



**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)  
Leura 5pm

**USUAL WEEKDAY MASS TIMES**  
MON: 10am Katoomba  
TUE: 5:15pm Leura  
WED: 8:30am W-Falls  
THU: 8:30am Leura  
FRI: 12pm Katoomba (with Benediction)  
SAT: 9am Katoomba (Benediction 1st Sat)

**USUAL CONFESSION TIMES**  
TUE 4:45-5:05pm Leura  
FRI: After Mass Katoomba  
SAT: 9:30-9:50 Katoomba  
SAT: 4:30-4:45pm Leura  
NOTE: Confessions are always available  
upon request.

**KATOOMBA ADORATION CHAPEL**  
10:30am Monday - 8pm Friday. 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)."

**3rd Sunday of Advent**  
**YEAR C | 12 December 2021.**

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

Our First Reading for this Fourth Sunday of Advent speaks of the promise of a Saviour to come who would rule over all. There is an expectation that this Saviour would attain victory over Israel's enemies.

This text is fulfilled in the Gospel, where Jesus, conceived in Mary's womb, makes a journey with his Mother; and his Mother is proclaimed 'blessed' for she carries the Saviour. The Promise of God is being fulfilled and there is an abundance joy at this event.

However, sometimes we overlook the fact that the fulfilment of the Promise, joyful as it is, also demands obedience and sacrifice:

- \* Mary obeyed and was proclaimed blessed; Jesus obeyed the Father's Will and is Saviour for all.
- \* Such obedience meant sacrifice: for Mary it was the 'shame' of being thought an unwed mother; for Jesus it was his death of the Cross, which brought about salvation for all.

And so we are invited by the Word of God for today to reflect on the need for obedience and sacrifice in our lives.

Like Mary, like Jesus, we need to examine those areas of our lives that may demand renewal and change, so that we will be more obedient to the Father's Will for us.

At times we will need to overcome fear / shame / ridicule / discomfort in order to achieve the designs of our loving God.

Sacrifice will be demanded of us at various moments in our Christian journey of obedience; we need to imitate the Lord and his Blessed Mother and be willing to walk in faithfulness all the days of our life.

And the result for us will be Blessing and unending Joy in the Lord, both now and forever in the life to come!

1. Please check the Bulletin and Church noticeboards for the mass times for next weekend: Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day (Feast of the Holy Family).
2. My thanks to all for all the work in preparing for the celebrations surrounding our Christmas Feasts.
3. Our thanks to David and Luke for their time among us: may the Lord continue to bless you both as you follow your Vocations.
4. Let us continue to pray for an end to this Pandemic which has ruled our lives for two years; may 2022 be a time of grace for all our world, a time of new beginnings!

God bless you all

Fr John



**Please mute your mobile at Mass.**  
**Thank-you for your courtesy.**



**WHAT'S ON IN THE UPPER MOUNTAINS THIS WEEK**

**Sunday 12 December**  
3rd Sunday of Advent

**MONDAY 13 December**  
Mass 10am Katoomba

**TUESDAY 14 December**  
Confession 4:45-5:00pm Leura  
Mass 5:15pm Leura

**WEDNESDAY 15 December**  
Mass 8:30am W-Falls  
6:30 pm Mass Blackheath

**THURSDAY 16 December**  
Mass 8:30am Leura

**FRIDAY 17 December**  
Mass 12pm Katoomba  
Adoration & Benediction after mass until-  
1pm (Confessions during this)

**SATURDAY 18 December**  
Mass 9 am Blackheath  
Mass 9am Katoomba  
Confession 9:30am Katoomba  
Confession 4:30-4:45pm Leura

**COMING TO MASS:** All parishioners are welcome back to Mass. Please arrive early, sign in using the QR code, wear your face mask (covering the mouth and nose) and observe social distancing. Thank-you

**MASS OFFERING INTENTIONS: DECEASED and ANNIVERSARIES:** MARGARET GRANT, MARK GLASHEEN, EILEEN NOLAN, TASHINA SALMON-GRIFFITH, MARY ANDREWS, DAWN FITZPATRICK, MARIA CHRISTENSEN, and all the faithful departed especially those for whom you requested prayers and masses AND THE FORGOTTEN SOULS IN PURGATORY.

**SICK LIST:** Steve Harrison, Tony Hogan, 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 Nantonton, 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.

Christmas Mass Times		
24 Dec 2021 — Christmas Eve	25 Dec 2021 — Christmas Day	26 Dec 2021 — Boxing Day
12.00 noon— Katoomba	8.00 am — Wentworth Falls	8.00 am — Wentworth Fall
6.00 pm— Katoomba	8.00 am — Mt Victoria	9.30 am — Blackheath
6.00 pm— Blackheath	9.30 am — Leura	10.00 am — Katoomba
12.00 Midnight — Katoomba	9.30 am — Blackheath	5.00 pm — Leura
01 Jan 2022 — Mary Mother of God	02 Jan 2022 — Epiphany Sun	
10.00 am — Katoomba	8.00 am — Wentworth Falls	
5.00 pm — Leura	9.30 am — Blackheath	
6.00 pm — Mt Victoria	10.00 am — Katoomba	
	5.00pm — Leura	

**Confession Times:**  
18 Dec — Kat/Bl'heath after 9am Mass  
Leura 4.00-4.45pm  
21 Dec — Leura 4.30-5pm  
22 Dec — Blackheath 6.00-6.30pm  
24 Dec — Katoomba after 12.00 Midday Mass

**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>

**PARISH B-POINT QR**



SCAN ME



**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).  
ff 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

**PLEASE NOTE:** During the recent days of lockdown our parish finances suffered. 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.

**Give Envelope #39:** would the owner of this envelope number please contact the parish office to register their details. Parish office 4782 2804 Many thanks.



**SUNDAY MASS:** Live streaming of the Sunday 10am masses at St Canice's will continue. The live feed will be via our parish YouTube page as per usual. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHtj55rsvGDQqCDN7mldNQ>.



**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



**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. Only rostered may attend at this time.

**COVID NOTE FOR ADORERS:** Please leave the window and door of the adoration chapel open for heightened ventilation at this time! Masks must still be worn even here!



**ANointing MASS AT BODINGTON:** The third Wednesday of the month at 10:30am. Recommencing in December. ( We Hope! )

OFFICE CLOSED OVER CHRISTMAS:



**PARISH FUNDRAISING:** "Christmas Hamper Raffle". Anyone who wants to donate any items towards the raffle donation boxes will be available in the three churches marked Christmas Hamper. Alternatively please ring Barbra on 4784 2473 for further enquiries or to volunteer to help with selling raffle tickets, packing hampers or hamper transport between churches.

**THANK YOU:** Monique Halbur would like to thank all those parishioners who have been praying novenas and rosaries for her recovery. After her recent transplant she is now in full remission thanks be to God!



**BLUE MOUNTAINS EPIPHANY PILGRIMAGE + FIESTA 2022:** Celebrate the joy of the Christmas Season with the two-day Blue Mountains Epiphany Pilgrimage and Fiesta! Choose from a classic pilgrimage experience or family adventure pilgrimage on Sunday, Jan 2 then delight in the afternoon and evening festivities including the Feast of the Epiphany Mass, a festive meal, jumping castle, games and movie night for the kids as well as praise, worship and Adoration for youth and adults. Stay overnight at St Finbars, Glenbrook in the hall or camp on site, then continue the celebrations on Monday, Jan 3 with a morning pilgrimage and Mass in the bush. For more information and to register visit [www.epiphanypilgrimage.org](http://www.epiphanypilgrimage.org) To follow the journey see <https://www.facebook.com/epiphanypilgrimage/>



**GARDEN GROUP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** If you would like to part of a garden group for St. Canice's church, please contact the parish office. We hope to make our front grass area a welcoming space.



**A MESSAGE FROM AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED AUSTRALIA:** ACN is running an advent appeal to help Christian refugees who are suffering due to persecution, conflict and violence. This year share the hope of Christmas with Christian refugees and help ease their burdens. To read stories and watch videos of how ACN is helping our suffering brothers and sisters and to make a donation please visit. [www.aidtochurch.org/adventappeal](http://www.aidtochurch.org/adventappeal)

**BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL WEEKEND THANK YOU:** Thank You for Supporting CatholicCare's Houses to Homes Bishop Vincent, Parramatta Catholic Foundation and CatholicCare thank you for your kind-hearted generosity and support over the last few weeks. Our Bishop's Christmas Appeal raised over \$800.00 which will help CatholicCare's Houses to Homes to provide a loving sanctuary for young mothers in crisis. Thank you for your compassion and generosity. For anyone who hasn't had a chance to donate, please visit [yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal](http://yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal) We ask you to continue to pray for the Diocesan ministries supported by the Parramatta



**ST. CANICE'S SCHOOL NEWS:**

Catholic Foundation, including CatholicCare's Houses to Homes and the young women and children who find a safe haven in which to build better lives.

We are continuing with our Kinder Orientation and if anyone would like more information they can view this website <https://www.stcaniceskatoomba.catholic.edu.au/Enrol-Now/Tours-and-Events> or call us: 47806800 St Canice's were very excited to be part of the Mass where children in Stage 3 made their Confirmation on Tuesday. Not only did they have their family present but they were able to have their school family present too. Congratulations to them and their families.

**3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C**

**ENTRANCE** Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

**FIRST READING** Zephaniah 3:14-18

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud!

Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem!

The Lord has repealed your sentence; he has driven your enemies away.

The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear.

When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem: Zion, have no fear,

do not let your hands fall limp.

The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior.

He will exult with joy over you, he will renew you by his love;

he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

**RESPONSE** Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

**SECOND READING** Philippians 4:4-7

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

**ACCLAMATION** Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

**THE GOSPEL** Luke 3:10-18

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics they must share with the one who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.



**COMMUNION** Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

**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**  
MON: St. Lucy, Virgin, Martyr.  
TUE: St. John of the Cross, Priest, Doctor.  
  
NEXT SUN: Forth Sunday of Advent.

**ROSARY AND OTHER DEVOTIONS**  
SAT and SUN: 4:10pm, Leura.  
MON: after 10:00am 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, Katoomba.

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...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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