



ST. MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP PARISH UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS

PARISH CONTACTS

Fr. John McSweeney (Parish Priest)

Fr. Abraham Kunnatholy Varu CMI
(Assistant Priest)

Parish Office: 158 Katoomba Street,
Katoomba 2780.

Postal Address: PO Box 526, Katoomba
NSW 2780.

Phone: (02) 4782 2804.

Hours: 10am-3pm Tuesday-Friday.

After Hours Emergency Number:
0490814284 . *Calls only; no texts please.*
For all Office matters, call 02 4782 2804.

Parish email address:

bluemountains@parracatholic.org

Parish website:

bluemountainscatholic.org.au

Parish Facebook: [facebook.com/
bluemountainscatholic](https://www.facebook.com/bluemountainscatholic)

Weddings: Please call the Office for details.

Baptisms: upon request.

PARISH SCHOOL: St Canice's Catholic
Primary School, Katoomba.

Principal: Ms. Miriam Meaney.

Phone: (02) 4780 6800.

Email: stcanices@parra.catholic.edu.au

USUAL SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Leura 5pm (Saturday)

Wentworth Falls 8am

Katoomba 10am (1st Sunday: High Mass,
4th Sunday: with Choir.)

Leura 5pm

USUAL WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

MON: 8:30am Katoomba
(10am on public holidays)

TUE: 5:15pm Leura

WED: 8:30am W-Falls

THU: 8:30am Leura

FRI: 12pm Katoomba

SAT: 9am Katoomba

USUAL CONFESSION TIMES

TUE 4:45-5:00pm Leura

WED 6:15 Blackheath

SAT: 9:30am Katoomba

SAT: 4:30-4:45pm Leura

NOTE: Confessions are always available
upon request.

KATOOMBA ADORATION CHAPEL

9am Monday - 9am Saturday. The chapel is
at the back of St. Canice's church. Entry is
from the outside.

"One cannot know the Lord without the
habit of adoring in silence (Pope Francis)."

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

YEAR B | 29 August 2021.

FR. JOHN'S REFLECTION.

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

One of the greatest temptations of the religious person is to take refuge in
rules and regulations. But all rules of religion are NOT ends in themselves, but
they are merely the means to an End... and the End or Goal in the Christian
context is the Proclamation of the Gospel to all.

In today's Gospel, the Pharisees are upset with Jesus' disciples for not following
the traditions of ritual washing before meals. And so the Lord challenges them -
don't miss the real point of Faith. What counts is not the human traditions that
have grown up over the years, but the actions and attitudes of the heart!
And so, even the Church's traditions must be seen as a means and never as an
End in themselves. Indeed, if those traditions (the means to the End) do not
lead to the Proclamation of the Gospel to all, then they need to be re-examined
from the perspective of the heart. In other words, what is the real (deeper)
purpose of the tradition, the rule? Does its present manifestation actually
capture the Truth that it's trying to express? Or is a new, contemporary,
formulation needed so that the Goal of the Church's Mission can be achieved in
an ever-changing world?

Let's remember the words of James in our Second Reading for today: "Pure
unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of
orphans and widows when they need it".

Indeed, let us never miss the wood for the trees!

Please feel free to call the parish emergency phone if you would like a chat
during these extended days of Lockdown.

Either myself or Fr Abraham are more than willing to listen and converse.

I thank you all for the continued support you offer each other in our community
at this time, when through phone calls or through prayer.

We look forward to the time when we can gather in our churches once again to
celebrate our Faith and receive the Eucharist.

May God bless you all

Fr John



**Please mute your mobile at Mass. God does not call
people on their phone. Thank-you for your curtesy.**



WHAT'S ON IN THE UPPER MOUNTAINS THIS WEEK

Sunday 1 August

10am Sunday in Ordinary Time

MONDAY 2 August

Mass 8:30am Katoomba

TUESDAY 3 August

Confession 4:45-5:00pm Leura

Mass 5:15pm Leura

6:30 pm Mass Blackheath

WEDNESDAY 4 August

Mass 8:30am W-Falls

6:30 pm Mass Blackheath

THURSDAY 5 August

Mass 8:30am Leura

9.00 am Mass Blackheath

FRIDAY 6 August

10.am Blackheath

Mass 12pm Katoomba

SATURDAY 7 August

Mass 9am Katoomba

Mass 9am Blackheath

Confession 9:30am Katoomba

Confession 4:30-4:45pm Leura

SAVE THE DATE(s) (POSTPONED)

His Lordship the Most Reverend Bishop
Vincent Long OFM will be celebrating a
Pontifical High Mass at Katoomba's St
Canice's church at 5:30pm Vigil on Saturday
24th July 2021. This mass is the formal
installation of Fr John as parish priest and
will feature the full Schola Cantorum and
incense, as this is a high mass. This mass
replaces the scheduled 5pm Vigil mass at ST
Bonaventure's Leura. So there will be no
5pm Vigil at Leura on Saturday 24th July.
All parishioners are most welcome.

MASS OFFERING INTENTIONS: DECEASED and ANNIVERSARIES: MARY ELLEN MAYER, BOSA LIVAIC, RITA KIRKLAND, PEGGY SOMMERVILLE,
DIANNE WOOD, OWEN WEAVER , MARY BRELL, NEIL ROWLAND, MOYA THERESE ZARB, HAZEL GLASHEEN, BERNARD GLASHEEN, and all the
faithful departed especially those for whom you requested prayers and masses AND THE FORGOTTEN SOULS IN PURGATORY.

SICK LIST: Monique Halbur, 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 Heininger, Michelle Scully, Julie Walss, Edwin Wulff.

Approx. 5 cm x 5 cm

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For more information please contact the
office. 02 4782 2804



SUNDAY MASS: As we will still be in lockdown this Sunday 15 August, Sunday Mass will be
livestreamed via You Tube. The Link: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/
UCHtj55risvGDQqCDN7mldNQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHtj55risvGDQqCDN7mldNQ)

From Sunday 25 July 2021 onwards Mass will be live streamed via YouTube not Facebook. Link
to the YouTube account for the parish: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/
UCHtj55risvGDQqCDN7mldNQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHtj55risvGDQqCDN7mldNQ) otherwise in the search box type: st canice's katoomba - live

PLEASE NOTE: During these days of lockdown our parish finances are suffering. If you could consider
switching from Envelopes to Direct/credit card Debit, we would be grateful. There is also the
opportunity to use B.point for our parish, and there you can distinguish between 1st collection (for
our priests) and 2nd collection (for our parish).

Thank you so much for your continuing support in these difficult times.

B.POINT

We have introduced a new and easy way of contribution for 2nd
collection and 1st collection.

Please follow this link: if choosing 2nd collection please note name
and envelop No.

<https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/>

[MaryMackillopParishUpperBlueMountains](https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/MaryMackillopParishUpperBlueMountains)



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



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 (Not Permitted during
lockdown)



PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL: If you are a parishioner (or visitor) who would like a
rostered holy hour each Mass to be on the temporary fill in list, please contact Jacquie on
0405 600 155 to register and details. We currently have a 2-3pm THURSDAY slot that has
become vacant and needs filling each week.

"...the Blessed Sacrament which is, in the tabernacle, the living heart of each of our churches...
(Pope St. Paul VI)."

"If Jesus is to become the centre of our life, we need to spend time in his presence, before the
tabernacle (Pope Francis)."

Approx. 5 cm x 5 cm

Advertise with us.

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Dear Parishioners Next weekend, our Parish is proud to support the Clergy Support Foundation's Bishop's Father's Day Appeal. Your gifts will support our retired clergy or those who are in ill-health. Your donations will enable our Clergy Health and Wellbeing team to provide our ageing clergy with the personal, professional, and practical care and guidance needed to transition to a dignified and well-deserved retirement. Ongoing assistance includes independent retirement living, aged care, or nursing home accommodation for frail priests; meals, transport and medical care as required. Please give generously via the Clergy Support Foundation website parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal



ALTAR SERVERS: If you would like to serve at the altar please contact Hugh Jones on 0402 904 681



KATOOMBA VINNIES: Donation buckets for non perishable food can be found at the back of each of our churches. Thank-you for your generosity. **SUGGESTED ITEMS:** Rice or pasta, pasta sauce, long life milk, sweet and savoury biscuits, tinned goods (soup, tuna, baked beans, spaghetti), tea bags, coffee or drinking chocolate, sweets, chocolates.



ANOINTING MASS AT BODINGTON: The third Wednesday of the month at 10:30am. (ONLY AFTER LOCKDOWN)



KATOOMBA PARKING: 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.



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

World Day of Prayer for Creation & Season of Creation

Pope Francis has designated September 1 as the *World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation*. Join Pope Francis and Christians around the globe in praying for and taking action for our common home on 1 September and during the Season of Creation (1 Sept – 4 Oct). For more information, resources, and activities in the Diocese of Parramatta, visit parracatholic.org/seasonofcreation

♥ **DONATE TO CARITAS' EMERGENCY RESPONSE APPEAL FOR HAITI:** Caritas Australia's thoughts and prayers are with the people of the Haiti who have been devastated by a 7.2 magnitude earthquake. Over 1,400 people have died, and thousands more left injured. There is immediate and urgent need for food, water, shelter, hygiene kits and first aid on the ground. Donate to Caritas Australia's Emergency Response Appeal by visiting www.caritas.org.au or by calling 1800 024 413 toll-free.



ST. CANICE'S SCHOOL NEWS:

St Canice's continues to provide online learning for all our children. We are in constant communication with families regarding their children's work and well being.

We are still taking enrolments for next year. Interested families can call the office on 02 4780 6800 for more information.



Fan the Flame – Towards Plenary Assembly One October 2021: Unless we train ministers capable of warming people's hearts, of walking with them in the night, of dialoguing with their hopes and disappointments, of mending their brokenness, what hope can we have for our present and future journey? (Pope Francis, Meeting with the Bishops of Brazil, Rio de Janeiro, 28 July 2013)

www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fantheffame/

ADORATION CHAPEL:

Monday - 9am Saturday.
the back of the KATOOMBA church.
Entrance from the outside.

ROSARY AND OTHER DEVOTIONS
SAT and SUN: 4:10pm, Leura.
MON: after 8:30am Mass, Katoomba.
TUE: 4:30pm D-Mercy, Rosary, 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 after Benediction, Katoomba.

OUR THREE PARISH CHURCHES

ST CANICE'S KATOOMBA:
Katoomba St.
ST. BONAVENTURE'S LEURA:
Railway Pde & Hartley Esp.
**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER'S
WENTWORTH FALLS:** Day St.

SAINTS THIS WEEK

FRI: St. Gregory the Great, Pope, Doctor.
SAT: BVM

NEXT SUN: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



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...it's time
we had
a talk
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22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

ENTRANCE Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

FIRST READING Deuteronomy 4:1-2,6-8

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

RESPONSE The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

SECOND READING James 1:17-18,21-22,27

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created.

Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves.

Pure, unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

ACCLAMATION Alleluia, alleluia!

The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the first fruit of his creation. Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:

This people honours me only with lip-service, while their hearts are far from me. The worship they offer me is worthless, the doctrines they teach are only human regulations.

You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.' He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'



COMMUNION How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.