



WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday Vigil 5 pm
Sunday 7:30 am; 9 am;
10:30 am & 5 pm

Weekday Masses
Monday – Friday 9:30 am

Adoration
First Friday 1 pm – 6 pm

Reconciliation
Saturday 11 am – 12 pm (with Adoration)

PARISH CLERGY

Fr John Ho PP
Fr Richard Healey AP

CONTACT US

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OFFICE HOURS

9 am to 3:30 pm (Tuesday to Friday)
Secretary: Michelle Quinn

PRIMARY SCHOOL

(02) 4625 1171
Principal: Paul Moroney
info@sjctdw.catholic.edu.au

Sunday 18, Year A | 2 August 2026

PARISH MISSION & VISION - Celebrating Catholic life since 1822

To know, follow and share Jesus with our neighbours.

To see every neighbourhood transformed by the love and power of Jesus.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*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 | Psalm 144
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.

Mass Today

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

GOSPEL | Matthew 14:13-21
They all ate and were satisfied.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

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

9:30 am Mass – Mon 3 Aug - **St Dominic, priest [Memorial]**
9:30 am Mass – Tues 4 Aug - **St John Vianney, priest [Memorial]**
9:30 am Mass – Wed 5 Aug
9:30 am Mass – Thurs 6 Aug – **The Transfiguration of the Lord [Feast]**
9:30 am Mass – Friday 7 Aug (11am Funeral for Molly Macclou)
10 am Mass – Sat 8 August – **Solemnity of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop**

This Week

READINGS NEXT WEEK – Nineteenth Sunday in Year A
1 Kings 19:9, 11-13; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:22-33

Food in Due Season

In Jesus and the Church, Isaiah's promises in today's First Reading are fulfilled. All who are thirsty come to the living waters of Baptism. The hungry delight in rich fare—given bread to eat and wine to drink at the Eucharistic table.

This is the point, too, of today's Gospel. The story of Jesus' feeding of the 5,000 brims with allusions to the Old Testament. Jesus is portrayed as a David-like shepherd who leads His flock to lie down on green grass as He spreads the table of the Messiah's banquet before them.

Jesus is shown as a new Moses, who likewise feeds vast crowds in a deserted place. Finally, Jesus is shown doing what the prophet Elisha did—satisfying the hunger of the crowd with a few loaves and having some left over.

Matthew also wants us to see the feeding of the 5,000 as a sign of the Eucharist. Notice that Jesus performs the same actions in the same sequence as at the Last Supper—He takes bread, says a blessing, breaks it, and gives it.

Jesus instructed His Apostles to celebrate the Eucharist in memory of Him. And the ministry of the Twelve is subtly stressed in today's account. Before He performs the miracle, Jesus instructs the Twelve to give the crowd "some food yourselves." Indeed, the Apostles themselves distribute the bread blessed by Jesus.

And the leftovers are enough to fill precisely 12 baskets—corresponding to each of the Apostles, the pillars of the Church.

In the Church, as we sing in today's Psalm, God gives us food in due season, opens His hands and satisfies the desires of every living thing. Now, as Paul reminds us in today's Epistle, nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

Scott Hahn - stpaulcenter.com

*In the spirit of reconciliation we acknowledge the Dharawal people as traditional custodians of this land.
We pay our respect to all Elders, past and present, and extend that respect to all First Nations peoples today.*



sjec.org.au/news



StJohnCampbelltown

The Hunger Only God Can Satisfy

"Why spend your money for what is not bread, your wages for what does not satisfy?" (Isa 55:2)

We live in a world that constantly tells us that happiness can be found in having more—more possessions, more success, more entertainment, or more achievements. Yet, even after reaching many of these goals, we often discover that something is still missing. The deepest hunger of the human heart cannot be satisfied by material things alone.

In this Sunday's readings, God lovingly invites us to come to Him. Through the prophet Isaiah, He says, "Come to the water... Come and eat." It is an invitation to receive the gifts that only God can give: peace, hope, forgiveness, and everlasting life.

The Gospel of the feeding of the five thousand reminds us that Jesus is deeply concerned for both our physical and spiritual needs. Faced with a hungry crowd, He takes five loaves and two fish, blesses them, and feeds everyone with abundance. More importantly, this miracle points us to the Eucharist, where Jesus continues to nourish us with His very self, the Bread of Life.

As we gather for Mass this weekend, let us ask ourselves: **"What am I really hungry for?"** May we bring our deepest longings to Christ, trusting that He alone can satisfy the hunger of our hearts. And having been fed by His love, may we become bread for others through our kindness, generosity, and compassion.

Biblical Roots of the Mass

The theme of EUCHARIST28 is *This is My Body, Given For You*. Please join us at FaithWorX in **St John's Hall** on Sunday evenings to watch and discuss a series of videos, *The Biblical Roots of the Mass* - available on formed.org and presented by Dr Brant Pitre. Start date is 2 Aug. There are 10 videos. All welcome, just turn up! We begin at **6:15pm** with a cuppa & biscuit, watch the video (35-50 mins) on the big screen, with discussion, and finish about 7:45pm.

SPECIAL INTENTIONS & THE SICK

Guadalupe Jordan, Fr Ross Naylor, Craig Moores, Felisa Orca, Phillip W, Sean Logan, Joan Samuel, Helen Barnes, Ronald Elliott, Jack Wheeler, Roslin, John Moore, David Jones, Nathan Taylor, Cathy Hurst, John Wagner, Alan Johnson, Allan Marquinez, Carmela Labrador, Karen Milenkovic, Josefino Pangilinan.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Victoria Telesforo Vasquez, Maria Winnie Telesforo, Fr Rick McCann, Gordon Hunter.

ANNIVERSARIES & THANKSGIVING

Dayaka Jothi, Shaneil Madhoji, Selu Paseka, Brigid McCullins, Joy Sutton, Esther McPherson, Elamma Kuriakose, Leone Paseka, Henryk Swierk, Julia Brunt-Petelo, Ryan Connor McCarthy.

Renewed & Sent

Bishop Brian Mascord invites you to the **Renewed & Sent Parish Renewal Summit at St Gregory's College, Gregory Hills, from 1-3 October 2026.**

Join clergy, religious, lay leaders, ministry volunteers and parishioners from across the Diocese of Wollongong for three days of inspiring keynote presentations, practical workshops, prayer, and opportunities to connect with others who share a passion for the future of our parishes. This opportunity aligns with Bishop Brian Mascord's Come & See, Go & Make: A Vision for Parishes, helping us to grow as communities where people encounter Jesus, become his disciples, and are sent to share the Gospel. Whether you come on your own or as part of a parish team, you'll leave encouraged, inspired, and equipped with practical ideas to help your parish grow in faith, mission, and community. For the full program and registrations, visit **renewedandsent.com.au**

Parish Life & Ministry Survey - sjec.org.au

Our parish community is important to us, and we want to continue growing as a welcoming, faith-filled church where everyone feels encouraged to share their gifts. This survey is designed to help us understand what helps people feel connected, what makes involvement difficult, and how we can better support parishioners to participate in community life and ministry.

Anonymous Parish Renewal & Ministry Survey

Your Answers Matter!
You can complete this online.

Complete online this week
(Paper copies available next Sunday)



Scan to take the survey

Prayer Intentions

Mass for Mary MacKillop

- 10 am Sat 8 August – **Solemnity of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop**

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Holy Day of Obligation

Masses will be celebrated as follows:

- Vigil Mass Fri 14 August at 6 pm
- Day Mass: Sat 15 August at 10 am

All parishioners are warmly invited to join us as we celebrate these important days.

Rosters Sunday 9 August

Acolyte

Vigil Volunteer please

7:30am Brian Thompson

9 Volunteer please

10:30 Raul Ladera, Andrei Valderrama

5 Tom Hunter

Extraordinary Ministers

Vigil Alexandra Wojcik, Marie Cassar

7:30am Mary Ellen Bland, Ken Fenandez

9 Diana Hill, Sheila Fonseca

10:30 Falakika Nau, Maria Aliifa'alogo

5 Jean Reid, Sam Nour

Readers

Vigil Vicky Horgan, Juliet Manalastas

7:30 Jim Mutton, Trevor Williams, Mary Johns

9 Ken Fernandes, Cherima Lucilo, Nathan Cox

10:30 Sinisita Filitoga, Hazel Vargas, Christina Tatola

5 Sofia De Zilva, Sean Donovan,

Precious Parcardo

Musicians

Vigil Ben McKenzie & John George

9 Glynn Family

10:30 Joe Talamaivao

5 Siervas Musika Choir

CCD Level 1 Catechist Course (Term 3)

**via zoom starts on Monday 3 August
for five Mondays.**

Dates: Mondays, 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, August
(via Zoom) Time: 9:30am–1:30pm.

Beginning and experienced SRE
Catechists are invited to register.

Please note the first day of the training
includes Safeguarding and Classroom
Management training updates that
must be revisited by SRE Catechists
every three years. Contact Sue Clark at
support@ccdwoollongong.com

2026 Significant Marriage Anniversaries Mass

If you are celebrating 25, 30, 40, 50, 60 or
over 60 years of marriage this year, you
are warmly invited to the Significant
Marriage Anniversaries, celebrated with
Bishop Brian Mascord on **Sunday 6
September 2026 at 2pm** at the **St Francis
Xavier Cathedral, Wollongong**. Mass will
be followed by light refreshments in the
Xavier Centre Conference Room.
Registration is essential and must be
completed online at dow.sh/ma26 by no
later than Monday, 17 August 2026. Any
enquiries please email Helen Bennett
helen.bennett@dow.org.au

Grieving John

The Gospel begins with Jesus receiving the
news that his cousin, John the Baptist's
death. In response, Jesus immediately
withdraws to a lonely place where he can be
alone with his disciples. His response to this
terrible news is to take time out. He wants to
go away to a quiet, lonely place to pray and
grieve. He doesn't just take the news in his
stride and carry on regardless; he steps back
from the busy-ness of life to mourn.
It's a lesson for us in times of stress and grief:
the response Jesus models is to take time to
grieve the loss.



Trusting Jesus

A little boy asked his father, "Dad, if Jesus fed
5,000 people with five loaves and two fish,
why do we still need to bring food to parish
events?"
His father smiled, "Because Jesus performs
miracles. The parish kitchen still needs
volunteers!"

National Vocations Awareness Week and Vocaris for Young Adults

National Vocations Awareness Week – and
Vocaris for Young Adults

National Vocations Awareness Week takes
place from 2 to 9 August: a time for every
one of us to be renewed in our commitment
to living out our Christian vocation or
"calling", which begins in baptism and is
then lived out through ordained ministry,
religious life, marriage or the single life. The
next Vocaris event will provide a unique
opportunity for young adults (18+) to learn
more about responding to the call of Jesus,
on **Saturday 15 August from 6 pm–9:30pm** at
the Wilton Community Centre, featuring
the testimonies of a deacon (soon to be
ordained priest), a religious sister and a
married couple, each sharing the joy of
discovering God's unique call in their lives.
Go to dow.sh/Vocaristestimony or use the
QR code for more information or to register.

If you would like to discuss your vocation, contact

Fr Duane Fernandez, Vocations Director

vocations@dow.org.au

Cursillo Diocesan Women's Encounter Thursday 10 to Sunday 13 September 2026 Carmel House Varroville

Cursillo is a life changing experience
providing a method to support and
nurture our faith journey and enable us to
live vibrant Gospel oriented lives. The
weekend will include talks, discussions
fostering friendship, daily Mass, spiritual
direction, good music, fun and laughter.

Cost: **\$320** (payment options available)
covers all meals, accommodation,
resources and activities. Enquiries:

Shirley Parker 0431 513 109
cursillo3dayweekend@hotmail.com
dow.sh/cursillo

Upcoming Events

Anointing Mass

10am Sat 5 September

Prayer Ministry

Receive prayer for any need - physical
or spiritual 11:30am Sunday 9 August

Children's Mass

10:30am Sunday 23 August

Clergy Retreat

17 - 21 August (No weekday Masses)

News from the Diocese

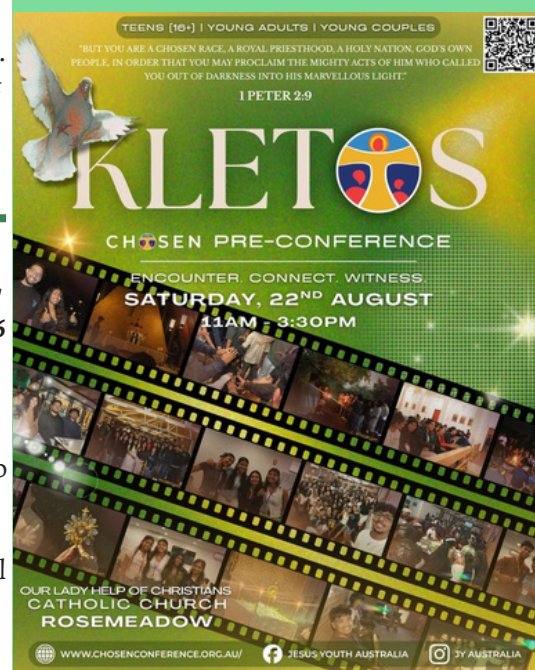
A vocation view

*The disciples placed five loaves and two fish in
Jesus' hands — and thousands were fed.
Whatever your vocation, bring what you have to
Christ: he will make it more than enough.
(Matthew 14:13–21)*

If you want to talk about your vocation,
please contact Fr Duane Fernandez, the
diocesan vocations director,
vocations@dow.org.au

Assumption Mass

*The Indian community invites you for the solemn
Mass for the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin
Mary & celebration of India's Independence Day
on 15 August at 12 noon. The Holy Eucharist will
be celebrated at Mount Carmel Parish,
Varroville. Please bring a plate.*



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register to setup a donation for
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