



**SUNDAY, 8<sup>TH</sup> August  
2021 – 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
in Ordinary Time –  
Year B,**

**Administrator:** Fr Gustavo C. Farfan  
**Parish Secretary:** Sally Torkamani  
**Parish Council Contact:** Marian Kelly

**2 Alice Street, Auburn NSW 2144**  
**Telephone:** 9649 3855  
**Facsimile:** 9649 1846  
**Website:** <http://www.stjohnofgod.com.au>  
**email:** [cathpara@tpg.com.au](mailto:cathpara@tpg.com.au) & [Facebook](#)

**St John's Primary School:**  
**77 Queen Street, Auburn NSW 2144**  
**Principal:** Mrs Louise Maguire  
**Telephone:** 9649 3045  
**Facsimile:** 9649 2032  
**Email:** [info@stjauburn.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@stjauburn.catholic.edu.au)

**Saints of the week:**

**Monday 9<sup>TH</sup>: St Teresa Benedicta of the Cros(Edith Stein), virgin, martyr. Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> St Lawrence, deacon martyr. Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>: St Clare, virgin. Saturday 14<sup>th</sup>: St Maximilian Kolbe, priest, martyr.**

**AS YOU ARE AWARE, BECAUSE OF COVID RESTRICTIONS, THE CHURCH IS CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. THE ROSTER AND MASS TIMES ARE ONLY TO KEEP TRACK OF THE USUAL ACTIVITIES IN THE CHURCH**

If you require the assistance of a priest, please contact Fr. Gustavo to 9649 3855

<b>SUNDAY MASSES:</b>	Vigil Saturday 5:00 pm Sunday 8:00am, 10am
<b>WEEKDAY MASSES:</b>	Tuesday to Saturday 9.15am
<b>ROSARY:</b>	Tuesday Saturday 8.30am
<b>RECONCILIATION:</b>	Saturday 4.15pm and by appointment
<b>EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:</b>	Saturday 4.15pm
<b>BAPTISMS:</b>	Sundays after 10am mass and by appointment
<b>WEDDINGS:</b>	By appointment (minimum of six months notice required)
<b>ANOINTING MASS:</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday in March, June, September & December
<b>PARISH SECRETARY:</b>	Tuesday & Thursday 9am to 3pm

(Mass Intentions & news items for the bulletin must be left at Presbytery by 12pm Wednesday)

**This Church is equipped with an induction loop for the hearing impaired**

## **REMEMBERING OUR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES**

**Recently Deceased:** Theresa Franks, Joseph Mil, Josephine, Manuel Ruz, Delphine, Joanne Dwyer, Maurice Joseph Menzies, Hilton Enrique Ramirez, Julia Passanante

**Anniversaries:** Norman Gilbert, Carmen Reves Sanchez, Juventino Delgado, Joaquin Leopoldo, Caludio Delgado, Sergio Milani, Vivian Zerafa, Teresita Mora, Salud Tungul, Gabriel Lardisabal Snr, Josie Tungul, Simon Doumit, Antonio Teodoro, Robert Putland. For all souls in purgatory

**May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.**

**We pray for:** Scott Perry, Susan Abood, Angela Mil, Eugenio and Esthela Lojano, Paul Landa, Eliana Molina, Nicole Milagros, Joe Martin, Sybil Simon, Carmeline D'Souza, David D'Souza, Cornlius D' Souza, Claro Tungul Snr, Daniel Tungul, Catalina Tungul, Arturo Bonifacio, Virginia Bonifacio, Eugenio Ongcal, Rosita Ongcal, Joshua Koelmeyer, Frank Koelmeyer, Chrisby Koelmeyer, Day, Goodwin & Stafford Family, Marija Barclay, Judy Melville, Tom Ladler, Jessica Tu, Tristan Schuyler Simeon, Anthony Fabin, Mereen Browne.

---

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Week (Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 15<sup>th</sup>)**

**5:00pm** 1<sup>ST</sup> READER/RESPONSE: Judy Simon, 2<sup>ND</sup> READER/ PRAYERS OF FAITHFUL: Sue Allan, ACOLYTE: Tony Allan

**8.00am** 1<sup>ST</sup> READER/RSPONSE: Barbara Perry, 2<sup>ND</sup> READER/PRAYERS OF FAITHFUL – Rhos Shi-Wang, ACOLYTE: Ruben Baluyot

**10.00am** 1<sup>ST</sup> READER/RESPONSE: Leo Vakauta, 2<sup>ND</sup> READER/PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL: Dulce Mappa, ACOLYTE: Cheston/ Radley La'Porte

---

**CRISIS ARE SIGNS THAT CHURCH IS ALIVE** "Let us remember that the Church always has difficulties, always is in crisis, because she is alive. Living things go through crisis. Only the dead don't have crisis.

Difficulties and crisis within the Church are not signs of a community in decline but one that is alive and living through challenges, just like men and women today" (Pope Francis)

**PARISH SAFEGUARDING UPDATE ALL VOLUNTEERS NEED A WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK (except Choir members)** It is a requirement that all volunteers obtain and provide a Working With Children Check Number. This can be done through Service NSW or please visit the Kidsguardian website. If you require assistance, we are happy to help. Once this number is provided to us, by law, we are required to do an independent check on the Kidsguardian website **which requires your date of birth**. Your date of birth is not provided on the WWCC print out that is sent to you. Therefore, you must provide your date of birth to Fr Gustavo or the parish secretary to be entered onto the form which will be used to update our records. We thank you all for taking the time to do this very important task as there are heavy fines related to breaches. We would appreciate everyone coming forward asap so we can update our records. All your personal details are kept confidential and safe in the parish's files.

**SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION:** As Covid-19 restriction continue in NSW affecting all public celebrations in the church, the Sacrament of Confirmation's date for Auburn parish has been changed. It will not happen anymore in the Cathedral but in our own beloved parish sometime later in the year. A huge thanks to the Catechists for their generosity in preparing the candidates. **Please pray for the Candidates.**

**MASS INTENTIONS:** For mass intentions you can visit our [website](#) and fill the form or call to parish phone 9649 3855 or email to [cathpara@tpg.com.au](mailto:cathpara@tpg.com.au)

**PLAN GIVING:** Thank you to all of you who are part of the Plan Giving for the church, may God bless you a hundred-fold. Just to remind you that the new envelopes are ready to pick up, please contact Fr. Gustavo to collect them from the church, or if you prefer to be delivered to your address send us a [message](#) and we will do for you.

If you want to join to the Plan Giving, please do not hesitate to [contact](#) us and we will give you all the details.

**PARISH UPDATE** The church will be closed to the public until at least midnight on Friday 30 August 2021. We keep praying for you and your families. "The Lord invites us to begin anew, and never to lose hope"

**COMING CENSUS:** As you be aware, in the coming days the 2021 Census is being conducted. Sadly, there are some in the community who are running a campaign encouraging people who do not regularly attend church to tick the 'no religion' box. As we know, there are many people who practise their faith irregularly or who connect with God and the Church in other ways outside of Mass attendance. This campaign is misleading and will only serve to give a distorted picture of religion in Australia today, ultimately giving the secularists another opportunity to deny the voice of believers in the public square.

**SAINT JOHN OF GOD CHURCH Weekly Collections** Dear parishioners, as you know our beloved church is sustained by your great generosity. I want to remind you about the Weekly Collections:

**First Collection** (Pastoral Revenue): Money collected from the first collection supports the needs of the parish priest and presbytery expenses; gas, electricity, water bills and housekeeping. If you want to donate by credit card, please contact the parish office through [email](mailto:cathpara@tpg.com.au) (cathpara@tpg.com.au) and we will provide you with all details, while an online donation system for the church is in progress. *God bless you for your generosity!*

**Second Collection** (Planned Giving): Money from the second collection supports the maintenance of the parish buildings and pastoral programs, liturgical needs, altar bread and wine. Likewise, if you would like to join the planned giving by card or envelopes, please contact the parish office. *God bless you for your donations!*

**The lockdown has impacted the income of the parish collections. Considering the big drop in income for the clergy remuneration fund, Parish Priest's stipend is reduced by 40% effective from 11 July. Please kindly consider joining our Plan Giving by card or cash in envelopes.**

**PARISH SAFEGUARDING SUPPORT OFFICER VOLUNTEER REQUIRED** We need someone to support the Parish Administrator to implement proactive Safeguarding measures to ensure safe environment for children, young people and vulnerable in our parish community. The ways in which the Parish Safeguarding Support Officer (PSSO) could support and assist the Parish priest are: - Providing Safeguarding induction to all workers and training to volunteers of the Parish who work with children. - Raising awareness of Safeguarding in our Parish. - Creating Risk Assessments for parish events/activities. – Responding to Safeguarding audit and compliance requirements. – Monitoring the Visiting Clergy Register in line with current protocols.

If you are interested, please contact [Fr. Gustavo](mailto:cathpara@tpg.com.au) (cathpara@tpg.com.au)

**A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY** Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org)

You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has legal obligation to report crimes to the police.



### **Sunday Readings:**

#### **First reading 1 Kings 17: 8-16**

And then the word of the Lord came to Elijah, 'Up and go to Zarephath, a Sidonian town, and stay there. I have ordered a widow there to give you food.' So, he went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks. Addressing her he said, 'Please bring a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She was setting off to bring it when he called after her.

'Please', he said, 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives,' she replied, 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel:

Jar of meal shall not be spent,  
jug of oil shall not be emptied,  
before the day when the Lord sends  
rain on the face of the earth.'

The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the

food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah.

#### **Second reading Colossians 3: 12-17**

I As the chosen of God, the holy people whom he loves, you are to be clothed in heartfelt compassion, in generosity and humility, gentleness and patience.

Bear with one another; forgive each other if one of you has a complaint against another.

The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, put on love, the perfect bond. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together in one body. Always be thankful.

Let the Word of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and whatever you say or do, let it be in the name of the Lord Jesus, in thanksgiving to God the Father through him.

## Gospel acclamation

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Many women were there by the cross, watching from a distance, the same women who had followed Jesus and looked after him.*

*Alleluia!*

## Matthew 6: 25-34

Jesus said to his disciples:

I am telling you not to worry about your life and what you are to eat, nor about your body and what you are to wear. Surely life is more than food, and the body more than clothing! Look at the birds in the sky. They do not sow or reap or gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them.

Are you not worth much more than they are? Can any of you, however much you worry, add one single cubit to your span of life?

And why worry about clothing? Think of the flowers growing in

the fields; they never have to work or spin: yet I assure you that not even Solomon in all his royal robes was clothed like one of these.

Now if that is how God clothes the wild flowers growing in the field which are there today and thrown into the furnace tomorrow, will he not much more look after you, you have so little faith?

So do not worry; do not say, "What are we to eat? What are we to drink? What are we to wear?" It is the gentiles who set their hearts on all these things. Your heavenly Father knows you need them all.

Set your hearts on his kingdom first, and on God's saving justice, and all these other things will be given you as well.

So do not worry about tomorrow: tomorrow will take care of itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

---

**GOSPEL REFLECTION:** Today's gospel according to St Matthew is a consoling sermon Christ ever preached. "Look at the birds in the sky. They do not sow or reap; they gather nothing into barns; yet your Heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not more important than they?" It illustrates in a very down-to-earth manner the providence of almighty God.

Among all the creations of the universe and all the forms of life, God's primary concern is for man and woman. Person is the chief creature of God's creation. If God is concerned about the birds in the air and the animal in the field, he is more concerned about us.

At times the providence of God is doubted or called into question by worry over many temporal matters. There is a just reason for concern over certain problems that arise. But worry causes unjust concern. Worry calls into question God's providence.

Worry is really foolish when we consider what God does for us. He gives us food to sustain our lives, water to drink, air to breathe. In fact, if God should cease to care for us for a single instant, we would die.

Not only does God care for us in a natural sense, but in a supernatural sense as well. God's concern was so great that when Adam committed original sin, on time God sent his own Divine Son down to earth to redeem mankind. Christ, who is truly God, took on a body like ours. He died on the cross for humanity, thus showing us what great love he has for us. In addition, he left us a means of grace, the sacraments, to sustain our spiritual life.

Despite his loving care, there are those who call his providence into question. They ask, why God permit sickness? Why God permit wars? Why does God permit fires, floods, earthquakes, and other tragedies?

The answer to such questions is not always clearly evident. God frequently does not manifest his reasons to us. But we can be sure that some good may come out of them. Sometimes God permit a person to suffer with some incurable disease to incite contrition in his soul.

Let us remember the example of St Mary MacKillop, her feast we celebrate this Sunday, she said: "Whatever troubles may be before you, accept them bravely, remembering Whom you are trying to follow. Do not be afraid." Let us remember that our heavenly Father knows all our needs. Let us set up our hearts in His Kingdom first and all other things will be given us besides. God bless you.

## Special edition of parish bulletin in the Solemnity of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop



Mary Mackillop was born in Melbourne and worked as a governess and a teacher to support her family. In 1866 she founded St Joseph's school, the first free Catholic school in Australia. With Fr Julian Tenison Woods she founded an order of nuns, the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart. They opened many schools and other charitable institutions, and continue to this day. She was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI on 17 October 2010: The first Australian saint.

### Significant Dates in the Life & Sainthood of Mary MacKillop

**1842** Mary Helen MacKillop born in Brunswick Street, Fitzroy, Melbourne on 15 January to Flora (nee MacDonald) and Alexander MacKillop. Baptised on 28 January in St Francis' Church, Lonsdale Street, Melbourne.

**1860** Governess to Cameron children (cousins) at Penola Homestead, South Australia. Meets local parish priest, Fr Julian Tenison Woods, for the first time.

**1863** Applies for her first formal teaching position at Portland's Catholic Denominational School in October.

**1864** In order to supplement her income, Mary establishes the Bay View House Seminary for Young Ladies on 3 January, offering board and instruction in a range of subjects, with her sisters Maggie and Lexie acting as supervisors.

**1865** Fr Julian asks Mary and her sister Annie to take charge of the new Catholic School at Penola in September.

**1866** Mary and Lexie move to Penola in January to help Fr Julian establish a school based on 'purely Catholic principles'. St Joseph's School (The Stable School) opens on 19 March, St Joseph's Day. Mary wears a plain black dress to signify her dedication to do God's work.

**1867** Mary leaves Penola for Adelaide with Sister Rose Cunningham on 21 June. Opens the first convent-cottage in Grote Street, Adelaide. Begins teaching in St Francis Xavier Hall School; takes religious vows on 15 August.

**1870** Troubles in Adelaide during Mary's absence in Queensland. Visionaries encouraged by Fr Julian. Opposition of some priests.

**1871** 127 Sisters and 34 schools in South Australia. Growing tension in Adelaide between Bishop Laurence Sheil, Fr Julian

and some priests about the running of the Order. On 3 February the clergy present a submission to the bishop highly critical of the Sisters and Fr Julian. Mary writes to the Bishop on 10 September explaining her position. Mary excommunicated and 47 Sisters expelled by Bishop Laurence Sheil in Adelaide on 22 September.

**1872** Bishop Sheil, very ill, removes the excommunication on 23 February and expresses sorrow for being misled by bad advisers. Sisters restored to their habits on 19 March.

**1873** Mary travels to Rome on 28 March to seek approval of the Rule written by Fr Julian. This was to establish secure foundations for the Congregation. Personal audience with Pope Pius IX in June. The Pope approves the Rule.

**1875** Constitution of the Institute of St Joseph accepted by First General Chapter and Mary elected Mother General on 19 March.

**1881** In May, a larger building was purchased by the Sisters in Cumberland Street, The Rocks, Sydney, for 'The Providence' and was a temporary Novitiate.

**1883** Commission of Enquiry appointed by Bishop Reynolds in Adelaide to investigate the Institute in South Australia on 10 July. The Bishop writes a highly critical letter, expelling Mary from Adelaide on 13 November. Mary arrives in Sydney and stays at the Providence, Cumberland Street, The Rocks.

**1885** Cardinal Moran returns with the news on 11 November that Mary is to step down as Mother General. Mother Bernard appointed Superior General.

**1888** Decree from Rome constitutes the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart as an approved Regular Congregation

with Mother House in North Sydney.

**1898** Mary elected Superior General after the death of Mother Bernard on 6 January.

**1909** Mary died 8 August in Alma Cottage, Mount Street, North Sydney. Requiem Mass celebrated at St Mary's Parish Church, North Sydney on 11 August, buried at Gore Hill cemetery.

**1913** Building of the Mary MacKillop Memorial Chapel. First Mass celebrated in Chapel on 8 December.

**1914** Mary's remains transferred from Gore Hill cemetery to the Memorial Chapel on 28 January. Mary's remains re-interred in the Tomb on 29 January.

**1995** Pope John Paul II declares Mary a Saint in Australia at a Beatification Celebration at Randwick in Sydney on 19 January. Mary named 'Blessed Mary MacKillop'.

**2010** Pope Benedict XVI declares Mary a Saint in the Universal Church at a Canonisation Celebration in Rome on 17 October. Mary named 'St Mary of the Cross MacKillop'-Australia's first Saint.

### **Address by Pope Benedict XVI during Mary's canonization**

"For many years countless young people throughout Australia have been blessed with teachers who were inspired by the courageous and saintly example of zeal, perseverance and prayer of Mother Mary MacKillop. She dedicated herself as a young woman to the education of the poor in the difficult and demanding terrain of rural Australia, inspiring other women to join her in the first women's community of religious sisters of that country. She attended to the needs of each young person entrusted to her, without regard for station or wealth, providing both intellectual and spiritual formation. Despite many challenges, her prayers to Saint Joseph and her unflagging devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, to whom she dedicated her new congregation, gave this holy woman the graces needed to remain faithful to God and to the Church. Through her intercession, may her followers today continue to serve God and the Church with faith and humility!"

### **Prayer to St Mary MacKillop**

O God, source of all goodness,  
who have shown us in Saint Mary  
a woman of faith living by the power of the Cross,  
teach us, we pray, by her example  
to live the gospel in changing times  
and to respect and defend  
the human dignity of all in our land.  
Through our Lord. Amen.

If you wish to subscribe to our mail list, contact us: [cathpara@tpg.com.au](mailto:cathpara@tpg.com.au)

St John Of God Auburn parish