

Some suggestions that may be helpful for a
Eucharistic Celebration for children on the feast of...

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

August 8th



Mary MacKillop
HERITAGE CENTRE



Introduction

On the 8TH of August every year we celebrate and remember that Mary MacKillop loved God.

She was a caring person who always helped others.



Opening Prayer

Holy God, you show us in Mary MacKillop, a woman of faith who lived by the power of the Cross.

Teach us to live as she did, living the Gospel and respecting all in our land.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son.

All: Amen.



Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

From St Paul's letter to the Colossians 3:12-17

Bear with one another;

forgive each other

if one of you has a complaint against another.

The Lord has forgiven you;

now you must do the same.

Let the Word of Christ, in all its richness,

find a home with you.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.



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Response Suggestion Number One

Reader: Response: We will try to be like Mary

All: We will try to be like Mary

Reader: Mary MacKillop said: Bear with
and help one another.

All: We will try to be like Mary

Reader: Mary MacKillop wrote: Forgiveness is love.

All: We will try to be like Mary



Response Suggestion Number Two

Reader: Response: Thanks be to God

All: Thanks be to God

Reader: Mary helps us to show care for others.

All: Thanks be to God

Reader: Mary helped people in need.

All: Thanks be to God.



Gospel Acclamation Suggestion One

Alleluia, Alleluia,

How truly wonderful are God's ways. Alleluia.



Gospel Acclamation Suggestion Two

Alleluia, Alleluia,

See the greatness and beauty of God. Alleluia.



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Gospel

Matthew 6:25-34 (Theme: ***Do not worry about your life.***)

I am telling you not to worry about your life and what you are to eat, nor about your body and what you are to wear. Look at the birds in the sky. They do not sow or reap or gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they are? And why worry about clothing? Think of the flowers growing in the fields; they never have to work or spin: yet I assure you that not even Solomon in all his royal robes was clothed like one of these. Now if that is how God clothes the wild flowers growing in the field will he not much more look after you? So do not worry; do not say, "What are we to eat? What are we to drink? What are we wear? Your heavenly Father knows you need all these things. Set your hearts on his Kingdom first, and all these other things will be given you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow: tomorrow will take care of itself.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



Prayers of Intercession

Priest: With renewed hope and trust we place our needs in the welcoming heart of God.

Reader: We pray for Pope Francis, our bishops and priests.

Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader: May we proclaim the good news with Christ at the centre of our thoughts and actions, remembering why God called each of us. In the spirit of Mary MacKillop, may we always reach out to the poor and helpless.

Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader: May we, like Mary MacKillop, listen to the call of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Open our eyes to the needs of others and give us the courage to act.

Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader: May we be inspired by the life of Saint Mary of the Cross, enabling us to work on with courage.

Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.





Prayers of Intercession cont.

Reader: For the sick, that they will have healing and peace.

Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader: For all who have died. May they know forever the fullness of God's love.

Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Priest: God of hope hear our prayers. May the spirit of St Mary of the Cross be with us.

All: Amen.



Prayers of Intercession for Juniors

Reader: Thank you God

All: Thank you God

Reader: For sending us Mary MacKillop, who taught us how to love others.

All: Thank you God

Reader: For the people Mary helped and loved, the poor, the sick and the lonely.

All: Thank you God

Reader: For the Sisters of St. Joseph who do the work of Mary MacKillop

All: Thank you God

Reader: For our country Australia, which is safe and free.

All: Thank you God.



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Reflection either before Mass or after Communion

Story of Mary MacKillop

Mary MacKillop lived a long time ago, but we remember her still today because she was a friend to everyone who needed her.

When Mary saw poor children who didn't have any education, she taught them herself and started a school for them in an old stable.

Many other young women joined with Mary MacKillop in this as Sisters of Joseph. Soon there were schools for poor children all over Australia.

However, Mary saw many other needs besides schools, and soon the Sisters were looking after orphan children and homeless girls. They also visited the sick and lonely and elderly people.

Mary's life was very hard. Her family was poor and so were the Sisters of St. Joseph. But Mary didn't worry about the future. She always believed God would take care of her, and she worked hard at what she felt God wanted her to do.

During her lifetime, many people thought of Mary MacKillop as a friend because she loved them and cared for them. Even though she lived and died a long time ago there are many people now who think of Mary MacKillop as their friend, and so can we.

Mary always cared for anyone in need, and from her home in heaven now she keeps on praying for anyone who needs help.



Suggestion:

Purchase from the Centre a very suitable C D:

St Mary MacKillop- Hymns, mantras and song, by Monica Brown

There are several suitable songs for staff or children.

We suggest St Mary of the Cross Litany (see words attached)

Another song on this CD is the mantra Too Deep for Words or Your God is there (Children's Version)