

# Mary Immaculate Parish

## Eagle Vale

Parish Priest: Fr Leo Mifsud OMI

Assistant: Fr. Didier Indibi OMI

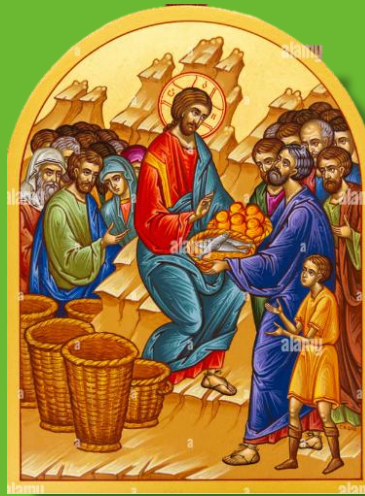
Parish Secretary: Mrs Vicki M<sup>c</sup>Hale

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

Phone: (02) 4626 3055



Under the care of the  
Oblate of Mary Immaculate



Constitutions & Rules 1826 -2026

19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Year A

9<sup>th</sup> August 2026

*A note from the Parish Priest.*



### WEEK 2

**Theme: Disciples hear the voice of Jesus and step forward in trust.**

*Disciples.  
One.  
Sent.*

The readings this week challenge us to encounter Jesus in the complexities of our lives, which are all too filled with busyness, fatigue, limited resources, past disappointments, uncertainty, and fear of change. These challenges can be just as frightening as the storm which the disciples encountered; *'battling with heavy seas and a headwind.'* (Matt 14:22-33)

Amid the tempest the disciples encounter a ghostly figure seemingly unaffected by the waves, stepping towards them. The appearance of Jesus, however, does not comfort them. Storms in those days were seen as manifestations of menacing spirits, and the sudden appearance of Jesus, whom they did not initially recognize, was yet another spirit they could not control.

They could not yet comprehend that this storm was going to be their opportunity to grow and to be amazed at the power of God, in Christ. While the storm raged around them, they could not see beyond it. In contrast Jesus approached them, in control, walking. Like the experience of Elijah (Kings 19:11-13) who was confronted by the forces of wind, earthquakes and fire, he found God in the gentle breeze. Jesus approaches the disciples and Peter's attention is diverted for a few moments, enough for him to muster enough courage to step out of the boat and do the impossible because Jesus had called him. However, this moment was only that, 'a moment', brief and feeble.

How many times do we struggle with some burden, and even though our faith tells us that Jesus is with us, we still find it hard to take comfort? Our head tells us that God will care for us, but our hearts only see the tempest. Our lack of faith in turn then becomes another cause of grief and adds to our burden through self-doubt.

Often when we pray through this Gospel passage, we forget the community dimension of this event. Initially, upon seeing Jesus, they were all frightened, and even though it was Peter who stepped out of the boat, the others were experiencing the event through him. This event is not principally about Peter but how the community (in the boat) is led to recognize and worship Jesus.

Seen in context; every Gospel account of Jesus walking on the water, comes after he has fed the multitude. Scripture scholars tell us that this is a deliberate link with the Exodus events: the feeding of the Israelite with manna in the desert, and the crossing of the Red Sea. Likewise, in how Jesus announces himself to the disciples. To dispel their fears at the thought that he was a malevolent spirit, Jesus says (translating directly from the Greek *'ego eimi'*): 'Take heart. I am'. In Exodus 3:14 God tells Moses at the burning bush to say (to the people) "I AM has sent me to you"

As Peter takes fright and begins to sink, he cries out to Jesus to save him. Without hesitation Jesus takes him in hand and returns him to the safety of the boat and the other disciples. Jesus asks the question: 'Man of little faith, why did you doubt?' This is not to rebuke Peter, however but to teach him and the others that 'great things' can only be achieved when they focus on him. It is only then, once Jesus is in the boat and in their midst that all was calm. The lesson is not lost on the disciples who now recognize the event as a theophany (a manifestation of God's presence) and they *worship him*.

### REFLECTION FOR THE WEEK

To become disciples 'on purpose' rather than by routine, we need to reflect:

- 1) At times I settle for 'calmness from storms', instead of pursuing the 'peace', which come directly from Jesus, by embracing the challenges of life.
- 2) I have difficulty in 'stepping out of the boat' and exercising my faith by trusting in Jesus' call.
- 3) I don't always keep my eyes fixed on Christ because I allow the noise and confusion of life to distract me.
- 4) I don't always appreciate myself as a valuable member of the church community.

Fr. Leo Mifsud OMI

## 15 AUGUST THE INDIAN COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

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

## 15 AUGUST VOCARIS – Testimony Night:

Young adults (18+) are invited to an profound evening of faith 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. Join us on Saturday, 15 August, from 6:00pm–9:30pm at the Wilton Community Centre (25 minutes from Macarthur and Wollongong).

Go to [dow.sh/Vocaristestimony](https://dow.sh/Vocaristestimony) or use the **QR code** for more information or to register.



## 28-30th August, Homecoming Silent Retreat

This retreat is for men and women aged 18+. Hosted by the MGL Sisters. AT Carmel House, Varroville  
Choose from a weekend retreat or extend your time with a 5 day retreat option. w/e: <https://www.trybooking.com/DIDBK>  
extended: <https://www.trybooking.com/DIDBU>

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

Cursillo is a life changing experience ... 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](mailto:cursillo3dayweekend@hotmail.com); [dow.sh/cursillo](https://dow.sh/cursillo)**



## 10 -13th September Be The Witness — THE MUSICAL.

With the support of Bishop Vincent Long (letter attached), Mary Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown, together with more than 100 volunteers from across the Diocese, is presenting the musical Be The Witness which brings the story of Jesus to life through the eyes of St Peter and the disciples. Tickets are now on sale - visit our website

[bethewitness.com.au](https://bethewitness.com.au) or **Riverside Theatre's Ticketing Page** - Be the Witness - The Musical < Riverside Theatres

## 21 September 2026 Great Saints of Italy – Catholic Pilgrimage

Join Fr Patrick Vaughan on a 12-day pilgrimage journey through Italy.

Uncover the sacred heart of Italy — a land where a rich tapestry of faith, history, and culture comes alive. Walk where Saints walked, & explore timeless villages nestled among the hills. Stand in awe before majestic cathedrals, walk beneath the frescoed heavens of the Sistine Chapel, and behold masterpieces born of divine inspiration. For more information and bookings, **VISIT: <https://www.harvestjourneys.com/tour/great-saints-of-italy/>**

## 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](https://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](https://dow.sh/wyd27) to receive the latest updates and announcements.

**Marriage and Relationship Education CatholicCare's Marriage and Relationship Education** support couples to strengthen and renew their relationship.

Choose '**Prepare**' for couples planning marriage or '**Enrich**' to deepen and strengthen your bond.

*To learn more or register, scan the QR code or call 1800 967 894*



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**15th August****The Feast of the Assumption – Holy Day of Obligation**

Regarding the celebration of the Assumption, Bishop Brian Mascord advises the following:

“Saturday 15 August is the Holy Day of Obligation, therefore the Vigil Mass on Friday is for the Assumption. Morning Mass on Saturday 15 August is for the Assumption. These masses would fulfill the requirement for the Holy Day of Obligation. The Vigil Mass on Saturday evening 15 August would be celebrating the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time and NOT the Feast of Assumption.”

**Our Masses for the Feast will be Friday Evening Vigil at 7:30pm and Saturday 9:30am**

**- CONFIRMATIONS - FRIDAY 4<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2026**

Bishop Brian Mascord will confer the SACRAMENT of CONFIRMATIONS for those from GRADE 6+

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

**By now all children will have been registered**



**Parents must attend** the ‘Three Session for Parents’.

These sessions are designed to give parents a deeper appreciation of the Confirmation in their lives and in the lives of their children. The sessions begin **THIS WEEK**

**11<sup>th</sup> August** (at which Children’s material will be given out); **18<sup>th</sup> August**; and **25<sup>th</sup> August**.

**Each Session will begin a 7:00pm in the Parish Hall.**

**Mary Immaculate Parish Food Festival**  
**SATURDAY 26<sup>th</sup> 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

**MAJOR RAFFLE**

**TO BE DRAWN AT THE FOOD FESTIVAL**

**1<sup>ST</sup> PRIZE - \$3,000**

**2<sup>ND</sup> PRIZE - \$1,500**

**3<sup>RD</sup> PRIZE - \$750**

**TICKETS WILL ARE NOW ON SALE.**

**Volunteer needed****Licensed Security Guards**

We are seeking **three parishioners** who hold a **current Security Guard Licence** to volunteer at our upcoming **Mary Immaculate Parish Food Festival**.

If you are available to assist by being present during the event, we would greatly appreciate your support. Your assistance will help ensure a safe and enjoyable day for everyone attending.

**Please contact the Parish Office on: 02 4626 3055 if you are able to help or would like more information, or speak with Polly or May**

**RENEWED & SENT - PARISH RENEWAL SUMMIT 2026**

**1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 who believe parish renewal is possible.

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.



*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](mailto:may.ataya@dow.org.au)

**The Filipino and Friends Parish Community Association (FFPCA)**  
*invites you to*  
**2026 Annual Pilgrimage**

**When:** September 19 2026

**Where:** St Christopher Cathedral  
55 Franklin St, Forrest ACT 2603

**Activities :**  
• Healing Mass at 9am  
• Side Trip to Floriade at Commonwealth Park

**Assembly Time :** 5am in front of Mary Immaculate Church, Eagle Vale

**Departure from Eagle Vale:** 530am  
**Departure from Canberra :** 4pm

**Cost:** \$65 per pilgrim  
Morning tea and light snacks to be provided;  
BYO lunch and drinks.

To book seats, please contact any of the FFPCA officers.  
**Hurry, seats are limited.**

Photo from saintchristopher.org.au

**Thank You!**

The Eagle Vale Conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society would like to thank our parish for the contributions to the **Vinnies Winter Appeal**.

We were so pleased to receive **\$2,314** in donations.

This will help to continue our work assisting people in need.

**SOUL-FIT SISTERS –**  
**Tuesday evenings**  
**6.30pm**  
Ladies come and join us in the Parish Hall  
Exercise & fun. –  
Wear comfortable clothes & shoes.

PLEASE PRAY FOR-

**THE SICK:** Please pray especially for: Luca Thistleton, Fr Ross Naylor, Felisa Orca, 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 Teodoro Racca.

**THE DECEASED:** Please pray for the repose of the souls of recently deceased Jason Cahill, Jake Valte, Pat Cameron, and Anthony Fernando whose anniversaries occur at this time and all Holy Souls. May they rest in the peace of the Lord.

**Feast Day for the coming week.** Monday 10<sup>th</sup> **St Lawrence:** Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> **St Clare:**  
Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> **St Maximillion Kolbe:** Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> **The Assumption**

**Pope Leo’s monthly intention for AUGUST - For evangelization in the city**  
Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

| MASS INTENTIONS 8 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> Aug. |                                                                     |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| Sat Vigil 5:30pm                                        | Anniversary of death of Anthony Fernando                            |  |
| SUN 8.30am                                              | For Hanna D’Silva on her 9 <sup>th</sup> Birthday                   |  |
| 10.00am                                                 | Thanksgiving prayer from FFPCA                                      |  |
| 5:30pm                                                  | For Genoveva on 39 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of coming to Australia |  |
| Mon. 9.00am                                             | For the past, present and future members of the Legion of Mary      |  |
| Tues. 9.00am                                            | For the people of the parish                                        |  |
| Wed. 7:30pm                                             | .                                                                   |  |
| Thur. 9:00am                                            | The repose of Jason Hill (recently deceased)                        |  |
| Fri. 9:00am                                             |                                                                     |  |
| 7:30pm VIGIL the Assumption                             | For Ekilleanu Nga (17 <sup>th</sup> Birthday)                       |  |
| Sat. 9:30am                                             |                                                                     |  |

| Ministers for weekend 15 <sup>th</sup> / 16 <sup>th</sup> August. |                    |                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Saturday 5.30pm</b>                                            |                    |                      |
| Acolyte:                                                          | Robert Squires     |                      |
| E. Minister:                                                      | Marlene Jones      |                      |
| Readers:                                                          | 1. Julian Rookes   | 2.                   |
| <b>Sunday 8.30am</b>                                              |                    |                      |
| Acolyte:                                                          | Michael Arthur     |                      |
| E. Minister:                                                      | Elvina Joby        | Vitolina Smith       |
| Readers                                                           | 1. Jacqueline Luis | 2. Bernedette Peiris |
| <b>Sunday 10.00am</b>                                             |                    |                      |
| Acolyte:                                                          | Lafi Tuigamala     |                      |
| E. Minister:                                                      | Gene De Leon       | Ann Webb             |
| Readers:                                                          | 1. Edith May Berry | 2. Christian Berry   |
| <b>Sunday 5.30pm</b>                                              |                    |                      |
| Acolyte:                                                          | Roy Rodriguez      |                      |
| E. Minister:                                                      | Roxanne Rodriguez  |                      |
| Readers:                                                          | 1. Con Vink        | 2. Judy Byrne        |

**WEEKEND MASSES**  
**Saturday** Vigil 5:30pm  
**Sunday** 8:30am | 10:00am | 5:30pm.

**WEEKDAY MASSES**  
**Mon & Tue:** 9:00am / **Wednesday:** 7:30 pm  
**Fri** 9:00am / **Saturday:** 9:30am  
**FILIPINO MASS** – 2nd Sunday- 4:00pm.

**BAPTISMS & MARRIAGES** by appointment.

**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<sup>st</sup> Friday **Thurs. &** Meetings - 4<sup>th</sup> Friday @ 6.30pm (in Madigan room)  
**HOLY HOUR PRAYERS** First Saturday - After Mass



Lord Jesus Christ,  
make Mary Immaculate Parish  
a God centred community,  
alive in faith and united in love.  
Form us as disciples  
who know you and live your way.  
Make us one body  
where every person is known,  
welcomed, valued and needed.  
Send us out to serve.  
invite and to share the Gospel,  
especially with those  
most in need.  
Mary Immaculate,  
First Disciple and  
Mother of the Church – pray for us  
St Eugene de Mazenod – pray for us.

TEENS (16+) | YOUNG ADULTS | YOUNG COUPLES

"BUT YOU ARE A CHOSEN RACE, A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, GOD PEOPLE, IN ORDER THAT YOU MAY PROCLAIM THE MIGHTY ACTS OF HIM WHO CALLS YOU OUT OF DARKNESS INTO HIS MARVELLOUS LIGHT"

1 PETER 2:9



**KLETOS**

CHOSEN PRE-CONFERENCE

ENCOUNTER. CONNECT. WITNESS

**SATURDAY, 22<sup>ND</sup> AUGUST**

**11AM - 3:30PM**

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS  
CATHOLIC CHURCH  
ROSEMEADOW

WWW.CHOSENCONFERENCE.ORG.AU/ JESUS YOUTH AUSTRALIA JY AUSTRALIA

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