



ST. MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP PARISH
UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS



4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR B

31 JANUARY 2021

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to your holy name, and make it our glory to praise you.

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Moses said to the people: 'The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. "Do not let me hear again" you said "the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die"; and the Lord said to me, "All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: If today you hear his voice harden not your hearts.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 7:32-35

I would like to see you free from all worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world's affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world's affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! A people in darkness have seen a great light: a radiant dawn shines on those lost in death. Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL: Mark 1:21-28

Jesus and his disciples went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the sabbath came he went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.

In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Let your face shine on your servant. Save me in your merciful love. O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

Whenever we read the first chapters of Mark's Gospel we are struck by the many people that sought out Jesus... to hear his words, to witness his actions. As Paul reminds us: as Christian Church, we are The Body of Christ. As such, we are the face of Christ to our world. So... Do people want to be here with us, as they wanted to be with the Lord? Do people see in you and me the embodiment of Truth / Faith / Goodness that they saw in Jesus? Do they see a willingness to live our lives in total Obedience to God's Will, even unto Death? My friends, we need to make certain that we listen to God in prayer; that we reflect on the Scriptures and the Living Tradition of our Church; that we act with courage and conviction in implementing those strategies that will bring about the Kingdom. In the week ahead, lets strive to LISTEN, REFLECT, and ACT so that we will be enabled by God's grace to be the face of Jesus to our world!

ANNOUNCEMENT

I am please to announce the formation of a new Liturgy Committee for the Parish of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, Upper Blue Mountains -

Liturgy Co-ordinator and Master of

Ceremonies:

Hugh Jones

Director of Music:

Mel Waters

Head Sacristan:

Pam Le Breton

Acolyte/Minister of the Altar

Coordinator:

tbc

Lector/Reader Coordinator:

Matalena Ale

Extraordinary Minister of Holy

Communion Co-ordinator:

tbc

Junior Server Co-ordinator:

Hugh Jones

Together with Fr Abraham and myself, this group of committed parishioners will plan for the Sunday Liturgies in our three Churches.

PLEASE NOTE

1. Sacred Heart Parish, Blackheath, will be having its major fundraising activity next weekend (6-7 Feb): the annual Garage Sale will be held in the Blackheath Parish Hall. Please come along and support this important endeavour.
2. Commencing this Friday (5th Feb), UBM parish will - from now on - be celebrating First Friday Midday Mass with a following period of Adoration, Confessions and Benediction.
3. Also on First Friday evenings at Blackheath, there will be a time of Reflection and Adoration commencing at 6:30pm.

GOD BLESS YOU ALL!

BOOK A SUNDAY MASS: If you wish to come to a Vigil or a Sunday Mass, click on the link below to book a time. Bookings close 3pm Fridays: <https://forms.gle/SZTJhQYjmvAkPjHb6> The form will also be linked on our Facebook page.

ALTAR SERVERS: If you would like to serve contact Hugh Jones on 0402 904 681.

PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL: If you are a parishioner (or visitor) who would like a rostered holy hour each week or to be on the temporary fill in list, 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

THANK YOU FROM THE EPIPHANY PILGRIMS! Many thanks to the parish of Mary MacKillop for welcoming, supporting and celebrating with the 2021 Epiphany Pilgrims! A particular thank you to Jacquie Harsh and Barbara Davidson for coordinating the pilgrimage efforts at Mary Mac as well as to Fr John, Fr Abraham and the many parishioners who assisted with access to the church and hall, hospitality, trailer transport and other aspects of the pilgrimage - what a blessing! Thank you to those who joined the group for day walks, Adoration, Mass, prayer times and meals as well as to the many who prayed with and for the pilgrimage throughout the week. To see photos and for more information visit www.epiphanypilgrimage.org. We hope you can join us for the celebrations again next year from January 2 - 8, 2022!

ST CANICE'S SCHOOL NEWS: The staff at St Canice's were very excited to be back at school with the students on Thursday. We also welcome Jessica and Teresa to our staff. We are excited about the learning that will take place and our opportunities to come together for prayer and formation throughout the year. 2021 is going to be a fabulous year for curiosity, clarity and challenge!!!

VATICAN NEWS: Pope at Angelus: God calls us to conversion at every stage of life. Pope Francis noted that Mark's Gospel refers to time as "the duration of the history of salvation worked by God." "The time 'fulfilled' is that in which this salvific action reaches its pinnacle, its full realisation," he said. "It is the historical moment in which God sent His Son into the world and His Kingdom is rendered more 'close' than ever." Yet, he added, salvation is not an automatic process. "Salvation is a gift of love," he said. "And as such is freely given and calls for a freely given response: it calls for conversion." The Pope said conversion implies a change of mentality, in which we refuse to follow the way of the world. "Sin brought into the world a mentality that tends toward the affirmation of oneself against others and against God," he said, "and for this purpose it does not hesitate to use deceit and violence."

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

You need to book Sunday
Leura 5pm (Saturday)
Wentworth Falls 8am
Katoomba 10am
Leura 5pm
*10am on public holidays

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

MON: 8:30am* Katoomba
TUE: 5:15pm Leura
WED: 8:30am W-Falls
THU: 8:30am Leura
FRI: 12pm Katoomba
SAT: 9am Katoomba

CONFESSION TIMES

TUE 4:45-5:00pm Leura
SAT: 9:30am Katoomba
SAT: 4:30-4:45pm Leura
Confessions are always available on request.

SAINTS THIS WEEK: Ora pro nobis.

TUE: The Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas).
WED: St. Ansgar (Oscar), Bishop.
St. Blaise, Bishop, Martyr.
FRI: St. Agatha, Virgin, Martyr.
SAT: Sts. Paul Miki and his Companions.
SUN: 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

MASS OFFERING INTENTIONS: DECEASED and ANNIVERSARIES: MAUREEN KELLY, RONALD JOHN DYCO, JAMES BLACK, NOEL CORRIGAN 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, Emiliانا Santiago, Pat Coyne, Inga Morphet, Amanda Peters, Alison Michaels, Aimee De la Motte, Lorraine Russelle, Margaret Murphy, Joan Nolan, Pat Wolthers, Tricia Hogan, Shiela Page, Sr Jeanie Heining, 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

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.