



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 10.00 am

Leura 5pm

USUAL WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

MON: 10am Katoomba (Cancelled)

TUE: 5:15pm Leura

WED: 8:30am W-Falls

THU: 8:30am Leura

FRI: 12pm Katoomba (with Benediction)

SAT: 9am Katoomba

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)."

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

YEAR C | 20 February 2022

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

In our first Reading David is portrayed as God's son, in the sense that he showed mercy to King Saul. Yet, he was fallible, and we know that human weakness won out towards the end of his life.

Jesus, however, is truly God's Son; He is the true icon or image of the Lord's compassion and love - even unto death!

And as Disciples of the Lord Jesus we are asked to follow Jesus' lead, and strive every day and in every moment to "be compassionate as (our) Father is compassionate".

In the week ahead let us reflect on those areas in our lives that are in need of reconciliation and renewal, so that we will do all we can to be like our God: kind, merciful, slow to anger, pardoning and never condemning. Let us strive to be people of true compassion and unconditional love.

1. We wish Fr Abraham a wonderful holiday in India, despite the sadness surrounding his family with the death of his eldest brother. Let us hope and pray he returns to us on 31st March refreshed and energised.

2. We thank Fr Bob Sheridan for celebrating the two masses in his old parish of Blackheath this present weekend. I'm sure it will have brought back kind memories for him and the people of Sacred Heart Parish.

3. Next Sunday there will be a PPC meeting for Sacred Heart Parish after the 9:30am mass; a meeting for the Upper Blue Mountains PPC will be announced shortly.

4. I would like to thank Bernie Turner and his team for all the work for Wentworth Falls Church. The bequest funds have now been spent on the church. All involved deserve a round of applause from us all.

My friends, let us continue to pray for one another in the coming week; and may we always strive to imitate our loving God.

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 20 February
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

MONDAY 21 February
No Mass

TUESDAY 22 February
Confession 4:45-5:00pm Leura
Mass 5:15pm Leura

WEDNESDAY 23 February
Mass 8:30am W-Falls
6:30 pm Mass Blackheath

THURSDAY 24 February
Mass 8:30am Leura

FRIDAY 25 February
Mass 12pm Katoomba

SATURDAY 26 February
Mass 9am Katoomba
Confession 9:30am Katoomba
Confession 4:30-4:45pm Leura

COMING TO MASS: All parishioners are welcome back to Mass. Face masks are still currently mandatory. Thank-you.

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).

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

PLEASE NOTE: During the 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.



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/UCHtj55risvGDQqCDN7mldNQ>.



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 Jacque on 0405 600 155 to register your details.



ANointing MASS AT BODINGTON: (WATCH THIS SPACE)



GARDEN GROUP VOLUNTEERS : Could all those who have volunteered to help with the front garden please meet there at the 10am on Saturday 26 February to plan. Fr John

MASS OFFERING INTENTIONS: DECEASED and ANNIVERSARIES: JOAN HALLER, MARGARET LAWLOR, MICHELLE SCULLY, FR PETER MORRISSEY, RITA KIRKLAND, MARGO EGGINS, MARIE QUEALY, PAUL FRASER, PAT MC CUSKER, and all the faithful departed especially those for whom you requested prayers and masses AND THE FORGOTTEN SOULS IN PURGATORY.

SICK LIST: Maureen O'Halloran, Eleanor Russell, Andrzej Krawczyk, Eleanor Hagar, 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, Julie Wulfs, Edwin Wulff, Maud Hunt

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Counselling and Psychotherapy
Individuals may seek support for relief from: - Emotional disturbances such as depression, anxiety, and stress.
- A history of failing relationships.
- Difficulty in forming new relationships.
- Trauma, grief, or life crisis.
- Fear or phobias.
- Loss of meaning.
You can call me on 0403 453 620 or contact me by email at kylieccullen@gmail.com
BHthSc(Counselling) STB,
Grad Dip Pastoral Care of Human Mobility,
Member ASORC
APN1702209602

LENTEN GROUPS:
MONDAYS
Morning group 9.00am. Commencing 28 February
 Location: St Bonaventure's Church Leura
 Group facilitator: Pam Le Breton. Contact Number: 4784 3781

WEDNESDAYS
Afternoon group 2.00pm. Commencing Ash Wednesday 2 March
 Location: 3 Easter Street Leura
 Group facilitator: Barbara Davidson. Contact Number: 0417 490 103
Evening group 6.00pm. Commencing 9 March
 Location: 4 Oak Street Katoomba
 Group facilitator: Alex Sarah. Contact Number: 0416 172 212

THURSDAYS
Evening group 7.00pm. Commencing 3 March
 Location: 3 Easter Street Leura
 Group facilitator: Barbara Davidson. Contact Number: 0417 490 103.
 Lenten Programme participant books can be found at the back of the churches. Suggested donation \$5 per book to help cover costs.

Project Compassion:
 Project compassion boxes are available in our churches from this week.

St Canice's School community were fortunate to celebrate our Opening School Mass in the parish church with some parents being there for the Commissioning ceremony of our 2022 School Leaders.
 Next week we have an information evening for parents to find out more about how their children are learning in our Staged groupings throughout the school.



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

We are looking forward to our Catholic Schools Week coming up. Please pick up a flyer in the Church and share with anyone in our community who may be interested in finding out more about our lovely mountains school

Volunteer for Scripture Classes in Public Schools:

Please see below times and days of SRE classes that are in urgent need of volunteer SREs. If you are interested in sharing the faith once a week (30 minute classes) with the children in our parish attending the public schools please contact SRE parish co-ordinator Mary Gale 0468 483 194 for further information. Materials and training provided.

The following schools in our parish are in need of SRE volunteers:

North Katoomba Public School: Wednesday mornings 9:15-9:45am, years K-2 combined class;
 Wentworth Falls Public School: Thursday mornings 9:35-10:05am, upper primary classes years 3-4 & 5-6 alternating weeks; Leura Public School: Thursday afternoons 2-2:30pm, upper primary classes years 3-4 & 5-6 alternating weeks; Katoomba High Public School: Friday mornings classes years 7 & 8 fortnightly (one hour class per year level)

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. Peter Damian, Bishop, Martyr.
 TUE: St. Peter's Chair.
 WED: St. Polycarp, Bishop, Martyr.
 SAT: BVM.

NEXT SUN: 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

ROSARY AND OTHER DEVOTIONS

SAT and SUN: 4:10pm, Leura.
 MON: 9:30am before 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: 5.15pm Divine Mercy Hour, Leura.
 SAT: 8:30am before Mass and after, Katoomba.

**REGISTER NOW FOR
 THE GATHERING OF TALENTS**

Sunday 3 April, 1pm-4pm.
 St. Thomas Aquinas Springwood.
 (rescheduled from 2021 due to covid)

Register: <https://tinyurl.com/BMDGot>
 (by Feb 28 so we know numbers to be covid-safe)

Paper registration forms (to hand to sacristan) and event flyers are up the back of the church.

Organised by the Blue Mountains
 Deanery Pastoral Council.

WORKSHOP 1: HEAR THE CRY.
 Social justice and care of creation presented by Rob Feeney (religious education coordinator) and student leaders from Penola Catholic College.

WORKSHOP 2: CULTURAL CONNECTEDNESS.
 Catholic Cultural Connection through the Sacramental Process presented by Maureen Ryan.

WORKSHOP 3: THE GOSPELS IN ACTION.
 Understanding the Gospels in Action. An Adult Faith Formation experience presented by Laurie Woods.

WORKSHOP 4: MUSIC IN ACTION.
 Music within our liturgies presented by Chris Wilson.

WORKSHOP 5: COMMUNITY WELLBEING.
 Outreach in areas of need: homelessness; domestic violence; mental illness presented by Catholic Care.

Each workshop will be offered twice during the afternoon. They will last 40 minutes each. People will be able to share their wisdom, experiences, passion and suggestions.

7TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME YEAR C

ENTRANCE O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.
 My heart will rejoice in your salvation.
 I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me

FIRST READING 1 Samuel 26:2. 7-9. 12-13. 22-23

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph.

So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him. Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice. David answered Abishai, Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them.

David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

RESPONSE The Lord is kind and merciful

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 15:45-49

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment;
 love one another as I have loved you.
 Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL Luke 6:27-38

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the one who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the one who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the one who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

COMMUNION

Lord, I have come to believe that you are the Christ,
 the Son of the living God who is coming into this world.

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...it's time we had a talk
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