFLECTION ON THE YEAR THAT WAS, AND PRAY FOR THE YEAR THAT IS TO COME!

WHEN: 10th Nov 2024, 2:30pm - 6:30pm

WHERE: St Patrick's Church

Fellowship, Session Speakers, Reflection, Deanery Youth Mass

@ CENTRAL DEANERY YOUTH

SAVE THESE DATES FOR UPCOMING EVENTS

30 November 9am to 4pm Simon Carrington.

14 December 6pm Christmas Gala Night at Nagle

College Hall

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL PLANNING DAY

You are invited to join the Parish Pastoral Council of MQOF Parish for their Planning Day on Saturday 16 November 2024 from 9:30am to about 3pm, in St Pat's MPA.

Join other members of the Parish Community to discuss and plan for 2025. If you are intending to come please advise via admin@mgofblacktown.org.au





Join the residents at St Hedwig Retirement Village for a fun-filled community event . Explore a variety of market stalls with hand-made crafts and pre-loved treasures, there's a sausage sizzle, tea or coffee a range of baked sweet treats and other fun activities.

MARKET DAY

Saturday 16th November, 10am-2pm St Hedwig Village 134–140 Reservoir Road, Blacktown Call 1300 191 472 or visit sthedwigvillage.com.au

CHURCH MAINTENANCE UPDATE

St Patrick's Church - Roof Project Update

On Thursday 3rd October, we submitted an application to spend \$600,000 and to borrow \$500,000 with the Bishop so as to begin the works relating to the roof of St Patrick's Church. We appreciate your support on this and any further contributions are appreciated.

We are still awaiting the Diocese's response to our application to spend \$600K and to borrow \$500k so as to begin the works relating to the roof at St Patrick's.

In the light of this application, all donations to the parish, using the various TAP'N'GO machines around the Churches will now go to meet the development and maintenance needs of the parish which will of course. include repayments to the Diocese for our loan. As a result, the specific "Raise the Roof" donations are suspended, and the machines will be used for the parish needs.

Also, owing to the END of the 3G network to which our QUEST machines are linked, there are new machines with which you all be familiar as they have recently been used for the "Raise the Roof" Campaign.

To assist our parish needs, can you consider donating regularly online, either via EFT, credit/debit cards or even envelopes. This will help us plan for the future of Mary Queen of the Family Parish.

Thank you for your continued generosity

Fr Wim

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

You can also support the parish by using our Tap & Go Machine. The machine is set at \$10, to donate more than \$10 simply tap your credit card as many times as you like. It also accepts Apple Pay, Google Pay and Pay Wave. ΑII contributions go to the maintenance and development of the Parish as does the second collection at weekend Masses.



Planned Giving (Direct Debit or Credit Card) is also an option if you wish to do cashless donation to the parish, forms are available in the fover and on our parish website or contact the parish office

9622 1125.

Setting up a one-time or recurring donation/Planned Giving is quick and easy. Just go to: www.mgofblacktown.org.au/donations.

You can also send your offerings/donations thru bank transfer:

FIRST COLLECTION: For the Diocesan Clergy

Account Name: Diocesan Clergy

Account Number: 0000 4265 BSB: 067 950 Bank: CBA

Reference: 6004 - Donor's Name

SECOND COLLECTION: For the Parish

Account Name: Blacktown Catholic Church BSB: 067 950 Account Number: 0000 0677 Bank: CBA

Reference: 6004 ~ Donor's name

If you encounter any issues signing up, please email Sarah at accounts@mqofblacktown.org.au. Thank you so much for your continued support to our parish. We are grateful!

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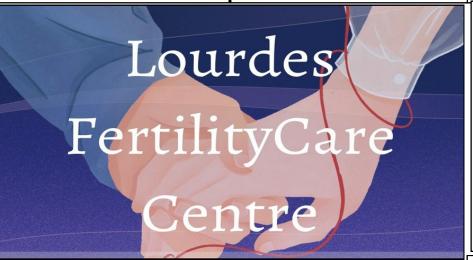
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Are you a person with a disability between 7 and 65 YOA? Are you struggling with accessing Services? Did you need help with managing your funding? We can help you meet your NDIA and/or Aged Care goals!

Are you a person who enjoys helping others?

Are you seeking paid flexible, casual/part time employment – we can link you with rewarding work to help people who need local home & garden services AND home & community care*.

We'd love to hear from you!

business.ablechoice@gmail.com



Contact: 0288097084**

*We can help you with information to meet NDIA, Aged Care, ATO and our Company Policy standards. **Monday and Wednesday ONLY.

Opportunity for a CAREER in the construction industry for an Electrical Apprenticeship (4 year course).

Our long established company based in the greater western suburbs is seeking committed applicants with the following criteria:

- ⇒ a motivated and dynamic individual willing to learn on the job.
- ⇒ must be committed to completing the relevant TAFE course in Cert III Electro Technology.*

*will need school results appropriate to completing the course.

valid car licence with car for travel to and from work.

For further information contact: Mark @ 0417 181 228.





St Patrick's Primary Blacktown

Is your child ready to start Kindy?

Call now for a School Tour!

02 8869 6000

Enrolment Packs Available Now!

Please call the school office to organize your enrolment pack or download an enrolment form from our school website. https://www.stpatsblacktown.catholic.edu.au/

Or During weekdays on 8869 6000 between 8:30am and 3:30pm



St Michael's Primary School Blacktown South

155 Reservoir Road Blacktown South https://www.stmichaelsblacktown.catholic.edu.au/





Enrolling now for 2025

Contact the school office on 8869 6200 or download an enrolment pack from our website.

Which are the most important commandments?

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B



Jesus said that the most important commandments were to love God and to love others as we love ourselves. What are some ways we can show our love?

I show love for God when I



Whenever we show kindness, love and respect for others, we are loving God. Draw a picture of yourself doing something that shows love for God.

I show love for others when I

Fill in the missing words to complete the story.

love

second

God

answered

yourself

teacher

heart

first

asked

commandment

An exper	t in the Jewish
law	Jesus,
"	, what is the
most imp	ortant
	? "



esus:	: "Love the Lord your
with all your	$___$, soul and
nind." This is the $_$ $_$	and most
mportant command	ment. The
s like it : " yo	our neighbour as much
as you love	"-