



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 10.30am

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)."

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

YEAR C | 21 August

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

All three Readings for this 21st Sunday in Ordinary offer us something to reflect upon...

The Text from the Prophet Isaiah, although meant to encourage the returning Exiles from Babylon, can also be interpreted from a Christian perspective: through a holy and faithful life we will be saved and enjoy the fruits of eternal life in the New Jerusalem. Our destiny as followers of Jesus is to be with the Loving Father in the heavenly realms for all eternity. Such a vision aids us in dealing with any pain or suffering that this existence throws our way.

The author of the Letter to Hebrews utilises the human experience of discipline by a parent as an example of how God can bring good out of difficult and painful situations. Our suffering can be viewed as part of our 'training' in the sense that such experiences help us in our search for greater meaning in our lives. Thus, we are being encouraged to live in hope, rather than despair,; in trust, rather than anger.

And the excerpts from the Gospel of Luke invite us to reflect on what will bring us into a right relationship with God and thus be saved. Not so much in the keeping of rules and regulations in a purely external way (as was condemned by Jesus in his teaching against the scribes and pharisees), but rather in the choice 'for' or 'against' the Lord. A fundamental option 'for' God is warranted in our spiritual journey; and despite the occasional wrong choices and sins of human frailty that come our way in life, we continue to embrace a fundamental choice to strive 'by the narrow' door of faith that leads to eternal life and salvation.

In the week ahead, let us take each of these texts from Scripture and reflect on them in our own particular contexts.

We pray for Andrew Rooney who will be ordained to the Priesthood in St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta, this coming Friday evening. We give thanks to God for another young priest for our Diocese; and for the three transitional deacons awaiting priestly ordination within the next 12 months!

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 21 August

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

MONDAY 22 August

Mass 9:30am Katoomba

TUESDAY 23 August

Confession 4:45-5:00pm Leura

Mass 5:15pm Leura

WEDNESDAY 24 August

Mass 9:30am Wentworth Falls

THURSDAY 25 August

Mass 5.15pm Leura

FRIDAY 26 August

Mass 12pm Katoomba

Adoration, confession

SATURDAY 27 August

Mass 9am Katoomba

Confession 9:30am Katoomba

Confession 4:30-4:45pm Leura

Ordination of Rev Andrew Rooney

This Friday 26 August, Deacon Andrew Rooney will be ordained to the priesthood at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta, commencing at 7.30pm. This will be the first priestly ordination in the Diocese of Parramatta since 2018. The event will be livestreamed on the St Patrick's Cathedral YouTube channel www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksCathedralParramatta. The link to the video is <https://bit.ly/ARooney22>

MASS OFFERING INTENTIONS: DECEASED and ANNIVERSARIES: PATRICIA ETHEL O' HALLORAN, RYAN JAMES GRANT, GRAHAM COHEN, 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 Morphett, 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

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/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 Catherine on 0420 337 033 to register your details. The following Adoration hours are free for permanent weekly Adoration volunteers: Mondays 8-9pm, Tuesdays 4-5pm and Fridays 1-2pm.

2023

The Holy Land Experience

12 NIGHTS / 15 DAYS. DEPARTS SAT 7TH 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

15
DAYS



Accompanied by
FR JOHN MCSWEENEY
And Harvest Rep
MONICA MANSOUR

RENTAL ACCOMMODATION NEEDED:

A parishioner is seeking rental accommodation. Single lady, no pets, semi-retired. Please call 0406951594 or call the parish office on 02 4782 2804

DIVINE MERCY PRAYER GROUP: MASS AND PRAYERS FOR SICK OF THE PARISH:
 Divine Mercy prayer group of our parish is offering a special Mass for all the sick people in our parish, our community and the whole world. St Faustina's diary 1588: "I am sending you with My Mercy to the people of the whole world, I do not want to punish aching mankind, but I desire to heal it, pressing it to my Merciful Heart. Diary 1059: Souls who spread the honour of my Mercy, I shield through their entire life as a tender mother to her child and at the hour of death, I will not be a judge for them, but the merciful saviour."
 Date: 30th August 2022 | Place: St Bonaventure's Church Leura | Time: 5:15pm
 You are all welcome to join us from 4:30pm for prayers, scripture reading and singing, prior to Holy Mass.

Our Bishop's Father's Day Appeal for Retired and Sick Priests is traditionally held on Father's Day, this year being the weekend of Sunday 4 September. This annual appeal raises much needed funds for our Diocese's Clergy Support Foundation to continue its work of supporting retired clergy and those in ill-health. We currently care for 21 retired clergy in our Diocese – 1 bishop, 18 priests and 2 deacons. This year's appeal will highlight the faithful service of our retired clergy, and in particular, Mons John Boyle, Fr Chris Dixon and Fr Bob Sheridan. We do hope you enjoy some of the stories we will share about their dedication to their faith community. As you know, our faithful parish priests never truly retire!
 With your enthusiastic support for our Bishop's Father's Day Appeal, our Clergy Support Foundation can better care for our 21 retired priests and those clergy who are unwell, giving them comfort, professional health care, and guidance.

Season of Creation Prayer Service
 You are invited to the CARITAS PRAYER SERVICE for the Season of Creation on Saturday September 3, commencing at 10:00am at Sacred Heart Church, Blackheath. This prayer service encourages us to connect with and reflect on the reality of lives in crisis, the Cry of the Poor and the devastating effects of changing natural environments, the Cry of the Earth. Please bring along a "natural gift of creation" for the reflection time. A cuppa will be shared on the church veranda following the prayer service. All welcome! Listening to the VOICE of Creation!

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:
 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: Our Lady, Mother and Queen.
 TUE: St. Rose of Lima, Virgin.
 WED: St. Bartholomew, Apostle.
 THU: St Louis.
 St. Joseph of Calasanz, Priest.
 SAT: St. Monica.
 NEXT SUN: 22nd 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.



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

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

Soup to Warm the Heart
 The Uniting Church Blackheath
 Govetts Leap Road
 Each Monday between
 11:00 and 12:30
 Join us and enjoy a bowl of soup and fellowship and chat with friends in our community. A joint enterprise between Sacred Heart Catholic Church and Blackheath Uniting Church. All are most welcome!

**POPE'S MESSAGE TO
 GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY:**
 The Pope has written a wonderful message for all to read about grandparents and the elderly. Google "Pope's message to grandparents 2022" or the [LINK HERE](#)

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME C

ENTRANCE Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

FIRST READING (Isaiah 66:18-21)
 The Lord says this: I am coming to gather the nations of every language. They shall come to witness my glory. I will give them a sign and send some of their survivors to the nations: to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moshech, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan, to the distant islands that have never heard of me or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory to the nations. As an offering to the Lord they will bring all your brothers and sisters, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, on dromedaries, from all the nations to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says the Lord, like Israelites bringing oblations in clean vessels to the Temple of the Lord. And of some of them I will make priests and Levites, says the Lord.

RESPONSE Go out to all the world, and tell the Good News.

SECOND READING (Hebrews 12:5-7,11-13)
 Have you forgotten that encouraging text in which you are addressed as children? My child, when the Lord corrects you, do not treat it lightly; but do not get discouraged when he reprimands you. For the Lord trains the ones that he loves and he punishes all those that he acknowledges as his children. Suffering is part of your training; God is treating you as his children. Has there ever been any child whose father did not train him? Of course, any punishment is most painful at the time, and far from pleasant; but later, in those on whom it has been used, it bears fruit in peace and goodness. So hold up your limp arms and steady your trembling knees and smooth out the path you tread; then the injured limb will not be wrenched, it will grow strong again.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me. Alleluia!

GOSPEL (Luke 13:22-30)
 Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to him, 'Sir, will there be only a few saved?' He said to them, 'Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because, I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed.'

'Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, "Lord, open to us" but he will answer, "I do not know where you come from." Then you will find yourself saying, "We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets" but he will reply, "I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked ones!"

'Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. And people from east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.

'Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.'

COMMUNION
 Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, says the Lord, and I will raise him up on the last day.

Buckland
 AGED CARE SERVICES
Home Care Packages
 with Buckland Aged Care Services
 Our services include:
 • Personal Care
 • Domestic Assistance
 • Home Maintenance
 • Transport Services
 • Social Support services
 • Meal and food services
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 Also Springwood and Lithgow