



ST. MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP PARISH  
UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS



4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR B 25 APRIL 2021

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

**FIRST READING:** Acts 4:8-12

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: 'Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence, today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved.'

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.

**SECOND READING:** 1 John 3:1-2

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me. Alleluia!

**THE GOSPEL:** John 10:11-18

Jesus said: 'I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep. The hired man, since he is not the shepherd and the sheep do not belong to him, abandons the sheep and runs away as soon as he sees a wolf coming, and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep; this is because he is only a hired man and has no concern for the sheep.

I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for my sheep. And there are other sheep I have that are not of this fold, and these I have to lead as well. They too will listen to my voice, and there will be only one flock and one shepherd.

The Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me; I lay it down of my own free will, and as it is in my power to lay it down, so it is in my power to take it up again; and this is the command I have been given by my Father.'

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

**NOTE:** Today is often referred to as Good Shepherd Sunday where we pray particularly for vocations, yet we too, being the 25th of April, remember ANZAC Day. As today is a Sunday in Easter (the Resurrection), the prayers and readings for the Mass are for the 4th Sunday of Easter. A commemoration is unable to take the place of a Sunday in Easter. We nevertheless remember Australian men and women who served their country in times of war and peace.



**REFLECTION ON THE READINGS:**

BY Father John.

In the texts chosen for this 'Good Shepherd Sunday' Jesus, rejected by the leaders of Israel, has proven to be the keystone to the whole edifice of faith in God. Indeed, by laying down his life for humankind, Jesus has shown himself to be the True Shepherd ( Carer, Leader, Guide ) of faith-filled people.

This was at the heart of the early preaching of the Church....and it has a consequence for us all: those who accept Jesus as the keystone of faith, as the Good Shepherd, as the Son of God.. are called and become a reality 'children of God' . And our destiny is then assured: we shall see God face to face.

Our texts this week continue to give us hope. They encourage us in our faith. And they inspire us to imitate the Good Shepherd, and to be people of unconditional love.



**FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES 2021** will run for five Sundays beginning Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> May at 9am in St Canice's Hall Katoomba. Sessions begin at 9am finishing in time for 10am Mass in the church. Enrolment will be made at the first session. Please bring a copy of your child's Baptism certificate if you have not already provided one. At least one parent is required to attend the sessions with their child/ren who are preparing for the Sacrament. For further details please contact Mary Gale 0468 483 194. First Communion 2021 will be held on the Solemnity of Corpus Christi 6th June at the 10am Sunday Mass.

**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.

**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

**PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES 2021:** Please return ASAP. They can be handed in after Mass to the sacristans or at the parish office Tuesday through Friday 10am-3pm.

**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!

**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

**Job Ad: Young Christian Students Worker - Australian Young Christian Workers, YCW House, Granville, NSW**

Parramatta  
Fulltime – 2 year appointment  
Location: Catholic Diocese of Parramatta, Sydney (YCW House, Granville, NSW 2142)

About the Organisation: The Australian Young Christian Workers (YCW) is a not-for-profit, international, grassroots movement that seeks to serve, educate and represent young people whilst engaging them in action and establishing teams of volunteers to address the issues most affecting young people today. Catholic Social Teachings are at the heart of the Mission of the YCW and the organisation itself, seeks to motivate young leaders within the church, to live out their faith and to find their true

**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.



vacation. With a particular focus on Young people between the ages of 15-25, the YCW utilises the 'See, Judge & Act' method to motivate young people to be in control of their realities. YCW believes in empowering young people to put their faith into action and encourages them to be active members within their communities. We currently have teams in Adelaide, Perth and Sydney and contacts and connections all across Australia.

About the Role: The Parramatta Young Christian Workers (YCW) is seeking a Young Christian Students Worker to work alongside the Parramatta YCW leadership team by supporting the running of existing YCS groups, and developing new YCS groups.

Enquiries at parracatholicjobs@parracatholic.org. Applications close 5pm Friday 30 April 2021

**ST CANICE'S SCHOOL:**

It has been an exciting week with school starting back after a 2 week break. The students have come back keen and excited to learn. We look forward to a productive term .

**FEAST OF PENTECOST:** Our parish will mark this year's Pentecost Sunday (May 23rd) with a celebration of a diversity and culture of our parishioners.

After 10am mass at St Canice's Katoomba we will be celebrating the day with a wide variety of ethnic flavours from all the various backgrounds of our parishioners with a selection of foods to enjoy in the parish hall.

We will also be offering Prayers of the Faithful in the native languages of our parishioners to celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and Christ's message for all peoples.

If you would like to read a prayer of intercession in your native language or contribute a dish of food to the event after mass please contact Matalena Ale on 0459 656 657. Help us mark this important feast day with a celebration of our parishes' rich diversity and please join us for the extravaganza of foods after 10am mass.

**ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER:** This coming Saturday, May 1, is the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker. Established by Pope Ven. Pius XII in 1955 to counter the communists 'may day' secular celebration it also had another key purpose — to increase devotion to the saint who was the model of workers, providing for his wife Mary and foster son Jesus. It also reminded us about the dignity of work.

Fr. Larry Toschi OSJ says "He teaches how to work with right emphasis. Work is centred on the Lord. The motivation and the purpose is to serve Jesus." St. Joseph's work, he says, was "an expression of love for Jesus and Mary" as it was when he prayed with and conversed with them.

In 2005, Pope Benedict XVI noted, "It is necessary to live a spirituality that helps believers to sanctify themselves through their work, imitating St. Joseph, who had to provide with his own hands for the daily needs of the Holy Family and whom, consequently, the Church holds up as Patron of workers."

**SAINTS THIS WEEK: Ora pro nobis.**

MON: St. Mark, Evangelist.  
TUE: St. Louis Marie de Montfort, Priest.  
WED: St. Peter Chanel, Priest, Martyr.  
THU: St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin, Doctor.  
FRI: St. Pius V, Pope.  
SAT: St. Joseph the Worker.  
NEXT SUN: 5th Sunday of Easter.

**MASS OFFERING INTENTIONS: DECEASED and ANNIVERSARIES:** MICHAEL MAGANN, JOHN HOARE, NONI ROWLAND, MORAN WILLIAM HALLIDAY, BILL CLIFFORD, FR MICK O' CALLAGHAN, and all the faithful departed especially those for whom you requested prayers and masses AND THE FORTGOTTEN 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 Morphet, 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](http://www.bluemountainscatholic.org.au)  
Parish Facebook: [www.facebook.com/bluemountainscatholic](https://www.facebook.com/bluemountainscatholic)  
Parish School: St Canice's Catholic Primary School, Katoomba.  
Principal: Ms. Miriam Meaney  
Phone: (02) 4780 6800 Email: [stcanices@parracatholic.edu.au](mailto:stcanices@parracatholic.edu.au)