



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)

[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: 9:30am Katoomba (Cancelled)

TUE: 5:15pm Leura

WED: 9:30am W-Falls

THU: 5:15pm 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)."

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

YEAR C | 27 February 2022

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

The Gospel for this 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C) invites us to reflect on what is in our heart, our mind?

Is it goodness? Trust, hope, peace, self-control, faith, love ... the fruit of the Spirit that St Paul talks about?

Or is it the opposite? Envy, jealousy, hatred, anger, despair and so forth?

Whatever is uppermost in us will control our words: and hence our relationship with God and with others

Serious reflection is needed on the part of all of us...

But we need not despair, for our very presence here indicates that we are basically on the right road to the Lord.

Indeed, we can always take heart from the writings of St Paul, and especially

our Second Reading today:

"Never give in then, my dear brothers and sisters, never admit defeat; keep on

working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain".

1. Lent commences this week with our celebration of Ash Wednesday. There will be three masses in the Upper Mountains parishes:

12 Midday at St Canice's, Katoomba

6:00pm at St Bonaventure's, Leura

7:00pm at Sacred Heart, Blackheath

Please remember that, with Good Friday, Ash Wednesday is Day of Abstinence from meat; and it is a Day of Fast (only one main meal) for those between 18 and 60.

2. Don't forget to take a Project Compassion box or set of envelopes this weekend in advance of our Lenten Season of Penance

3. Some Mass times will change in Upper Blue Mountains Parish from this Ash Wednesday onwards...

Mondays (when Fr Abraham is back, so from 4/4): 9:30am St Canice's, Katoomba

Tuesdays remain at 5:15pm (with Confessions beforehand) at St Bonaventure's, Leura

Wednesdays 9:30am at St Francis Xavier's, Wentworth Falls

Thursdays will revert to 5:15pm (with Confessions beforehand) at St Bonaventure's, Leura

Fridays remain at 12 Midday at St Canice's, Katoomba, with Adoration & Benediction and Confessions to follow the Mass

Saturdays remain at 9:00am at St Canice's, Katoomba, with Confessions to follow the Mass.

4. Wednesdays will alternate between WF and Blackheath (at 6:30pm) while Fr Abraham is away, commencing at WF on 9 March at 9:30am.

5. There will be no Saturday morning mass at Sacred Heart, Blackheath, in Fr Abraham's absence.

My thanks to all those marvellous volunteers in our parishes who do so much in making our liturgies and our ministries so good. Let's all support each other in the various roles of service that are given in our parish.

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 27 February

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

MONDAY 28 February

No Mass

TUESDAY 1 March

Confession 4:45-5:00pm Leura

Mass 5:15pm Leura

WEDNESDAY 2 March

Blackheath 9:30am

Katoomba 12pm

Leura 6pm

THURSDAY 3 March

Mass 8:30am Leura

FRIDAY 4 March

Mass 12pm Katoomba

SATURDAY 5 March

Mass 9am Katoomba

Confession 9:30am Katoomba

Confession 4:30-4:45pm Leura

Serving for Lent!

A calling to all parishioner's! The parish is desperately in need of more altar servers, especially for Wentworth Falls and Leura masses. Full training will be provided and this lay role is so important in assisting the priest and adding to the beauty and piety of the mass. If you are interested in becoming a server please contact Hugh Jones via email hajones1981@outlook.com both men and women are very welcome

MASS OFFERING INTENTIONS: DECEASED and ANNIVERSARIES: ANNE CRANK, 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 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 Heining, Julie Wulss, Edwin Wulff, Maud Hunt

Approx. 5 cm x 5 cm

Advertise with us.

For more information please contact the office. 02 4782 2804

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/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.



ANointing MASS AT BODINGTON: (WATCH THIS SPACE)

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS TIMES:

Katoomba 12pm

Leura 6pm

Blackheath 7pm

Approx. 5 cm x 5 cm

Advertise with us.

For more information please contact the office. 02 4782 2804

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1ST CONFESSION PREPARATION for school children in year 3 and above will begin on Sunday 6th March and will run for four consecutive Sundays, 9am in St Canice's Church Hall. Enrolments will be taken at the first session.

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 Sharah. 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.



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 mountain's 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:
Katoomba Public School: Monday afternoons combined classes lower primary K-2 from 1:50-2:20pm; combined classes upper primary 3-6 from 2:25-2:55pm.
Wentworth Falls Public School: Thursday mornings 9:35-10:05am, upper primary classes combined years 3-6.

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

WED: Ash Wednesday.
FRI: St. Casimir.

NEXT SUNDAY: First Sunday of Lent.

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.

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 kyliecullen@gmail.com
[BHlthSc@Counselling](mailto:BHlthSc@Counselling.STB) STB,
Grad Dip Pastoral Care of Human Mobility,
Member ASORC
ABN1792298603



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TR BROWNJOHN MEMORIAL HOME
Thomas Brownjohn, Proprietor
Phone (02) 4782 2613
73A Lurline St. Katoomba 2780
Also Springwood and Lithgow

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.

8TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME YEAR C

ENTRANCE The Lord became my protector.
He brought me out to a place of freedom;
he saved me because he delighted in me.

FIRST READING Ecclesiasticus 27:5-8

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind,
so too the defects of someone appear in their talk.
The kiln tests the work of the potter,
the test of someone is in their conversation.
The orchard where a tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit,
similarly someone's words betray what they feel.
Do not praise anyone before they have spoken,
since this is the test of everyone.

RESPONSE Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 15:54-58

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Never give in then, my dear brothers and sisters, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Alleluia, alleluia!
Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.
Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL Luke 6:39-45

Jesus told a parable to his disciples: 'Can one blind person guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like their teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's or sister's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother and sister, "let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's or sister's eye.

'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good person draws what is good from the store of goodness in their heart; a bad person draws what is bad from the store of badness. For one's words flow out of what fills one's heart.'



COMMUNION

Behold, I am with you always,
even to the end of the age, says the Lord.

Project Compassion Sunday
26 & 27 February

Please take home a Project Compassion box and a set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and **For All Future Generations**. With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support vulnerable communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction to build a better future for all.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations**. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting lent.caritas.org.au, or by calling 1800 024 413.