



ST. MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP PARISH
UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS



THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

YEAR B

6 JUNE 2021

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: He fed them with the finest wheat and satisfied them with honey from the rock.

FIRST READING: Exodus 24:3-8

Moses went and told the people all the commands of the Lord and all the ordinances. In answer, all the people said with one voice, 'We will observe all the commands that the Lord has decreed.' Moses put all the commands of the Lord into writing, and early next morning he built an altar at the foot of the mountain, with twelve standing-stones for the twelve tribes of Israel. Then he directed certain young Israelites to offer holocausts and to immolate bullocks to the Lord as communion sacrifices. Half of the blood Moses took up and put into basins, the other half he cast on the altar. And taking the Book of the Covenant he read it to the listening people, and they said, 'We will observe all that the Lord has decreed; we will obey.' Then Moses took the blood and cast it towards the people. This he said 'is the blood of the Covenant that the Lord has made with you, containing all these rules.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: I will take the cup of salvation, and call on the name of the Lord.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 9:11-15

Now Christ has come, as the high priest of all the blessings which were to come. He has passed through the greater, the more perfect tent, which is better than the one made by men's hands because it is not of this created order; and he has entered the sanctuary once and for all, taking with him not the blood of goats and bull calves, but his own blood, having won an eternal redemption for us. The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer are sprinkled on those who have incurred defilement and they

restore the holiness of their outward lives; how much more effectively the blood of Christ, who offered himself as the perfect sacrifice to God through the eternal Spirit, can purify our inner self from dead actions so that we do our service to the living God.

He brings a new covenant, as the mediator, only so that the people who were called to an eternal inheritance may actually receive what was promised: his death took place to cancel the sins that infringed the earlier covenant.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live for ever. Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL: Mark 14:12-16,22-26

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb was sacrificed, his disciples said to Jesus, 'Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the passover?' So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the city and you will meet a man carrying a pitcher of water. Follow him, and say to the owner of the house which he enters, "The Master says: Where is my dining room in which I can eat the passover with my disciples?" He will show you a large upper room furnished with couches, all prepared. Make the preparations for us there.' The disciples set out and went to the city and found everything as he had told them, and prepared the Passover.

And as they were eating he took some bread, and when he had said the blessing he broke it and gave it to them. 'Take it,' he said 'this is my body.' Then he took a cup, and when he had returned thanks he gave it to them, and all drank from it, and he said to them, 'This is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many. I tell you solemnly, I shall not drink any more

wine until the day I drink the new wine in the kingdom of God.'

After psalms had been sung they left for the Mount of Olives.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him, says the Lord.

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS:

BY Father John.

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ Today we celebrate the great Gift of God to us all: the Gift of Christ himself, given to us in the Eucharist.

The Scriptures help to situate our Eucharistic Celebration within the great traditions of Judaism and early Christianity:

Semitic understandings of Sacrifice demanded sacrifice of something precious to God who would look kindly on the people, forgiving their sins; our text from Exodus also highlights the fact that a Sacrifice necessarily involved the creation of a spiritual relationship between God and the ones participating in the sacrifice.

Mark's text shows that Jesus was deliberately echoing the Jewish tradition of sacrifice and covenant relationship in his Last Supper meal with his disciples: the concept of memorial was a participation in the once only experience of the past... for the Jewish people, it was the Exodus Event, and for Christians the Eucharistic celebration within the Last Supper. # And the Letter to the Hebrews makes clear that early Christians saw Jesus Christ as the new and eternal sacrifice which superseded the Jewish sacrifices of bulls and goats and sheep. Christ's Sacrifice on the Cross was the sacrifice of all time, replacing the old forever!

The Gift of the Eucharist - a memorial of the Crucifixion - demands reflection from us on how we are giving of ourselves to the Lord and to the Lord's people; indeed, the unconditional love of the Lord for us demands that we are unconditional in our love for our neighbour. In fact, every time we receive Christ's Body and Blood demands of us a renewal of our Christian commitment to be people of love who give of ourselves to God and to others. If our reception of the food of life does not lead to action, then we are not responding to the Gift of the Eucharist in a correct or timely manner.

In the coming week, let's reflect on this greatest of Gifts to us all - the Eucharist - and how its reception calls us to greater and greater spreading of the Gospel of Love and Truth in both word and action!

CONGRATULATIONS to our younger parishioners who are receiving the Gift of the Eucharist for the first time this weekend. We all pray that this experience of the food of eternal life will help each and every one of you to live more fruitfully the Gift of Faith that we share together. God bless you all...

Also, please pray for John Collins and Michael Tan who will be ordained to the Permanent Diaconate for our Dioceses this coming Friday evening in St Patrick's Cathedral. We keep John and Michael and their wives in our prayers during this special time of grace.

Finally, my thanks to all who work behind the scenes in both parishes and help make our Liturgies wonderful occasions of prayer and worship! And I trust this week will be of great blessing to everyone. Fr John

COUNTERS REQUIRED: At St. Canice's Katoomba. Once per month on either Tuesday or Wednesday. Phone Peter Marshall 4782 3090 for information.

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.

SAFE PARISHES WEEK

Find out how we are making our parishes safer. The Diocese of Parramatta starts its inaugural Safe Parishes Week this Sunday 6 June. During the week, we will be featuring online talks, posts and articles on how everyone in our parishes in the Diocese is working towards a Church that keeps everyone safe. Find out what's happening at catholicoutlook.org/safeparishesweek2021

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

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! We currently have a 2-3pm THURSDAY slot that has become vacant and needs filling each week.

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

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
Leura 5pm (Saturday) Wentworth Falls 8am Katoomba 10am (1st Sunday: High Mass. 4th: w/ choir) Leura 5pm *10am on public holidays	MON: 8:30am* Katoomba TUE: 5:15pm Leura WED: 8:30am W-Falls THU: 8:30am Leura FRI: 12pm Katoomba SAT: 9am Katoomba	TUE 4:45-5:00pm Leura SAT: 9:30am Katoomba SAT: 4:30-4:45pm Leura Confessions are always available on request.



GLENBROOK PARISH WOMEN'S RETREAT: 12 June. St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook, is hosting a women's retreat filled with peace, prayerfulness, adoration, Mass, Reconciliation, guest speakers and praise and worship. It will be held at the parish on 12 June from 8.30am to 8.30pm. Registration is \$60, and with places limited, register now at <https://forms.gle/KkBaTAvm1qkYYCzm8>. For enquiries, email beloved2021info@gmail.com

PLENARY COUNCIL PRAYER CAMPAIGN: Fan the Flame—Towards Plenary Assembly One October 2021: 'And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.' – Matthew 28:16-20.

"We are certainly not seduced by the naive expectation that, faced with the great challenges of our time, we shall find some magic formula. No, we shall not be saved by a formula but by a Person, and the assurance which he gives us: I am with you!" (Pope John Paul II, Novo Millennio Inuente, 6 January 2001, #29) www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fanthefflame/

DATE CLAIMER – SUNDAY 20 JUNE – YUM CHA LUNCH IN BLACKHEATH PARISH HALL

As part of the Diocesan Journey ... Walking With Refugees and People Seeking Protection, we are organizing a YUM CHA style Chinese lunch – a Parish fundraiser in support of Blue Mountains Refugee Support Group. Preparation and cooking will be done by Ann (Pei Hong Lin) – mother of George. Blackheath Parishioners will recall raising the \$1250 needed to meet George's pre-school fees! We then negotiated with Catholic Education Office to gain a place for George at St Canice's in Katoomba where he is now doing really well in Grade 3 – last week he gained the Principal's Gold Star Award The Upper Mountains Parishes played an important part in the Diocesan Appeal to the Minister for Immigration to grant Ann and George permanent residency in Australia. Frustratingly, this matter is not yet resolved! A broad selection of delicious vegetarian and non-vegetarian dishes will be served! We will be selling tickets from next Sunday – only \$25 per person – contact Christa (47875105) or Julie (47875974). Only limited number of seats available – so be sure to book in early!!

SAINTS THIS WEEK: Ora pro nobis.
MON: The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
TUE: St. Justin, Martyr.
WED: St. Ephraem, Deacon, Doctor.
Fri: Sacred Heart of Jesus.
SAT: Immaculate Heart of Mary.
NEXT SUN: 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

MASS OFFERING INTENTIONS: DECEASED and ANNIVERSARIES: MOYA THERESE ZARB, HAZEL GLASHEEN, BERNARG GLASHEEN, 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 Hefferman, 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 Heinger, 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: 0490 814 284 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
Phone: (02) 4780 6800 **Email:** stcanices@parracatholic.edu.au