

St MARY of the CROSS MACKILLOP

Adult Eucharistic Liturgy

A Saint For Our Times



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Please Note:

Elements of this Liturgy may be adapted for a Liturgy of The Word or Community/Staff Prayer.

Website Background & Information:

Some extra background can be found on the following sites:

<http://www.sosj.org.au/news-events/index.cfm?loadref=7> for news items and information regarding the Sisters of St Joseph.

http://www.sosj.org.au/news-events/view_article.cfm?id=926&loadref=7 for extra resources for the Feast of Mary MacKillop

Introductory Rites

Introduction, Entrance Hymn & Procession:

Today we celebrate Australia's first Saint, Mary MacKillop. Mary is a Saint for our times. In these present days of financial insecurity and rapid change, we are challenged and encouraged by Mary's strong faith and her ability to trust in the providence of God.

Mary was born in Melbourne in 1842. She died in Sydney on the 8th August in 1909. Mary took the religious name, *Mary of the Cross*. Her response to the isolation of colonial families was to pioneer a new form of religious life to provide education for their children. She and her Sisters shared the life of the poor and the itinerant, offering special care to destitute women and children. She inspires us by her eagerness to discover God's will in all things, by her charity in the face of calumny, (often at the hands of Church authorities) and by her abiding trust that God will always provide.

We, too, trust our generous God as we sing:

Suggestions:

Daughter of Australia (Text: Mark B Coleridge; Tune: Irish Traditional – published in *Liturgy News* 43/2 June 2013)

Saint Mary LITANY (Monica Brown – Emmaus Productions)

From Penola's Plains (Michael Herry fms/Geoffrey Cox/Gustav Holtz – From Penola's Plains book & CD - OR God of Surprises)

Woman for Today (Michael Herry – From Penola's Plains book & CD)

As Mary Did (Michael Herry – From Penola's Plains book & CD)

The Summons (John Bell – GA)

Sign of the Cross

Presider: Let us mark ourselves with the Sign that Mary MacKillop chose as her new name.

All: In the name of the Father, + and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Penitential Act:

Introduced by the Presider in the usual way ... (see Missal)

Gloria: Sung

Opening Prayer: Use the Opening Prayer of the Mass for today.
This is an alternative prayer which may be used for meetings outside of Mass.

Leader: Let us pray ...
Holy God, source of all goodness,
you show us in Mary MacKillop
a woman of faith who lived by the power of the cross.
Teach us to embrace what she pioneered:
new ways of living the gospel
that respect and defend the human dignity of all in our land.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD See the Lectionary, Vol 2, pages 536, 992, 558.

First Reading: 1Kings 17:8-16

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 63: 1-8

It is ideal to sing at least the antiphon of the Psalm. Musical settings of this particular Psalm can be found in:

Psalm 63: Your Love is Finer Than Life (Marty Haugen – GA)

Psalm 63: My Soul Is Thirsting (Christopher Willcock – GA)

Second Reading: Col 3: 12-17

Gospel Acclamation: Matt 27: 55

Sing any known Alleluia; chant the above verses; then repeat the Alleluia.

If the Gospel Acclamation is not sung, it should be omitted!

Gospel: Matt 6: 25-34

Homily Notes:

In this age of materialism and emphasis on individual gain, how might we develop a sense of trust in the providence of God? This gospel reading challenges us to 'let go' of our anxieties and be inspired by the life of Mary MacKillop. What is our Australian response to the Gospel (**Matt 6: 25-34**) for today?

How could the Reading from Colossians open up new possibilities for living as true community? What links have we made (or could we create) with those communities less fortunate than us (eg, small communities in the western regions who are isolated by distance, drought, and who are doing it hard)?

Prayers of The Faithful:

Presider: St Mary of the Cross trusted in the loving providence of God.
In this same spirit, let us pray for our needs and the needs of the world.

Reader: For the Church:
That we will pattern our lives on the Cross through the generous giving of ourselves for the good of others. (*pause*) We pray to the Lord:

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader: For the world:
That justice and peace may triumph over tyranny and oppression.
(pause) We pray to the Lord:

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader: For the families that struggle with drought and isolation in outback Australia:
That they may find caring support from unexpected sources (pause)
We pray to the Lord:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For this community:
That, in the spirit of Mary MacKillop, we may be strong in the face of opposition
and never lose our faith and trust in you (pause)

We pray to the Lord:

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader: For those who have died:
That they may rejoice today with Mary MacKillop and all the saints of God.
(pause) We pray to the Lord:

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Presider: O God, in your faithful love you hear and answer all our prayers
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Presentation of the Gifts:

Bread and wine are brought forward ... while quiet instrumental music is played.

Prayer Over The Gifts:

Presider: In your loving providence, O God, you gather us at your holy altar
on this feast of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop.
May the praise and thanksgiving we offer with her and all your church
Strengthen our bonds of charity and faith.
We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

Preface: Preface of Holy Men and Women I or II
(See Sacramentary /Missal)

This Preface could be easily adapted to form part of a Thanksgiving Prayer in a shorter Community/Staff Prayer. It expresses succinctly the context of the Feast.

At Mass, the Preface leads into the singing of the 1st Acclamation: "Holy"

Eucharistic Prayer: with sung *Memorial Acclamation* and *Amen*

Our Father: spoken or chanted

Sign Of Peace:

Presider: Drawn together by the Cross of Christ,
And in the spirit of Christ's generous love,
Let us share the sign of peace ...

Lamb Of God: Sung

Communion Song: Choose ONE of the following suggestions:

- Table of Plenty (Dan Schutte – AOV/2)
- Blest Are They (David Haas – AOV/1)
- The Beatitudes (Peter Kearney – GA)
- Eye Has Not Seen (Marty Haugen – GA)
- I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say (Horatius Bonar – GA)
- Love Is His Word (Luke Connaughton – GA)

Post – Communion:

A time of quiet prayer is always helpful and welcome after the Communion Song ... However, the musicians could continue to play quietly (the same song as for the Communion procession) while the Ministers of Communion finish, ending once they have returned to their places in the assembly. When all movement has ceased, it is helpful to have a short time of silence where we can be present in the stillness.

Prayer After Communion:

Presider: Bountiful God,
May the sacrifice we celebrate on this feast of Mary MacKillop
Strengthen us to walk the way of the cross
And bring us to the glory of the resurrection.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

If celebrating a Liturgy of the Word with Communion (not a Mass), the following final prayer may be used:

Leader: Let us pray ...
Bountiful God,
You clothe the lilies of the field in beauty.
You give good food to the birds of the air.
Help us, like Mary MacKillop, to trust in your constant care
for ourselves and for all those whom we love.
May we reach out in this same spirit of generous care to all who are in need.
We ask this prayer through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen.

Concluding Rite

Blessing:

Presider: May God, who knows our every need,
Increase our trust and hope.

All: Amen.

Presider: May Christ, who inspired St Mary MacKillop to reach out to those in poverty,
Awaken in us a generous spirit.

All: Amen.

Presider: May the Spirit of God give us the courage to walk
in the footsteps of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop
as we live the Gospel of Christ.

All: Amen.

Presider: May God bless us all in the name of the Father + and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Dismissal

Presider: Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

All: Thanks be to God.

Recessional Hymn:

Choose from any of those listed for the Gathering Rite especially those that honour Saint Mary MacKillop.

Other options:

Who Will Speak? (Marty Haugen – GA)

Will You Love Me (Brian Boniwell – GA)

NOTE:

Check the website www.liturgyplanningimages.com for resources on Mary MacKillop (ie, Power point Presentations; E-cards; Clip Art; etc)