



# 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](mailto:bluemountains@parracatholic.org)

Parish website:

[bluemountainscatholic.org.au](http://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](mailto: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)."

## 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

YEAR B | 5 September 2021.

### FR. JOHN'S REFLECTION.

In our second reading from the letter of St James we are reminded that human beings always make distinctions. We differentiate between people; and we can discriminate against those who are not part of 'our group'. It is part of our human condition, this 'making of distinctions between classes of people'. However, such actions are incompatible with our Christian Faith.

We must do all we can to overcome this very human tendency to use different standards towards different people.

The rather dramatic gesture of St Francis of Assisi - who had a horror of leprosy - in kissing the leper whom he encountered is of great prophetic value!

Who are the metaphorical 'lepers' that we shun? Our vocation as a Christian is to imitate the Lord, and accept and embrace all; to forgive those who offend! It is through our words and actions that we continue the mission of Christ: we are to help open the ears of those deaf to the Lord's goodness, and loosen the tongues of those who find it impossible to proclaim the Lord's loving care for all.

St James reminds us: "Listen, my brothers and sisters; it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom which he promised to those who love him".

And so, we must allow the Word of God and the Sacrament of the Eucharist to prompt us to be prophets for our Age - through the words we use and the actions we perform.

Let's do all we can to pull down all barriers and distinctions that divide and discriminate, so that all people may experience the love of God and the Salvation offered by Jesus Christ our Lord!

\*\*\* A Happy Fathers Day to all those fathers in our Parish Community!

Although we continue in Lockdown, I hope and pray you will have a great day.

May God continue to look after you all in these difficult times.

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 5:35pm 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 Morphett, 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.



**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>

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> 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.

**CANCELLED DUE TO LOCKDOWN**  
"...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.

For more information please contact the office. 02 4782 2804

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Please support our priests' dignified retirement and those clergy who are in ill-health

This Father's Day, please spare a thought for our humble priests who have cared for our faith community's spiritual nourishment and wellbeing for all their lives. With your generosity, the Clergy Support Foundation helps our priests with the personal, professional, and practical care and guidance needed to transition to a dignified and well-deserved retirement. Please give generously via the Father's Day Appeal at [parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal](http://parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal) or call (02) 8838 3482.



**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)



**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](http://parracatholic.org/seasonofcreation)

**Office for Safeguarding offering online training to keep our parishes safe**

The Office for Safeguarding is providing an opportunity for all of us to develop our awareness and skills in ensuring our parishes are safe and welcoming places for all. The team are currently offering accompanied online training courses throughout September and October. If you are interested or have any questions about the Safeguarding Training, please email our Safeguarding office on [safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org) or maria.kervin@parracatholic.org.



**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/fantheblade/](http://www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fantheblade/)

**ADORATION CHAPEL:**  
Monday - 9am Saturday.  
Entrance to the KATOOMBA church.  
Entrance to the outside.

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

## 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

**ENTRANCE** You are just, O Lord, and your judgment is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

**FIRST READING** Isaiah 35:4-7

Say to all faint hearts,  
'Courage! Do not be afraid.  
Look, your God is coming,  
vengeance is coming,  
the retribution of God;  
he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
the ears of the deaf unsealed,  
then the lame shall leap like a deer  
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy;

for water gushes in the desert,  
streams in the wasteland,  
the scorched earth becomes a lake,  
the parched land springs of water.

**RESPONSE** Praise the Lord, my soul!

**SECOND READING** James 2:1-5.

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, 'Come this way to the best seats'; then you tell the poor man, 'Stand over there' or 'You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that?

Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

**ACCLAMATION** Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.  
Alleluia!

**THE GOSPEL** Mark 7:31-37

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha', that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. 'He has done all things well,' they said 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'



**COMMUNION** I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life.



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[info@abaxkf.com.au](mailto:info@abaxkf.com.au)  
[www.abaxkf.com.au](http://www.abaxkf.com.au)



...it's time we had a talk  
Thomas Brownjohn  
Proprietor

Phone (02) 4782 2613  
73A Lurline St. Katoomba 2780  
Also Springwood and Lithgow



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