



# ST. MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP PARISH UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS



6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

YEAR B

9 MAY 2021

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

**FIRST READING:** Acts 10:25-26,34-35,44-48

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. 'Stand up,' he said 'I am only a man after all!'

Then Peter addressed them: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.'

While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.



**SECOND READING:** 1 John 4:7-10

My dear people, let us love one another since love comes from God and everyone who loves is begotten, by God and knows God. Anyone who fails to love can never have known God, because God is love. God's love for us was revealed when God sent into the world his only Son so that we could have life through him; this is the love I mean: not our love for God, but God's love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!

**THE GOSPEL:** John 15:9-7

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete. This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you. A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends, if you do what I command you. I shall not call you servants any more, because a servant does not know his master's business; I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. You did not choose me: no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last; and then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name. What I command you is to love one another.'

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, alleluia.

**REFLECTION ON THE READINGS:**

BY Father John.

All three Readings for this Sixth Sunday of Easter (B) speak to us of 'Love': the unconditional love ('agape') that the Lord has for us all.

This love enabled the Lord to lay down his life for the salvation of all; indeed, it is this unconditional love which drove Jesus throughout his Life.

And it is this same love which must be at the basis of every Christian's life.

How does this pan out in reality?

Each one of us knows the ways that we are called by God to be loving people who care for others, even those who persecute us.

The Scriptures challenge us to look at our life now and ask ourselves how we can improve our interaction with our neighbour.

Where are those areas in which hate or envy or jealousy or any form of negative emotion must be converted and destroyed, so that 'agape' love can replace them?

Are we will to ask for the Spirit's loving aid in this continual process of conversion?

Let's reflect on the New Commandment of the Lord Jesus, given to all disciples who wish to walk in his footsteps:

"Love one another, as I have loved you".



## ANNOUNCEMENT

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

\* It is with great sadness that I must inform you of the impending departure of Jennifer O'Malley. Jennifer is moving to the city to be closer to her daughter.

\* On behalf of you all, I would like to thank Jennifer for years of faithful service to the Parish of the Upper Blue Mountains - both as Parish Secretary and, recently, as Housekeeper. Jennifer, you will be missed in our community; but you will not be forgotten. Please be assured of our prayers. God bless you always.

\*With Jennifer's departure, the UBM Office will be closed on Thursdays from now on. Christine can be contacted on Thursdays via the Blackheath Office ( 02 47878540 )

\* Also, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all mothers in our communities a Blessed and Joy-filled Mother's Day. Let's honour and look after all mothers today and always.

And we pray for those mothers who are already with the Lord and Our Lady on this important day.

\* Friday Fiesta at Blackheath Parish this coming Friday from 6. Bookings essential. Please contact the Parish Office at Blackheath on Thursday.

**IMPORTANT POINTS** for the weeks ahead...

\*\* The Parish will recommence an Anointing Mass at Bodington on the Third Wednesday of the Month at 10:30am, commencing on 19th May.

## ST CANICE'S NEWS

You are Invited to the St Canice's Biggest Morning Tea Dear St Canice's Community, This year, we are hosting a Biggest Morning Tea to help Cancer Council raise vital funds for people impacted by cancer When: Wednesday 26th May at 9am Where: The St Canice's Hall Entry: Please make a donation to our fundraising page <https://www.biggestmorningtea.com.au/fundraisers/stcanices/nsw> Raffle: We will be holding a major raffle with ample amazing prizes that have been kindly donated by organisations from around our Blue Mountains, Raffle will be drawn during the event. Tickets are \$2 or 3 for \$5. If you would like to purchase a ticket, please pop in to the St Canice's Primary School Office (EFTPOS Unavailable). RSVP: Wednesday 19th May 2021— Office Hours 8:30am—3:30pm Mon– Fri 47806800 We can't wait to get together and share some tasty treats, all while helping create a cancer free future. If you can't make it, you can still help make a difference by donating to our fundraising page or purchasing tickets for the raffle. Every dollar helps!

**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.

## 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.



**MASS OFFERING INTENTIONS: DECEASED and ANNIVERSARIES:** MICHAEL MAGANN, JOHN HOARE, NONI ROWLAND, and all the faithful departed especially those for whom you requested prayers and masses AND THE FORGOTTEN SOULS IN PURGATORY. **SICK LIST:** Andrzej Krawczyk, 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 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](mailto:bluemountains@parracatholic.org)

**After Hours Emergency Number:** 0490 814 284 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)

**SUNDAY MASS:** Please note that from today their will be no singing in mass and masks are mandatory until Monday. You will 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.

**BISHOP VINCENT** has encouraged all parishioners to read the submission from the Diocese of Parramatta in relation to the Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 currently in front of the NSW Parliament. Copies of this, and the Bishop's Pastoral Letter, are available in the church or online at <https://catholicoutlook.org/diocese-of-parramatta-submission-into-the-education-legislation-amendment-parental-rights-bill-2020/>

**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 Jacque 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

**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 please contact Matalena Ale on 0459 656 657. If you would like to contribute a dish of food to the event after mass please contact Barbara Davidson on 0417 490 103.

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.

♫ ♫ **GREGORIAN CHANT:** Masterclass in singing Chant to be given on Friday 28th May 2021 at 7pm in the parish hall. Hosted by James Doig. For more information or to confirm your attendance please contact Kevin Varney.

## SAINTS THIS WEEK: Ora pro nobis.

WED: Sts Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs.

St. Pancras, Martyr.

FRI: St. Mathias, Apostle.

NEXT SUN: Ascension of the Lord.