St. Maximilian Kolbe Catholic Parish

26-38 Macarthy Road, Marsden, PO Box 545, Marsden Qld 4132
Tel: (07) 3803 0862 | **Email**: marsden@bne.catholic.net.au | www.kingstonmarsdenparish.org.au

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mon, Tue, Thur & Fri : 9.00am - 2.30pm | Closed on Wednesday

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which our church stands today, the Yugambeh and Yuggera people, and pay respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging. We, the St. Maximilian Kolbe Community, continue to be inspired by the value of justice, peace, and unity as we work together for the common good.

Parish Contacts

Parish Priest
Fr. John Quang SVD 38030862
Priest-in-Residence
Fr. Nick De Groot SVD
Parish Secretary
Ronet D'Mello

Pastoral Council Chairperson
Noel Swindells

Finance Committee Chairperson
Tom Kalaja

Parish Safeguarding Children Rep.
Ron Klerks / Verity Madsen
STOP line: 1300 304 550

PARISH MINISTRY LEADERS

Liturgy Ministries
Rodolfo (Boyet) Domingo

Children & Families Ministries and Children's Sacramental Program
Helen Swindells

Community Life Ministries
Lele Faaeteete

Youth & Young Adults Ministry
Shanna Kelemete
Lawrence Auva'a

Adult Faith Formation Ministries
Alfred Gomez

Outreach Ministry
Winnie Kepu

Affiliated Catholic Schools

St. Francis College - Tel. No 3489 4800
Mr. John Marinucci (Principal)

St. Clare's Primary School - 5549 8000
Ms. Liesl Profke (Principal)

San Damiano College - 5670 7000
Mr. Peter Edwards (Principal)

Weekday Mass Times

Monday	**No Mass**
Tuesday	**9:00am**
Wednesday	**9:00am**
Thursday	**9:00am**
Friday	**9:00am**
Saturday	**8:00am**

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday 5:30pm
Sunday 7:30am and 9:30am

Confession: Saturday : 5:00pm

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME : 17 AUGUST 2025

FEAST OF ST. MAXIMILIAN KOLBE : 14 AUGUST

Maximilian was a precocious Polish child when at 12 his life changed after a vision of Our Lady.

He was famous for at least three things. (A) Neipokalanow. (B) For his print and broadcast media and (C) For his missionary endeavour to Japan. He founded a friary which he named the City of the Immaculate or Niepokalanow.

He was arrested in 1941, February 17. As a religious he was singled out for harsh treatment. He was deported to Auschwitz in May and there he was branded with the number 16670. He was put to hard labour and despite having only one lung, he did not complain. The commandant conceived a relentless hatred against him giving him heavier tasks than the others.

Sometimes his colleagues would try to come to his aid but he would not expose them to danger. Always he replied, "*Mary gives me strength. All will be well*". At this time he wrote to his mother, "*Do not worry about me or my health, for the good Lord is everywhere and holds every one of us in His great love*". In Auschwitz, where hunger and hatred reigned and faith evaporated, this man opened his heart to others and spoke of God's infinite love. He seemed never to think of himself. When food was brought in and everyone struggled to get his place in the queue so as to be sure of a share, Fr. Maximilian stood aside, so that frequently there was none left for him. At other times he shared his meagre ration of soup or bread with others.

In reprisal for an escaped prisoner, ten men were chosen to die. Fr Kolbe chose to take the place of a prisoner: Franciszek Gajowniczek. The ten condemned men were led off to the dreaded Bunker, to the airless underground cells where men died slowly without food or water. Meanwhile one after another they died, until only Fr Kolbe was left. The authorities felt it was too long as the cell was needed for new victims. So they gave Fr .Kolbe an injection of carbolic acid. With that he died.

In Matthew's Gospel, Chapter 25, Jesus said, "I was hungry. You gave me to eat. I was thirsty. You gave me to drink. I was naked. You clothed me. I was homeless. You sheltered me. I was sick and in prison, you visited me." Maximilian understood that by ministering to those nine condemned hungry, thirsty, naked, homeless, sick, imprisoned men in the bucker, he was ministering to Jesus! To those prisoners, Maximilian demonstrated that Jesus feeds our hungers and quenches our thirst, that Jesus clothes us with Himself, shelters us in His home which is the Kingdom, and heals and frees us from whatever holds us captive.

Survivors of Auschwitz, through their many testimonies have given firsthand witness account of what happened while Maximilian was in that bunker. The gist of their testimony was this: *"You wouldn't believe it. Instead of hearing the usual moans and groans and shrieks and cries and curses, we heard songs and prayers emanating from the window of that bunker. We heard the rosary. We heard hymns to Our Lady." Maximilian turned that horrible death cell of Auschwitz into a prayer cell, and it became an oasis of love.*

Today, long after World War II and the Nazi monstrosities, we scarcely remember the names of those leaders at Auschwitz who tormented the poor prisoners, but we do remember that little friar-prisoner with the number 16670 stitched on his uniform and tattooed on his arm. Maximilian Kolbe demonstrated that love triumphs over hate.

Excerpts taken from a Reflection on St. Maximilian Kolbe by Fr. James McCurry, OFM Conv.(from Fall 2018 Edition)

Wishing all of you a Blessed Feast Day!
St. Maximilian Kolbe, pray for us!

Welcome TO OUR CHURCH

A very warm welcome to
His Grace Mark Coleridge
Apostolic Administrator
Thank you for gracing us with your presence this weekend to celebrate Mass. It is indeed our great privilege to have you with us.
As a Parish Community we heartily welcome you to our parish.
Fr. John and Fr. Nick

Date Claimers

Seminar on Parish strategic planning by Teresa McGrath will be held on Thursday, 21st August at 6.30pm. All strategic planning group leaders and their members are requested to attend.

Roster for the weekend of 23 — 24 August 2025

Mass Coordinators

23 Aug. 5.30pm - Ron Klerks
24 Aug. 7.30am - Lele Faaeteete
24 Aug. 9.30am - Flor Gomez

Readers

23 Aug. 5.30pm - Tiliola Niumagumagu & Mary Klerks
24 Aug. 7.30am - Brian Cunningham & Josephine Thomas
24 Aug. 9.30am - Nimfa Brookes & Nina Domingo

Communion Ministers

23 Aug. 5.30pm - Talafaia T., Kaylene C., Sue M.
24 Aug. 7.30am - Buxton T., Eseta A., Rachel M.
24 Aug. 9.30am - Joy W., Deb H, Alfred G., Millie P.

Altar Servers

23 Aug. 5.30pm - Gerald Joshy
24 Aug. 7.30am - Parfait and Clovis
24 Aug. 9.30am - Jazmine, Tezaree

Choirs

23 Aug. 5.30pm - Saturday Night Choir
24 Aug. 7.30am - Congregation singing
24 Aug. 9.30am - Divine Mercy choir

Counters : Noel Swindells
Cleaners : Divine Mercy Group
Flowers : Suli, Lipine and Malia

Collection: Week-ending: 10 August 2025

Envelopes Received	:	**32**
Amount from Contributions	:	**$ 2,065.95**
Yarrabilba Mass Centre	:	**$ 314.40**
TOTAL	:	**$ 2,380.35**

Samantha Miriam Briody, F.Bowden, L.Seeto, J.Collins, Tuala, M.Dunlop, D.Curtis, M.Pierce, R.Henwood, V.Reid, V.Gspejon, V.Dancey, S.Daniel, A.Purkis, L.Guadez, K&S Talatonu, D.Hall, B.Hodgson, M.Finnerty, G&M Glorioso, J.Lachlan, A. Van Uitregt, V.Toalepai, K.Brown, M.Trehane, J.Maloney, J & A Dent, Gladdis Gorosito, Asiata J.Lealaitafea, A.Carter, E.B Sebuano, Pona Vai, N.Dun more, T.Gibson, Helen Guadez, M.Vaigafa, Verity Madsen, Tatiana Tagirova, Ruperto M, John Daley, Alzira D'souza, Agnes Hamilton, Wena Prowse, V&M L Petelo, Zhaylee Curtis, Rob Canning, Catherine Hetherington, Pete Pietkiewiez, V&A Asiata-Kelemete, Mynott Family, Reef W. Carroll, Daisy A. Thomas, Eric Alfred John Engberg, Coleen Goodwin, Austine Jonse, Zakelyn Curtis, Mary Armand, Mary Rosser, Ann Gason, Judith Anderson, Brooke, John McCready, Ian, Sandra Henry, Carol Lloyd, Esjay McCartthy, Judith Sherry, Mareta Niumagumagu, Maria Nive M. Tiatia, Paxson Swerling, Cliff Naughton, Peter Beirne, Janus Deurloo Shiralee Bull and all who are ill.

KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS

Feast of St. Maximilian Kolbe : 17 August 2025

First Reading (Jer. 38: 4-6, 8-10)
You bore me to be a man of strife for the whole world.

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 39: 2-4, 18)

Lord come to my aid!.

Second Reading (Hebrews 12 : 1-4)
Let us bear patiently the struggle placed upon us.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord
I know them, and they follow me.!
Alleluia!

Gospel (Luke 12: 49-53)
I have come not to give peace, but discord.

Gospel : Luke 12:32-48

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

I have come not to give peace, but discord.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were blazing already! There is a baptism I must still receive, and how great is my distress till it is over!

'Do you suppose that I am here to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on a household of five will be divided: three against two and two against three; the father divided against the son, son against father, mother against daughter, daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law, daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'

St Clare's PRIMARY SCHOOL

YARRABILBA MASS CENTRE
Weekend Community Mass
will be held at 4.00pm on:
24th August & 31st August 2025

Centre Location: St. Clare's Primary School,
2 Combs St, Yarrabilba.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION for Children

INFANT/CHILDREN BAPTISM INFORMATION BROCHURE IS AVAILABLE AT THE ENTRANCE OF THE CHURCH. ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE BY CONTACTING OUR PARISH OFFICE (DURING OFFICE HOURS)

OUR PARISH'S CHILDREN BAPTISM COORDINATOR IS MRS. HELEN SWINDELLS

Kolbe Youth Ministry

Young parishioners aged 13 and above, are invited to join the Kolbe Youth Ministry Citizens of Christ every Friday evenings from :

5pm- 7pm at Maryfields Hall.

Come, participate and enjoy the fellowship with others in your age group, to strengthen your faith journey and get involved in our upcoming events for the rest of the year!

Please contact:

Shanna Kelemete 0456152625
salzhope83@outlook.com
Lawrence Auva'a
0434763218
auvaalaw30@gmail.com

2025 ANNUAL CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN

Our Church · Our Mission · Our Community

On the weekend of 23rd & 24th of August , our parish will support the Annual Catholic Campaign. This special campaign brings together all the parishes of the Archdiocese, to provide care and support for local ministries and people in need in our own communities. Funds raised will support ministries that directly impact this parish. The Campaign supports training future priests, caring for our elderly and retired priests, giving local families in dire need access to a Catholic education and caring for those suffering physically and emotionally in our community.

Please do take a Campaign brochure and giving envelope from the entrance of the church with you. You can return it on 23rd or 24th August.

Fr. John & Fr. Nick

Children's Ministry

Every Sunday Morning
9:30am/ Parish Hall
Come and Join Us!

Parishioners who have children between the ages of 5 up to 13, are encouraged to send their children to attend these weekly faith-forming, fun-filled and learning sessions.
For further information, parents or guardians can contact our Children's Ministry Co-ordinator: Tiresa Vaigafa 0434 570 123

No Children Liturgy on:
Sunday 17th August 2025

ADULT FORMATION MINISTRY

DROP BY AS YOUR SCHEDULE ALLOWS!

All Parishioners are cordially invited to attend LECTIO DIVINA sessions that will be facilitated by Fr. Nick, in the Parish Meeting Room on:

Friday 22 August 2025: 7:30pm – 8:30pm

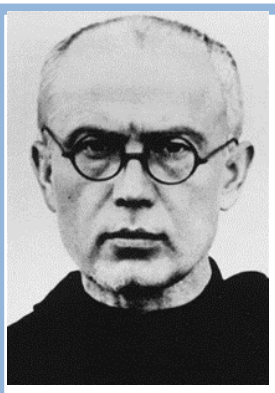
LECTIO DIVINA (Divine Reading) is a contemplative prayer practice which is intended to promote communion with God and deepen one's understanding of Scripture. It involves the reading of a Gospel section, then reflecting on it in silence followed by sharing, which is voluntary. The general experience is how the word of God can open-up in our hearts, for one another and with one another.

Fr John, Fr Nick and Alfred Gomez

FAMILY MASS 2025

The Children and Families Ministry are holding a Family Mass on Sunday 24/8/25 at the 9.30am Mass. All parishioners are invited to attend and share their faith together as one parish family at this special Mass. Morning tea will be shared after the Mass on the day.
Kind regards, SMK Children and Families Ministry Team.

Saturday 23/8/25: Practice for Family Mass at 1pm



Saint Maximilian Mary Kolbe, Priest and Martyr

1894–1941

Canonized by Pope John Paul II on October 10, 1982

Saint Maximilian Mary Kolbe, born as Raymond, hailed from Zduńska Wola in present-day Poland. Raymond's mother instilled a deep devotion to the Mother of God in her three sons. Raymond was full of mischief. Once, his mother asked him, "What will become of you?" Afterward, the twelve year old had a vision of Mary who offered him two crowns, a white one signifying purity and a red one signifying martyrdom. When Mary asked Raymond to choose, he responded, "I choose both!"

At age thirteen, Raymond and his older brother Francis joined a new Conventual Franciscan seminary in Lwów, present-day Lviv, Ukraine. Raymond was given the name Maximilian upon entering the novitiate and made his first vows in 1911. He made his final vows in 1914, adopting the name Mary. Brother Maximilian Mary Kolbe completed his studies in Rome, earning doctorates in philosophy and theology.

In 1917, while praying, Brother Maximilian was inspired to form the Militia Immaculatae, the "Army of the Immaculate One," a response to anti-Catholic sentiment during World War I. The organization aimed to convert sinners, heretics, and schismatics and sanctify all people under Mary's guidance. Following his priestly ordination, Father Kolbe relocated to Krakow, teaching Church history and expanding his Militia Immaculatae. In 1922, he began publishing a monthly magazine, *Knight of the Immaculata*. In 1927, he founded a Franciscan friary near Warsaw called Niepokalanów, or "City of the Immaculate Mother of God." In 1930, he established a religious house near Nagasaki, Japan, where the friars produced a Japanese version of their magazine, eventually printing 50,000 monthly papers. In 1936, he returned to Niepokalanów, which soon became one of the world's largest religious houses. The Militia Immaculatae reached over a million households each month.

After Germany overran Poland in 1939, the friars' writings and refuge of thousands of Poles, including 2,000 Jews, drew German suspicion. On February 17, 1941, the Gestapo arrived at Niepokalanów, arresting Father Kolbe and four of his friars, sending them to the Pawiak prison. Father Kolbe worked to inspire faith and hope in his fellow inmates. He charitably responded to the guards' harsh treatment, heard fellow inmates' confessions, and prayed with them.

Father Kolbe was transferred to Auschwitz as prisoner #16670 on May 28 and continued to minister to others. He and the other prisoners were beaten to the point of death and then expected to work. The doctor who treated him at the infirmary after one beating, testified, "During my four years at Auschwitz, I have never seen such a sublime example of God's love for one's neighbour."

In July, after a man escaped from Father Kolbe's barracks, ten men were selected to die by starvation as punishment and as a deterrent to others who thought of escaping. Among them was Franciszek Gajowniczek, who cried out, "My poor wife, my poor children!" Moved to compassion, Father Kolbe requested permission to take Franciszek's place. Father Kolbe survived for two weeks before the impatient guards administered a lethal injection. Father Kolbe willingly offered his arm, showing no fear of death. Soon after, word of his martyrdom of charity spread throughout Auschwitz.

Prayer: *Saint Maximilian Mary Kolbe, in a holy life, you shared the Gospel through the means of your time. You culminated your service by laying down your life for a stranger. Please pray that I will have the same depth of love and that God will take the gift of my life to use for His glory. Saint Maximilian Mary Kolbe, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.*

Source: https://mycatholic.life/saints/saints-of-the-liturgical-year/august-14-saint-maximilian-mary-kolbe-priest-