



# 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 10.00am  
Leura 5pm

## USUAL WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

MON: 9:30am Katoomba  
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 12 pm Mass Katoomba  
SAT: 9:30-9:50 Katoomba  
SAT: 4:30-4:45pm Leura  
NOTE: Confessions are always available  
upon request.

## KATOOMBA ADORATION CHAPEL

10:00am Monday - 6pm 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)."

## The Ascension of the Lord

YEAR C | 29 May 2022

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

Our Liturgy of the Word for the Feast of the Ascension speaks to us of the Lord's continuing presence among us as we live the Gospel in our daily lives and come to know Jesus as Lord of our lives.

The Reading from the Acts portrays the Ascension as the Turning -point between Jesus' own ministry on Earth and the era of the Mission of the Church. It is a time in which we are expected to act as Jesus did, proclaiming always and everywhere the Good News. This period of the Church finds the Lord's disciples (us!) being supported by the Spirit: the Lord continues to be present among us, albeit in a new mode.

The text of Hebrews for today uses cultic language which is reminiscent of the Temple Liturgy of the Jews. The author of this Jewish-Christian letter speaks of Christ's entry into the heavenly realm after his Resurrection and Ascension. Through his sacrificial Death, victory over sin and death has been won for all faithful followers. Indeed, we are now 'free from any trace of bad conscience and our bodies (are) washed with pure water'. And it is from this heavenly sphere of existence that Christ continues his mission of salvation, by supporting us as we proclaim the Good News.

And the Gospel from Luke concludes the era of Jesus' ministry with the great invitation to all Christ's followers to go our the proclaim the Good News. Jesus promises that the coming Spirit, the Spirit of Power, the Spirit of the Living God, will enable all Christians to be fearless in the face of persecution and ridicule.

In response to the Word of God, we need to reflect on how the this great truth - Jesus who was dead is alive and is with us always - impacts our life. What does this really mean for me?

With the strength of the Holy Spirit we are enabled

- \* be faithful to our Christian Calling
- \* face whatever comes our way in life
- \* stand up fearlessly and be faithful to the Christian ethic of unconditional love
- \* go out to the highways and byways of our life experiences and

courageously tell the message of Salvation to all who need to hear it.

Let us pray today and in this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity for an abundant outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the Church this coming Pentecost!

Please note that there will be a special celebration after 10am Mass at Katoomba next week to celebrate our unity in diversity.

Also, I am hoping to lead a small group (30-35) to the Holy Land in January 2023. Brochures are available upon request.

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 29 May**  
The Ascension of the Lord

**MONDAY 30 May**  
Mass 9:30am Katoomba

**TUESDAY 31 May**  
Confession 4:45-5:00pm Leura  
Mass 5:15pm Leura

**WEDNESDAY 1 June**  
Mass 9:30am Wentworth Falls

**THURSDAY 2 June**  
Mass 5:15pm Leura

**FRIDAY 3 June**  
Mass 12pm Katoomba  
Adoration, confession &  
Benediction after Mass

**SATURDAY 4 June**  
Mass 9am Katoomba  
Confession 9:30am Katoomba  
Confession 4:30-4:45pm Leura

Statement by His Eminence Cardinal Charles Bo concerning His Eminence Cardinal Joseph ZEN SDB  
Follow the Link:  
<https://catholicoutlook.org/statement-by-his-eminence-cardinal-charles-bo-concerning-his-eminence-cardinal-joseph-zen-sdb/>

## 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-



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



**ANOINTING MASS AT BODINGTON:** (WATCH THIS SPACE)



**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 Catherine on 0420 337 033 to register your details.

**\*\*\*POSTPONED TO 4/6/22\*\*\* SAFE GUARDING TRAINING** will be held in the hall at Sacred Heart Church Blackheath, following 9am mass, commencing at 10am till 2:45pm. This training will include the 3 compulsory modules of training. Training will be provided by the Safeguarding Office, Parramatta. This training is open to all parishioners of the Upper Blue Mountains. Please contact Adrian 0488 066619 or the parish office if you are intending to attend.

**MASS OFFERING INTENTIONS: DECEASED and ANNIVERSARIES:** ALFRED MILANI, VINCE BRAUER, MAHER SHABO, PETER MARSHALL, MARY-ANNE McNIVEN, LYN CRADDOCK, MORAN HALLIDAY, DOREEN O'DOWD, MAEVE MCARTHUR, PABLO AGUIRRE, TONY MAHER, JOAN NOLAN, 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:** Gerard Wolthers, Judy Skipper, Millie Robinson, 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, Pat Wolthers, Tricia Hogan, Shiela Page, Sr Jeanie Heininger, Julie Wulss, Edwin Wulff, Maud Hunt

2023

## The Holy Land Experience

**12 NIGHTS / 15 DAYS. DEPARTS SAT 7<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2023**

Dead Sea (2 nights) • Sea of Galilee (4) • Haifa • Mt Carmel • Mt Tabor • Cana • Nazareth • Mt Beatitudes • Jerusalem (6) • Masada • Bethlehem

*Optional 2 night Wonders of Petra Extension*

Accompanied by  
**FR JOHN MCSWEENEY**  
And Harvest Rep  
**MONICA MANSOUR**

15  
DAYS

For further information about this pilgrimage with our PP Fr John please contact the parish office for a copy of full brochure including booking details, pricing and itinerary. Email: [bluemountains@parracatholic.org](mailto:bluemountains@parracatholic.org)

Approx. 5 cm x 5 cm

Advertise with us.

For more information please contact  
the office. 02 4782 2804



**FEAST OF PENTECOST:** Our parish will mark this year's Pentecost Sunday (June 5th) with a celebration of a diversity and culture of our parishioners. After 10am Mass at St Canice's Katoomba we will be celebrating the day with a wide variety of ethnic flavours from all the various backgrounds of our parishioners with a selection of foods to enjoy in the parish hall. Entry by donation. We will also be offering Prayers of the Faithful in the native languages of our parishioners to celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and Christ's message for all peoples. If you would like to read a prayer of intercession in your native language please contact Matelena Ale on 0459 656 657 or contribute a dish of food to the event after Mass please contact Barbara Davidson on 0417 490 103. Barbara will speak at all the Sunday Masses on 28/29 May to promote the event. Help us mark this important feast day with a celebration of our parish's rich diversity and please join us for the extravaganza of foods after 10am Mass.



**COUNTERS REQUIRED:** At St. Canice's Katoomba. Once per month on Tuesdays. Phone parish office 4782 2804 for information. **PLEASE HELP US!**

**Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal for our Holy Spirit Seminarians in Harris Park This Weekend 27/28**

Our Holy Spirit Seminary in Harris Park is carrying out its mission to prepare men who have been called by God to be good shepherds and beacons of Christ's light.

Will you be their extended formation community and support seminarians on their important spiritual journey to be formed as priests after the heart of Christ?

Please give generously to the Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal at [yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal](http://yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal) or scan this QR code.

Thank you for accompanying our seminarians on their journeys.



**CALLING ALL SINGERS AND MUSICIANS:** The Upper Blue Mountains Parish invites you to join the music ministry as a singer or musician. Any level of talent, any instrument and all genres of musical background are welcome. In particular, music is required for the St Bonnaventure's, Leura, Sunday 5pm Mass and singers are wanted for the Parish Choir (men and ladies). The choir sings at St Canice's, Katoomba on the second Sunday of the Month and rehearses each non-public-holiday Monday at 7:30pm in the church. Contact the Musical Director, Jareth Norman on 0491 162 682 or at [jareth.norman@gmail.com](mailto:jareth.norman@gmail.com) for more information.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED 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 9-9:30am combined classes lower primary K-2.

**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**

TUE: The Visitation of BVM  
WED: St Justin, martyr  
THUR: Sts Marcellinus and Peter, martyrs  
FRI: Charles Lwanga and Companions, martyrs  
  
NEXT SUNDAY: Pentecost Sunday

**ROSARY AND OTHER DEVOTIONS**

SAT and SUN: 4:10pm, Leura.  
MON: 9:00am before Mass, Katoomba.  
TUE: 4:30pm D-Mercy, Rosary, Exposition, Leura.  
WED: after 9:00am Mass, Wentworth Falls.  
THU: 4:30pm D-Mercy, Rosary, Leura  
FRI: 11:30am before Mass, Katoomba.  
FRI: 5.15pm Divine Mercy Hour, Leura.  
SAT: 8:30am before Mass and after, Katoomba.



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

We wish all our year 3 and 5 students the best as they undertake their NAPLAN testing over these 2 weeks.

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

**ART & FASHION SALE 2022**

When: June Long Weekend  
Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th June

Where: Sacred Heart Parish Hall  
165 Wentworth Street, Blackheath

Cost of entry: \$5 per person which includes a glass of champagne & nibbles

Raffle: Original artwork of Shipley Plateau by Edward Spessot

Time: Saturday 11am – 4pm  
Sunday 9 am – 3 pm

Sunday will be tea & coffee with cake served all day

Gold coin donation to aid Vinnies Winter Appeal

**THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD C**

**ENTRANCE** Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens? This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

**FIRST READING (Acts 1:1-11)**

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is,' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you people from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

**RESPONSE** God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

**SECOND READING (Eph 1:17-23)**

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what

rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL (Lk 24:46-53)**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.

'And now I am sending down to you what the Father has promised. Stay in the city then, until you are clothed with the power from on high.' Then he took them out as far as the outskirts of Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. Now as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and was carried up to heaven. They worshipped him and then went back to Jerusalem full of joy; and they were continually in the Temple praising God.

**COMMUNION**

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

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

Furnishing environments that inspire Creativity, Learning and Work in the Education, Library, Museum, Health and Corporate sectors.  
**Contact: 1300 300 369**  
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[www.abaxkf.com.au](http://www.abaxkf.com.au)

...it's time we had a talk  
Thomas Brownjohn Proprietor  
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Also Springwood and Lithgow