



Weekly Bulletin

Mary, Queen of the Family Parish

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

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

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD - CHRISTMAS DAY

25 DECEMBER 2025



*Fr Wim,
Fr Stephen,
Fr Tom,
Fr Andrewes,
Deacon John
and the MQOF
Parish Staff
wish all our
parish
community
members and
visitors
a happy and
holy Christmas.*

*May Christ's peace be with you and your families
throughout this time and for 2026*

If you are a recent arrival in the area, welcome to our parish family. Perhaps this is your occasional vis-it, and if so, why not drop in more often?

Perhaps you have drifted away from the practice of your faith. There are many reasons, why some people drift away from the Church

- for some it is the pain of divorce or a feeling of being judged
- for others it is a bad experience at the hands of a priest or parishioner
- for some it is the bad publicity as a result of sexual abuse by clergy
- for some life's difficulties have led to a feeling of having been let down by God or they feel the Church to be irrelevant in a fast changing world
- others can't explain why they've drifted, they just have
- others feel guilty about drifting away and just don't know how to come back to the practice of the faith

If so, no matter what your reason or how long you have been away, we are always happy to say

You are Welcome!

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

CHRIST'S CATHOLIC COMMUNITY GROUP



Contact: Jane Cauchi, 0433 173 177
Meeting Time and Venue: Fridays, 9.30am
 Sid Moseley Centre, St. Michael's Church
 All are welcome!



Love arts and crafts? Join us on every Tuesday, 10am-1pm in the Sid Mosely Room, St. Michael's and Fridays from 10am-12pm at the Cardinal Clancy Room, St. Patrick's Church. Activities include embroidery, crocheting, knitting, painting and sewing.
Contact Noemi Romero on 0475 798 770.

JOSEPHITE COMPANIONS



Contact: Antoinette Mangion, 0414 735 943
Meeting Time and Venue: Every 3rd Monday of the month, 10:00 am at Cardinal Clancy room, St Patrick's Church

LEGION OF MARY ST MICHAEL'S



Contact: Max Rosario, 0490 137 533 (for statue bookings) President: Steve Attard.
Meeting Time and Venue: Every Thursday, 9am-10.30am at Sid Mosley Centre, St Michael's Church.

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.

MARIAN MOVEMENT OF PRIESTS



Contact: Max Rosario, 0490 137 533
Meeting Time and Venue: Monday 9:30am-10:30am at Sid Mosley Centre, St Michael's Church.
 All are welcome!

MQOF SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP—MARY'S PANTRY

ROSARY GROUP

Contact: Frank Mangion, 0410 830 877

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

Contact: Sandra Baker
 admin@mqofblacktown.org.au
 For more information, please contact the parish office.

TEHILLAH COMMUNITY



Contact: Ash & Rozario Fernando, 0416 861 976 or 0412 195 916
Meeting Time and Venue: Every 2nd & 4th Saturday (during school term only), 2pm - 4pm at the Cardinal Clancy Room, St Patrick's Church.

TRUE LIFE IN GOD PRAYER GROUP



Contact: Diane Zerafa, 0403 554 566
Meeting Time and Venue: Every 2nd Saturday of the month, 3.00pm at Sid Mosley Centre St Michael's Church

YOUTH MINISTRY

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

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM

If you wish your child to be baptised here at MQOF Parish, please contact the parish office or go online. If this is your first child, you will need to attend a Baptism workshop.

The next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, 5th February, 2026 at 7:00pm in the Cardinal Clancy Room.**

For more information please log on to our website:
<https://mqofblacktown.org.au/sacraments/#baptism>

MQOF SACRAMENTS PROGRAM FOR 2026

Sacrament of Eucharist -First Communion

For children eight/nine years of age or older who have received the Sacrament of Penance.

- Online registration 3 April to 19 April
- Workbook sessions from 27 April to 30 May
- First communion Masses — weekends of 6-7 June and 13-14 June

Sacrament of Confirmation

For children ten/eleven years of age or older who have received the Sacraments of Penance and Eucharist.

- Online registration 3 to 19 July
- Workbook sessions from August
- Confirmation Masses — Tuesday 8 September at 7pm Thursday 10 September at 7pm

Sacrament of Penance

For children 7 or 8 years of age or older who have not received the Sacrament of Penance.

- Online registration 25 September to 11 October
- Workbook sessions—October and November
- Sacrament of Reconciliation Thursday 26 November 4pm onwards

Please keep an eye for emails and notices in Parish

PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY

RECENTLY DECEASED

Gerard Clements, Erlinda Connor, Joe Tanti, Thomas Stephenson

DEATH ANNIVERSARY

Rosario P De Jesus, Pacita Ramon, Rosalina Pineda, Lucina Antuczewicz Patricia Byrne, Michael Debono

DECEASED

Richard Osbourne, Joe Angelo, Carmelo Mortebello, Orfeo Marchetti, Danny Velcich, Neville Johnstone, Marguerite Bru Francisco Rey & Francia, Aloysius & Hilda Coutinho

SICK

Marilou Van Asten, John McGettigan

THANKSGIVING

Able Choice, Cruz, Luiz and Bruce families, Ellen Jane, Jays family, Rajeeva & Rosharie

Mass intentions can be requested online at:
<https://mqofblacktown.org.au/mass-intentions/>

"IN SANTO NIÑO WE ARE ONE"

36th Anniversary
Fiesta Sinulog
2026

Cofradia del
Señor Santo Niño
of Sydney Incorporated



Main Celebrant: Fr Wim Hoekstra, EV

Sunday, 18 Jan '26 Concelebrated Mass at 2:00 pm

St Patrick's Church, 51-59 Allawah St, Blacktown, NSW 2148

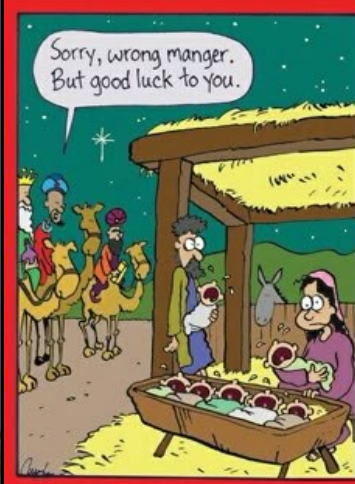
All devotees please bring your Santo Niño Statues

Contact Persons:

Ella 0404 871 319 . Marideth 0407 250 562 . Nick 0413 066 490 Luz 0410 564 331
Marissa 0431 503 333 . Dianne 0420 844 955 . Aline 0416 876 912 . Sarah 0405 756 752

SCHEDULE OF THE 9-DAYS NOVENA MASSES @ 7 PM

Date	Venue	Address
Day 1 Thursday, 8th Jan	Holy Spirit Catholic Church	5 Todd Row, St Clair, NSW 2759
Day 2 Friday, 9th Jan	St Nicholas of Myra Catholic Church	326 High Street, Penrith NSW 2750
Day 3 Saturday, 10th Jan	Our Lady of Holy Rosary Catholic Church	26 Swanston Street, St Marys 2760
Day 4 Sunday, 11th Jan	St Aidan's Catholic Church	9 Adelaide Street, Rooty Hill, NSW 2766
Day 5 Monday, 12th Jan	St Paul, the Apostle Catholic Church	40 Buckleys Road, Winston Hills, NSW 2153
Day 6 Tuesday, 13th Jan	The Good Shepherd Catholic Church	136 Hyatts Road, Plumpton, NSW 2761
Day 7 Wednesday, 14th Jan	St Andrew, The Apostle Catholic Church	40 Breakfast Road, Marayong, NSW 2148
Day 8 Thursday, 15th Jan	Mary Immaculate Catholic Church	125 Barnier Drive, Quakers Hill, NSW 2763
Day 9 Friday, 16th Jan	Our Lady of the Rosary Church	8 Diana Avenue, Kellyville NSW 2155



Happy
Christmas

Be The Witness

THE MUSICAL
THAT WILL TURN YOUR LIFE AROUND

Vocal Auditions

St Patricks Church
Allawah St Blacktown

Sun 18 Jan '26 11 - 4pm
Mon 19 Jan '26 6 - 8pm



music@bethewitness.com.au



Scan to book



Migrant Jubilee Cross -

celebrating the
contributions of
our migrant and
refugee
Communities
will be at
Mary Queen of the
Family Parish -

St Patrick's Church on Wednesday January 7 with Mass
at 7pm, supported by the Filipino Community.

Mary's Pantry and Café Closure Dates

Mary's Café morning tea will resume on Wednesday 4th February.
Mary's Pantry will be closed from 22nd December to 7th January.

We thank everyone for their continued support and patronage.
Wishing you and your families a blessed Christmas and
joyous New Year.

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

You can also support the parish by using the:

Tap & Go Machine. The machine amount is variable, please
use the screen to donate the amount you wish to give. It also
accepts Apple Pay, Google Pay and Pay Wave. All
contributions go to the maintenance and development of the
Parish as does the second collection at weekend Masses.



BISHOP VINCENT'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

Peace be with you this Christmas 2025!

Christmas is about birth, new beginnings and regeneration and the wonder of newborn life.

Mary, the Mother of God, yet also a young pregnant woman, was probably afraid, suffering, in a strange place. The no-doubt-anxious Joseph, hovering around, maybe running off to get clean cloths as the birth approached. The baby boy, born in blood and tears and happiness as all babies are, time without end.

And then the explosion of joy at this beginning - angels in the sky, a beacon star, kneeling shepherds and later, grave Magi bringing royal gifts. Christmas is all this – the joy, the pain, the fear, the expectation, the utter humanity of birth –the everyday miracle and an even greater miracle. God has become one of us and now dwells amongst us forever!

However, Christmas does not just console us with the proclamation of the Emmanuel -Goddwelling-among-us. It also challenges us to act to transform our world. God comes among us not in a parade of power and glory. Rather he chooses to immerse himself fully with our human condition, embracing the trials and tribulations of life. Therefore, reclaiming the Christmas spirit means none other than to imitate God's radical solidarity even at the risk of jeopardising our own status and privilege.

Let's never forget that our God, the maker of all things visible and invisible, was reduced to the most vulnerable of creatures; another little Middle Eastern boy caught up in

homelessness, poverty and a cruel cycle of violence.

Christmas then, above all, is the special time when we remember our God-given duty to transform the world and our grave responsibility to become peacemakers.

The very first words of our new Holy Father Pope Leo XIV, as Pope, are worth recalling:

Peace be with all of you! Dearest brothers and sisters, this is the first greeting of the Risen Christ, the good shepherd who gave his life for God's flock. I, too, would like this greeting of peace to enter your hearts, to reach your families, and all people, wherever they are, all of the people, all over the earth...This is the peace of the Risen Christ, an unarmed peace and a disarming peace, humble and persevering. It comes from God, God who loves us all unconditionally.

Yes, our violent chaotic planet desperately needs this peace of Christ!

Daily our hearts continue to break, when we see the violence especially to children, in places like Gaza, Ukraine and Myanmar.

We cannot just watch all this suffering in front of our eyes passively. We must act then as disciples of Jesus of Nazareth, in the spirit of the Beatitudes, to bring about real change.

Together as the Body of Christ, we can make a difference.

My prayer, therefore, is that each of you will feel God's closeness and become instruments of peace in the New Year ahead.

With Pope Leo and St Francis of Assisi, in this holy season of goodwill and peace, we pray: Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv
Bishop of Parramatta

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 - Filiino Mass (St Michael's)
1.00pm - Syro-Malabar Mass (St Michael's)
2.00pm - Sudanese Mass (St Patrick'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; 7.30pm Fri only.

Reconciliation (confession)

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

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. Stephen Onyekwere, Fr Tom Green
Deacon: Rev. John Cinya.
Finance Officer: Sarah Canete-Damole **Email:** accounts@mqofblacktown.org.au
Parish Assistant: Jill Franco
Email: admin@mqofblacktown.org.au
Sacramental Coordinator: Parish Team
Catechist Coordinator: Sandra Baker

Parish Finance Committee:

Sarah Canete-Damole, Michael Zerafa, Reagan Lobo, Kiran Saldanha, Anita Cvitkovic, Frederick Brillo, Angeline Sandrakumar, Cholly Paderanga, Fr Wim Hoekstra, Fr Tom Green, Fr Stephen Onyekwere, Deacon John Cinya

Parish Pastoral Council Members:

Daniel Mangabat, Don DeMello, Erica Luiz, Eva Cheetley, Helena Vea, Josh Carr, Marian Asiegbu, Mary Mondeddu, Savita Surendra, Trevor Brewty, Vince Tabone, Fr Wim Hoekstra, Fr Tom Green, Fr Stephen Onyekwere & Deacon John Cinya.

Parish Schools:

St Michael's Primary: Phone 8869 6200 **St Patrick's Primary:** Phone: 8869 6000
Nagle College: Phone: 8887 4500 **Patrician Brothers College:** Phone: 8811 0300
Ambrose Early Learning Centre (St Michael's): Phone 0458 508 444

Aged Care Facilities:

Opal Nursing Home (37 Kildare Rd, Blacktown NSW 2148) P: 9852 9600
Mullauna Village (61 Bungarribee Rd, Blacktown NSW 2148) P: 8822 2100
St Hedwig Village (140 Reservoir Rd, Blacktown 2148) P: 8822 9920