



HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC PARISH

Southern Hills

VISION STATEMENT

As a Catholic Eucharistic community, inspired by the Gospel message, we strive to grow in faith, using our gifts to live out our love for one another.

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (Divine Mercy) YEAR A

12 April 2026

FIRST READING (Acts of the Apostles 2: 42-47)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.

The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone. The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.

They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 117: 2-4, 13-15, 22-24)

(R.) *Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.*

1. Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.' let the sons of Aaron say: 'His love has no end,' Let those who fear the Lord say: 'His love has no end'. (R.)
2. I was thrust, thrust down and falling but the Lord was my helper. The Lord is my strength and my song; he was my saviour. There are shouts of joy and victory in the tents of the just. (R.)
3. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.. This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad. (R.)

SECOND READING (St Peter 1: 3-9)

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that when Jesus Christ is revealed your faith will have been tested and proved like gold—only it is more precious than

gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire—and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Jn 20: 29)

Alleluia, alleluia! You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! Alleluia!

GOSPEL (John 20: 19-31)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them.. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.' After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those who sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.' Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord,' he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you,' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

PARISH PRIEST - Fr Paul Mwaura

Ph: 0437 693 300

E: parishpriest@holyfamilyparish.org.au

DEACON - Dcn Tee Ping Koh

E: bwoodpar@gmail.com

Ph: 0409 538 328

For urgent Pastoral assistance please call the Parish Priest or Deacon on their mobile.

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE - Mrs Bianca Cotton

E: parishassociate@holyfamilyparish.org.au

PARISH OFFICE

26 London Rd, Aberfoyle Park

Ph: (08) 8270 2158

E: info@holyfamilyparish.org.au

W: www.holyfamilyparish.org.au

FACEBOOK: [Holy Catholic Family Parish](#)

OFFICE HOURS - Tues & Thurs 10am - 2pm

SUPPORT CENTRE BLACKWOOD

4-6 Laffers Rd, Glenalta

Ph: (08) 8278 6100

E: bwoodpar@gmail.com

OFFICE HOURS - Wed & Friday 10am - 12pm

COTTAGE BOOKINGS - (08) 8278 6371

VESPERS

As advertised.

BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS

Please contact Pastoral Associate for further information on (08) 8270 2158.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

CHAIR: Mr Paul Ridings

E: pridings55@gmail.com

Ph: 0427 848 371

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

CHAIR: Mr. Tony Ward

E: bwoodpar@gmail.com

Ph: (08) 82786100

TREASURER: Mr Ron Mazzachi

E: pfc@holyfamilyparish.org.au

Ph: 0407 613 749

SCHOOL OF THE NATIVITY

Ph: (08) 8270 3177

E: info@nativity.catholic.edu.au

W: www.nativity.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Erika Dixon

MASS TIMES

Monday 10.30am Rosary St. Paul of the Cross

Tuesday 9.30am Mass St Paul of the Cross

Tuesday 11.30am Rosary and Mass 12pm Nativity

Wednesday 9.30am Mass St Paul of the Cross

Wednesday 7.00pm Mass Our Lady of the Way
and Exposition and Adoration 7.30pm - 8.30pm

Thursday 9.15am Mass Nativity

Friday 9.30am Mass and Reconciliation 10am -

10.30 am St Paul of the Cross

Friday Exposition and Adoration 11am - 12pm

and 12.00 p.m. Mass Nativity

Saturday 11am Rosary at Nativity

Saturday 5.15pm - 5.45 pm Reconciliation at

Nativity

Saturday Vigil 6pm Mass at Nativity

Sunday 7.30am Mass St Paul of the Cross

Sunday 9.00am Mass Our Lady of the Way

Sunday 11am Mass Nativity



REFLECTION

When we gather for Eucharist each Sunday the risen Christ comes among us and offers us his gift of peace. Our celebration gives us joy and strengthens our faith. But we cannot stay inside the church with its doors locked. At the end of Mass we are sent out, commissioned to bring the love and mercy of Christ to all who continue to bear in their bodies the wounds of crucifixion.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Receive the joy of your glory, giving thanks to God, who has called you into the heavenly kingdom, alleluia.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

POPE LEO'S INTENTION FOR APRIL

For priests in crisis

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

PLEASE PRAY FOR . . .

Sick: Frankie (11Years), Elisha Nicolas, Sr Ljilja Muzic ASC, Pauline Carroll, Alicia Arthur, David Gardiner, Paul Watts, Marcel and John Baldacchino, Steven Carnell, Robin Collet, Anthony Horne, Ted Galkowski, Monique Crabb, David Graetz, Siegfried Encarnada, Roger Matthews, Leonata Griffiths, Debra Dillon, Wendy Walter, Cecilia Quinn, Krystina Lekstan, Gail Dante, Celia O'Shaughnessy, Henry, Denis Pfeiffer, Peter Watts, Vincent Ward, Jacqueline Harrison, Vinko Sokol, Helen Worthington (nee Ward), Marian Keam, Nicholas Naidu, Leonie Borda.

Anniversary: Tom Milburn

Recently deceased: Ann Kenny

Please contact the parish office to have names added to or removed from the prayer list.



Church of the Nativity

26 Sunnymead Drive

Aberfoyle Park

St Paul of the Cross

cnr Simla & Coromandel Pde

Blackwood

Our Lady of the Way

4-6 Laffers Road

Glenalta

GIVING THANKS FOR OUR EASTER CELEBRATIONS



As a Parish we have participated in beautiful celebrations throughout Holy Week and Easter Sunday. Such special celebrations can only occur through the generosity of parishioners who were able to assist in so many ways. Recognition must go to those who were able to be readers, preparing scripture, arranging flowers, extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist, sacristans, preparing the many bulletins and rosters during Holy Week, altar servers, preparing candles, bottles of holy water, providing music and singing, with the special support of choirs and finally the lovely food and cuppa shared after the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday Masses. Special thanks to Fr Mwaura for leading us through this Holy Season of our Church year.

APRIL

SUNDAY 12th

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Divine Mercy Sunday Devotion and Benediction will be held at Nativity Church at 3.00 p.m.

This Sunday is Divine Mercy Sunday, celebrated on the Second Sunday of Easter. It is a major Catholic Feast day dedicated to the devotion of God's mercy, emphasizing complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. Established globally by Pope St. John Paul II in 2000, it originated from revelations to Saint Faustina Kowalska. St. Faustina was a Polish nun who received visions from Jesus, including one of Jesus wearing a white garment with beams of red and white coming from His heart, which came to be known as the image of Divine Mercy. Jesus asked for an image to be painted with the signature "Jesus, I Trust in You," featuring rays of pale (water, justifying soul's) and red (blood, life of souls).

In her Diary, St. Faustina records our Lord's promises of specific, extraordinary graces:

To receive these graces, the only condition is to receive Holy Communion worthily on Divine Mercy Sunday (or the Vigil celebration) by making a good Confession before hand and being in the state of grace and trusting in His Divine Mercy. On Divine Mercy Sunday, the faithful are encouraged to attend Mass, venerate the Divine Mercy image, and perform acts of mercy.

MONDAY 13th

LENTEN GOSPEL DISCUSSION GROUP

Between 6 and 8 parishioners have enjoyed the Wollongong Lenten discussion program over the last 6 weeks of Lent. So much so, that some of us would like to continue focusing on the Sunday Gospels and the very early years of the Church, between the 13th April and 24th May, Pentecost Sunday. Apart from reflecting on the Gospel reading each week, we will be reading and reflecting on the very early years of the "Jesus Movement": through studying the Acts of the

Apostles, one or two chapters at a time. Feel free to join us from 7.00pm to 8.30 pm each Monday night at The Cottage. We are using a "peer leadership model" in the group with everyone taking a turn at leading the session. From Pauline, Judi, Barbara, Loreen, Rene 0499 788 847 and Julie 0412 639 106.

TUESDAY 21st

Walking Group—Blackwood

Join us for a pleasant stroll in Belair NP taking in Karka Pavilion, Long Gully, the RSL walk and Sequoia Plantation. Please rendezvous at earlier time of 9.15am at the Belair NP caravan park carpark (enter off Upper Sturt Rd opposite Woodlark Grove). From there we will consolidate and carpool to the NP main entrance then on to Long Gully. Please note unless you have a park pass, the fee is \$11.20 per vehicle.

Relax afterward at approx 10.45am with coffee or tea at the Karka Pavilion, Long Gully, Belair NP.

Contact Phil Doyle 0417 884 004 if any queries.

MAY

SATURDAY 2nd

World Development Committee

TRADING TABLE – Sat. 2nd MAY in front of Terry White Chemist, 248 Main Rd., Blackwood (Blackwood Pharmacy). TO RAISE FUNDS FOR LOLOTOE, TIMOR LESTE. Funds raised will assist the convent and attached school in Lolotoe. Cash only sales. Baked goods, produce, jams, plants, flowers, Mothers' Day gifts will all be on sale. Donations of all of the above gratefully accepted and may be delivered on the morning or contact Marta Cunningham 82786371 or Krys Sawon 83395408 to organise.

TUESDAY 12TH

Many Paths, Shared Hope: An Interfaith Dialogue Day on personal Prayer and Spirituality

May 12, 10-4pm Tiwu Kumangka (Blackwood Library & Community Centre) *"Interreligious dialogue is a necessary condition for peace in the world.— Pope Francis, June 2024*

This workshop gives you the chance to connect with people of other faiths and to learn how to use dialogue to engage with others in meaningful conversation about what they do. It is for ordinary people: no in-depth experience or knowledge is needed. It is designed to be enjoyable: for example, the reflection at the end is an art activity.

For further details and registration contact Pauline Webster 0412230653 pauline@cracklingsmarts.com

SUNDAY 17th

Marian Procession 2pm

The 77th Marian Procession will begin at Victoria Park and processing up Wakefield Street into Victoria Square. All are invited to attend. For more information contact Deacon Tee Ping.

PARISH NEWS

Parish Registration 2026 All parishioners are invited to complete the Parish Registration 2026 which is available in all our churches. You can also access the form through the Parish Website <https://www.holyfamilyparish.org.au> or access the form using the QR code. *If you could return your form no later than the weekend after Easter it would be appreciated.*



Parish Pastoral Council: FOCUS AREA TEAMS ACTIVITIES

Some key initiatives underway with our Focus Area Coordinating Teams include:

- Connection**
 Monday evening Lenten discussion group at OLW.
 Lunchtime social gatherings for people supported by the Holy Family Care group
- Community**
 Planning the celebration of Church of the Nativity 40th anniversary in September.
 Reviewing the Welcome Ministry activities to enhance opportunities for parishioners to get to know one another.
- Formation**
 Placed a poster in each church seeking ideas and offers from parishioners.
 Meeting on 21st April to preview a potential renewal programme called "FORMED".
 Identifying a possible resource each week in the Bulletin.
- Communications**
 Started adding new and removing redundant content from our website.
 Developing processes to synchronise communications across our various channels.
- Charity**
 Investigating ways to provide transport assistance to mass and other parish events.
 Funded a new banner for the World Development Committees upcoming trading table.

For an overview of the Focus Areas identified for action by the parish in 2026 please check out the PPC page of our website by following the link below or scanning the QR code.



<https://www.holyfamilyparish.org.au/ministries-1>

Project Compassion

Donate to Holy Family Catholic Parish website

You can still support Project Compassion 2026 either through the website or by scanning the QR code **online at:** <https://www.projectcompassion.org.au/fundraisers/holyfamilycatholicparish>

Please return boxes and envelopes ASAP in your church baskets.

Thank you for your Generous Support.



Discover Your Spiritual Gifts: The Fire 50 Easter Challenge

Do you know the specific gifts God has given you to serve the Church? Join other members of our parish in Fire 50, a 50-day journey beginning Easter Sunday (April 5) through to Pentecost (May 24).

This online formation program features incredible Catholic speakers and teachers dedicated to helping you widen your understanding of the Holy Spirit's presence in your life.

Spend this Easter season stretching your faith and expanding your concept of what God can do through you. Connect online with others via the Fire 50 Collective Community. We are all better off when we use the gifts God gives us! Learn more and register today at: manypartsministries.com/fire-50

PARISH WEEKEND ROSTER - 19 April, 2026		
	St Paul of the Cross Sunday 7.30 am	Our Lady of the Way Sunday 9.00 am
SACRISTAN	Vicki Davey	Annette Harrison
WELCOMERS	Carol Pisters Peter Sawley	Barb Colla Aneta Bestecki
COMMENTATOR	Terry Tierney	Tony Egan
READERS	Tony Conlon	Cyril Brown Peter Smailes
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	Helen O'Loughlin Kay Conlon	Barb Ward Tony Ward
MUSIC	Guy Palmer-Brown	Loreen Tomas
CANTOR	Bob McEvoy	
FLOWERS		
	Nativity Saturday 6.00 p.m.	Nativity Sunday 11.00 a.m.
GATES/SACRISTAN	Javin Chua	Paul Mensforth
WELCOMERS	Nadia Procter Gemma Roberts	Rosemary Buckley Mary Procter
COMMENTATOR	Charlotte Heijka	Brooke Cotton
READERS	Michelle Lamb Bev Cusack	Maria Robertson Collins Okafor
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	Amanda Devanand Peter Hammer	Rene Pols, Kim Lawless, Sue Lawless, David Diggins
CHILDREN'S LITURGY		
MUSIC	Immaculate Conception Choir	Duane Crabb
CUPPA		
FLOWERS		
CLEANERS		Maria & James Robert- son

Next week's readings - 19th April, 2026

3rd SUNDAY of EASTER YEAR A

First Reading Acts 2:14, 22-33
 Responsorial Psalm Ps 15:1-2, 5, 7-11
 Second Reading 1 Peter 1: 17-21
 Gospel Acclamation Luke 24:32
 Gospel Luke 24:13-35



Please forward all Parish Bulletin requests by Wednesday 5pm to info@holyfamilyparish.org.au