

Mary Immaculate Parish

Eagle Vale

Parish Priest: Fr Leo Mifsud OMI

Assistant: Fr. Didier Indibi OMI

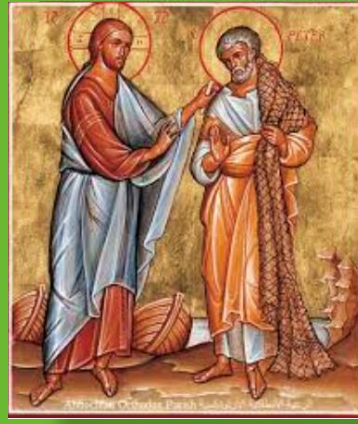
Parish Secretary: Mrs Vicki M^cHale

Office: 2 Aquamarine Drive, Eagle Vale 2558

Email: eaglevale@dow.org.au

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

Phone: (02) 4626 3055



Under the care of the
Oblate of Mary Immaculate

200 YEARS

Constitutions & Rules 1826 -2026

24th Sunday in Year A

13th September 2026

A note from the Parish Priest.

be Disciples.
One.
Sent.

WEEK 6

Theme: Mercy builds Community. (Matthew 18:21-35)

To appreciate the full meaning of today's Scripture one needs to understand the need for justice, in the Old Testament.

In the book of Genesis we read how to protect Cain God threatened a seven-fold vengeance if anyone harmed him. Later in Genesis 4:24, a descendant named Lamech boasts of an even worse escalation of human violence, declaring he would be avenged "seventy-sevenfold"

This has little to do with actual numbers. In biblical numerology, the number seven represents completeness, perfection, or totality. It means the retribution will be absolute and complete. Just as God rested on the seventh day. This makes 7 a sign of a finished or complete work.

However by the second century BC, Jesus Ben Sira the author of the book of Ecclesiasticus (our first reading 27:30-28:7); extols the reader to show mercy in order to receive mercy for our own transgressions.

When Peter asks Jesus if he should forgive 'as often as seven times', he was not picking a number randomly, he was making a scriptural reference.

Jesus reframes this concept in Matthew 18:22, telling Peter to forgive others not seven times, but "seventy-seven times" (or seventy times seven), turning the idea of absolute payback into boundless forgiveness. The number 490 is also a reference as we have seen above, but also to Daniel (9:24) where the angel Gabriel tells Daniel that 'seventy units' of 'seven years', i.e., 490 years are decreed for the Jewish people and Jerusalem as a time for their purification.

The earlier references in Genesis are about 'who' pays for the 'retribution'. In the parable Jesus gives us a very surprising answer.

The parable is meant to highlight the principle of 'justice and mercy'. Jesus begins with the servant who owns 10,000 talents. To put this number in context: One talent = Six denarii. The average wage for a labourer was One denarius per day. To pay off his debt the servant would have needed 1,600 years! And usually when a debtor is put in gaol, he has no mean of earning money and is effectively held to ransom. It would take a benefactor (family member) to come up with the money. Clearly the servant was asking for the impossible.

The response of the King is equally 'excessive', "He let him go and cancelled the debt" (v.27). The nuance that is used is the same as in the Lord's Prayer for forgiveness, it means to permanently dismiss the obligation. The master forfeited all rights to ever demand repayment, wiping the ledger clean as if the astronomical debt had never existed. In the parable it is the master who pays for the retribution. To those listening, this would be astonishing.

Whether we realize it or not, our debt to God can never be fully paid. Forgiveness is found in the compassion of the King, it is **COMPLETE!** So, what you say when the one to whom you are in debt is also the one who pays the ransom? The 'over-the-top' mercy shown by God should not only overwhelm us, it should also radically change our outlook on life and our relationship with others. The last line of the parable is not just a call to forgive others but "to forgive from the heart" (v.35).

The 'wicked' servant could not recognize that the compassion of the King was not just about cancelling the debt, it was also a call to enter a new relationship with the King, based on compassion and love. He took what the king had to offer but would not accept the terms.

Equally with us. God cancelled our debt by dying for us. This is not only a goodwill gesture, but also the means by which God, in Christ cancelled an impossibly debt and invites us into a loving union.

Continued next page...

Forgiving others is the only appropriate response and the only possible means by which we can show our gratitude. A refusal to be a conduit of the grace of God, by which we are saved is to show ungratefulness

REFLECTION FOR THE WEEK

Today's Gospel reminds us that we have received mercy beyond measure. How will you share this mercy. Take up the challenge to:

- Pray for someone in the parish you find difficult.
- Thank someone from another ministry or speak well of someone whom you would normally ignore.
- Avoid gossip.
- Seek reconciliation where needed, regardless of who you may think is in the wrong.
- Introduce yourself to someone you do not know.

Fr. Leo Mifsud OMI

Season of Creation 2026



The Season of Creation Theme this year: "Living Water," inspired by the biblical text in Ezekiel 47.

It is an annual ecumenical and Catholic celebration of prayer and action to protect the environment. It began on September 1 (the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation) and ends on October 4 (the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology).

While it does not replace traditional liturgical seasons like Advent or Lent, it is an officially supported period of prayer and action endorsed by the Holy See and promoted by episcopal conferences worldwide. Pope Leo XIV message

How Catholics Participate

Prayer and Liturgy: Parishes are encouraged to hold special prayer services, use the *Mass for the Care of Creation* liturgical texts, and incorporate creation care into homilies.

Action and Community: Communities engage in local environmental clean-ups, sustainability projects, and advocacy inspired by Pope Francis's encyclical [*Laudato Si'*].



Pope Leo XIV Message



Conversations can spark ideas, build understanding and encourage reflection. But meaningful change happens when those conversations lead to practical action that strengthens support for children and families.

National Child Protection Week helps turn conversation into action by bringing people across Australia together to share ideas, strengthen communities and prevent harm before it occurs. While the Week creates an important national moment, the campaign continues throughout the year, encouraging all of us to take steps that help children feel heard, valued, safe and supported.

By shifting conversation to action, we can help build communities where every child experience real safety, care and protection.



Websites & Apps
Digital Marketing
Software Training

Creedx.com.au

Varghese Joseph

Founder & Lead consultant

Mobile 0426 576 218

Creedxconsulting@gmail.com

ABN:48127239835

15th September St Carlo Acutis Relic
- Our Lady Help of Christians Rosemeadow

2:00pm onwards – Veneration of the Relic of St Carlo Acutis, and Eucharistic Adoration.

6:30pm - Holy Mass. Followed by devotional prayers and reflections - St Carlo Acutis

7:00pm – 9:00pm -Eucharistic Adoration, veneration of the relic, prayers and departure of relic.

The relic will also be at **Oran Park** (Mon 14th), **Rosemeadow** (Tue 15th) **Nowra** (Wed 16- Thurs 17th), **Unanderra** (Fri 18), and the **Wollongong Cathedral** (Fri 18 - Mon 21), and visiting St Carlo's own Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition. Everyone, but especially students and young adults will be amazed and drawn into a deep experience of faith in encountering St Carlo's story, relic and the display.

Go to dow.sh/acutis for the full public itinerary.

17 18 19 and 20 September Feast of St Padre Pio

St Padre Pio Parish Glenmore Park (34-38 William Howell Drive Glenmore Park)

Triduum -Novena Mass Thursday 17th and Friday 18th September at 7.00pm: Saturday 19th September 5.30pm

Sunday 20th September – Procession followed by Mass, Veneration and blessing with St Padre Pio's Relic and fellowship meal – 10am

9th -11th October, Marriage Encounter Weekend

Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville – We are offering an opportunity for you to learn to become the best version of yourselves together and live your best life in love! **Book online at www.wwme.org.au** or contact **Christine & Terry Mahony on 0490 774 419** or nswbookings@wwme.org.au

16th -18th October - Compass Catholic Family Camping Weekend

Registrations are now open for our next CCFC Weekend planned for **Friday 16 - Sunday 18 October**. Join with families from across the Diocese for a relaxed weekend of family fun, faith and food! For more information and to register go to: dow.sh/familycamping26

16th -18th October Handmade: Creative Healing Retreat,

Carmel House, Varroville ***"In his hand is the life of every creature"*** Job 12:10
Come away for a weekend of reflection on how carefully God has made and upheld your life through different creative prayer experiences. This retreat is for both men and women. Hosted by the MGL Sisters.
Registration link: www.trybooking.com/DIDCB

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.

**Long Term Volunteer Opportunities in the Australia-Pacific Region
The Cagliero Project, Salesians of Don Bosco**

We are seeking long term (6-12 month) volunteers for departure in January 2027 to work with young people in our Salesian communities in Samoa, Cambodia, Timor Leste, Solomon Islands and Mongolia.
Applications close October 31st, 2026. Send us an enquiry - www.cagliero.org.au or lhichaaba@salesians.org.au.



NSW RALLY AGAINST ABORTION UP TO BIRTH
IF NOT NOW, WHEN?

Tuesday 15 September - NSW Parliament House - 6:00 - 7:00pm

NSW law allows abortion through all 40 weeks of pregnancy.
In 2024 alone, **17,740 babies** lost their lives to abortion in NSW.
This is not a distant issue. It is happening here. And it is happening now.
www.drjoannahowe.com.au/rally
There is nothing more important than this.
This is our last opportunity to pass a prolife bill in NSW this term of parliament.
Please make every effort to attend.



+ **Parish News** **+**



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

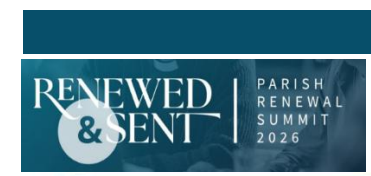
MAJOR RAFFLE
To Be Drawn at the Food Festival

1ST PRIZE - \$3,000
2ND PRIZE - \$1,500
3RD PRIZE - \$750

TICKETS WILL ARE NOW ON SALE.

If you would like to make a donation towards the Prizes, please contact the Parish Office on: 02 4626 3055 or speak with Polly or May

Volunteer needed - Licensed Security Guards
If you **hold a current Security Guard Licence** and if you are available to assist, we would greatly appreciate your support and the Parish Food Festival.
Please contact the Parish Office on: 02 4626 3055 if you would like more information, or speak with Polly or May



RENEWED & SENT
PARISH RENEWAL SUMMIT 2026

1st – 3rd October - St Gregory's College, Campbelltown.

? Have you seriously thought about attending?
Is it for you? – Yes! It is specifically for you!
Hesitant? - All the more reason to attend to register.
You will be surrounded by other parishioners and the priests.
The talks and workshops are NON-THREATENING and EYE OPENING – A relaxed atmosphere throughout.
Mary Immaculate Parish has been using this model of Church for over 6 years. Now come and see where we are heading.

- For the full program and registrations, visit renewedandsent.com.au. OR QR code





houseproud cleaning

Habib Ataya
Houseproud Cleaning, Glen Alpine
M 0405 712 935 T 1300 880 198
E glenalpine@houseproud.com.au
ABN 28 436 847 374
www.houseproud.com.au



Rosemary De Kauwe
Skin Care Clinic
Beauty Therapist & Electrologist
Reflexologist & Paramedical
Dermal Aestheician
Serving Macarthur since 1979
0475889943



Cobb & Co blinds
Curtains | Blinds | Interiors

Marianne & Mark Nader
Phone: 02 4620 4014
Mobile: 0425 322 650
3/11 Blaxland Serviceway
Campbelltown 2560
Behind Bob Jane
ccblinds.com.au
@cobbcoblindsccblinds
Cobb & Co Blinds

PLEASE PRAY FOR-

THE SICK: Please pray especially for: Bill Webb, Miriam and Lucito Tan, Maryse Purvis, Elias Busuttil, Rana Afram, Elaine Freeman, David Maxwell, 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 Ramona Veigus and Larry Ardina who died recently Louis and Theresa Rego, Nejme Daoud, Lucy Gabin, Jose Duarte and all Holy Souls. May they rest in the peace of the Lord.

Coming week's Feast Day Mon 14th Exaltation of the Cross; Tue 15th Our Lady of Sorrows; Wed 16th Sts Cornelieus and Cyprian.

MASS INTENTIONS 12 th - 19 th Sept.	
Sat Vigil 5:30pm	For the anniversary of death of Louis and Theresa Rego
SUN 8.30am 10.00am 5:30pm	For the anniversary of death of Nejme Daoud For Levy Guarin on his birthday For the People of the Parish (Pro Populo)
Mon. 9.00am	For the intention of Emily Sunoj
Tues. 9.00am	For a special intention
Wed. 7:30pm	For Marnie Taeiloa and Lose Tusitala on their birthdays
Thur. 9:00am	For the anniversary of death of Lucy Gabin
Fri. 9:00am	For Bede Lutui Taeiloa on his birthday
Sat. 9:30am	For the anniversary of death of Jose Duarte

Ministers for weekend 12 th /13 th Sept	
Saturday 5.30pm	
Acolyte:	Roy Rodriguez
E. Minister:	Ann Sheldrick
Readers:	1. Emillie Racca 2. Ramon Racca
Sunday 8.30am	
Acolyte:	Michael Arthur
E. Minister:	Elvina Joby Tina Morell
Readers	1. Ann Webb 2. Jimmah Matinong
Sunday 10.00am	
Acolyte:	Lafi Tuigamala
E. Minister:	Paul Pahulu Salina Pahulu
Readers:	1. Imelita Sulu-Fuamatu 2. Jacqueline Kho
Sunday 5.30pm	
Acolyte:	Julian Rookes
E. Minister:	Roxanne Rodriguez
Readers:	1. Jeanne Alhambra 2. April Alhambra

Late for Mass again?

AI's advice to a Pastor on how to address the problem of People who constantly come to Mass late?

You should approach people who are constantly late for Mass with gentle kindness and patience rather than judgment.

- Understand Their Situation
- Check the root cause: They might struggle with traffic, large families, or hard morning routines.
- Avoid harsh assumptions: Do not assume they do not care about their faith or the service.
- What to Say to Friends or Family
- Express your care: "I missed you during the opening prayers today."
- Offer practical help: "Would it help if we carpooled or planned to leave ten minutes earlier?"
- Share the positive: "I really love the readings at the start of Mass. I hate for you to miss them."
- What to Avoid
- No guilt trips: Do not ask sarcastic questions like, "Did you forget what time Mass starts?"
- No public correction: Never scold or stare at someone when they walk in late.

MARY IMMACULATE PARISH EAGLE VALE

LEGION OF MARY

Holy Rosary AND STATUE HOME VISITS

TO BOOK A VISIT, CONTACT

MILA 0449 934 596

HABIB 0405 712 935

Kenneally's Funerals

Gerald Kenneally J.P.

Mob: 0418 221 054

gerald@kenneallysfunerals.com.au

100% Australian Family Owned & Operated

KPS KALIBUR PLUMBING SERVICES

Shawn Pizarro

Licenced Plumber & Gasfitter

0466 798 173

shawn@kaliburplumbing.com

ABN 84 625 361 421

Licence no. 391335C

L&L Lawn & Garden Services

RELIABLE, AFFORDABLE, AND FRIENDLY LAWN & GARDEN CARE — ONE-TIME TIDY-UPS OR ONGOING SERVICE TO KEEP YOUR OUTDOORS LOOKING GREAT.

CALL NOW FOR A FREE QUOTE

EDWIN -0435 716 156

LL.LAWNGARDENSERVICES@GMAIL.COM

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))

DEVOTIONAL TIMES

ROSARY:

before weekday Masse

DIVINE MERCY Chaplet-

Fridays after 9am Mass with Benediction on 1st Friday

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

HOLY HOUR PRAYERS

Sponsored by the Filipino Group

First Saturday - After Mass

Saturday: 9:30am

BAPTISMS & MARRIAGES by appointment.