



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.

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

22 FEBRUARY 2026

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 - Filio 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;
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 (except during Lent)

Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals & Anointing of the Sick by appointment.



EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS 2028

Next Sunday marks the official start of a three-year pilgrimage the whole nation is embarking upon in preparation for the International Eucharistic Congress in 2028.

Sydney will be hosting the event which promises to abound with grace and to offer the Church in wider Sydney and indeed the whole country a time of renewal.

On Sunday 1st March, every parish in Australia will be uniting in an hour of Eucharistic adoration after Sunday mass to pray for a fruitful Congress and to begin our preparation for that event in silent adoration before the Lord.

St Patrick's Church will host the holy hour after the 10am mass which will be followed by light refreshments in the Clancy room.

To maintain a spirit of prayer in the Church, there will be no morning tea after the 10am Mass as is usual. This will be delayed till 12noon.

Rite of Election of Catechumens

At 2pm this Sunday at St Patrick's Cathedral, Bishop Vincent will welcome all the Catechumens from the Diocese of Parramatta who will receive the Sacraments of Initiation at Easter in the Rite of Election. There will be a little ritual of sending for our 6 catechumens—Ashlee, Daniel, Matthew, Daniel, Rahul and Judy—at the 10am Mass at St Patrick's.

Please pray for them as they take this momentous step in their call to become disciples of Jesus.

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 Emergencies only: 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 Secretary: Jill Franco Email: jfranco@mqofblacktown.org.au

Sacramental Coordinator: Parish Team

Email: sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au

Catechist Coordinator: Sandra Baker

Parish Pastoral Council:

Chairperson: Vince Tabone; Deputy Chairperson: Daniel Mangabat; Secretary: Eva Cheetley. Members: Don DeMello, Erica Luiz, Helena Vea, Josh Carr, Marian Asiegbu, Mary Mondeddu, Savita Surendra, Trevor Brewty, 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 Retirement Village (61 Bungarribee Rd, Blacktown NSW 2148)

P: 8822 2100

St Hedwig Village Blacktown (140 Reservoir Rd, Blacktown 2148)

P: 8822 9920

MASS INTENTIONS AND OFFERINGS

In accordance with the law of the Church, priests are only permitted (under usual circumstances) to accept one intention for each mass. This is to ensure that we avoid any appearance of trading in sacred things but is also a matter of justice for the donors, that they rightfully have mass(es) offered for the intention they request.

This means that even if a number of intentions are requested for one mass (as is often the case) the priest will only apply one intention to that mass and accept its offering.

The other intentions requested will be applied to later masses.

It is recommended that, especially when you know that you will be wanting a mass offered on a particular date and time (anniversaries, birthdays, etc.) you arrange with the parish office well in advance. This will ensure that the priest is able to plan ahead, since we receive a large number of intentions.

Please also be aware that a Parish Priest or Parish Administrator has an obligation to offer one mass on a Sunday *pro populo*, meaning "for the people". This means that he cannot accept any intention for that mass as he is duty bound to offer the mass for all parishioners.

So please note following:

- A priest can only accept one intention for each Mass and is allowed only one offering per day.
- As the priest may already have a mass intention for the Mass he is celebrating, **when you offer an envelope to either the celebrant or the acolyte, you acknowledge that he may not be able to celebrate this mass offering at this time**, but be assured that the Mass intention will be offered at another Mass.
- The various offering envelopes given for that Mass time – either to the celebrant or to the acolyte - will be treated as follows:
 - The priest may announce the specific offering at the beginning of Mass or at some other time
 - Multiple mass offering envelopes given for that Mass will be mentioned in the prayers of the faithful, but only for deceased persons.
 - Masses for the offerings given will be celebrated at a later time – either by the clergy of the parish, other clergy from the Diocese, or sent to organisations, such as *Aid to the Church in Need* which supports priests in other countries.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS
EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT
6.30PM
FOLLOWED BY MASS AT 7.30PM
ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH**



Lenten Parish Mission

with Simon Carrington



Mon, Mar 9

The Four Pillars of Lent:
Prayer, Fasting, Almsgiving and Forgiveness

Tue, Mar 10

The Four Last Things:
Death, Judgement, Heaven and Hell

Thu, Mar 12

True Repentance:
Avoiding the Three Nooses of Satan



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



6:30pm Rosary
7:00pm Talk



**Caritas
AUSTRALIA**

**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

**First Sunday of Lent
21-22 February 2026**

Project Compassion 2026 shares four stories from around the world. We'll meet Sisilia from Tanzania, Monoranjon from Bangladesh, Manaini from Fiji and Ahmad from Gaza.

Each of this year's stories highlights unique challenges, yet they are united by the determination to rise above adversity and to build brighter, more hopeful futures for themselves, their families and their communities.



**UNITE
AGAINST
POVERTY**
this Lent

Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

Or online at: www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate
Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent*.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT—YEAR A

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Cf Psalm 90:15-16

When he calls on me, I will answer him;
I will deliver him and give him glory,
I will grant him length of days.

FIRST READING: Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7

Creation of our first parents, and sin.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 50:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. see v.3

R ~ Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

SECOND READING: Romans 5:12-19

Where sin increased, there grace abounded all the more.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Matthew 4:4

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL: Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says:

Man does not live on bread alone
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says:

He will put you in his angels' charge,
and they will support you on their hands
in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says:

You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says:

You must worship the Lord your God,
and serve him alone.'

Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Matthew 4:4

One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

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PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY

RECENTLY DECEASED

Muna Rae, Julie Nunez, John O'Brien, Kathleen McGinnly,
Matthew Seiders

DEATH ANNIVERSARY

Rose Cardona, Val & Alla Schabinsky, Victoria Caruana, Lilian Oliver,
Nicolina & Doris Xuerub, Rita Marcello, Hans Szulczyk, Maria Aquilina,
Charlie Grima

DECEASED

Françoise Durocher, Ana & Peter Ceh, Brian Oliver, Arthur Bourlias &
Souls in Purgatory, O'Brien family, Pasencia Sampang, Edith Prado,
Mr & Mrs George, Jacintha Goldwyn, Durocher family,
John & Kalina Scicluna

SICK

Jesmond Pesani, Fernando Pena, Paul Ivanovic

THANKSGIVING

Joshua Manalili, Sr Victory (birthday), Lydia & Janelle Carr (birthdays),
Noah & Alesana (Good year at school), Gabriella (18th b'day)

Mass intentions can be requested online at:

<https://mqofblacktown.org.au/mass-intentions/>

PARISH NEWS

Parish Pastoral Council

The PPC met on Thursday and elected Vince Tabone as Chairperson, Daniel Mangabat as Deputy Chairperson and Eva Cheetley as Secretary for a period of two years.

The PPC also discussed the Pastoral Planning Day suggestions, and formed a subcommittee which would prioritise some of these for action this year.

The PPC also looked at some important dates:

- 13th April—start of ALPHA program
- 7th June—Corpus Christi Procession
- 23rd August—Parish Fiesta –MQOF Feast day
- 16th October– Parish Golf Day
- 12th December—Christmas Gala

The Parish Finance Committee will meet next Thursday—
26th February at 7pm. Fr Wim



World Day of Prayer 2026

Focus on **Nigeria**



Friday 6th March 2026

The Salvation Army, Blacktown
2 Kempsey Street, Blacktown 2148
Morning Service—10 am, Evening Service—7pm
Contact: Major Patsy Shadbolt, 9834 9050

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—CENACLE



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 March, 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 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR 2026

See full details at mqofblacktown.org.au and click on Sacraments for Children.

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

Please keep an eye for emails and notices in Parish Bulletins and School Newsletters.



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Come, Be The Witness!

The team at Be The Witness have added **two new dates** for chorus auditions. We would like to invite all those interested to come and audition for this amazing production at St Patrick’s Church, Blacktown on either:

Monday 23rd February – 6:30pm-8:30pm

To register and book your time, please scan the QR code and fill in your details.



Be The Witness

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IN 2026!

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Now Open

SCHOOL TOURS

Tuesday 3rd March 3:45pm
Friday 6th March 9:30am
Tuesday 24th March 3:45pm

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

"WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS LIFE?"
"IS THERE MORE TO LIFE THAN THIS?"
"WHAT AM I DOING HERE?"
"IS THERE A GOD?"

"DO I HAVE A PURPOSE?"

Alpha **FIND OUT ABOUT THE ALPHA COURSE**

The Alpha program is starting on 13 April 2026, and you're invited!!!

Alpha is a safe space where you can ask questions about life, faith and meaning. Right now a seat at the table has been prepared for you.

When: Every Monday, from 13th April for 11 weeks in the MPA at St Patrick's.

The series includes a vibrant video, healthy discussion and a heart warming dinner,

For more info email: alphablacktown2148@gmail.com or register using the QR code on the right.

NAGLE COLLEGE
We're **ENROLLING NOW** for 2027!
Where Dreams Take Flight

OPEN DAYS

3 March 9:00am - 11:00am
24 March 9:00am - 10:30am

58A Orwell Street, Blacktown
T: 8887 4500 nagleblacktown.catholic.edu.au

Scan QR code to register your interest

We proudly belong to Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

You can support the parish by:

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.

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 foyer and on our parish website or contact the parish office on 9622 1125.

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

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

FIRST COLLECTION: For the Diocesan Clergy
Account Name: Diocesan Clergy
Bank: CBA BSB: 067 950
Account Number: 0000 4265
Reference: 6004 - Donor's Name

SECOND COLLECTION: For the Parish
Account Name: Blacktown Catholic Church
Bank: CBA BSB: 067 950
Account Number: 0000 0677

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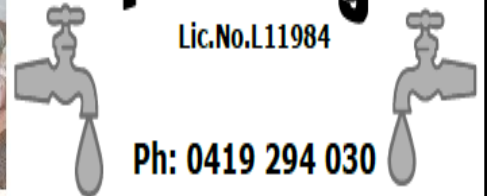
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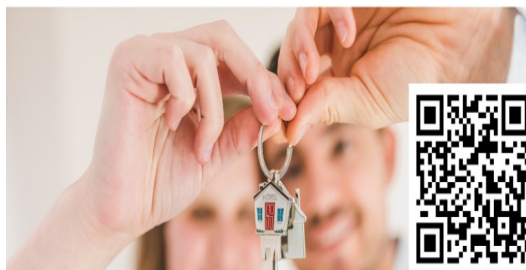


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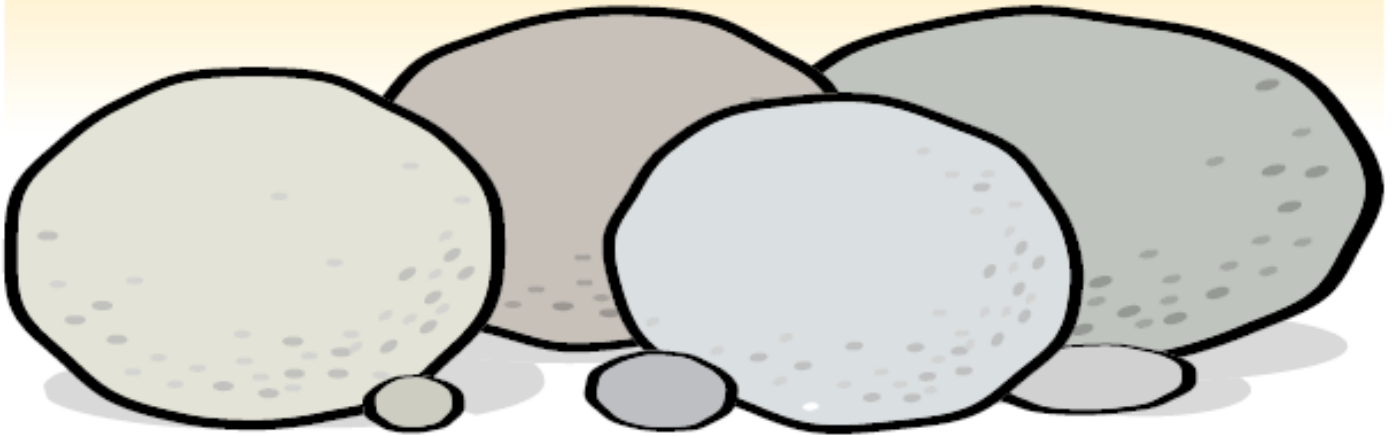


LENT

Jesus is tempted in the desert

1st Sunday of Lent, Year A

In the desert, Jesus faced some tough choices but was able to make the right ones.
What are some of the tough choices that we face in our day to day lives?



How did Jesus respond to temptation?

Hey Jesus!
If you're so hungry,
why don't you turn
these stones
here into bread?

Hey Jesus!
I bet that if you jump
off the temple,
God will send
some angels to
catch you!

Hey Jesus!
See all those
kingdoms?
They're yours!
And all you have to
do is bow down
and worship ME!
Too easy!



Join up the
fruit to complete
the text maze:

"Lead us not into
temptation."