



Mary Immaculate Parish

Eagle Vale

Parish Priest: Fr Leo Mifsud OMI

Assistant: Fr. Didier Indibi OMI

Parish Secretary: Mrs Vicki M^oHale

Office hours: Tuesday to Friday, 9:30 – 3:30

Email: eaglevale@dow.org.au

Phone: (02) 4626 3055



Under the care of the



Oblate of Mary Immaculate

*Second Sunday
of Easter*

Office: 2 Aquamarine Drive, Eagle Vale 2558

12th APRIL 2026

AND TIME STARTED OVER

Fr. Ron Rolheiser OMI

With the resurrection of Jesus, time started over. Simply put, up until Jesus rose from the dead all things that died stayed dead. After Jesus' resurrection, nothing stays dead anymore. Time has begun anew.

Luke's Gospel account of the resurrection begins with the words "on the morning of the first day". This is a double reference. He is referring to Sunday, the first day of the week, but he is also referring to the first day of a new creation. With the resurrection, time has started over. In fact, the world measures time by that day. We are in the year 2026 since that morning when Jesus rose from the dead.

From the beginning of time until Jesus' resurrection, everything mortal died and remained in death. In the Judeo-Christian tradition, in the story of Adam and Eve and their fall from grace, we are given to believe that originally humans were not intended to die. In this view, death entered the world through the sin of our first parents.

Irrespective as to whether you take the Adam and Eve story literally and see death because of their sin or not, the bottom line is the same: From our first parents onward, everything that died stayed dead. That changed with the resurrection of Jesus. When God raised him from the dead, creation was changed at its very roots. Nature changed. A dead body was brought to new life. Impossible? Yes, except that time started over! There was a new first day, a new Genesis, a second time when we can say, "in the beginning".

And nothing stays dead now because Jesus is the "first fruit" of this new creation. What happened to him now happens to us. We too will not stay dead but will rise to new life. Moreover, this isn't just true for us as humans. It's also true for the earth itself and everything on it.

St. Paul makes this clear in his Epistle to the Romans when he writes that all creation, physical creation, has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth and – it itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God. (Romans 8,21-23)

Our planet earth, like our human body, is also mortal. It is dying too. As we know, the sun will eventually burn out and that will spell the death of our planet. Our planet also needs to be resurrected, and scripture assures us that it will.

Will the whole cosmos and our planet earth be transformed and enter heaven? What all this means stretches our imagination beyond its limits.

The answer is yes, though how this will happen is beyond our imagination. Our human mind is too limited. This is impossible to imagine, except, except that God who is the Father of Jesus Christ is ineffable, beyond imagination, and can do the unimaginable, including transforming all things into new life.

The Gospel of John has a particularly poignant text which links the resurrection of Jesus to the original creation as described in Genesis. John tells us that in his first resurrection appearance to the apostles, Jesus finds them huddled in fear inside a room with the doors locked. The resurrected Jesus goes right through the locked doors, enters their midst, greets them, shows them his hands and his side, and then breathes on them. (John 20,21)

This breathing out by Jesus parallels what happened at the original creation when God breathed over the formless void, and light began to separate from darkness and creation began to take shape.

After the resurrection, Jesus breathes on his disciples and for the second time in history light begins to separate from darkness. The confusion, fear, timidity, and the weaknesses of the apostles, their "formless void", their darkness, begins to separate from the new light brought by the resurrection, namely, the eternal light of charity, joy, peace, patience, goodness, the fruits of the Holy Spirit.

So, it's appropriate to say that with the resurrection of Jesus, time started over. There was a new first day where light again separated from darkness. The resurrection of Jesus is the most radical thing that has occurred since God originally said, let there be light! nearly fourteen billion years ago. The earth itself and everything on it, humans, animals, plants, and minerals, and the earth itself, are now given life beyond death.

Until the resurrection of Jesus, all things that died stayed dead. This is no longer true. Time has started over.

SOULFIT SISTERS

PILATES FOR EVERY WOMAN

TUESDAY 14th APRIL - 6:30PM

MARY IMMACULATE PARISH HALL

ALL WOMEN WELCOME – NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED

What you'll enjoy.
 Energizing standing Pilates
 Improved strength & balance.
 Mindful, invigorating exercises.
 A supportive, joyful community.

What to bring?
 Comfortable workout clothes
 Supportive trainers
 Water bottle



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18th April - Diocesan Youth Sports Festival

Young people ages 15 - 35 are invited for the very first Diocesan Youth Sports Festival

When: **Saturday 18 April 2026** Time: **9.30am – 2:00pm**

Where: **Holy Spirit College, Bellambi**

Cost: **\$50 per team | \$10 per person**

Form a team of 7+ to compete in a fast-paced round-robin tournament. The twist? **Teams vote on the main sport of the day**, so register early and get training! Prefer something lower intensity? **A table tennis competition** will run throughout the day with plenty of chances to jump in. Morning tea and a **BBQ lunch are included**, and the day will finish with **Mass celebrated by Bishop Brian** at St Columbkille's Church in Corrimal. Register here:

dow.sh/youthsportsfest



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18 April 2026 - Day Retreat –

This is a retreat for youth and young adults aged 16 - 35. The Lord is risen! Let us come and spend time sitting at the tomb and wait for his voice to call our name. Retreat Cost: \$60 (*Limited space available*)

Jamberoo Abbey Retreats April to June. Go to [our website](#) for more information and how to register. We would like to enable as many people to attend our retreats. If you require assistance with the registration cost, please don't hesitate to contact us at onlineretreat@jamberooabbey.org.au.



Try Alpha

Alpha is a Safe Space to explore Life, purpose and the Christian Life, ask questions and share your point of view

Alpha is free and everyone is welcome. Starting with dinner at 7:00pm

Wednesday 15th April
 Mary Immaculate Parish Hall
 61 Emerald Drive, Eagle Vale

Got questions?
Ivanka: 0449 528 609
May: 0416 157 294



Sunday, 19 April 2026 - St Jude's Chamber Choir Concert at The Abbey .

Spend a lovely afternoon listening to magnificent music brought by the beautiful voices of St Jude's Chamber Choir resounding in the acoustics of the Abbey church. After the concert, we invite you to have an afternoon tea with us at the Abbey Guestry

ONE AGENCY

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19th APRIL Appin Massacre Memorial

This year is the 210th Anniversary of the Appin Massacre which occurred on 17 April 1816. Our annual memorial service will be held on Sunday, **19 April 2026 at Cataract Dam from 11:00am – 3:30pm.**

We would like to encourage everyone to come to the Appin Massacre Memorial as a sign of respect for the Dharawal people who were killed in the Massacre on the 17 April 1816, and to the descendants of the survivors. **It is a family friendly day.** The day begins with a free sausage sizzle. We encourage bringing a hat, sunscreen, water bottle, and walking shoes for the short walk down the hill from the picnic ground to the dam wall. Some event buses will be available for those unable to walk. Once there, we hold a short ceremony, including a smoking ceremony, dancing by local Aboriginal dance groups, and didgeridoo playing. It is important that we continue our efforts at truth telling and reconciliation.



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20th & 21st APRIL - ASIST Workshop

8.30am - 4.30pm both days - Location: 36 Harbour Street Wollongong, NSW 2500

CatholicCare is an accredited provider of LivingWorks Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST). It is two-day in-person workshop where you'll learn how to recognise when someone may be thinking about suicide, and how to provide a skilled intervention and develop a safety plan with the person to connect them to further support.

To book call Rita Maher on 0458 472 983 or email ritam@catholiccare.dow.org.au

Tuesday 21 April 7-9pm CAMPBELLTOWN - Formation Pathway | Leading People Well

The conversation you avoid today becomes the conflict you manage tomorrow.

Every leader eventually discovers the same thing.

The most difficult part of leadership is not vision, planning, or organisation. It is people.

Our next Formation Pathway evening will focus on the practical side of

leading people well. The session will explore several areas that often determine whether teams thrive or struggle, including:

- handling conflict constructively
- having honest and respectful conversations
- setting clear expectations and responsibilities
- supporting the people entrusted to our leadership

If you are involved in any form of leadership or ministry, this evening will offer practical help for one of the most important parts of leadership: caring for and guiding people well. All are welcome. **To register: [Dow.sh/fpapril2026](https://dow.sh/fpapril2026)**

ALSO AVAILABLE @ WOLLONGONG; ZOOM Wednesday 22 April 7-9pm

Footsteps of St. Eugene de Mazenod Charism Pilgrimage 2026

This pilgrimage will take us to key Oblate sites in Paris, Aix-en-Provence, Marseille, and Oblate General House in Rome, where we celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Oblates. The pilgrimage will be spiritually led by our Provincial, Fr Andrew Chen OMI. Other Oblates will be on the pilgrimage, including Fr. Didier. **When:** 21 June – 2 July 2026. **Indicative Cost:** \$8,300 (land only, twin share)

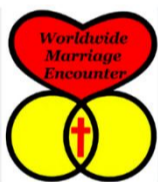
Registrations close **17 May 2026**.

For more information visit: <https://omi.com.au/charism-pilgrimage> OR scan QR
or contact Emma Rice at erice@omi.com.au | 03 9805 8834



19-21 June 2026

Marriage Enrichment Weekend



Come and join us on at Mount Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW –

Book online at www.wwme.org.au

or contact Terry Mahony on 0490 774 419

or nswbookings@wwme.org.au

'Our Legacy of Light:

A History of St Patrick's College, Campbelltown, is a book by Francesca Musico Rullo and Joanne Cavallin documenting the 185-year history of St Patrick's College for Girls, Campbelltown, NSW. It chronicles the school's journey from 1840 as a community-run, Irish-Catholic school to its role as a modern Catholic school for girls. Drawing on archival records, photographs, and personal recollections, the book provides a valuable insight into both the school's history and its place within the broader Macarthur community. The book is published by the Campbelltown and Airds Historical Society and can be purchased in either hard copy or e-book at its website <https://www.cahs.org.au/>

The International Eucharistic Congress 2028

The Australian Church is setting out on the journey toward the International Eucharistic Congress, Sydney 2028 (Eucharist28), a great time of renewal and transformation centred on encountering the Eucharistic Lord.

In preparation, Australian Catholics will enter a Year of Prayer - March 2026, focused on rediscovering Our Lord's love in the Blessed Sacrament. The theme, *This is My Body, Given for You*, calls us to deeper faith, generosity and mission. Learn more about the way ahead at eucharist28.org.



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Eucharist
is a verb.

PLEASE PRAY FOR-

THE SICK: Jaetan Noyeaux, Willow Morrison, Lisa Farnhill, Adrian Banks, Christine Debski, Ana Villagonzalo, Pinky & Evelyn Arenas, Lachlan Abood, Charbel Aziz, Fr John Pickering, Pauline Iacono, Margaret Roberts.

THE DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Raymond and Odette Gautray, Hyleen Shaw, Emile Autard, Pat Woodhams, Roland Besnard** whose anniversaries occur at this time and all Holy Souls. May they rest in the peace of the Lord.

Pope Leo's monthly intention for APRIL: For priests in crisis

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

MASS INTENTIONS 11 th – 18 th April. 2026	
Sat Vigil 7:30pm	For the People of the Parish and our families.
SUN 8.30am	Thanksgiving for Kristoffer and for the gift of faith for his family
10.00am	For all members of the Divine Mercy Group
5:30pm	For the souls of Raymond and Odette Gautray
Mon. 9.00am	For Adrian and Saviola Collaco on their 30 th wedding anniversary
Tues. 9.00am	available
Wed. 7:30 PM	For the souls of Hyleen Shaw and Emile Autard
Thur. 9:00am	For the anniversary of death of Pat Woodhams
Fri. 9:00am	available
Sat. 9:30am	For the soul of Roland Besnard

Ministers for weekend 18th – 19th April		
Saturday 5.30pm		
Acolyte:	Robert Squires	
E. Minister:	Anne Sheldrick	
Readers:	Ramon Racca	Emilie Racca
Sunday 8.30am		
Acolyte:	Michael Arthur	
E. Minister:	Kumar Fernando	Kirsty Simpson
Readers:	Tina Morell	Lynne Duffield
Sunday 10.00am		
Acolyte:	Lafi Tuigamala	
E. Minister:	Malia Kula	Salina Pahulu
Readers:	Edith May Berry	Christian Berry
Sunday 5.30pm		
Acolyte:	Roy Rodriguez	
E. Minister:	Loretta Tuigamala	
Readers:	April Alhambra	Jeanne Alhambra

Can you help or know of someone who can?

The parish is looking to install a much-needed 'Storage Shed'.

In preparation we need to lay a 'concrete slab' 6 X 3 meters.

If you know of anyone, please contact

the parish Office: 4626 3055



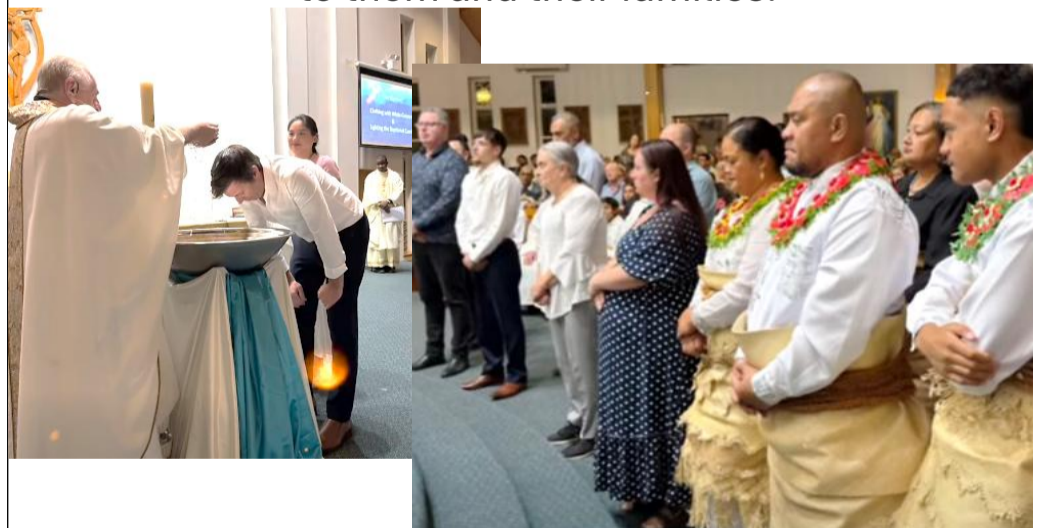
At the Easter Vigil last week our parish was privileged to baptize:

Mitchel Harris

And to welcome into Full Communion with the Catholic Church:

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Daisy Berry | Aliki Otukolo |
| Stuart Noble-Murray | Tuipulotu Otukolo |
| Emilly Kramer | Losaline Otukolo |
| Jai Bunfield | |

Our Congratulations and Prayers to them and their families.



WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday Vigil 5:30pm

Sunday 8:30am | 10:00am | 5:30pm.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon & Tue: 9:00am / **Wednesday:** 7:30 pm

Thurs. & Fri 9:00am / **Saturday:** 9:30am

FILIPINO MASS – 2nd Sunday- 4:00pm.

HOLY HOUR First Saturday will NOT be held on the 4th April.

RECONCILIATIONS:

Saturday 10:00am to 11:00am

(with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament)

DEVOTIONAL TIMES

ROSARY: BEFORE the weekday Masses.

DIVINE MERCY Chaplet- Fridays after 9am Mass

First Fridays – with Benediction

Meetings - 4th Friday @ 6.30pm (in Madigan room)

BAPTISMS by appointment.

My Lord and my God!