



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.

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

19 JULY 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 - 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;
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.

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"The kingdom of God may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everyone was asleep, his enemy came and sowed weeds all through the wheat...The kingdom of God is like a mustard seed...the smallest of all the seeds, yet when full-grown it is the largest of plants...The kingdom of God is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until the whole mass of dough began to rise."
Matthew 13, 24-43

This is the second Sunday in a row in which we have a parable from Jesus with illustrations from seed-crop cultivation and harvesting. Tacked on are two very short parables in which the kingdom of God is likened to the proliferation of mustard seed and the expansion of yeast in bread-making. Ultimately, all three parables are about the coming of the kingdom of God and the existence of good and evil in people and their attitudes, as we all long, knowingly and unknowingly, for the coming of the kingdom of God in which all will experience the freedom and liberty of which Paul speaks in last Sunday's second reading and in which the values of God's kingdom such as compassion, justice, mercy, forgiveness and care for the destitute, widows and orphans will be preeminent.

While today's first parable paints as evil the crop-sower's enemy and the weed seeds he sowed under the cover of darkness, we hear the crop-sower directing his servants to avoid their rush to set to work trying to dig out the sprouting weeds, lest they end up ruining the entire grain crop. The message for us is to be patient with and slow to judge all those unpleasant people beside whom we live and work every day. There is also a suggestion that we ourselves are not uncontaminated. There may well be weeds in us. And that might lead us into reflecting on what exactly it might be that leads us into labelling some plants as weeds. For instance, the dandy lion is widely regarded as a weed, yet the yellow petals of its flower are used to produce dandy lion wine. The purple-flowered, thorny thistle is the national flower of Scotland because it is a symbol of Scottish people's resilience. Stripped of its thorns, this "weed" is edible when cooked and is a rich source of calcium and potassium. Its stalks taste like celery and its roots like parsnips.

When we stop and observe people who have a passion for weeding, in the garden or in the affairs of State and/or Church, we find they are often those who think they understand just how things should be. The "weeds" are what they believe upset God's view of a properly ordered world. They seem to allow little room for diversity. In churches, they are the self-appointed religious perfectionists and guardians of what they regard as the correct ritual, music and liturgy. They are the equivalent of the stereotypical Pharisees of Jesus' time. For them, listening to variant views is risking contagion and having contact with those whom they consider to be "weeds" will be sure to erode their virtue.

(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 (all hours): 02 9622 1125

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 Asst Secretary: Helena Vea Members: Don DeMello, Erica Luiz, Fran Satchell, Josh Carr, Marian Asiegbu, 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

(Cont'd...)

To the stereotypical Pharisees of his time, Jesus was anathema, for no other reason than that he engaged with tax-collectors, shared meals with “sinners”, set aside strict observance of law to reach out to the blind, the deaf, the crippled and the untouchable and even to allow his disciples to pluck and eat corn and other grain from plants on the Sabbath. As a way of introducing a dose of humour into conveying his message through today’s parable, he added the ludicrous example of a farmer deliberately planting a mustard seed, the seed of a plant which every farmer regarded as a noxious weed which propagated uncontrollably.

By introducing the example of the mustard-seed plant, was Jesus suggesting that the kingdom of God he was ushering in would flourish as prolifically as a plant categorised as a weed? Or might he have been doing no more than asking his audience (and us) to reconsider our haste in categorising some of the people we encounter as weeds to be avoided, discarded and uprooted?

It is important for us to be mindful of the fact that parables are a literary form used to teach a lesson by analogy. They are not vehicles of dogma. So, they also invite us to consider the possibility of exceptions. The political world in which we live is fraught with prejudicial views and opinions that reflect a level of injustice about which we cannot be silent or patient. In some of the countries in which readers of this weekly reflection live, racial prejudice thrives. Moreover, there are political figures who advocate for the exclusion of immigrants and refugees to whom they attach the label of “alien”. Such racism calls for immediate challenge because of its grave injustice. It is not a mere weed beside which Jesus would expect us to live patiently.

Jesus surely urges us to be patient with the difficult people beside and among whom we live, if for no other reason than to give us time and space to discover that we, too, are difficult and sinful. Eventually, we might realise that we are in need of the mercy of the God described in today’s First Reading from Wisdom: “There is no God other than you...you are mild in judgement, you govern us with great lenience...you have taught us a lesson in being kindly to others.” (Wisdom 12: 16-19)

One other element of this parable worthy of our notice is the fact that Matthew has attributed to Jesus an end-time, extremely vengeful call to account. This cannot be reconciled with his call to patience and tolerance in the early section of his parable. We can only attribute it to an editorial addition from Matthew, who had to deal with members of the Jewish community who had resorted to violence to discourage people who had given their allegiance to Jesus and his message. Matthew also had to give his attention to discouraging members of his community from fighting fire with fire. In doing so, he was carried away by his own desire to quell those followers of Jesus who had set out to even the score with those who had mistreated them. There is no evidence in the early part of this parable or in Matthew’s Gospel elsewhere that Jesus directed threats of violence to anyone who disagreed with him. Moreover, it is of no help to us to be told in one breath that God is full of tolerance and patience and, in the next, to learn that God has no patience and is even vengeful.

Finally, a brief word about the parables of the mustard and the yeast. At one level Jesus’ reference to planting a mustard seed was clearly a joke. No farmer in his audience would even think of such an action. However, he was pointing out that the kingdom of God would eventually flourish extravagantly, like mustard seed. He was also alluding to the fact that many in his audience would have regarded the kingdom of God about which he was teaching as something of a scourge. As for the parable of the yeast, any woman who used as much as 30 or even 50 pounds of flour to make bread would have needed to add an enormous amount of yeast. The result would have been enough bread to feed a whole village. Jesus was saying that the kingdom of God would grow like the yeast and nourish the lives of countless people. © Br Julian McDonald cfc



Save THE Date

**SUNDAY
23RD AUGUST 2026**

AS WE CELEBRATE

Mary, QUEEN OF THE FAMILY Feast Day

**RAFFLE TICKETS
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	1ST PRIZE	\$500
	2ND PRIZE	\$300
	3RD PRIZE	\$100

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 **AFTER THE 10AM MASS
AT THE ST PATRICK'S
SCHOOL GROUNDS**



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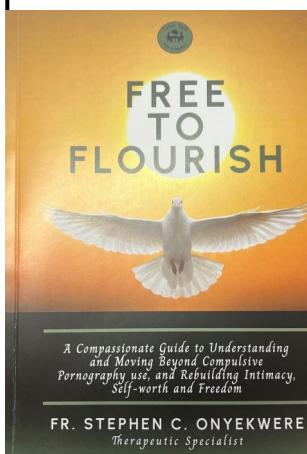


RAFFLE PRIZES

**COME TOGETHER AS ONE PARISH FAMILY
TO CELEBRATE, SHARE AND GIVE THANKS.**

Dates for your Diary

July 28 & 31	Parents Information session—Confirmation
Aug 20	Parish Pastoral Council
Aug 23	Mary Queen of the Family Fiesta
Aug 27	Parish Finance Committee
Sep 6	Father's Day and Collection
10-13 September	The Witness the Musical <i>Riverside Theatre, Parramatta</i>
Sep 8 & 10	Confirmation masses (St Pat's @ 7pm)
Sep 25—Oct 11	Registrations - Reconciliation program
Oct 16	Parish Golf Day
Nov 25	First Reconciliations in the afternoon



NEW BOOK

Free to Flourish, Father Stephen's warm new book on healing, marriage and faith, gently guiding people from surviving to flourishing.

Written with our Bishop's blessing and subsidised at just \$20. For copies, call Mary Queen of the family Parish Office on 02 9622

1125 or mail sonyekwere@mqofblacktown.org.au

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — YEAR A

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Psalm 53:6,8
See, I have God for my help.
The Lord sustains my soul.
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart,
and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

FIRST READING: Wisdom 12:13.16-19
In the place of sin, you give repentance.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 85:5-6. 9-10. 15-16. R. v.5
R ~ Lord, you are good and forgiving.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:26-27
The Spirit himself pleads for us in a way that could never be put into words.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: See Matthew 11:25
Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:24-30 (shortened version)
Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?"' "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn."

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Psalm 110:4-5
The Lord, the gracious, the merciful,
has made a memorial of his wonders;
he gives food to those who fear him.

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PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY**RECENTLY DECEASED**

Grosita Ezar, Peter Shafton, Eliena Jamais, Francisca Cruz,
Lerma Belano, Vita Aloischi, Pamela Mathias, Hayley Vella,
Ray Canete (Sarah's Brother), Jeanine Nonato, Leo Duffy

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

Ajit Muttou, Andrew Lobo, Claude Joachim, Andres Luis Lareza,
John & Grace Santos Ocampo, Frank & Catherine Cauchi,
Ray Greenaway, Marlene Baldacchino, Stephen Horvath,
Patricia Calvo, Dionisio Kibir, Helen Stam, Zygmunt Mozolewski
Santiago Ducut, Patricia Dumazel, Joseph Cassar

DECEASED

Angelina Buttigieg, Anatolia Uy, Enrique Platon, Uy Lin Suy,
Ramon Corain, Marlene Baldacchino, Danilo Cabigting,
Victorino L. Cruz, Arthur Bourlias, Souls in Purgatory,
Deceased family friends of Simon Family

SICK

Christiane Ramis Janeo, Magda

THANKSGIVING

Rosita Paclijan & Victoria Burgos, Tony Vitetta (birthday),
Abelardo Masagca (birthday)

**Mass intentions are no longer available online.
Please use the envelopes and give to the priests.**

Safeguarding at MQOF**A Safe Church is a Strong Church**

Mary Queen of the Family is committed to providing a safe and welcoming environment and takes the safeguarding of children and vulnerable persons seriously.

Safeguarding those who are vulnerable is part of the mission that Jesus Christ entrusts to our Church. We all have a role to play in safeguarding those who are vulnerable.

If you have any concerns about someone's immediate safety, or you suspect a crime may have or is likely to occur, please contact NSW Police on Triple Zero (000).

Concerns about safeguarding in the Diocese may be referred to the Parish Office, or directly to the:

Office for Safeguarding and Professional Standards
Ph (02) 8838 3419
Email: safeguarding@parracatholic.org.

Information about the Diocese's response and supports about safeguarding children and vulnerable people are available at www.safeguarding.org.au.

MQOF Gifts and Talents—Stewardship Card

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another"

At its meeting last month the Pastoral Council agreed to ask parishioners to nominate their gifts and talents to help our parish "to live as a faithful and committed Catholic community", where we encounter Christ.

So we've set up a "Stewardship Card" via a Google Form and invite all parishioners to nominate the areas where they can offer their time and talents to build up the Body of Christ—our community here at MQOF.



Please use the QR code to access this form, and help us help you.



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1. Scan the QR code—to go to the FORMED website;
2. In the Parish search field—type "2148" to find our Parish name;
3. Select "Mary Queen of the Family" and press "Next";
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;
6. Browse, Watch, Listen, Read,

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. To arrange receiving of the sacraments, please contact the Parish Office on **9622 1125** or after office hours number **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!



Contact: Noemi Romero on 0475 798 770.
Meeting Time and Venue: Tuesdays, 10am-12pm in the Sid Mosely Room, St. Michael's and Fridays from 10am-12pm at the Cardinal Clancy Room, St. Patrick's Church.

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!

MARY'S PANTRY

Contact: Frank Mangion, 0410 830 877

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

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

MQOF MEN'S GROUP



Contact: Trevor Brewty, 0429 777 518
Meeting Time and Venue: Every 2nd & 4th Fridays, 7-9pm

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL (Blacktown Conference)



Contact: Deborah Squire, 0449 113 162
Meeting Time and Venue: Every 2nd Wednesday, 7pm-8pm. Next meeting -22 July

SACRAMENTS

Baptism

If you wish your child to be baptised here at MQOF Parish, please contact the parish office. If this is your first child, you will need to attend a Baptism workshop. For more information, please call the Parish Office or visit our website:

<https://mqofblacktown.org.au/sacraments/#baptism>

Sacrament of Confirmation

will be celebrated in September.

Registration for this sacrament closes this Sunday, 19 July..



Please use the QR Code.

Alternatively you will find a link on the parish website –

www.mqofblacktown.org.au

Or the link:

<https://forms.gle/RfjM3cEZF2MyBCvP7>

All-Night Adoration
August 14th-15th
8pm-9am (Mass at 7:30pm and 9am)
St Patrick's Church, Blacktown

VICTUS

So often we get so caught up in the busyness of life that we forget to just take a rest.

Sometimes we

fail to just stop and appreciate the beauty of God present in all the little things around us. And sometimes, the burdens we carry are so great that the weight becomes all-consuming.

But you don't have to carry them alone. You don't have to appreciate that beauty in isolation. You can share them with the One who is always there, just waiting for us to share them with Him.

Join us for All-Night Adoration led by our youth from 8pm Friday 14th August to 9am Saturday 15th August. We'll be starting with Mass at 7:30pm and concluding with Mass on the Solemnity of the Assumption at 9am.

If you're going through suffering, battling through struggles, rejoicing in the beauty of life, or you just need a break, this is the perfect opportunity to come and lay it all down before the Lord.

Come, spend some time with Jesus. Come, and He will give you rest.



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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. 30% of the donations goes to the First Collection (supporting the clergy) and 70% goes to the Second Collection i.e. the maintenance and development of the Parish.

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.

PLANNED GIVING APPEAL

Some planned Giving Envelopes for the upcoming financial year are now available for collection.

If you are a **new parishioner**, or an **existing parishioner** who would like to join our Regular Planned Giving Program, please complete a **Planned Giving Pledge Form** on the back page of this bulletin.

Completed forms may be returned to the Parish Office, placed in the collection basket, or emailed to

accounts@mqofblacktown.org.au.

For further information or clarification, please contact the Parish Office on **9622 1125**.

EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES EXHIBITION



As part of our preparation for Eucharist28, visit the Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition and discover extraordinary accounts of Christ's presence in the Eucharist from around the world. Learn more about these remarkable miracles and seek the intercession of St Carlo

Acutis.

Dates: 13 - 23 July

Where: Parish Hall, OLOR Parish, St Marys corner of Swanston and Collin St).

Times: 10:00am – 4:00pm daily Parish Hall

Did you hear about the guy who got hit in the head with a can of soda?

He was lucky it was a soft drink.

To the mathematician who thought of the idea of zero. Thanks for nothing!

Son: "Dad, can you tell me what a solar eclipse is?"

Dad: "No sun."

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

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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

Reference: Donor's name



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The farmer scattered good seed

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

What are some of the "weeds" in our lives that stop us from growing?

Circle the things plants need in order to grow.



Write down or draw some of the things we need to make ourselves grow.



Help the farmer scatter the seed by finding the path to the wheat. Keep a look out for weeds!

