

Aberfoyle Park/Blackwood Parish Naming Suggestions

Thank you to all who suggested a name for our new parish. From the more than 40 names the Parish Council has discerned a shortlist reflective of those that appeared with frequency, and those that focus on our shared mission moving forward.

The Parish Council thought it was important to exclude the names of our three churches since individual churches will still retain their current names.

A geographical marker “**Southern Hills**” is being considered as a **subtitle** to the parish name. It is also important to note that **Catholic** will appear in the new parish name.

Holy Family

The Holy Family refers to the Virgin Mary, her spouse, St. Joseph and the child Jesus. Together they model the ideal of family life: people who are trying to love each other and grow in holiness.

The Feast of the Holy Family is celebrated on the first Sunday after Christmas.

<https://catholicexchange.com/the-holy-family-and-holiness-in-ordinary-families/>

Reasons for naming the parish:

- Expresses unity.
- It is invitational to families and children.

Holy Trinity or Trinity

The Holy Trinity is the name we give God who is one and exists in three Persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Each Person in the Trinity is distinct, yet fully God, fully one. Together, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, are a communion of loving relationship – the Trinity is a model of unity and love.

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity (AKA Trinity Sunday) is celebrated on the Sunday following Pentecost.

Reasons for naming the parish:

- Expresses Unity
- Three Churches, one Parish reflects the relationship between the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Corpus Christi

Corpus Christi is Latin for “the body of Christ” and refers to Christ fully present in the consecrated bread and wine at Mass. The body of Christ also refers to the community of the Church.

In Australia, the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (aka Corpus Christi Sunday) is celebrated the Sunday after Trinity Sunday, (2nd Sunday after Easter).

Reasons for naming the Parish:

- Eucharist is the 'centre' of community.
- We are fed at Eucharist and we called to be the 'living sacrament', to be broken and poured out for others in service.

St. Pope John Paul II or John Paul II

St Pope John Paul II led the Catholic Church from 1978 until his death in 2005. Born, Karol Wojtyla on 18 May 1920 in Poland. He started seminary secretly in Nazi-occupied Poland. Later he was a theological advisor (*pertiti*) at the Second Vatican Council, and eventually became Archbishop Cardinal of Krakow. As Pope, he was known for his love of young people (he started World Youth Day in 1985), families, and his extensive global travel for pastoral visits. He was a lover of the arts and the outdoors.

Patron Saint of: youth, families and World Youth Day.

The feast day for St. Pope John Paul II is 22nd of October.

<https://hallow.com/saints/john-paul-ii/>

Reasons for naming the parish:

- He is known and loved by many people.
- He is the patron of youth and families.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop or MacKillop

NOTE: There is already a parish with this name in the Archdiocese and whilst the Archbishop wanted to acknowledge it's authentic and inspiration nature, it may serve to cause confusion in the Archdiocese.

Mary MacKillop is Australia's first and only canonized Saint (so far!). She is well known to South Australians and along with Fr. Julian Tenison Woods, founded the Sisters of St. Joseph and many schools across the state. Mary began her work in the Archdiocese of Adelaide in Penola, and through many tumultuous circumstances, Mary grew the Sisters of St. Joseph and the founding of many schools across Australia and New Zealand. She was canonized in 2013.

Patron Saint of: Australia

The feast day for St. Mary of The Cross MacKillop is the 8th of August.

<https://www.sosj.org.au/our-story/saint-mary-mackillop/>

Reasons for naming the parish:

- She is our 'local' Saint.
- Homage to the Sisters of St. Joseph who helped found our school.