



ST. MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP PARISH  
UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS



EASTER SUNDAY YEAR B 4 APRIL 2021

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia. You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia. Too wonderful for me is this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, alleluia! Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord. Alleluia!

**THE GOSPEL:** John 20:1-9

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore, let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.

**REFLECTION ON THE READINGS:** By Father John

"We are an Easter people, and our song is Alleluia!" (St John Chrysostom)  
This is a magnificent summary of our Easter Faith.

We don't need heretical gnostic ideas dressed up as historical fiction; indeed, we do not need to go beyond the Scriptures and our living Tradition: for in them is a wealth of spirituality that has created countless holy men and women (saints) down through the ages. We don't need to dress up our Faith, thinking that something new, something fanciful, will attract.

And, indeed, it is still more than most accept and put in to practice. This Day of Resurrection is a day of great celebration, which renews our Faith and strengthens the love of Christ poured into our hearts at Baptism.

It is our Easter Day, which calls us to greater and greater love for God and neighbour, in imitation of the unconditional love of the Lord.

Let's rejoice in the sense of New Life which is ours at this time, and let us strive to be joyful at all times and in all circumstances of life, for only then will we truly be "an Easter people" and our song will always be "Alleluia! Praise the Lord!"

May I take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a Happy and Blessed Easter; on behalf of Fr Abraham, Christine and Jennifer - may the Good Lord keep you safe and well, gifting you all with renewed vigour in your Faith this Easter! My thanks to those many people who have worked so hard over the past weeks and days to make our celebrations of these key liturgies such a wonderful and prayerful time.

And may we always be faithful followers of the Lord Jesus Christ, whose Death and Resurrection makes us who we are... God bless you all



**FIRST READING:** Acts 10:34,37-43

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses - we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead - and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad.

**SECOND READING:** Colossians 3:1-4

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed - and he is your life - you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

**THE SEQUENCE:** ON THE REVERSE SIDE

The simple Truth is sufficient!

Notes from Fr John:

\*\*\* Easter Monday (5/4) is a public holiday, so Mass will be at St Canice's at 10am  
\*\*\* On Easter Friday (9/4), there will be a Mass at 12 midday at St Canice's only - no Mass in Blackheath  
\*\*\* On Easter Saturday (10/4), Mass will be at St Canice's only (9am) - no Mass in Blackheath  
\*\*\* Next Sunday (11/4), the Second Sunday of Easter or Divine Mercy Sunday, Upper Blue Mountains Parish will have its traditional Divine Mercy celebrations 3pm at Leura Church.  
\*\*\* Parish office closed Friday 9/4, Tuesday 13/4 & Wednesday 14/4.

**ST CANICE'S CHURCH PARKING WEEKENDS:** Beginning Easter Sunday, the school playground will be open for parking Saturday morning Masses and 10am Sunday Masses at Katoomba. Please be sure to move your car from the playground after Mass, as gates will be shut 15 minutes after Mass finishes.

**EASTER MONDAY:** The Katoomba Mass will be at 10am.

**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY:** 11 April 2021. Time: 3pm. Place: Leura Catholic Church (St. Bonaventure's). Come join our praising, scripture reading and singing. Mass at 5pm.

**Easter Raffle:** Thank you to all those who contributed to the Easter Raffle and the volunteers especially Barbara who organised the raffle. We raised sufficient funds for lighting, wiring, and replacement of electrical board. over \$8,000 was raised. Congratulations to the following winners. Bernie Turner, Frances Ale, Mary McPhillips, Cisele, Manaia Ale, Lorraine Crag, Louise Jones, Val, Fr Abraham, Aida Varney, Julia Glapin, Ann Gale and Giselle.

**ST CANICE'S SCHOOL NEWS:** The students of St Canice's participated in a recreation of the events of Holy Week on Holy Thursday. Each class had a focus point and either played music or acted out their part. This was a fitting event for all to come together before going on holidays for 2 weeks.

**ADORATION CHAPEL:** The chapel will remain closed until 10:30am Easter Monday, following the 10am Mass and continue as usual i.e. First shift back is 10:30am Easter Monday. Please find a replacement as usual if you will be away, and let me know if you have any questions. Have a blessed day!

**SUNDAY MASS:** Due to an easing of covid-19 restrictions you no longer need to book to come to Sunday Mass. You will still, however, need to sign on when you arrive and observe social distancing requirements. Attendance is on a first come first served basis. Masks are recommended but no longer required.

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

**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

**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**

Leura 5pm (Saturday)  
Wentworth Falls 8am  
Katoomba 10am (1st Sunday: High Mass. 4th: w/ choir)  
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.

THU: Holy Thursday 7pm at Katoomba.  
FRI: Good Friday 3pm at Katoomba.  
SAT: Easter Vigil 730pm at Katoomba.  
NEXT WEEK  
SUN: Easter Sunday 8am W-Falls, 9am Leura, 10:30am Kat.  
MON: Easter Monday 10am at Katoomba.

**MASS OFFERING INTENTIONS: DECEASED and ANNIVERSARIES:** JOHN HOARE, NONI ROWLAND, MORAN WILLIAM HALLIDAY, BILL CLIFFORD, FR MICK O'CALLAGHAN, STEPHANNIE JEAN MURPHY (2nd April), and all the faithful departed especially those for whom you requested prayers and masses AND THE FORGOTTEN SOULS IN PURGATORY. **SICK LIST:** Eleanor Hagor, Monique Haulber, 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, Shielia 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](http://www.bluemountainscatholic.org.au)  
Parish Facebook: [www.facebook.com/bluemountainscatholic](http://www.facebook.com/bluemountainscatholic)  
Parish School: St Canice's Catholic Primary School, Katoomba.  
Principal: Ms. Miriam Meaney

**HOSPITAL/HOME VISITS:** if you or your love ones are sick and would like a visit please contact the parish office or Barbara Davidson 0417 490 103

**THE SEQUENCE:** *Victimae Paschali Laudes*

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise. The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb; and Christ, the undefiled, hath sinners to his Father reconciled.

Death with life contended: combat strangely ended!

Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign.

Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way.

The tomb the Living did enclose; I saw Christ's glory as he rose!

The angels there attesting; shroud with grave-clothes resting.

Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee.

That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know. Victorious king, thy mercy show!