



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.

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

2 AUGUST 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.

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

When it was evening, the disciples approached Jesus and said: "This is a deserted place, and it is already late; dismiss the crowds so that they can go to the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said: "There is no need for them to go away; give them some food yourselves." ... Taking the five loaves and two fish, and looking up to heaven, Jesus said the blessing, broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, who in turn gave them to the crowds.
Matthew 14: 13-21

In today's First Reading from Isaiah, the prophet attributes to God the following words addressed to people: "Listen, listen to me and you will have good things to eat and rich food to enjoy. Pay attention, come to me, listen, and your soul will live." (Isaiah 55:3) The rich food to which Isaiah refers is, of course, spiritual nourishment such as wisdom, an ability to discern and an ability to understand the sacred texts. There is a similar message in today's gospel-reading. In summary, Matthew's account of Jesus' miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fish points out to us that, when we generously share with the needy the little we have, we will become instruments of both spiritual and physical nourishment for those to whom our compassion is directed.

It is evident that Matthew understood this miracle of Jesus feeding the large crowd as a precursor to the Eucharist which Jesus instituted at the Last Supper with his disciples the night before he was brutally tortured and crucified. Matthew deliberately used in his description of what Jesus did with the five loaves given to him by the disciples the words he used as he distributed the bread to those around him at the Last supper: Jesus took the bread, blessed it, broke it and gave it to his disciples for distribution to the crowd whom they had organised into manageable groups.

Jesus' disciples had been sufficiently sensitive to realise that the crowd that had gathered to listen at length to Jesus in such a deserted place must have been hungry and thirsty. However, sending them off to local villages to buy or beg for what they needed was impractical. The shopkeepers and residents would not have been prepared to deal with large crowds. Consequently, Jesus challenged the disciples who had recognised the needs of those in the crowd. Jesus had provided them with spiritual nourishment and followed up with challenging his disciples to do something to cater for their physical needs. "Give them something to eat yourselves" is a challenge directed as much to us modern-day disciples as it was to those who had come to Jesus late that afternoon in that deserted place. At the end of every Eucharist in which we participate, we are farewelled with an injunction: "Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord" (in action) or "Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life." Let us not forget that gospel-inspired compassion speaks all languages.

One of the pitfalls for those of us who live in countries that have fairly robust economies (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...)

and healthy standards of living is to be pressured, by things like notable increases in the cost of living and rising fuel prices, into the urge to build increased financial security and to protect our perceived limited resources. We can then feel that we must safeguard what we have instead of donating some of it to those in need. Events like the warring in the Middle East and fluctuations in fuel prices can pressure us to be tight-fisted instead of generous. Yet, today's gospel-reading challenges us to share the little we have. The attitude of attending to self interest pushes aside the Gospel call to attend to and promote the common good and give attention to the homeless and needy, who can so easily slip from our notice. In today's gospel-reading, Jesus challenges us to set aside the fear of threatening scarcity and to make real the reign of God by giving preference to compassion. The account of the multiplication of the loaves and fish illustrates that Jesus can take our offerings of what is clearly not enough and bless and break them open for the benefit of others. Through Jesus, God has demonstrated for us a preference for an economy of abundance.

In coming to better understand today's gospel-reading, it would help us to remember that the community for whom Matthew's Gospel was written consisted mainly of Jewish people who had accepted Jesus as the Messiah and had warmed to his message. They would have been very familiar with the prophet Elisha and his writings. In the Second Book of Kings, there is an account of how a generous man from the town of Baal-shalishah had brought to Elisha an offering from the first fruits of his crop: "twenty barley loaves and fresh grain in the ear". Elisha directed his servant to give the bread to the ordinary people. His servant asked: "How can I serve this to a hundred men?" "Give it to the people to eat" Elisha insisted, "for God says this": 'They will eat and have some left over.' The servant served them; they ate and had some left over, as God had said. (2 Kings 4: 42-44)

The writer of Matthew's Gospel, and the other three Evangelists, clearly had this story of Elisha in mind when they told of what Jesus had done for the large crowd with the meagre offering from his disciples. I conclude with a story told by the Quaker writer Parker Palmer: "One morning I boarded a 6 a.m. flight home after a speaking engagement the night before. The flight was delayed and the pilot announced: 'We're going to take off without the coffee in order to get you to your destination on time.'" There was an audible chorus of complaints about lousy service and incompetence. Just after take-off, the head flight attendant came to the centre aisle with her mic and said: 'I know you're upset about the coffee. Well, get over it! And start sharing stuff with your seatmates. Start with the bag of peanuts you got on your last flight and put in your pocket. Got gum and mints? Share them! You can't read all the sections of your newspaper at once, so share them around, too. Show off the pictures of your kids and grandkids you have in your wallets.'" As she continued in that vein, people began laughing and doing as she had said. An hour later, as she passed by my seat, I got her attention: 'What you did just after we took off' I said 'was utterly amazing. Where can I send a letter of commendation?' 'Thanks' she replied, 'I'll get you a form.' Then she leaned down and whispered: 'The loaves and fishes are not dead yet!'"

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***Prayer for our Blacktown Parish Project***

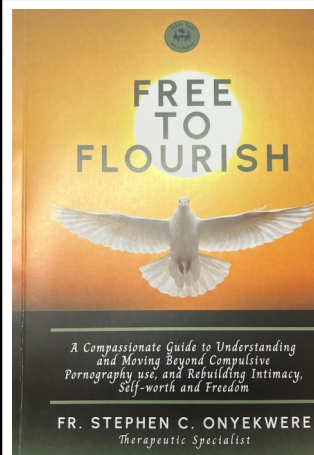
Heavenly Father,
author of all that is good,
inspiration of all that is holy.

Hear our prayers for our new church, to
be dedicated to the patronage of the
Mother of God, Mary, Queen of the Family.

Through her intercession, send forth
your Holy Spirit on all those you have
chosen to be instruments in this work,
so that our new church may be for your
greater glory,
for the sanctification of your faithful
and for the good of the whole people
of Blacktown.

Guide the beginning of this work,
direct its progress
and draw it to a fruitful completion.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

**Mary, Queen of the Family,
pray for us.**

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or email sonyekwere@mqofblacktown.org.au

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

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — YEAR A

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Psalm 69:2,6

O God, come to my assistance;
O Lord, make haste to help me!
You are my rescuer, my help;
O Lord, do not delay.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:1-3

Hasten and eat.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 144:8-9. 15-18. R. v.16

R ~ The hand of the Lord feeds us: He answers all our needs.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:35. 37-39

No creature can separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Matthew 4:4

Alleluia, alleluia!

No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Matthew 14:13-21

When Jesus received the news of John the Baptist's death he withdrew by boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But the people heard of this and, leaving the towns, went after him on foot. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them and healed their sick.

When evening came, the disciples went to him and said, 'This is a lonely place, and the time has slipped by; so send the people away, and they can go to the villages to buy themselves some food.' Jesus replied, 'There is no need for them to go: give them something to eat yourselves.' But they answered, 'All we have with us is five loaves and two fish.' 'Bring them here to me,' he said. He gave orders that the people were to sit down on the grass; then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven and said the blessing. And breaking the loaves he handed them to his disciples who gave them to the crowds. They all ate as much as they wanted, and they collected the scraps remaining, twelve baskets full. Those who ate numbered about five thousand men, to say nothing of women and children.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Wisdom 16:20

You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven,
endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste.

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FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION MASS

**Saturday 15 August
12pm**

St. Michael's Church





MARY

Queen of the Family

— PARISH FIESTA —

RAFFLE

TICKETS NOW ON SALE!

Raffle tickets for our Parish Fiesta are now on sale at St Michael's and St Patrick's at the Piety Shop.

1 for \$2 or 3 for \$5

PRIZES



1st ~ \$500



2nd ~ \$300



3rd ~ \$100

Plus lots of consolation prizes to be won!



**THE RAFFLE WILL BE DRAWN
AT THE PARISH FEAST DAY ON
SUNDAY 23rd AUGUST
AFTER THE 10AM MASS**

Support our Parish • Share in the Joy • Win Great Prizes!

✠

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

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

Maria Theresa Resurreccion, Elena Jamaais, Hayley Vella,
Ray Canete (Sarah's Brother), Selma Belano

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

Ron Cooper, Preciosa Cases, Angelina Samson

DECEASED

Breanna D'Souza, Erlinda Connor,
Holy Souls in Purgatory, Alberto & Cesar Espinoza

SICK**THANKSGIVING**

Rosita Paclijian & Victoria Burgos

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

Dates for your Diary

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

Riverside Theatre, Parramatta

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

Dec 12

Christmas Gala—Nagle College

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, 8pm-9.30pm in the Cardinal Clancy Room, St. Patrick's.

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>

Diocese of Parramatta World Youth Day Seoul 2027 Launch: 12 August

Come and discover the pilgrimage to the 17th International World Youth Day in Seoul, South Korea (26 July – 11 August 2027), themed "Take courage! I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). Join us for an inspiring evening to learn about the pilgrimage, hear testimonies from past pilgrims, explore the faith and culture of the Korean Church, and enjoy fellowship with other young people. Date: 12 August 2026 Doors open at 6:30pm. Venue: Nagle College, 58A Orwell Street, Blacktown. [Register today at parracatholic.org/events/wyd27-launch/](http://parracatholic.org/events/wyd27-launch/) We look forward to welcoming you!

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.

St Carlo Acutis Major Pilgrim Relic St. Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta

St. Patrick's Cathedral in Parramatta will be welcoming the Major Pilgrim Relic of St. Carlo Acutis at the Cathedral from 28th-30th September. Viewing times and event details to follow soon.



be the witness

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THROUGH THE EYES OF PETER

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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**.

Thank you for your continued support.



ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY

We're enrolling now for 2027!

COME TO OUR OPEN DAY INFORMATION SESSION

6 August 9:15am-10:30am



Scan QR code
to register
your interest

51-59 Allawah Street, Blacktown T: 8869 6000 W: stpatsblacktown.catholic.edu.au

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING TO THE PARISH

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.

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
Reference: Donor's name



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<https://www.meetup.com/en-AU/filipino-professionals-in-sydney-and-canberra-australia/>



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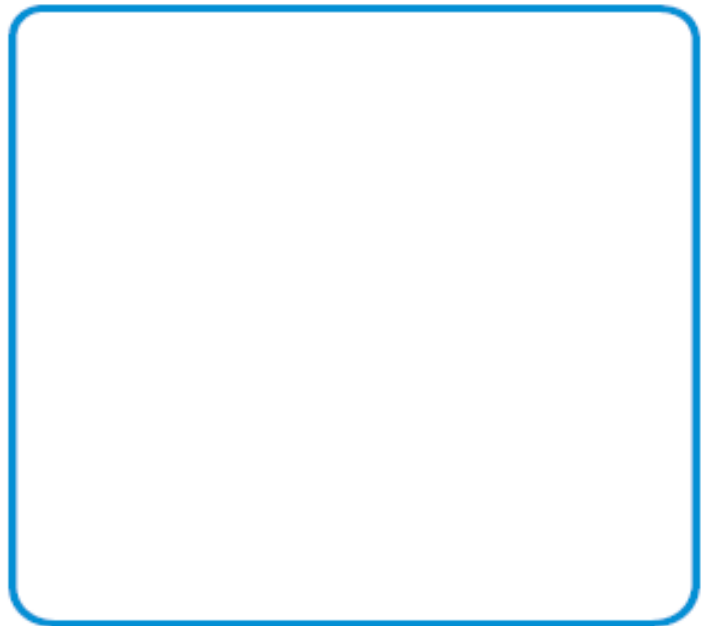
Everyone had plenty to eat

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Jesus fed the crowd of more than 5,000 people because they were hungry and needed food. In each loaf write down something else that people need and are "hungry" for.



Jesus asked his disciples to help feed the hungry people. Likewise, Jesus wants us to share what we have with people in need. Draw a picture of yourself sharing with others.



LOAVES AND FISH

How many words can you make from the letters in LOAVES AND FISH?

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Jesus managed to feed thousands of people with just five loaves of bread and two fish. Can you find two of the fish which are the same?

