



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.

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

9 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.

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

At once, Jesus called out to them, saying: "Courage, it is I! Do not be afraid." It was Peter who answered: "Lord, if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water." "Come" said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking toward Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. "Lord! Save me!", he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. "Man of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?" And as they got into the boat the wind dropped."

Matthew 14: 22-33

Over centuries, writers and artists have described the Catholic Church as the Barque of Peter. In fact, back in 1298 the artist Giotto was commissioned to create a mosaic of Jesus saving Peter from sinking in a very turbulent Sea of Galilee. It took about 15 years to complete and is now to be seen high on the ceiling of the portico at the entrance to St Peter's Basilica in Rome. In his address during his final general audience, Pope Benedict XVI said that there were times in his Papacy when he had "felt like St Peter with the Apostles in the boat on the Sea of Galilee...there were days of sunshine and gentle breeze and moments when the seas were rough and the winds against us." (Benedict XVI, 27/02/2013) While Mark and Luke also record the story of the storm on Lake Galilee, Matthew is the only one who tells of Jesus reaching out to save Peter from drowning. Several of the Psalms describe drowning as a disastrous plight that calls for assistance that only God can give. For instance, in Psalm 42 we hear a plea to God for help: "all your waves, your breakers have rolled over me" (Psalm 42: 7) and a similar plea in Psalm 69: 2 reads: "I have stepped into deep water and the waves are washing over me."

Now let's move to today's gospel-reading. Matthew opened his account with: "Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away." It sounds like a bit more than: "You go on ahead and I'll catch up with you later." There's no hint as to how he would travel the twelve or so kilometres to the other side. Neither is there a suggestion that he knew a storm was expected and that they might need his help. But he gave himself some needed space for prayer and solitude. When the storm broke, he guessed that these men, who were practised in negotiating their way through storms, might need some help. Bear in mind that these disciples were still in the process of coming to appreciate who he was. The disciples had not yet been challenged by Jesus with the question; "But you, who do you say I am?" And Peter had not openly named Jesus as "the Christ, the Son of the living God." (See Matthew 16: 16) So, it was only natural that, when Jesus appeared on top of the waves at the height of the storm. the disciples concluded that they had seen a ghost. When Jesus uttered a comforting word: "No need to be afraid! It is I. I'm here to give a helping hand", Peter had a fleeting moment of enlightenment and set out to meet Jesus. But the wind and waves won out and he began to sink. His fear led him to call for help, and it was Jesus who came to his rescue.

(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...)

When the winds and waves dropped immediately after they were all safely in the boat, they were another step closer towards seeing who Jesus really was. We know that it was not until Jesus had risen that they all came to realise just who he was. We now have the advantage of starting with their witness to what they came to learn from their years of close contact with him.

We don't have to be geniuses to see the aptness of the expression "Barque of Peter" as a symbol for the community we call Church. That community has experienced the buffeting of storms of different intensities throughout its entire history. It has known violent persecution triggered by fear and hatred directed at it by external forces. And it has been harmed from the inside by a variety of heresies, schisms and scandals resulting from human weakness and failure. It is vital that we not lose sight on the one who repeatedly assures us with the unfailing reminder: "Take courage! It is I. Do not be afraid."

Once again, in order to get the full measure of this account from Matthew, we need to look at the context. Jesus was dealing with the full import of the news of the beheading of John the Baptist. He was intent on getting solitude to deal with his grief. Instead of finding a place of quiet, he was met with a crowd in need of physical and spiritual nourishment. He gave their needs preference. Having directed his disciples to head for the other side of the lake, he went in search of a quiet place to pray and grieve for his friend. And then a sudden, violent storm created another need for assistance.

Matthew has recorded several incidents in which Jesus urged people he had cured to have courage. Early in chapter 9 of his Gospel, Matthew records Jesus' words when a paralytic was brought to him on a stretcher. Complimenting the man's friends on their faith, Jesus said to the paralytic: "Courage, my child, your sins are forgiven." That led some scribes who were present to accuse Jesus of blasphemy. In response Jesus made this assertion: "To prove to you that the Son of Man has power to forgive sins take note." And turning to the paralytic, he said: "get up and pick up your bed and go home." And the man got up and went home. (Matthew 9: 2-7) A little later, we read how a woman suffering from a haemorrhage reached out and touched Jesus' cloak. He turned to her and said: "Courage, my daughter, your faith has restored you to health." (Matthew 9:22) The Greek word Matthew used for "courage" literally means "Be full of heart and rejoice". I want to suggest that Matthew was wanting to point out that faith is essentially a dynamic relationship that binds people close to Jesus. Those who come to Jesus in faith see in him something that attracts them to want to be in relationship with him. When that happens, there is cause to rejoice. For a fleeting moment when Peter stepped out of the boat, he somehow sensed that being a disciple of Jesus meant walking beside him, acting as he acted and doing for others the kind of thing he had just done for all in the boat. However, he was distracted by the wind and the waves and started to sink. He still had sufficient faith to call out to Jesus for help. This was a teaching experience for Peter. Humbled by Jesus for his wavering trust, he had still witnessed that God's power is seen at its best in weakness. A good start for a disciple!

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Prayer for our Blacktown Parish Project

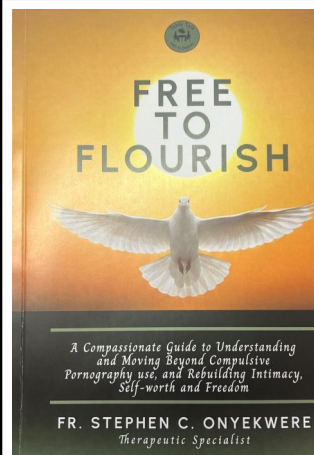
Heavenly Father,
author of all that is good,
inspiration of all that is holy.

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.**



NEW BOOK

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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.

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — YEAR A

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Cf Psalm 73:20,19,22,23

Look to your covenant, O Lord,
and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever.
Arise, O God, and defend your cause,
and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 19:9,11-13

Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8

**R ~ Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.**

SECOND READING: Romans 9:1-5

I would willingly be condemned if it could help my people.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Psalm 129:5

Alleluia, alleluia!
I hope in the Lord,
I trust in his word.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Matthew 14:22-33

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord,' he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Psalm 147:12,14

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord,
who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

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FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION MASS

**Saturday 15 August
12pm**

St. Michael's Church



**The MQOF Flower Ministry's
Father's Day
Fundraiser will be held on
the weekend**



CHURCH CLEANING HELP WANTED

A volunteer is needed on a temporary basis to assist in one of the Clean Teams at St Michael's Church which cleans on Thursdays at 9.00 am. The role involves vacuuming the church with another team member and takes about 45 minutes. You will only be called on every 6 weeks until further notice. If you can assist with this important and rewarding ministry, or would like more information, please call Vicky on 0425 235 050 or leave your details in the Sacristy.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY

RECENTLY DECEASED

Christopher Angelo, Irene Achrekar, Peter Shafton
Ray Canete (Sarah's Brother),

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

Lavina Sequeira, John Tanti, Klyne Aitkins (Senior),
Elena Jamias (40th day), Mercedes Espinoza

DECEASED

Breanna de Souza, Joseph Anthony Dias, Santan Sequeira,
Stephen Monteiro, Corazon Nicdao, Brianna De Souza

SICK

Andree Fraser, Frances Jade Clarito

THANKSGIVING

Jared Savari (Protection & Guidance), R.Aquilina

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

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

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 Mosley 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 Mosley 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>



Faith Formation

The Life in the Spirit Seminar



Discover Jesus Christ's love through a personal encounter with Him

WHAT TO EXPECT:

- Worship
- 'Life in the Spirit' Seminar'
- teaching & small group sharing
- Fellowship
- A Welcoming space

MEETING DETAILS:

- Time : 2.30pm to 5pm
- Venue : St. Patrick's Parish, Blacktown
- Dates : 22 August 2026
26 September 2026
24 October 2026
28 November 2026

Come and See

Jn 1:39

WHO WE ARE:

A Catholic Community, based in Blacktown,
 Mary Queen of the Family Parish.

We strive to live out our faith in our everyday lives, at school, at work, with our family & friends and thus have adopted Ephesians 5: 2 as our motto, to:

"Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ."



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Website: <https://www.icpe.org>
 Email: tehillah.community@gmail.com

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Free for our Parishioners





MARY, QUEEN OF THE FAMILY

PARISH BLACKTOWN

Feast of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary 13th - 22nd August 2026

Marian Talk

**Thursday 13th August
7pm**

St. Patrick's Church
Celebrant: Fr Matthew Dimian
Host: Parish Pastoral Council

Feast Day

**Sunday 23rd August
10am Mass**

St. Patrick's Church
followed by Fellowship and Food Fiesta
@ St. Patrick's Primary School Grounds.
Entry by donation.

Novena Masses

Day 1: Fri 14th August

St. Patrick's Church, 7.30pm.
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 6.30pm
Holy Rosary, 7pm
Host: MQOF Youth Group and Indian
Community

Day 2: Sat 15th August

St. Patrick's Church, 5.30pm
Holy Rosary, 5pm. Vigil Mass
Host: Syro-Malabar & Parish Finance Council

Day 3: Sun 16th August

St. Patrick's Church, 5.30pm
Holy Rosary, 5pm
Host: Legion of Mary & Pacific Islanders

Day 4: Mon 17th August

St. Michael's Church, 7.30pm
Holy Rosary, 7pm
Host: Couples for Christ Australia
(Blacktown)

Day 5: Tue 18th August

St. Michael's Church, 7.30pm
Holy Rosary, 7pm
Host: St. Michael's Rosary Group

Day 6: Wed 19th August

St. Michael's Church, 7.30pm
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 6.30pm
Holy Rosary, 7pm
Host: Tehillah Community & Flower Ministry

Day 7: Thur 20th August

St. Patrick's Church, 7.30pm
Holy Rosary, 7pm
Host: Sudanese and African Chaplaincy

Day 8: Fri 21st August

**The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin
Mary**
St. Patrick's Church, 7.30pm
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 6.30pm
Holy Rosary, 7pm
Host: Social Justice Group, Josephite
Companions & Men's Group

Day 9: Sat 22nd August

St. Patrick's Church, 5.30pm
Holy Rosary, 5pm. Vigil Mass
Host: Filipino Chaplaincy

Raffle Tickets on sale now at the piety shops.

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Enquiry: Kerwin Abinoja (Director & Founder) | Public Policy Professional in Australia

Email: filipino.professionals.australia@gmail.com | Mobile: 0468355399

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



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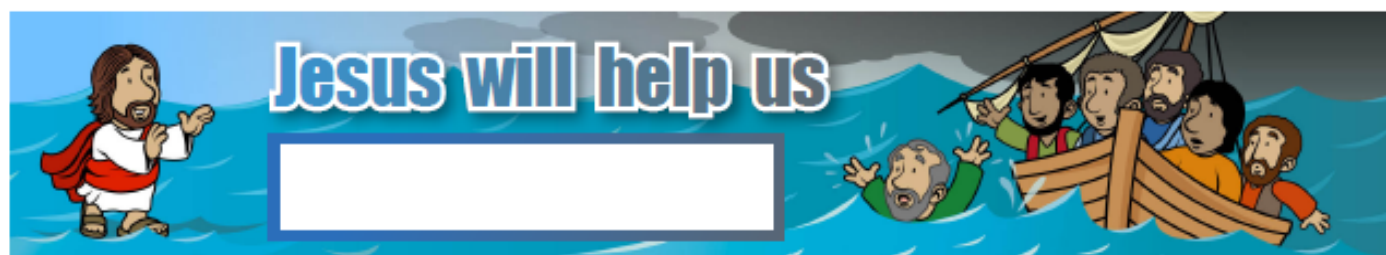
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19th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

Life is a bit like a boat out at sea - on some days life seems good and the sea is calm, but on other days there are storms that rock our boat and try to tip it over. Write or draw some of the things that make life tough for you on those stormy days?



We can have faith that Jesus will always be there to help us in difficult times. Write a prayer asking God to help you when things get tough.

Dear Lord,

Amen.

Help Jesus find his way across the water and onto the boat.
Be sure to pick up St Peter along the way!

