

## Jubilee Year of Mercy

## Feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

## Community Staff Prayer

## A Practical, Faithful Woman



*Image by Sue Thomas can be used with acknowledgement.*

### Resources:

**St Mary MacKillop: Hymns, Mantras and Song. In Celebration of the Canonisation of Mary MacKillop.** Monica Brown. Monica Brown and Emmaus Productions. 2010. CD or downloadable MP3.

**Catholic Worship Book II. Peoples Edition. (CWBII)** Morning Star Publishing. 2015.

**LabOra Worship.** Liturgy Brisbane.

**Image author's own.** Permission to use if booklet is created.

For information on St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, please go to <http://www.marymackillop.org.au/>

### Prayer Space

Create simple prayer space, reflecting the earthiness and practicality of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. Options could include an icon, candle, cloth, a potted bottle brush plant named for St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, or flowers from this plant. Plants are usually available from boutique and larger nurseries. Occasionally available from supermarkets.

Copies of readings in folder for readers, or read from the Lectionary or Bible.

### **We Gather**

**Gathering Song: Mary of the Cross.** (Monica Brown-St Mary MacKillop Hymns, Mantras and Songs.-Emmaus Productions)

### Introduction:

**Leader:** We gather in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen.

**Leader:** Today we celebrate the Feast of St Mary of the Cross, Mary MacKillop, Australia's first saint. We give praise and thanks to God for the gift of Mary

**MacKillop, for her example of strength of purpose, her tenacity and loyalty, her firm resolve and her practicality. In a special way we also remember the Josephite sisters, the order which St Mary of the Cross formed to minister to the education of children and to minister to destitute women and children. We gather, to listen to God's word, and to pray together as people of faith, rejoicing in God's gift to us, holy women and men who, by their example, strengthen us to live out God's mission.**

### **We listen**

**Readings of the Day:** *As today is a solemnity, the readings of the day are proclaimed.*

**First Reading:** 1 Kings 17:8-16

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalm 62:2-8

Music Options:

**Psalm: For Feast:** Colin Smith Collection.

**Psalm 63 My Soul is Thirsting** (Paul Mason-Psalms for All Time-Willow)

**Psalm 63(62) Sing the Responsorial Psalms** (Amanda McKenna-Willow)

**Psalm 62** (Catholic Worship Book 11)

**Second Reading:** Colossians 3:12-17

**Gospel Acclamation:** Matthew 27:55 (Common Acclamation known to the community- Omit if not sung)

**Gospel:** Matthew 6:25-34

### **We respond**

*A period of silence is followed by the following hymn.*

**Hymn/Mantra: St Mary of the Cross Litany or Your God is There** (Monica Brown-St Mary MacKillop Hymns, Mantras and Songs.-Emmaus Productions)

**Leader:** **Our God is full of mercy and compassion. We ask God to hear our prayer.  
I invite you to speak any intentions you may have.**

*Participants speak aloud their intention.*

**All:** **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*When all who choose to do so have spoken...*

**Leader:** **We bring these prayers, and those unspoken in our hearts, together with  
the prayer Jesus taught us:  
Our Father, ....**

**Leader:** **Let us offer each other a sign of peace.**

*Participants offer each other a sign of peace.*

### **We Go**

**Leader:** **As we go about our day today, may we keep in mind St Mary of the Cross  
MacKillop, her steadfast trust in God, her commitment to the education of**

children, her care for destitute women and children, her faithfulness to the Body of Christ in the face of ill will and defamation. May we, like Mary MacKillop, go forth trusting in God, committed to our roles as educators, and act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with our loving God. We ask this Jesus name.

**All:** Amen.

**Hymn:** **We Are Called** (David Haas-CWBII – 476)

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