



# 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)

[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)."

## 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

YEAR C | 28 August

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ.

Once again we have a rather 'hard' saying from Jesus in our Gospel for this Sunday.

"If anyone comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife children, brothers, sisters, yes and one's own life too, that one cannot be my disciple.

Anyone who does not carry one's cross and come after me cannot be my disciple".

And so we are challenged by the words of Scripture to look at our intentions in three areas of our lives:

1. our material goods

How important are they to us? Are they more important than people, especially those in need?

2. our dearest bonds of affection

Where is Jesus Christ in our family life? Do we strive to follow Christian principles within our family? Or do we relegate the Lord to 'mass-on-Sunday', if even that?

3. our own life

When we stand before the Lord, will we truly be able to say that everything we said and did was for the Lord and his Gospel? Can we say that 'you increased in my life, Lord; I decreased'?

My friends, too often we find ourselves rejecting all that does not fit into our neat little picture of Jesus Christ, God, the Church, Christian ethics... We can reject the difficult areas of our Faith and its Practice, preferring the 'reasonable' religion of mediocre discipleship.

But this Gospel text among others calls us back to the heart of our Christian beliefs, encouraging us to be heroic in our following of the Lord in a world dominated by practical materialism, and by the contemporary idols of power, sex and money.

Let us recommit ourselves to taking up the challenge that Christ offers us once again, and strive to place the Lord first in all aspects of our lives.

1. As we have our annual Fathers Day Collection for the retired and sick priests and deacons of our Diocese, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your generosity once again.

Please give what you can; and if you wish to take the envelope home with you and bring it back next week, that's fine too.

2. Please continue to pray for the younger members of our parish communities who are preparing for Confirmation in a couple of weeks time.

3. And I am pleased to announce that a formal audit of all monies spent on St Francis Xavier's church has now been completed. And everything is in order. Please see the summary of the audit in the bulletin. Once again we thank Bernie Turner and his team for all the hard work and time spent on this church.

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 28 August

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

### MONDAY 29 August

Mass 9:30am Katoomba

### TUESDAY 30 August

Confession 4:45-5:00pm Leura

Mass 5:15pm Leura

### WEDNESDAY 31 August

Mass 9:30am Wentworth Falls

### THURSDAY 1 September

Mass 5.15pm Leura

### FRIDAY 2 September

Mass 12pm Katoomba

Adoration, confession

### SATURDAY 3 September

Mass 9am Katoomba

Confession 9:30am Katoomba

Confession 4:30-4:45pm Leura

### 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!

**MASS OFFERING INTENTIONS: DECEASED and ANNIVERSARIES:** FR JAMES PAGE, EDNA SWEENEY, 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 Hager, 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

## EMBRACE THE CALL TO GLOBAL MISSION

American Samoa, Cambodia, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tanzania, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Zambia are requesting Australian Catholics to live in and share their skills with parish communities. Embrace one of these [Mission opportunities abroad](#) and mentor those with little other opportunity. You will be well prepared and supported by Palms Australia who have engaged Australian Catholics in this mission since 1961.

[Enquire online](#) or Ph: 0422 742 567 and [Register](#) for a Webinar on Saturday September 24<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am where you can talk directly with Veronica Lawson who is mentoring teachers in Pago Pago, American Samoa now. Or visit others already engaged in Mission with Palms on our [13-day Encounter Tour to Timor-Leste from October 16<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>](#).



**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>

**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 10.30am 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.



Palms Australia

Bishops Fathers Day Appeal this 3/4 September

Next weekend, our parish is proud to support the Clergy Support Foundation's Bishop's Father's Day Appeal. Your gifts will support our 21 retired clergy and those who are in ill-health.

Your donations will enable our Clergy Health and Wellbeing team to provide our ageing clergy with the personal, professional, and practical care and guidance needed to transition to a dignified and well-deserved retirement. Ongoing assistance includes independent retirement living, aged care, or nursing home accommodation for frail priests; meals, transport and medical care as needed.

Please care for those who have cared for you and give generously via the giving envelopes which will be on the pews next weekend. Alternatively you can go to the following link [parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal](http://parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal) or use the attached QR code to make your donations direct by credit card.



National Child Protection Week 4-10 September 2022

Every Child in Every Community Needs a Fair Go. This week begins Child Protection Week across the country. During this week we are reminded that:

Children benefit when we bring people together to create connected communities. Children and young people thrive when they grow up safe, connected and supported in their family, community and culture. They have a right to grow up in environments that support them now and into their future. [From: <https://www.napcan.org.au/ncpw-theme/>] Our Parish life is known by its connectedness and by its shared beliefs and values to be Christ-like in all we do. At our very heart we want our Catholic Parish community to be inclusive and safe for all to come and worship and to share their baptismal gifts for the good of all – especially for our children and for adults who may be at risk. There are many things we can do to create a supportive Parish environment and show that we do give a fair go for all the children of our faith community!

As volunteers in Parish Ministry, have each of us completed our Mandatory Safeguarding Training? If you would like to complete the training independently clicking on this link: <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au> or email Maria Kervin, Community Engagement and Education Officer at: [maria.kervin@parracatholic.org](mailto:maria.kervin@parracatholic.org).



**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.

Independent Audit of Restorations, Repairs and Maintenance of St Francis Xavier's Church, Wentworth Falls. 18 August 2022

"I have reviewed all the \$50,490.00 costs of the above mentioned restorations, repairs and maintenance of the above named Parish Church. I am satisfied that the costs associated these restoration etc have been properly carried out in accordance with the requirements of the supplied bequest of \$50,000.00 plus an anonymous gift of \$490.00.

These costs incurred have been approved and authorised by the Finance Committee and where necessary for building maintenance plus audits directed by the Diocese.

I am of the opinion, that the repairs and maintenance so carried out are in accordance with the requirements of the Catholic Diocese of Parramatta (Property and Buildings Maintenance Audit Program) for the maintaining of buildings and constructions on Church properties... My review, as requested, has been performed independently of the Diocesan Audit Programs which occur each financial year..."

**22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME C**

**ENTRANCE** Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

**FIRST READING** (Ecclesiasticus 3:19-21,30-31 )  
My child, be gentle in carrying out your business, and you will be better loved than a lavish giver. The greater you are, the more you should behave humbly, and then you will find favour with the Lord; for great though the power of the Lord is, he accepts the homage of the humble. There is no cure for the proud person's malady, since an evil growth has taken root in them. The heart of a sensible person will reflect on parables, an attentive ear is the sage's dream.

**RESPONSE** God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

**SECOND READING** (Hebrews 12:18-19,22-24 )  
What you have come to is nothing known to the senses: not a blazing fire, or a gloom turning to total darkness, or a storm; or trumpeting thunder or the great voice speaking which made everyone that heard it beg that no more should be said to them. But what you have come to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem where the millions of angels have gathered for the festival, with the whole Church in which everyone is a 'first-born son' and a citizen of heaven. You have come to God himself, the supreme Judge, and been placed with spirits of the saints who have been made perfect; and to Jesus, the mediator who brings a new covenant and a blood for purification which pleads more insistently than Abel's.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Take my yoke upon you;  
learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart.  
Alleluia!

**GOSPEL** (Luke 14:1,7-14)

On a sabbath day Jesus had gone for a meal to the house of one of the leading Pharisees; and they watched him closely. He then told the guests a parable, because he had noticed how they picked the places of honour. He said this, 'When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take your seat in the place of honour. A more distinguished person than you may have been invited, and the person who invited you both may come and say, "Give up your place to this person." And then, to your embarrassment, you would have to go and take the lowest place. No; when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host comes, he may say, "My friend, move up higher." In that way, everyone with you at the table will see you honoured. For all who exalts themselves will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted.'

Then he said to his host, 'When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers and sisters, relations or rich neighbours, for fear they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No; when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.'

**COMMUNION**

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.  
Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.



**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: The Beheading of St. John the Baptist.  
SATE: St. Gregory the Great, Pope, Doctor.  
NEXT SUN: 23rd 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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**TR BROWNJOHN MEMORIAL HOME**  
...it's time we had a talk  
Thomas Brownjohn, Proprietor  
Phone (02) 4782 2613  
73A Lurline St, Katoomba 2780  
Also Springwood and Lithgow