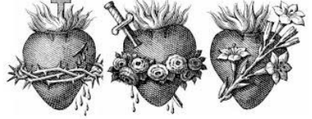

ST. MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP PARISH
UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — YEAR B — 17 JANUARY 2021

FIRST READING
1 Samuel 3:3-10,19

Samuel was lying in the sanctuary of the Lord, where the ark of God was, when the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' He answered, 'Here I am.' Then he ran to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli said, 'I did not call. Go back and lie down.' So he went and lay down. Once again the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' He replied, 'I did not call you, my son; go back and lie down.' Samuel had as yet no knowledge of the Lord and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. Once again the Lord called, the third time. He got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli then understood that it was the Lord who was calling the boy, and he said to Samuel, 'Go and lie down, and if someone calls say, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

The Lord then came and stood by, calling as he had done before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel answered, 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.'

Samuel grew up and the Lord was with him and let no word of his fall to the ground.

RESPONSE Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

SECOND READING
1 Corinthians 6:13-15,17-20

The body is not meant for fornication: it is for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. God, who raised the Lord from the dead, will by his power raise us up too.

You know, surely, that your bodies are members making up the body of Christ; do you think I can take parts of Christ's body and join them to the body of a prostitute? Never! But anyone who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him.

Keep away from fornication. All the other sins are committed outside the body; but to fornicate is to sin against your own body. Your body, you know, is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you since you received him from God. You are not your own property; you have been bought and paid for. That is why you should use your body for the glory of God.

ACCLAMATION Alleluia, alleluia! **We have found the Messiah: Jesus Christ, who brings us truth and grace.** Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL
John 1:45-32

As John stood with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God.' Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, 'What do you want?' They answered, 'Rabbi,' – which means Teacher – 'where do you live?' 'Come and see' he replied; so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day. It was about the tenth hour.

One of these two who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' – which means the Christ – and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas' – meaning Rock.

COMMENT ON THE GOSPEL
St. Basil of Seleucia (d. 459)

Andrew set the law aside in obedience to the law. He listened to Moses who said: "Listen to him." He listened to John who cried out: "Behold the Lamb of God," and of his own accord went to the one pointed out to him.

Having recognized the prophet foretold by the prophets, Andrew led his brother to the one he had found. To Peter, who was still in ignorance, he revealed the treasure: "We have found the Messiah" for whom we were longing.

How many sleepless nights we spent beside the waters of the Jordan, and now we have found the one for whom we longed! Nor was Peter slow when he heard these words, for he was Andrew's brother. He listened attentively, then hastened with great eagerness.

Taking Peter with him, Andrew brought his brother to the Lord, thus making him his fellow-disciple. This was Andrew's first achievement: he increased the number of the apostles by bringing Peter to Christ, so that Christ might find in him the disciples' leader. When later on Peter won approval, it was thanks to the seed sown by Andrew.

But the commendation given to the one redounded to the other, for the virtues of each belonged to both, and each was proud of the other's merits. Indeed, when Peter promptly answered the master's question, how much joy he gave to all the disciples by breaking their embarrassed silence!

Peter alone acted as the mouthpiece of those to whom the question was addressed. As though all spoke through him, he replied clearly on their behalf: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." In one sentence he acknowledged both the Saviour and his saving plan.

Notice how these words echo Andrew's. By prompting Peter the Father endorsed from above the words Andrew used when he led Peter to Christ. Andrew had said: "We have found the Messiah."

The Father said, prompting Peter: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God," almost forcing these words on Peter.

"Peter," he said, "when you are questioned, use Andrew's words in reply. Show yourself very prompt in answering your master."

Andrew did not lie to you when he said: "We have found the Messiah."

Turn the Hebrew words into Greek and cry out: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God!"

Exhortatory Sermon 3-4.

COMMUNION We have come to know and to believe in the love that God has for us.

MANY THANKS to those who generously gave their time last Friday to clean the candle stand at Our Lady's shrine St Canice's and to those who are keeping the St Canice's front lawn maintained during these summer months.

BOOK A SUNDAY MASS: If you wish to come to a Vigil or a Sunday Mass, please click on the link below to book a Mass time. Bookings close 3pm Fridays: https://forms.gle/sZTJhQYjmvAkPJhB6 The form will also be linked on the parish FaceBook page.

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED: If you would like to help serve this year, please contact Hugh Jones on 0402 904 681.

PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL: Dear adorers, if you are going away and have a rostered time slot please find a replacement adorer from the contact list, or a parishioner to cover for you. You will need to let your team leader know what dates you'll be away, and who will be covering you. If you are a parishioner (or visitor) who would like to be on the temporary fill in list for a Holy Hour, please contact Jacquie on 0405 600 155 to register your details, many thanks!

PLANNED GIVING: Would the owners of Envelope numbers 38, 41 and 53 kindly contact the Parish office immediately to submit your contact details. Your contributions are unable to be recorded until we have this information.

FINANCES: If you would like to contribute to the 2nd Collection for the parish: Bank Transfer: BSB 067 950 Account 000 00594 Name: Mary MacKillop Parish Reference: Surname and envelope number or Parish Donation (with or without surname if preferred).

If parishioners would like to contribute to the First Collection for the clergy of the diocese: BSB 067 950 Account No 00004265 Account Name Diocesan Clergy Reference either the Parish Name or the parish code 6038

Position Vacant

Parish Secretary – 20 hours per week - Casual

The parishes of Upper Blue Mountains (Katoomba) and Sacred Heart (Blackheath) invite applications for the position of joint Parish Secretary for the two parishes.
The role will report to Fr John McSweeney, Parish Priest of both parishes.

The role of Parish Secretary will entail providing secretarial and administrative support to the Parish Priest. The Parish Secretary will be responsible for processing correspondence, emails, telephone calls, meeting and greeting visitors, managing diaries, ordering of office supplies, as well as preparing the weekly Parish newsletters, maintaining documentation for the Sacraments, providing assistance to enquiries regarding the Sacraments, carrying out the bookkeeping functions for the Upper Blue Mountains parish and maintaining and updating the Parish websites.

The successful applicant would need to:

- demonstrate an ability to relate to a variety of people and develop sound working relationships with other members of the Parish teams;
- have a strong commitment to the Catholic faith;
- have a professional manner and excellent people skills;
- have high level computer skills, attention to detail and a well ordered approach to work
- have sound knowledge of Microsoft Office and MYOB
- have the right to work within Australia and undertake a national police and working with children check.

Applications must include a cover letter, resume and names and contact details of at least two referees, one of whom includes your parish priest. Closing date for applications is: Friday 12 February 2021 Please send your application, resume and full referee details to: John.McSweeney@parracatholic.org with the subject title: PARISH SECRETARY APPLICATION For more information, please contact us at the above email.

ROSARY AND OTHER DEVOTIONS: Ad Jesum per Mariam.
SAT and SUN: 4:10pm, Leura.
MON: after 8:30am Mass, Katoomba.
TUE: 4:30pm Divine Mercy, Rosary and Exposition, Leura.
WED: after 8:30am Mass, Wentworth Falls.
THU: after 8:30am Mass, Leura.
FRI: 11:30am before Mass, Katoomba.
FRI: 5pm Divine Mercy Hour, Leura.
SAT: 8:30am before Mass and also after Benediction following Mass, Katoomba.
ADORATION CHAPEL: 9am Monday - 9am Saturday, Katoomba.

SUNDAY MASS TIMES	WEEKDAY MASS TIMES	CONFESSION TIMES	AINTS THIS WEEK: Ora pro nobis.
You need to book Sunday	MON: 8:30am* Katoomba	TUE 4:45-5:00pm Leura	WED: St. Fabian, Pope, Martyr.
Leura 5pm (Saturday)	TUE: 5:15pm Leura	SAT: 9:30am Katoomba	St. Sebastoan, Martyr.
Wentworth Falls 8am	WED: 8:30am W-Falls	SAT: 4:30-4:45pm Leura	THU: St. Agnes, Virgin, Martyr.
Katoomba 10am	THU: 8:30am Leura		FRI: St. Vincent, Deacon, Martyr.
Leura 5pm	FRI: 12pm Katoomba	Confessions are always	SAT: BVM.
*10am on public holidays	SAT: 9am Katoomba	available on request.	NEXT SUN: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time.

MASS OFFERING INTENTIONS: DECEASED and ANNIVERSARIES: FR JOHN SMITH, RICKY BRUNNER, REGINA & EUGENIO NATONTON, RICARDO NATONTON, EUGENIO NATONTON Jnr, ENRIQUE NATONTON, TARCELA GOLEZ, SOTERO GOLEZ, GLORIA FRESCO, DELIA ALCONIS, and All the faithful departed especially those for whom you requested prayers and masses AND THE FORGOTTEN SOULS IN PURGATORY. SICK LIST: Monique Haulber, Marie Thuez, Mary Sullivan, Kathleen Hayes-Gilson, Evelyn Maw, Wanda Heffernan, Mary Roberts, Jacquelin Singh, Kath Paine, June Way, Robert Sullivan, Natale Assanti, Susan Keegel, Eugenio Natonton, Emiliana Santiago, Pat Coyne, Inga Morphett, Amanda Peters, Alison Michaels, Aimee De la Motte, Lorraine Russelle, Margaret Murphy, Joan Nolan, Pat Wolthers, Tricia Hogan, Shiela Page, Sr Jeanie Heininger, Michelle Scully, Julie Walss, Edwin Wulff

PARISH OFFICE: 158 Katoomba Street, Katoomba 2780
Postal Address: P.O. Box 526, Katoomba NSW 2780
Phone: (02) 4782 2804 **Hours:** 10am-3pm Tuesday-Friday.
Parish Email address: bluemountains@parracatholic.org
After Hours Emergency Number: 0428 878 810 Calls only; no

Weddings: Please call Parish Office for details. **Baptisms:** upon request.
Parish Website at: www.bluemountainscatholic.org.au
Parish Facebook: www.facebook.com/bluemountainscatholic
Parish School: St Canice's Catholic Primary School, Katoomba.
Principal: Ms. Miriam Meaney