



# 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 10.30am

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)."

## 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

YEAR C | 24 July 2022

PRAYER: THE BREATH OF CHRISTIAN LIFE.

Prayer can be defined as a devotee's expression of ardent communion with God or an object of worship as in thanksgiving, adoration, supplication, or praise. It can include all of them or any of them. Prayer is the innate expression of one's total dependence on God which takes different shapes and forms.

In today's gospel we see disciples of Jesus asking Him to teach them to pray. Jesus' instruction on prayer was addressed to the heavenly Father. It included mainly the praising and thanking the Father for His love and care and it included the supplications as well. Even in the supplication the first thing taught by Jesus in praying was to seek the will of the Father and his Kingdom. Then only the presentation of the human needs came in. And he taught them to ask God's mercy for our sins and the strength to overcome the temptations and protection from all that is evil.

Jesus teaches them to pray persistently. Praying must become the nature of the disciple. Jesus is giving that confidence that father in heaven is so benevolent, and he takes care of their needs with love. He tells them the best gift they can get from the heavenly Father is the gift of the Holy Spirit. When we ask for the Holy Spirit, it means that we have asked all that is necessary for us.

Even when the words are not present the Holy Spirit prays for us from within says St Paul in his letter to the Romans (8/26-27). Spirit intercedes for our needs and that prayer is powerful. Because Holy Spirit prays for that which is necessary, not for our selfishness. And Jesus assures them the heavenly Father will grant that which is necessary. And so, what is most important is the gift of the Holy Spirit. And they should pray for that.

And one of the most important aspects of prayer taught by Jesus was the need of forgiveness. It becomes almost must and precondition for the success of our prayers. If we are not ready to forgive, we are telling God do not forgive me also. So, if we want our prayers to be heard and effective make the examination of our conscience especially in the aspect of our relationship with our brothers and sisters. Is there anything in me/us which is against the heavenly Father's mind, his commandments, his love, in me/us? If so, rectify it and make the prayer. It is a challenging invitation to make the life a continuation of the prayer. It cannot go as if they are two watertight compartments.

Let us learn to pray always and seeking the heavenly Father's will and love in our lives and live the challenge given by Jesus' style of Prayer. May God Bless us.

Fr (Dr) Abraham Kunnatholy CMI  
Asst Priest @ Upper Blue mountains & Blackheath Parishes.



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



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

**SUNDAY 24 July**  
13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**MONDAY 25 July**  
Mass 9:30am Katoomba

**TUESDAY 26 July**  
Confession 4:45-5:00pm Leura  
Mass 5:15pm Leura

**WEDNESDAY 27 July**  
Mass 9:30am W/F

**THURSDAY 28 July**  
Mass 5.15pm Leura

**FRIDAY 29 July**  
Mass 12pm Katoomba  
Adoration, confession

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

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>



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.

**MASS OFFERING INTENTIONS: DECEASED and ANNIVERSARIES:** RYAN JAMES GRANT, BETTY WADDELL, RAYMOND JOSEPH GALE, THOMAS GALE, PAUL TURNBULL, MARYLIN STONE AND GABRIELA, 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 Heining, Julie Wulss, Edwin Wulff, Maud Hunt

2023

**15 DAYS**

*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

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)

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

**FROM NOW ON**

the Mass times

on Sunday mornings will be....

8am Wentworth Falls

9:15am Blackheath

10:30am Katoomba.



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

**33 DAYS PREPARATION FOR TOTAL CONSECRATION TO MARY:** The Legion of Mary, Senatus of Sydney, invites you to participate in 33 Days Preparation for Total Consecration To Jesus Through Mary, commencing on 12 July through to 13 August at 8.30pm via Zoom. The consecration day will be held on Sunday 14 August. All are welcome. Zoom ID: 828 9012 6930 Passcode: 784626.

**2022 FAITH IN MARRIAGE SEMINAR: 12 AUGUST** Guest speaker Robert Haddad will discuss "Living marriage, living faith, ideas to inspire your children" at the Faith in Marriage Seminar hosted by the Diocese of Parramatta's MET - Marriage team. The seminar will be held on Friday 12 August at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown, from 7.30pm. The event is free, but booking is required. Free parking is available in the lower ground car park and on neighbouring streets. Please register your attendance to (02) 8838 3460 or [marriage@parracatholic.org](mailto:marriage@parracatholic.org)

**ENTRANCE** God is in his holy place. God who unites those who dwell in his house; he himself gives might and strength to his people.

**FIRST READING (Genesis 18:20-32)**

The Lord said, 'How great an outcry there is against Sodom and Gomorrah! How grievous is their sin! I propose to go down and see whether or not they have done all that is alleged in the outcry against them that has come up to me. I am determined to know.'

The men left there and went to Sodom while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Approaching him he said, 'Are you really going to destroy the just man with the sinner? Perhaps there are fifty just men in the town. Will you really overwhelm them, will you not spare the place for the fifty just men in it? Do not think of doing such a thing: to kill the just man with the sinner, treating just and sinner alike! Do not think of it! Will the judge of the whole earth not administer justice?' the Lord replied, 'If at Sodom I find fifty just men in the town, I will spare the whole place because of them.'

Abraham replied, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this to my Lord, I who am dust and ashes. But perhaps the fifty just men lack five: will you destroy the whole city for five?' 'No,' he replied 'I will not destroy it if I find forty-five just men there.' Again Abraham said to him, 'Perhaps there will only be forty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'for the sake of the forty.'

Abraham said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry, but give me leave to speak: perhaps there will only be thirty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'if I find thirty there.' He said, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this, but perhaps there will only be twenty there.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the twenty.' He said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry if I speak once more: perhaps there will only be ten.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the ten.'

**RESPONSE** Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

**SECOND READING (Colossians 2:12-14)**

You have been buried with Christ, when you were baptised; and by baptism, too, you have been raised up with him through your belief in the power of God who raised him from the dead. You were dead, because you were sinners and had not been circumcised: he has brought you to life with him, he has forgiven us all our sins.

He has overridden the Law, and cancelled every record of the debt that we had to pay; he has done away with it by nailing it to the cross.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children, and in that Spirit we call God our Father. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL (Luke 11:1-13)**

Once Jesus was in a certain place praying, and when he had finished one of his disciples said, 'Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.'

He said to them, 'Say this when you pray:

"Father, may your name be held holy, your kingdom come; give us each day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive each one who is in debt to us. And do not put us to the test."

He also said to them:

'Suppose one of you has a friend and goes to him in the middle of the night to say, "My friend, lend me three loaves, because a friend of mine on his travels has just arrived at my house and I have nothing to offer him"; and the man answers from inside the house, "Do not bother me. The door is bolted now, and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up to give it you." I tell you, if the man does not get up and give it him for friendship's sake, persistence will be enough to make him get up and give his friend all he wants.

'So I say to you: Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For the one who asks always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door opened to him. What father among you would hand his son a stone when he asked for bread? Or hand him a snake instead of a fish? Or hand him a scorpion if he asked for an egg? If you then, who are evil, know how to give your children what is good, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'

**COMMUNION**

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his benefits.

Can you undertake an Overseas Mission?

Our sister churches in Africa, Asia and the Pacific are requesting Australian Catholics to join them to build the skills of those in their community who have had less opportunity than ourselves. Please consider these [Mission opportunities abroad](#). The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference provide support. [Palms Australia](#), who have prepared Australian Catholics for global mission since 1961, will ensure accommodation and a living allowance is provided to you during your time away. [Enquire online](#) or Ph: 0422 742 567 to find out about a placement to engage your skills. You can also [Register](#) for a Webinar on Monday August 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 pm to talk directly with a Palms' partner community in Timor Leste and two Australians recently posted to work with them. Invite your friends. The stories will inspire.

**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**

MON: St. James, Apostle.  
TUE: Sts. Joachim and Anne, parents of the BVM.  
FRI: St. Martha.  
SAT: St. Peter Chrysologus, Bishop, Doctor.  
NEXT SUN: 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

**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: before 9:00am Mass, Wentworth Falls.  
THU: 4:30pm D-Mercy, Rosary, Leura  
FRI: 11:30am before Mass, Katoomba.  
FRI: 5.30pm Divine Mercy Hour, Leura.  
SAT: 8:30am before Mass and after, Katoomba.

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