

Nineteenth Sunday (Year B)

St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop

8th August 2021

Preparing the prayer space

Place a white cloth on the table or floor (white – the colour for a feast day)

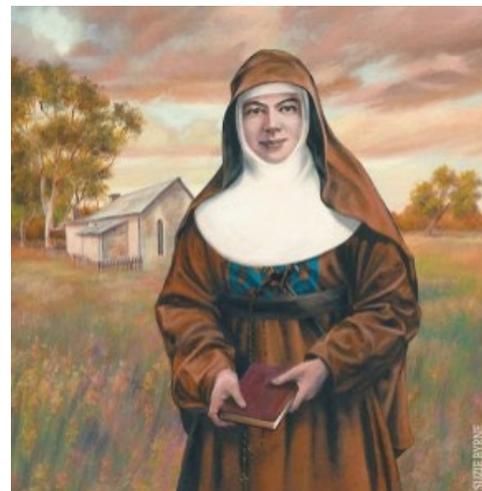
Place a cross, bible and candle on it. Light the candle or use a battery-operated candle for safety. Add any other symbols relevant to your family or to St Mary MacKillop.

Prepare materials

- YouTube as listed on sheet: Scripture story and song
- Suggested activities: your choice or other related activity on sheet
- Print out sheet if required

Gather around the prayer space as a family

Parent/Caregiver: In today's gospel, Jesus tells his disciples not to worry for God will provide us with all that we need.



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Opening prayer:

Loving God, you tell us to trust in you and you provide all that we need to live. We thank you for the wonderful gift of life and love you have given to us. On this special feast day of Mary MacKillop, we thank you for her example as someone who trusted Jesus' word and teachings with her whole heart. Amen.

Gospel: A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew (6:25-34)

All: Glory to you O, Lord.

“This is why I tell you: do not be worried about the food and drink you need in order to stay alive, or about clothes for your body. After all, isn't life worth more than food? And isn't the body worth more than clothes? Look at the birds: they do not plant seeds, gather a harvest and put it in barns; yet your Father in heaven takes care of them! Aren't you worth much more than birds? Can any of you live a bit longer by worrying about it?

“And why worry about clothes? Look how the wild flowers grow: they do not work or make clothes for themselves. But I tell you that not even King Solomon with all his wealth had clothes as beautiful as one of these flowers. It is God who clothes the wild grass- grass that is here today and gone tomorrow, burned up in the oven. Won't he be all the more sure to clothe you? What little faith you have!

“So do not start worrying: 'Where will my food come from? Or my drink? Or my clothes?' (These are the things the pagans are always concerned about.) Your Father in heaven knows that you need all these things. Instead, be concerned above everything else with the Kingdom of God and with what he requires of you, and he will provide you with all these other things. So do not worry about tomorrow; it will have enough worries of its own. There is no need to add to the troubles each day brings.

The gospel of the Lord. All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(Gospel text © The Catholic Children's Bible (2013) Saint Mary's Press, Christian Brothers Publications, Winona)

Prayerfully watch the video together

Don't Worry (Matthew 6: 25-34) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PG1LjFO99dA>

Scripture reflection and time of sharing:

I wonder which part of the gospel you liked best...

I wonder what the disciples were doing...

I wonder what the disciples were thinking...

I wonder how Jesus was feeling...

I wonder what they did after listening to Jesus...

I wonder how I can trust in God more...

Let us sing together our beliefs as Christians:

I Believe - John Burland ft. Genevieve Bryant <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mvYbfojVkgGQ> (4 mins)

Intercessions: Let us now spend some time in prayer asking God to listen to our needs.

(We respond to the prayers by saying the words 'Lord, hear our prayer')

1 We pray for Pope Francis, Archbishop Patrick O'Regan, all Church and world leaders: that they will, like St Mary MacKillop, lead others in truth and speak words of encouragement that bring life to others.

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

2 We pray for those who are preparing for, or have received their sacraments, that they will trust in Jesus above all things knowing that God will provide all that they need.

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

3 We pray that members of our Church will reach out to those who feel lost and alone. Like the example of St Mary MacKillop may we, 'never see a need without doing something about it'.

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

4 We pause for a moment and pray in our hearts or aloud for any intentions or people we would like to pray for at this time (*pause*)

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

6 We pray for those who may feel discouraged and are facing challenges at this time. May they find strength and comfort in Jesus.

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

Closing prayer: We lift up our hearts and the prayers of our community. We make these prayers through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Closing song: Saint Mary MacKillop https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J8HN2qb4a_Y (4:53min)

Follow up activity suggestions after the time of prayer has end.

- **Prayer journal**
Write a prayer to Jesus in your prayer journal (special notebook).
- **Colouring in**
Mary MacKillop <https://www.designjane.com/colouring-in>
- **Craft**
Make a craft that will help you reflect on today's gospel reading
<http://thelittlesandme.com/do-not-worry-bird-craft-for-kids/>
- **Family Connection**
As you gather as a family, talk about some things that we are thankful for in our lives and share them with each other. Take time to reflect on some qualities about Mary MacKillop you admire. What can we do to grow in these qualities you described? Conclude in prayer together with the Glory Be.
- **Mary MacKillop activities**
Find more activities at <https://www.marymackillopplace.org.au/feast-day-resources/>