

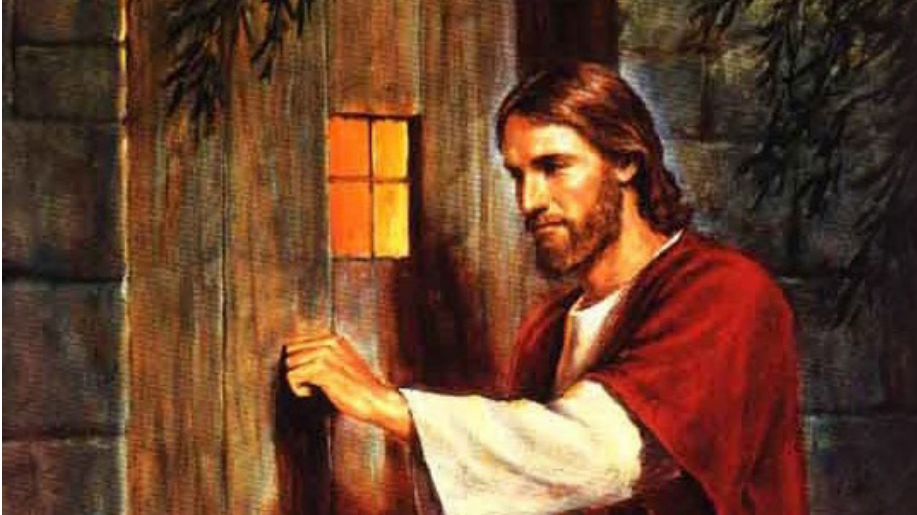
# St Joseph's Catholic Parish

Nineteenth Sunday Ord. Time  
Year C, 10 August, 2025

Embracing the communities of  
Cherbourg, Goomeri, Murgon,  
Proston and Wondai



*Unity in Diversity ... being one in Christ through Baptism!*



## Luke 12: 32-48

In the Gospel, Jesus tells the disciples to seek security not in the realities of this world but in the treasures of God's Kingdom. He exhorts them to be steadfast in their faith, staying ready and prepared even when the fulfilment of that is a long time coming. Jesus then gives an illustration of servants who are entrusted with the management of the household. No one knows exactly when the master will return. A wise servant, therefore, will always be vigilant since the master may return at any moment and will expect to find everything in order.

This Gospel illustrates for us the importance of being ready and prepared for the many ways our God visits us in our lives. We are often beset with hardships and failures, pain and anguish, tragedy and disappointment; our dreams, hopes, and plans are frequently thwarted. How do we prepare for such circumstances? What are we to do in dark moments when God seems to be far away, and we grope for some evidence of God's presence? Let us continue hoping in God's love even though we may not feel it, and

keep on waiting in patient trust. Life on earth is a journey in faith and a pilgrimage of hope. For this journey we are given enough light to take the next step. As Saint John Henry Newman, Cardinal prayed "Lead, kindly Light ... Lead thou me on! Keep thou my feet, I do not ask to see the distant scene – one step enough for me".

## 2025 NATSICC Service to Community Awards



### Uncle Eric Law AM, winner of the Elders Awards

A Wakka Wakka Elder, Vietnam veteran, and passionate educator, Uncle Eric is a leading voice for truth-telling and reconciliation. Shaped by  
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## Weekend Mass schedule

### 3rd Sunday of Month - 16/17 August

Thursday, 9.00am, Castra, Murgon  
Saturday, 9.00am, Proston  
Saturday, 5.00pm, Wondai  
Sunday, 8.00am, Murgon  
Sunday, 10.30am, Gayndah

### 4th Sunday of Month - 23/24 August

Saturday, 9.00am, Proston  
(Liturgy of the Word)  
Saturday, 9.00am, Goomeri  
Saturday, 5.00pm, Wondai  
Sunday, 8.00am, Murgon  
Sunday, 10.30am, Gayndah  
Sunday, 2.30pm, Mundubbera

### 5th Sunday of Month - 30/31 August

Saturday, 9.00am, Proston  
(Liturgy of the Word)  
Sunday, 8.00am, Murgon  
Sunday, 10.30am, Gayndah  
Sunday, 2.30pm Eidsvold

### 1st Sunday of Month - 6/7 September

Thursday, 9.00am, Castra, Murgon  
Saturday, 9.00am, Proston  
Saturday, 5.00pm, Wondai  
Sunday, 8.00am, Murgon  
Sunday, 10.30am, Gayndah

## Today's readings

Wisdom 18: 6-9; Hebrews 11: 1-2, 8-19;  
Luke 12: 32-48

### Response:

Happy the people the Lord has chosen  
to be his own.

### Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! Be watchful and ready:  
you know not when the Son of Man is  
coming. Alleluia!

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his Catholic upbringing in Cherbourg under the harsh restrictions of the Protection Act, Uncle Eric brings humility, humour, and hope to his storytelling. As Chair of the Elders Advisory Group and a leader at the Ration Shed Museum, he mentors emerging Elders and advocates for Indigenous veterans.

His conversations with Catholic leaders, including Archbishop Mark Coleridge, highlight his belief that reconciliation is a journey we must walk together – with faith, honesty, and determination to shape a better future.

*Congratulations Uncle Eric!*



**Mary MacKillop's life** does not just tell us about a brave and determined woman who has become a saint. It also says something important about Australia and the Australian Catholic Church today, and about the vision we need as Australians and Catholics. In this feature, Fr Andrew Hamilton SJ takes us through the life of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop. We also look at how the works she began are continued by the Josephites and their friends today.

How did Mary MacKillop manage to do so much? She took responsibility for her younger brothers and sisters when she was only 11 years old. She was a governess and teacher by the time she was 18. She helped form a religious congregation at the age of 24. Before she was 30 she was wrongly excommunicated and badly treated by Bishops. She spent time in Rome negotiating approval of her Congregation. In the care of her congregation she travelled by boat, coach and train around Australia, New Zealand and Europe. Even after she

suffered a stroke she was re-elected Mother General of the Josephites. Mary's vision was at once large, small and Catholic. It was always larger than the resources she had to achieve it. She never took the easy path. She did not want only to show sympathy to deprived children. She wanted to open schools for them. She did not want simply to do good works alone. She wanted to be part of a band of women dedicated to the poor. She did not confine her work to one part of Australia or of the Catholic Church. She wanted to serve poor children wherever there was need and wherever her Congregation was wanted. She faced many conflicts with people whose vision was smaller than her own.

But Mary's vision also focused on small things. What mattered to her was people. And in people, what mattered most was the heart which is open to love and be loved. Wherever she went she met children in schools, visited prisoners in jails and encouraged the Josephite sisters who taught in schools and cared for poor children. She saw each human being as important in God's eyes and her meetings with each person always spoke of God's love.

Mary's vision was both large and small because it was a Catholic vision. She was inspired by faith and lived her faith in the Catholic Church. No matter how badly she was treated by other Catholics, the church was God's family and her home.

In her relationships with bishops and clergy she was always respectful, always put the best face on abusive behaviour towards her, and refused to enter into public debate. But she was like rock in defending the castle of the heart where she and her sisters took their religious vows. Once her Congregation was approved, she would not allow their commitment to it to be altered at the whim of local authorities.

Mary took the name Mary of the Cross. Her life was a series of trials and humiliations. What kept her going was ultimately God's love shown through the pain of Christ's cross. Her pain, like Christ's, was intensely personal, but borne for the salvation of many.

#### **Burdened with responsibility**

From her own childhood, Mary knew all about poverty and the importance of education. Her own family fell on hard times in an Australia where there was no safety net for families in distress. If a parent died, the family could be forced into extreme poverty, and perhaps



#### **Parish Directory, Saint Joseph's Parish**

Parish Priest: Fr Mikhael Loke SVD

Tel: Parish Office, **0419 693 602**

Parish e-mail: [murgon@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:murgon@bne.catholic.net.au)

24 Angel Avenue, MURGON

PO Box 60 Murgon 4605

Parish website:

[murgon.brisbanecatholic.org.au](http://murgon.brisbanecatholic.org.au)

#### **We pray for those who are sick:**

Elisabeth Bell; Jess Bradbury;  
Graham Burgess; Mary Davitt;  
Rodney Euler; Steven Heit;  
Nerla Knight; Dr Graham McAllister;  
Bob Ricketts; Joshua Smith; Kai Vera.

#### **Recently deceased:**

Kevin Fry (Hivesville)

broken up. In this harsh world, children were inevitably the victims. They could remain illiterate because there was no free education available and no one to send them to school.

Mary was fortunate because her parents took education seriously, but her childhood was burdened with heavy responsibility. As she grew older, she looked after the children of her relatives and had to keep the family together. She says of her childhood, "My life as a child was one of sorrow, my home when I had it, a most unhappy one".

Her own struggles gave her a great sympathy with poor children who had no access to education. It was not surprising that the first Josephite works included homes to care for destitute women and schools for poor children.

#### **Collections 2/3 August 2025**

Murgon ..... \$153.70

Wondai..... \$116.00

Proston..... \$245.00

Total:..... \$514.70

**Direct Debit** BSB 064-786

Account 100011987