

# Feast Day

MARY MACKILLOP  
today

## Feast Day Prayers

We invite you to use our prayer resources below during the month of August to celebrate the Feast Day of Saint Mary MacKillop of the Cross. Pope Francis once called for all people of goodwill to “live fully, to choose to leave a mark.” This is something that Mary MacKillop indelibly did, transforming the lives of the poor and those most in need, when she, and the Sisters of Saint Joseph, opened the schools that went on to create the foundation of education in this country today. In 2020, as we celebrate the ten-year anniversary of Mary’s canonisation, let us all leave our mark, by following her example in creating a better world through the gift of education. You may wish to adapt and tailor our prayers to suit the needs of your school’s celebration, of Australia’s first Saint.



Mary MacKillop Chapel, North Sydney

### Mary MacKillop Prayer

Ever generous God,  
You inspired Saint Mary MacKillop  
To live her life faithful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and constant in  
bringing hope and encouragement  
to those who were disheartened, lonely or needy.  
With confidence in your generous providence and through the  
intercession of Saint Mary MacKillop  
We ask that you grant our request (insert request)  
We ask that our faith and hope be fired afresh by the Holy Spirit so  
that we too, like Mary MacKillop, may live with courage, trust and  
openness.  
Ever generous God hear our prayer.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Mary MacKillop

Amen.

## Prayer for Fiji

Loving God,

We are challenged and encouraged by the example of Mary MacKillop, who in her living of the Gospel witnessed to the human dignity of each person.

She was friend of the poor, sister of the oppressed, companion of the lonely.

Walk with the people of Fiji in these days.

Bless them with wisdom and courage, with justice and reconciliation in their dealings with each other and their neighbours.

May your Spirit continue to show them the path of respect for the human dignity of each person.

We regret the fear, ignorance and greed which has caused so much suffering and harm over the years.

We witness the poverty, violence and hardship suffered by the Fijian people.

Walk with those leaders who are trying to right past wrongs.

Walk with us who are happy to be among the many individuals and groups who have taken the Fijian people into their hearts and have been blessed beyond measure.

May we open our hearts and learn from the poor of this world, as Mary MacKillop did.

## Prayers of the Faithful

The Prayers of the Faithful are a short series of announced intentions, each followed by a period of silence during which the faithful make their prayer.

The Prayers of the Faithful help to make a personal connection between the Eucharist and the daily life of Christians. They are petitions which describe the concerns and needs of the people at a certain time, or they may be focus on important events and anniversaries. While they have a personal and local relevance, they also extend compassion beyond those present to include people and places elsewhere in the world.

Use the following guide to create your own Prayers of the Faithful. Reflect upon the people of strength, faith, who demonstrate justice and compassion in your world and pray for them in Prayers of the Faithful.

### For our families

Lord,  
We pray for .....  
Lord, hear us.  
All: Lord hear our prayer

### For those who are sick and/or suffering

Lord,  
We pray for .....  
Lord, hear us.  
All: Lord hear our prayer

### For our Leaders

Lord,  
We pray for .....  
Lord, hear us.  
All: Lord hear our prayer

### For our school community

Lord,  
We pray for .....  
Lord, hear us.  
All: Lord hear our prayer

### For our Church

Lord,  
We pray for .....  
Lord, hear us.  
All: Lord hear our prayer

### For peace in our world

Lord,  
We pray for .....  
Lord, hear us.  
All: Lord hear our prayer