

AUGUST 8 & 9 – NINETENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year B

Issue Number 321

MARY MACKILLOP 1842—1909

This weekend marks the 100th Anniversary of Mary MacKillop's death in North Sydney. She was born in 1842 and died on August 8, 1909. Even at the time of her death those who knew her, or knew of her extraordinary work, spoke openly of her holiness. From *Towards Canonisation*, a document put out by the Sisters of St Joseph, we learn something about this wonderful woman.

A hundred years later the final processes of the Cause for Mary's canonisation have begun.

Mary's canonisation will provide us with a wonderful opportunity to carry on the spiritual renewal and evangelising work of World Youth Day held in Sydney last year. Some initial preparations for the celebrations are getting underway - in Rome where the canonisation will almost certainly take place, and in all the other countries across the world where she is known and loved. While there is no conclusion yet to the official processes, we are being careful not to pre-empt any decision from the Vatican.

Writing on the life and spirituality of Mary MacKillop, Sister Monica Cavanagh, a member of the Congregation of the Sisters of St Joseph writes:

"Mary MacKillop was a young woman with a dream to make a difference in our world. Her dream encompassed opening simple schools where there was no class distinction, offering refuge to the most neglected, and bringing practical help to families.

"Mary felt very strongly the widespread ignorance of the whole of the spiritual dimension of life and dedicated her life to bringing the message of God's love to all whom she encountered.

"She was a passionate woman whose youthful spirit has touched the 'heart and soul' of the Australian people. She embodies all that is best in our Australian nation and its people. Her spirit and values continue to inspire young people today to make a difference in these times.

"At the age of twenty-four she set up a new Religious Institute to serve the needs of the struggling people of her day. She responded by establishing a Catholic school system for the children of families who were poor and isolated in the Australian colonies and by setting up other works of compassion.

"At twenty nine years of age she was excommunicated from the church that she so dearly loved for a period of five months through a misunderstanding of the Bishop. After the excommunication was lifted, Mary travelled to Rome to have the Constitutions of the Congregation approved. By the time she set out on this journey in 1873, there were over 120 women who had joined the Order, working in 44 schools and four charitable institutions.

"One of the appeals that 'saints' have for people in the world today, is that they are ordinary people who have looked at life and, in the day to day circumstances in which they lived, succeeded in becoming a special person who touches into the deepest yearnings of the heart. Mary

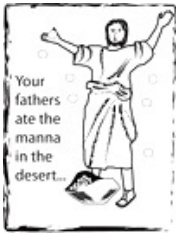
MacKillop was no exception. She was an ordinary woman who lived an extraordinary life. She was a woman who dared to love. She knew that God loved her and she responded to this love with confidence and courage.

"Mary MacKillop's life speaks eloquently because it was firmly anchored in something every human heart longs for: inner peace, that peace that comes from knowing that one is loved by God and from the desire to respond to God's love.

"My hope for the people of the world is that they will embrace Mary MacKillop as a young woman who has gifted the church, Australia and the world with a deep sense of compassion and dignity - a truly great witness to living the Gospel in this Great South Land of the Holy Spirit."



Today's Readings



First Reading: 1 Kings 19:4-8. Elijah, fleeing persecution, is given food for his journey.

Second Reading: Ephesians 4:30-5:2. The Holy Spirit calls us from negative living to imitate the love of God.

Gospel: John 6:41-51. Jesus is the living bread by which we will live for ever.

Next week: 20th Week in Ordinary Time - Year B
Proverbs 9:1-6, Ephesians 5:15-20, John 6:51-58

HOLY HOUR every Thursday from 8.00 to 9.00pm including Rosary, prayers, hymns & scripture reading. All welcome!

Feast Days this Week

St Lawrence - Monday, 10 August

St Clare - Tuesday, 11 August

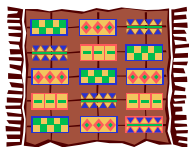
St Maximilian Mary Kolbe - Friday, 14 August

Assumption - Saturday, 15 August

OPPORTUNITY TO EVANGELISE: IT'S NOT TOO LATE! Invite a non-churched or non-Christian friend, neighbour or family member to learn more about Jesus and Christianity. Bring them to the Alpha sessions which are being held over 10 weeks. You can choose to attend sessions on Saturday afternoons, Monday, Tuesday or Friday evenings. The sessions will be run in various homes. Enquiries to Mike and Von on 9899 1383 or contact the Parish Office.



CAN YOU HELP?? Our Faith Formation course is commencing once again for all families seeking to prepare their children to receive sacraments. We are looking for anyone interested in being on our hospitality team. You may like to facilitate conversation, help serve refreshments or mind children. Commitment is once a week for 4 weeks beginning next week – you can choose to assist Monday or Tuesday evenings, or Saturday afternoons. This is a short-term but extremely worthwhile ministry and any amount of time you can offer will be great! Please contact Alice at the Parish office on 9634 2622 (Mon & Wed) or sacraments@stbernadette.org.au.



ST VINCENT DE PAUL RUG

RAFFLE: Don't miss your chance to choose a hand-made rug. Tickets will be on sale next weekend, August 15/16 for just \$2 each or 3 for \$5.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION 2009: Thank you to our sacramental team for all the wonderful work they have done throughout this new preparation process. Congratulations and every blessing to all families who have been part of this program, especially as you begin this new chapter in your Christian lives.

Families who were unable to attend the closing ceremony last Friday can pick up their presentation folders from the parish office during office hours.

LITURGY CORNER

The dialogue between Jesus and the religious leaders in the gospel for this week discloses new vistas. Remembrance of manna in the desert leads to the promise of bread that is doubly astonishing. This bread both sustains to eternal life and embodies the flesh of the Son of Man. As John's Gospel tells it, this claim will be too much for Jesus' hearers to bear. We believers generally face no such crisis; the risk is that we take these familiar texts for granted. Receiving the Bread of Life is rightly accepted as a normal and integral moment in our full, conscious and active participation in the celebration of Eucharist. But there is always more to the mystery!

The Summit

DWF APPEAL NEXT WEEKEND

The Diocesan Works Fund Appeal will take place next weekend with the quota for each appeal in this parish set by the Diocese at \$25,164. These funds assist with the charitable works of the Diocese, supporting the various ministries and groups. Donations are 100% deductible. Please give generously.

CATECHISTS URGENTLY NEEDED at our local Public Schools for just 1/2 hour each week so if you have any time to spare please ring Christine Jenneke on 9484 1190 or 0433 183322.

FAMILY GROUPS: The Passionist Family Group Movement has been part of this parish for 27 years. The concept of the Family Group is to provide an extended family environment and is ideal for new members of the parish or even for parishioners of many years standing. The groups meet regularly in a social but caring setting and if you would like to know more, please contact Ray and Maureen Scully on 9634 6925.



FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

Saturday is the Feast of the Assumption.
Assumption Masses will be celebrated on Saturday at 8.00am and 6.00pm

40 HOUR FAMINE: Got a spare \$40? Did you know that this could feed 5 children in either Kenya or Cambodia for a whole month? World Vision's 40 Hour Famine is on 21-23 August, and we would love your help. No donation is too big or too small - every bit counts. So help us bite back at hunger and support the young people in our parish doing this year's famine. Simply donate online (www.40hourfamine.com - Famine no.: 29200104-7), directly to a participant or through the Parish office.



LIFE BEGINS AT 50: Cards/Mahjong this Friday 14 August in the Marian Centre at 7.30pm.



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

CAN YOU SPARE VINNIES A LITTLE TIME? Week after week for more than 100 years, the volunteers of St Vincent de Paul Society in our region have been helping local people in crisis. But now Vinnies needs your help. From August 22 - 30, the Society will hold its annual Western Sydney Doorknock Appeal, to raise funds to help families in need.

Are you able to spare just 2 or 3 hours of your time, ideally on the weekend of 22/23 (or 29/30) August this year to join the great St Bernadette's Vinnies Doorknock Team?

Encourage your family and friends to join you! No one too old! Make a team (of 2 or 4), or we'll place you in one of our great teams. (Training provided.)

Here is an opportunity to put faith into action, get some exercise and have some fun! And in an unspoken, but effective way, help spread the Lord's message of love and compassion throughout our local community.

If you haven't already received a letter, please contact Margaret Hawkes on 0413 013 390 or Greg Piggott on 0413 747 214.

MARY MACKILLOP MASS: Bishop Manning will be the principal celebrant at a Centenary Mass for Blessed Mary MacKillop this Tuesday, 11 August at St Patrick's Cathedral, Marist Place, Parramatta at 7.30pm followed by light supper. Everyone welcome.



BLANKETS FOR THE NEEDY: All are welcome to join the *Blankets for the Needy Team* on Monday, 17 August in the Marian Centre starting with morning tea at 10.00am. Bring your knitting/crocheting and enjoy good company and refreshments. Transport available if needed. RSVP Jo 9634 5961 or Hilary 9894 5913.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION INTRODUCTION AND RENEWAL DAY AT ARCADIA: Sunday 16 August: arrive at Benedictine Monastery at 10am for Eucharist at 10.30am followed by morning tea, the first presentation, meditation, prayer with the monastic community, lunch, the second presentation and meditation. Concludes with information sharing at 3pm. BYO picnic lunch (morning tea & coffee provided). Benedictine Monastery, 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia.. For inquiries about transport or accommodation contact: Ann Bergman (02) 9498 2625, anniebergman@hotmail.com



Leading Teens Closer To Christ

Celebrating 10 Years at St Bernadette's.

Youth & Young Adults Ministry...

LIFE Nights Combined - 'Journey' Sunday 16 August after 6.00pm Mass till 8.30 in the hall for Years 7 to 12.

Into LIFE is on next Monday night, August 10 from 7.00 to 8.30pm in the Hall for a fun evening of games and activities. Anyone in Years 7 and 8 welcome - please bring \$2 for supper.

40 Hour Famine - Bite back at hunger! Don't just sit at home doing nothing - do the 40 Hour Famine and raise money to fight the Global Food Crisis in Kenya and Cambodia. It's on 21-23 August. Contact Luke Hackett or Veronica Sahabu to pick up your famine book and do something real!

Rock Climbing at The Edge Climbing Centre (all ages) on Monday 24 August from 7.00 till 8.30pm. Cost is \$13 each. Please bring your signed permission slip. RSVP by 22 August on youth@stbernadette.org.au.

ALPHA for young adults (ages 18+) Tuesday nights 7pm - 9pm. Contact Luke on youth@stbernadette.org.au

Young Adults Group starting in the parish for ages 18 to 30. Contact youth@stbernadette.org.au.

Don't forget to check out **www.lifeteen.com** for some great facts on faith, reflections on upcoming Sunday Mass readings and other scripture, inspiring and insightful podcasts and more! This is a fantastic website for all youth and young adults to get more out of our Catholic faith.

ST GABRIEL'S SPECIAL SCHOOL ENROLMENTS: In 2010, St Gabriel's School for hearing impaired children will extend its services to cater for primary-aged children with intellectual disabilities and autism in the mild to moderate range. Presentation and tour on Thursday 13 August from 9.30am, St Gabriel's School, 190 Old Northern Rd, Castle Hill. Contact: Valerie Argent (02) 9634 2367.

SHOPPING COACH TRIP: The Diocese of Parramatta will hold its 8th Annual Shopping Coach Trip on Saturday, 21 November, leaving from St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta carpark or Our Lady of Lourdes, Seven Hills carpark at 7.00am. Cost of \$49 (children \$19/ seniors \$39) includes morning & afternoon tea, lunch and a visit to over 15 factory outlets. Phone Virginia Knight on 8838 3412 for bookings.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION 2010

Any families who still wish to be part of the new sacramental preparation program but did not attend the information evenings must obtain a copy of the DVD and information handouts from the parish office asap.

Faith Formation Course: Those who are interested in registering for the next Faith Formation course must ensure their registration form is received at the parish office by this Monday 10th August. The first session commences Monday 17th August 7:30pm in the parish hall.

St Bernadette's Parish Community
Parish House, 367 Old Northern Road, Castle Hill, NSW 2154

Telephone 9634 2622 Fax 9899 3511 Email: admin@stbernadette.org.au
 Web page: http://www.stbernadette.org.au

Parish Staff

Fr John Boyle, Parish Priest
 Fr Eugene Szondi, Assistant Priest
 Fr Sunny Michael, ms, Assistant Priest
 Sr Judy McLeod, rsm, Pastoral Associate
 Mrs Alice Bradshaw, Sacramental Co-ordinator
 Mr Luke Hackett, Pastoral Associate (Youth)
 Mrs Frances Gallagher, Office Manager
 Mrs Monica Rubic, Parish Secretary (Finance: Mon-Thu)
 Mr Michael Watson, Maintenance Co-ordinator
 Mr Darren Edwards, Maintenance

Mass Times for this Week

Sunday Sat 6.00pm
 Sun 7.30am, 9.00am, 10.30am &
 6pm Parish LIFE TEEN Youth Mass

Weekdays Mon 6.45am
 Tue 6.45 am,
 Wed 6.45am, 9.15am
 Thurs 6.45am, 9.15am
 Fri 6.45am, 9.15am
 Sat 8.00am (Assumption)

Mass on Public Holidays at 8.00am

Reconciliation Sat 8.30am-9.00am; 4.30pm-5.30pm

Baptisms and Marriages: By appointment only. Contact the Parish House. Please note the Church law: Parents are obliged to take care that infants are baptised in the first few weeks. As soon as possible after the birth or even before it, they are to go to the pastor to request the sacrament for their child and to be prepared properly for it. [Can. 867 §1]

St Bernadette's Parish School: Mr Paul Colyer, Principal 9634 2898

Please pray for Karam Salib and Paz Cavanna who have died recently and for the anniversaries of Victoria Fidel (Aug 10), Ray Meehan (Aug 12) and Fidel dela Cruz (Aug 8) and in remembrance of Mary & Cyril Hirst, Joseph Erjavec & Family and Joseph Grca & Family.

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – August 22 & 23

| ACOLYTES/ SERVERS | LECTORS | EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| VIGIL Philip Myers S2 | Vince Connelly Ray Scully Jessica Fearnside | Joanne Barrett, Carol Cividin, Esther Coleiro, Beverley Curtis, Lucille Wilson, Maureen Fearnside, Richard & Cheryl Koen, Warren Hiser |
| 7.30AM Melvyn Myers S3 | Tony Falzon Patricia Bright John O'Dea | Lina Josue, Albert & Gladys Tsang, Colleen & Eric Woodhead, Jo Wickens |
| 9.00AM Terry O'Mara S4 | Trevor O'Shea Brian Blacklock Joanne O'Shea | Karen & David Askey, Christine & Hubert Jenneke, Cathy & Greg Piggott, Trevor & Joanne O'Shea, Lena Madry |
| 10.30AM John Stone S5 | Tony Smith Philip Golanco Trinity Abbertson-Woo | Anita Christy, Pauline Camilleri, Dorothy Finucane, Elizabeth Fogolin, Philip & Yolanda Golanco, Margaret Hawkes, Henry & Winnie Li |

6.00 PARISH LIFE TEEN YOUTH MASS MINISTRY ROSTER - August 23

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| Adult Servers Andrew Tomic James Madry | Extraordinary Ministers of Communion Adam Chioatto Belinda Lee Darian Jessup-Lonsdale | | Musos | |
| Lectors Josh Chaney Mystique Nelis Nicci Heidegger | | Jeremy Smith Martin Collins Stef Musgrave Sean Finucane Veronica Sahabu | Bass Daniel Ang | Singers Alison Wong Annabel Irawan Aarti D'Cruz Monique O'Callaghan Cassie Knezevic Julia Calixto Tim Bywater |
| Altar Servers S1 | Projectionist Josh Becker | | Guitar Michael Smith | |
| Gift Preparation Ben Mules | Ushers Paul Musgrave Phillip Smith | Welcomers Ingrid & Jana Fizely | Horns/Strings/ Winds Matthew Ashton | |

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| CHILDREN'S LITURGY Pauline Andrew Marianne Holohan | CHURCH HOUSEKEEPING Marion Heron, Marjorie Anderson, Caroline Higgins, Bernadette Logue | COUNTING (2nd Collection) David Solomon, David & Kaylene Hollis, Brian Iles, Joe Harney, Anthony Denham |
| FLOWER ROSTER Tess Dela Concepcion | COUNTING (1st Collection) Sandra Watson Denise Hicks | BOOKSHOP Paula Boyd / Rose Huby / Jane Beard / Crystal Good / Giuli & Serge Dogulin |