

# St Mary MacKillop

Today we give thanks to God for the life of our Mary.

“It was because Mary MacKillop loved God that she truly loved her neighbour.

The second great commandment depends on the first, and flows from it. For her it embraced great things, small, spiritual and temporal – teaching children to know and live the faith, preparing adults for Confirmation, imparting secular knowledge to the young and training them in self-expression, relieving pain, hunger, and loneliness, consoling the afflicted, encouraging the down-hearted.”

“God was her all, but she was immersed in the physical details of this world; though her head was in heaven, her hands were in the wash tub. She was familiar with household chores as with the kneeler and the writing table – cooking, doing the dishes, washing clothes, sweeping, dusting, cleaning sewers, or gardening.”

*The Virtues of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, Paul Gardiner SJ, St Pauls Publications, 2018, 53-54.*

## Quote

***“Have patience, my own loved children  
– pray –  
pray humbly and with confidence and fear nothing.  
Our good God is proving His work.”***

*St Mary of the Cross MacKillop – 15.11.1883*

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God, you filled Mary MacKillop with love and gratitude.  
She rolled up her sleeves and got stuck in with confident trust.  
Inspire us to respond as she did, help us to include with unconditional love,  
working with joy and forgiveness. Amen.

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## Blessing

May we be blessed with open hearts to see as Mary did,  
ever alert to the needs of our times and ever willing to ‘fear nothing’.

## Reflection

Where have I seen my life / community merge with Mary’s example?  
How can I connect more with God as Mary did?