



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)."



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

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

YEAR C | 11 September

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ.

The fifteenth chapter of St Luke contains three parables: The Lost Sheep, The Lost Coin and The Lost son

All three parables are really about the Love of God for the one that is lost...

- * the sheep that loses its way in the wilderness
- * the coin that hides from its owner, and
- * the son that falls prey to instant gratification born of selfishness

We can identify with these three for we, too, can lose our way; we can try to hide from the One who loves us; and we fall victim to selfish desires and a myopic viewpoint.

Yet it is God who rescues us always... The Lord is the Good Shepherd who brings us back to the one true fold, who sheds light on the hiding places of our hearts and reunites us with one another, and the Father who waits patiently with unconditional love for the return of the prodigal.

As we hear these familiar parables this Sunday, let us approach the Word of God with an open mind, ready to accept and embrace the Father's Love for us all.

This coming Thursday evening in St Canice's Church, the Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated for the young people of the three parishes of the Upper Mountains. We welcome one of our Vicars-General, Fr Chris de Souza, as celebrant.

And we continue to keep the candidates for Confirmation in our prayers.

Have a great week, my friends.

God Bless you all

Fr John



WHAT'S ON IN THE UPPER MOUNTAINS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY 11 September
20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

MONDAY 12 September
Mass 9:30am Katoomba

TUESDAY 13 September
Confession 4:45-5:00pm Leura
Mass 5:15pm Leura

WEDNESDAY 14 September
Mass 9:30am Wentworth Falls

THURSDAY 15 September
Mass 5.15pm Leura

FRIDAY 16 September
Mass 12pm Katoomba
Adoration, confession

SATURDAY 17 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: EVELYN RUSSELL, FR JAMES PAGE, EDNA SWEENEY, PATRICIA ETHEL O' HAL-LORAN, 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 Heining, 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 24th 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 16th to 28th](#).



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.



Palms Australia



SCAN ME

CHILD PROTECTION

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.

PARISH BULLETIN

For reasons of Covid safety, please take your bulletin home with you to read after Mass. Thank-you for your cooperation.

THE MOST HOLY NAME OF MARY

...a day on which the inexpressible love of the Mother of God for her Holy Child is recalled, and the eyes of the faithful are directed to the figure of the Mother of the Redeemer, for them to invoke with devotion (Roman Martyrology).

OUR LADY OF SORROWS

The Seven Sorrows (or Dolors) are events in the life of Mary that are a popular devotion and are frequently depicted in art. Traditionally, the Seven Sorrows are:



1. The Prophecy of Simeon (Luke 2:34-35).
2. The Flight into Egypt.
3. The Loss of the Child Jesus in the Temple.
4. The Meeting with Jesus on his way to Calvary.
5. The Crucifixion of Jesus.
6. The taking down of the Body of Jesus from the Cross.
7. The Burial of Jesus.

PRAYER VIGIL for CREATION via ZOOM Thursday 22 at 7:30pm

Pope Francis calls us all to celebrate this Season of Creation to “reaffirm our personal vocation to be stewards of creation, to thank God for the wonderful handiwork that he has entrusted to our care, and to implore his help for the protection of creation.” You are invited to join this prayer vigil via zoom for a time of gratitude, prayer, song and reflection. Have a gift of creation in front of you and a candle nearby to light at the beginning of the vigil. Join Zoom Meeting for Prayer Vigil <https://marists-org-au.zoom.us/j/68921501718?pwd=YTFsUEFaSDZucmhWM0JdUtmLzVZVz09>

Meeting ID: 689 2150 1718

Passcode: 662863

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 Most Holy Name of Mary.
TUE: St. John Chrysostom, Bishop, Doctor.
WED: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross.
THU: Our Lady of Sorrows.
FR: Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs.
SAT: St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop, Doctor.
NEXT SUN: 25th 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.

What Will Be Your Legacy of Faith, Hope and Charity?

During *Include A Charity Week*, we invite you – after providing for your loved ones



– to consider leaving a gift in your Will to our Parish, or a ministry in our Diocese. Legacy gifts advance Christian works of faith, hope and charity for future generations.

For information on remembering the

Church in your Will:

yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/giftsinWills

POETRY and PLATE

Saturday September 17 Church hall, 167 Wentworth Street Blackheath 2:00-3:30pm

Bring along one or two poems about NATURE and CREATION (they can be your own writing or others you love!) to read and share with the group. After the reading of each poem there is an opportunity to reflect, comment, delve or simply enjoy! Bring copies of poems as handouts if you like with the source acknowledged. Contributing a small plate of food for sharing for afternoon tea would be appreciated. Invite friends and neighbours to this lovely afternoon. *Connecting with CREATION through poetry.*

24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME C

ENTRANCE Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

FIRST READING (Exodus 32:7-11,13-14)

The Lord spoke to Moses, ‘Go down now, because your people whom you brought out of Egypt have apostatised. They have been quick to leave the way I marked out for them; they have made themselves a calf of molten metal and have worshipped it and offered it sacrifice. “Here is your God, Israel,” they have cried “who brought you up from the land of Egypt!”’ the Lord said to Moses, ‘I can see how headstrong these people are! Leave me, now, my wrath shall blaze out against them and devour them; of you, however, I will make a great nation.’

But Moses pleaded with the Lord his God. ‘Lord,’ he said ‘why should your wrath blaze out against this people of yours whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with arm outstretched and mighty hand? Remember Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, your servants to whom by your own self you swore and made this promise: “I will make your offspring as many as the stars of heaven, and all this land which I promised I will give to your descendants, and it shall be their heritage for ever.”’

So the Lord relented and did not bring on his people the disaster he had threatened.

RESPONSE I will rise and go to my father.

SECOND READING (1 Timothy 1:12-17)

I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, and who judged me faithful enough to call me into his service even though I used to be a blasphemer and did all I could to injure and discredit the faith. Mercy, however, was shown me, because until I became a believer I had been acting in ignorance; and the grace of our Lord filled me with faith and with the love that is in Christ Jesus. Here is a saying that you can rely on and nobody should doubt: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. I myself am the greatest of them; and if mercy has been shown to me, it is because Jesus Christ meant to make me the greatest evidence of his inexhaustible patience for all the other people who would later have to trust in him to come to eternal life. To the eternal King, the undying, invisible and only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. Alleluia!

GOSPEL (Luke 15:1-32)

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. ‘This man’ they said ‘welcomes sinners and eats with them.’ So he spoke this parable to them:

‘What man among you with a hundred sheep, losing one, would not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the missing one till he found it? And when he found it, would he not joyfully take it on his shoulders and then, when he got home, call together his friends and neighbours? “Rejoice with me,” he would say “I have found my

sheep that was lost.” In the same way, I tell you, there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one repentant sinner than over ninety-nine virtuous people who have no need of repentance.

‘Or again, what woman with ten drachmas would not, if she lost one, light a lamp and sweep out the house and search thoroughly till she found it? And then, when she had found it, call together her friends and neighbours? “Rejoice with me,” she would say “I have found the drachma I lost.” In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing among the angels of God over one repentant sinner.’

He also said, ‘A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, “Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me.” So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

‘When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, “How many of my father’s paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants.” So he left the place and went back to his father.

‘While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son.” But the father said to his servants, “Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found.” And they began to celebrate.

‘Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. “Your brother has come” replied the servant “and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound.” He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, “Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But, for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening.”

‘The father said, “My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it was only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.”’

COMMUNION

The chalice of blessing that we bless is a communion in the Blood of Christ; and the bread that we break is a sharing in the Body of the Lord.

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TR BROWNJOHN MEMORIAL HOME

...it's time we had a talk

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