

Mary Immaculate Parish Eagle Vale

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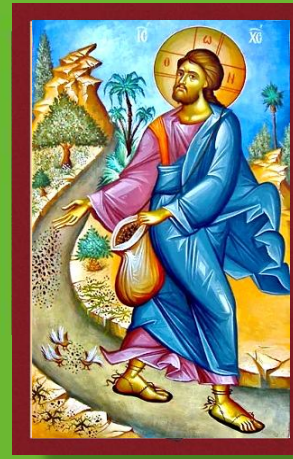
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Under the care of the
Bible of Mary Immaculate



Constitutions & Rules 1826 -2026

15th Sunday in Year A
12th July 2026



A Note from the Parish Priest.



No doubt you will have heard about the excommunication of a group, calling themselves the 'SSPX' (the Society of Saint Pius X). The group advocates the exclusive use of the

Tridentine (Latin) Mass. In this article I aim to clarify why the SSPX are considered to be in schism and no longer 'in communion' with the Catholic Church. I also aim to make clear the issues beyond what is reported in popular media.

The issue is not just about the Latin Mass.

Popular Media generally only mentions one aspect of the controversy mainly, the language of the Liturgy. In fact, this is not the case. Latin has never been 'banned' from liturgical use. However, I will deal with more than the Liturgical Reforms of Vatican II. There are other important issues which lay at the heart of the schism, which are underrepresented in the talk about the excommunication which relate to the theology of the Church and the interpretation of the Scriptures.

First some history.

In 1962 Saint Pope John XIII established the Second Vatican Council which was completed by Saint Pope Paul VI, in 1965. It ran for four annual sessions in St. Peter's Basilica. French Archbishop, Marcel Lefebvre, the founder of the break-away group in 1970, was a member of the Vatican II and signatory to the documents of the Council including those pertaining to the Liturgical Reforms.

The Four Areas Which the SSPX Reject.

Ecumenism:

The council document *Unitatis Redintegratio* 1964, (the "Restoration of Unity"), decree on ecumenism. While recognizing that many theological differences still exist between denominations the council calls for respect and fraternal dialogue. It also calls for a cooperation in social and charitable endeavours and foster joint prayer.

The SSPX rejects this, holding that the Catholic Church alone is the true and only Church.

Religious Freedom:

The Council's document *Dignitatis Humanae* (1965) is based on God's gifts of 'free will' and 'reason'. Most strongly supported by the Council members with almost unanimous agreement, it upholds the right to religious freedom, unhindered or coerced by any governments or church state. It states that no one can be forced to act against their own conscience or prevented from acting according to their beliefs. In this regard the Church acknowledges its own past sins and a resolve to live the Gospel mandates more closely.

The SSPX rejects this as a form of modern liberalism, stating that "error has no rights" and society must be rooted in Christ.

Perhaps with a touch of irony, it may be pointed out that it is this same "liberal Church" which, for over 50 years has been trying to accommodate the SSPX and urging them to remain "in communion" for the sake of the people of God, before they (twice) rejected the Church's pleas.

Interreligious Dialogue:

The document, *Nostra Aetate* (In Our Time) (1965) is a "Declaration on the Relation of the Church to Non-Christian Religions," In this document the Church addresses, mainly its relation to the Jewish people, but also deals with Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism:

Regarding the Jewish people, the council stated the Judaism occupies a special place with Christianity because of our shared heritage, because the Old Testament bears witness to the nature of God's eternal covenant. The Vatican II also forbids antisemitism.

The SSPX have severely criticized Pope Benedict XVI for his attempts to bring healing between Christians and Jews.

Regarding the other world religions, the council states that it recognizes 'rays of truth' in other major world faiths and calls for on-going dialogue. It condemns any form of discrimination based on race, colour, condition of life, or religion, advocating for peace and love among all people highlighting that all humans are made in the image of God.

The SSPX objects to the Council's approach to other non-Christian faiths – particularly Judaism, viewing these reforms as a departure from traditional evangelical missions.

I would consider that the notion of evangelical mentioned in the objection is more akin to proselytizing. The critical differences being, while **Evangelizing** refers to sharing a message in an open, respectful way that prioritizes free choice, whereas **Proselytizing** often implying the use of pressure, manipulation, or aggressive tactics to force a conversion

Liturgical Reforms:

Firstly there needs to be a distinction between a "Latin Mass" and a "Tridentine Mass".

Clearly, the celebration of the Mass in the Latin language is not at odds with the reforms of the Vatican II, which welcomes the use of any language which is meaningful to the faithful.

The Tridentine Mass is a ritual which is performed almost exclusively by the priest, and in which the people, until the time of the reception of Holy Communion played little part.

Earlier this year I wrote a series of articles for our Parish Bulletin explaining these differences.

Continued

In summary; while the laity are given a greater role in the celebration of the Mass, in no way does it deny the sacrificial nature of the Eucharist and while it encourages the laity to recognise their proper role, by virtue of their Baptism, it clarifies and enhances the role of the priest as the one who leads the people in giving worship to God through the whole Church.

For many people this is not an issue. Some traditional Catholics simply prefer the prayerful atmosphere that is created when Latin is used, in conjunction with chanting and the use of incense. The Church has made allowance for this and encourages the maintenance of such tradition. However, the Church does not wish to deny the people of their proper role in the Liturgy. Therefore, a liturgy in keeping with the understanding of the Vatican II, while expressing the aura of holiness has been established as the Novus Ordo Missae (the "Order of the Mass") promulgated by Pope Paul VI in 1969.

The SSPX argue that the liturgical reforms following Vatican II diluted the sacrificial nature of the Mass and introduced modernist elements contrary to the centuries-old tradition of the Church. In short, it is not the language but, as with the other three objections made by SSPX, it is the Theology with which they are at odds.

The Dilemma of Lay People

The Church's priority as expressed by Pope Leo and the previous three popes is always the spiritual welfare of the People of God. It should also be remembered that the SSPX does not speak for all who celebrate the Mass in Latin. There strong signs of unity and support for the Church from such groups around the world who do not belong to SSPX.

The dilemma that some Catholics may face is that while they may attend the (Latin or Tridentine) Mass out of pure motives the Church cautions them to be aware of the intention of the groups or the celebrant who may be defiant of the Church's teaching and drawn into a situation where they will be supporting such defiance of the Church.

The risk of becoming a 'Café Catholic'.

'Café Catholic', is a term which I read about recently. It describes those who while acknowledging some teachings of the Church also reject or treat with contempt teaching and/or practises that do not suit them.

Of major importance is not to let oneself be led by emotions; because not every feeling that 'feel good' is holy and therefore not in keeping with the Gospel.

Fr Leo Mifsud OMI

Medjugorje Pilgrimage - Vatican Approved | Harvest Journeys

COMMENCES MONDAY 31 August 2026 Queen of Peace - 8 Days / 7 Nights.

Medjugorje (7 Nights) • Dubrovnik day. Optional 4-night post-tour extension to Rome. Accompanied by: Fr Joseph Photehnpampil For full details, including itinerary and booking information,

please Click QR code to download brochure



World Youth Day Seoul 2027 – Diocesan Pilgrimage

Applications are now open for the Diocese of Wollongong's pilgrimage to World Youth Day Seoul 2027!

If you're interested in joining thousands of young Catholics from around the world for this once-in-a-lifetime experience of faith, community and pilgrimage, visit dow.org.au/wyd27 for information on the itinerary, costs, travel arrangements and FAQs.

Not ready to apply just yet? Join our mailing list at dow.sh/wyd27 to receive the latest updates and announcements.

Wednesday 22 July Ageing with Confidence – Campbelltown Catholic Club

Join CatholicCare for a free community event with Dr Emily Steel from the Australian Human Rights Commission, sharing practical approaches to ageing well. Doors open at 9am to chat with community partners, and the presentation

will commence at 10am. Morning tea included. **Register** via the QR code, call 1800 967 894

or www.catholiccare.dow.org.au. Enquiries to Jane Hollier 0417 018 152 or janeh@catholiccare.dow.org.au



Sunday 26th July CATHOLIC CLUB 60TH ANNUAL MASS AND COMMUNION LUNCHEON

10.30am Mass at St Thomas More Catholic Church Ruse

concelebrated by **Bishop Brian Mascord DD** and **Fr Michael Healy PP**

Followed by a luncheon at 'The Cube' Campbelltown Catholic Club 12 noon, doors open 11.45am

Guest Speaker + Bridget Sakr, Founder of Heartfelt

\$30.00 per person includes 2 course lunch.

Scan QR Code or see Reception to book your place by Friday 17th July 2026



10 – 13th September CURSILLO – Diocesan Women's Encounter

Cursillo is a life changing experience providing a method to support and nurture our faith journey and enable us to live Gospel oriented lives.

Thursday evening to Sunday afternoon: Carmel House 345 St Andrews Rd Varroville

Cost \$320 (payment options available) Covers all meals, accommodation, resources and activities.

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





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On FRIDAY 4th SEPTEMBER 2026 Bishop Brian Mascord will confer the SACRAMENT of CONFIRMATIONS for those from GRADE 6 +



Parents are required to REGISTER their children, using the QR CODE OR by going to mipeaglevale.org and FOLLOWING the LINK to 'SACRAMENTS' than

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2026'

In addition, Parents must attend the 'Three Session for Parents', where they will also receive further information and the material needed to guide their children in preparation for the sacrament.

21st JULY – Tuesday

Formation Pathways

Raising Up Leaders, will explore how priests, parish leaders, and ministry leaders can help people discover and live the gifts and calling God has given them.

Please come, and consider inviting others from your parish.

Campbelltown Catholic Club - Tuesday 21 July, 7-9pm

Wednesday 22 July, 7-9pm - **Zoom Only** - Registration is essential.

<https://form.jotform.com/261536788650872>

Encouraged to attend especially if you have not attended previously.

Friday 24th July - CEILIDH BUSH DANCE

Friday 24th July 7.00 in the Parish Hall.

No experience necessary as all dances will be called.

Gary Elford from Christchurch NZ will visit us for a second time to present a Ceildh/bush dance. The night promises to be a night of fun and laughter.

Come along for a family fun night.

Bring a plate with food to share for supper, nothing that needs to be heated. Tea and coffee to be provided-



Mary Maculate Youth Group. No. Mary Immaculate Youth Group. For Year 7 to Year 12.

Starting. 26th July. After the 5:30 PM Mass.

Meeting in the parish hall. Every 4th Sunday of the month. For information text.

Thank you. Ben. 0478. 662. 655. Or. Jade. 0414. 293. 500.

Parents registration essential. Please complete the form to enrol.



ENVELOPES for PLANNED GIVING
are ready for pick up in the foyer.

SOUL-FIT SISTERS – Tuesday evenings 6.30pm

Ladies come and join us in the Parish Hall
Exercise & fun. –
Wear comfortable clothes & shoes.



Mary Immaculate Parish Food Festival
SATURDAY 26th SEPTEMBER
11:00 AM – 3:00 PM

MAJOR RAFFLE – DRAWN ON THE DAY
First Prize – \$3,000
Second Prize – \$1,500
Third Prize – \$750

FOOD COFFEE VAN ICE CREAM TRUCK FACE PAINTING KIDS' GAMES POCKETS OF HEAVEN TEMPLE CLOTHING

21st July 7:00pm F.R.E.S.H.MEN A Gathering for the Men

An invitation for all men to come, join us for a night of fellowship. BYO, snacks and drink to share.

WHERE: At the presbytery, on 2 Aquamarine Drive, Eagle Vale
For more information contact the parish office (462643055)

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A good seed won't flourish in poor soil — just like the Word of God won't take root in a distracted or hardened heart.

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PLEASE PRAY FOR-

THE SICK: Jake Valte, Thomas Howell, Jennifer Doran, Fr Brian Egan, Lourdes Collaco, Irwin Emmanuel, Phillip Whitehouse, Willow Morrison, Lisa Farnhill, Adrian Banks, Christine Debski, Ana Villagonzalo, Pinky and Evelyn Arenas, Lachlan Abood, Charbel Aziz, Margaret Roberts.

THE DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Salesi (Charlie) Ramsay** recently deceased **Pierre Shaggal, Paul Sammut, Lina Xerri, Juanito Marilou Matinong, Gloria Teves, Carmen Caruana, Consalcion Mapao Palmon, Viola Kuluka** 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 JULY For respect for human life
Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.

MASS INTENTIONS 4 th – 11 th July.	
Sat Vigil 5:30pm	For the anniversaries of death of Paul Sammut and Lina Xerri
SUN 8.30am	For the soul of Juanito Marilou Matinong
10.00am	For the anniversary of death of Gloria Teves
5:30pm	For the People of the Parish (Pro Populo)
Mon. 9.00am	For the anniversary of death of Carmen Caruana
Tues. 9.00am	For Azira Bernadette Mafi on her birthday
Wed. 7:30 PM	For the anniversary of death of Consalcion Mapao Palmon
Thur. 9:00am	For the past, present and future members of the Legion of Mary
Fri. 9:00am	For the anniversary of death of Viola Kuluka
Sat. 9:30am	Available to book

Ministers for weekend 4 th / 5 th July.	
Saturday 5.30pm	
Acolyte:	Robert Squires
E. Minister:	Marlene Jones
Readers:	1. Julian Rookes 2. Anne Sheldrick
Sunday 8.30am	
Acolyte:	Michael Arthur
E. Minister:	Chandrika Fernando Kumar Fernando
Readers	1. John Hains 2. Janelle Hains
Sunday 10.00am	
Acolyte:	Lafi Tuigamala
E. Minister:	Marie-Claire Gopaul Loretta Tuigamala
Readers:	1. Jaqueline Kho 2. Samantha Johnson
Sunday 5.30pm	
Acolyte:	Thomas Philippe
E. Minister:	Roxanne Rodriguez
Readers:	1. Jeanne Alhambra 2. April Alhambra

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.	RECONCILIATIONS: Saturdays 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 with Benediction on 1 st Friday Meetings - 4 th Friday @ 6.30pm (in Madigan room) HOLY HOUR PRAYERS First Saturday - After Mass
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RENEWED & SENT - PARISH RENEWAL SUMMMIT 2026
1st – 3rd October - St Gregory’s College, Campbelltown.
“And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land.” (Ezekiel 37:14)
Renewed & Sent gathers priests, parishioners & parish leaders across Australia who believe parish renewal is possible and want to discern what it could look like in their parish.
A Quiet Renewal is Underway. Parishes are rediscovering their missionary identity
Leaders are finding renewed purpose
People are encountering Jesus, and lives are being transformed.
The Renewed & Sent Summit is about awakening what God had already planted.
What might it look like if your parish began to experience now life like this?
To secure your ticket to the summit please scan the QR code
If you wish to volunteer at the summit,
please contact May Ataya via text 0416 157 294 or email: may.ataya@dow.org.au



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