



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)

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)."

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

YEAR C | 18 September

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

Today's parable from the Gospel of Luke has many difficult concepts, such that many biblical scholars and theologians find it problematic.

Nevertheless, I believe there are (at least) 3 points that deserve our reflection from the Word of God for this 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C):

1. As Catholic Christians we have a wholesome and integrated approach to the Christian Way of living. Not for us a strict Puritanism that divorces world and religion. We are not afraid to raise monies to further our Christian goals by means of raffles, fetes, house, etc. It is done so that the Gospel's Truth may reach all people. Nevertheless, our first priority is always the Lord!

2. We *must* use money to help bring about Justice and peace in our world. The Scriptures see the basic cause of all oppression and injustice in the world flowing from the greed of humanity. As the Prophet Amos declares: "Listen to this, you who trample on the needy and try to suppress the poor people of the country... The Lord swears it....'Never will I forget a single thing you have done'".

3. Finally, we cannot serve two masters. GOD IS OUR ONLY MASTER. We must always examine our intentions to see where our true goal resides: in the intention to follow Christian principles even at the risk of loss of money or of power; or the intention to follow the 'fast buck' or the 'road to power' even at the expense of our Christian Faith!

As the Lord reminds us: "You cannot be the slave both of God and of money".

In the coming week, let's reflect on the Word of God as it speaks to us today.

1. Congratulations to all who received the Sacrament of Confirmation last Thursday evening! And our heartfelt thanks to Mary Gale and Maureen Ryan for their great leadership of the Sacramental Programmes in the Upper Mountains parishes.

2. As next Thursday (22/9) is The National Day of Mourning for Queen Elizabeth II, Mass will be at St Canice's at 10am. It will be a Requiem Mass for Her Majesty.

3. We pray for Erin and Ben who will be married at St Joseph's, Megalong Valley, this coming Saturday.

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 18 September

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

MONDAY 19 September

Mass 9:30am Katoomba

TUESDAY 20 September

Confession 4:45-5:00pm Leura

Mass 5:15pm Leura

WEDNESDAY 21 September

Mass 9:30am Wentworth Falls

THURSDAY 22 September

Mass 5.15pm Leura

FRIDAY 23 September

Mass 12pm Katoomba

Adoration, confession

SATURDAY 24 September

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 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.

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 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 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

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 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](#).



Palms Australia

Advent/Christmas program.

There will be 2 groups available in our church for the Advent/Christmas program. If you are interested in joining please contact Barbara Davidson on 0417 490 103

CHILD PROTECTION / SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

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, click on this link: <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au> or email Maria Kervin, Community Engagement and Education Officer at: maria.kervin@parracatholic.org.

The Office for Safeguarding is offering a range of opportunities to complete your Safeguarding training in person this spring.

- Full-day week day training session on Monday 17 October from 9.30am to 2.30pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown.
- Weekly training sessions on Monday 24 and 31 October and Monday 7 November from 10am to 11.30am at St Andrew the Apostle Parish, Marayong.
- Full-day weekend training session on Saturday 29 October from 10am to 3pm at St Matthew's Parish, Windsor.

To register for one of these options, please email safeguardingtraining@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.

World Day of Migrants and Refugees - "Building the Future with Migrants and Refugees": 25 September

The Diocese of Parramatta's "Diocesan Journey... Walking with Refugees" Team invites you to a family friendly event on the World Day of Migrants and Refugees, Sunday 25 September in Blacktown. Mass will be celebrated at 2pm by Bishop Vincent Long at St Patrick's Church, Blacktown, followed by an afternoon of fun, food and fellowship at the All Saints of Africa Centre, 63 Allawah St, Blacktown. Please register at www.shorturl.at/ahxyZ or call 0476 873 519



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.

'Christianity is the world's most persecuted religion' Catholic outlook

For more information follow the link:

<https://catholicoutlook.org/christianity-is-the-worlds-most-persecuted-religion/>

2022-23 Social Justice Statement "Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse"

The Australian Catholic Bishops' Social Justice Statement for 2022-23 "Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse" invites us to engage with a complex and challenging social reality: domestic and family violence and abuse. The Australian Bishops call for all people to take part in the individual and social transformation needed so all people can live in safety. Download the statement at www.bit.ly/SJS22-23

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME C

ENTRANCE I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them and I will be their Lord forever.

FIRST READING (Amos 8:4-7)

Listen to this, you who trample on the needy and try to suppress the poor people of the country, you who say, 'When will New Moon be over so that we can sell our corn, and sabbath, so that we can market our wheat? Then by lowering the bushel, raising the shekel, by swindling and tampering with the scales, we can buy up the poor for money, and the needy for a pair of sandals, and get a price even for the sweepings of the wheat.'

The Lord swears it by the pride of Jacob, 'Never will I forget a single thing you have done.'

RESPONSE Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.

SECOND READING (1 Timothy 2:1-18)

My advice is that, first of all, there should be prayers offered for everyone – petitions, intercessions and thanksgiving – and especially for kings and others in authority, so that we may be able to live religious and reverent lives in peace and quiet. To do this is right, and will please God our saviour: he wants everyone to be saved and reach full knowledge of the truth. For there is only one God, and there is only one mediator between God and humankind, himself a man, Christ Jesus, who sacrificed himself as a ransom for them all. He is the evidence of this, sent at the appointed time, and I have been named a herald and apostle of it and – I am telling the truth and no lie – a teacher of the faith and the truth to the pagans.

In every place, then, I want the people to lift their hands up reverently in prayer, with no anger or argument.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor, to make you rich out of his poverty. Alleluia!

GOSPEL (Luke 16:1-13)

Jesus said to his disciples:

'There was a rich man and he had a steward denounced to him for being wasteful with his property. He called for the man and said, "What is this I hear about you? Draw me up an account of your stewardship because you are not to be my steward any longer." Then the steward said to himself, "Now that my master is taking the stewardship from me, what am I to do? Dig? I am not strong enough. Go begging? I should be too ashamed. Ah, I know what I will do to make sure that when I am dismissed from office there will be some to welcome me into their homes."

Then he called his master's debtors one by one. To the first he said, "How much do you owe my master?" "One hundred measures of oil" was the reply. The steward said, "Here, take your bond; sit down straight away and write fifty." To another he said, "And you, sir, how much do you owe?" "One hundred measures of wheat" was the reply. The steward said, "Here, take your bond and write eighty."

'The master praised the dishonest steward for his astuteness. For the children of this world are more astute in dealing with their own kind than are the children of light.

'And so I tell you this: use money, tainted as it is, to win you friends, and thus make sure that when it fails you, they will welcome you into the tents of eternity. The one who can be trusted in little things can be trusted in great; the man who is dishonest in little things will be dishonest in great. If then you cannot be trusted with money, that tainted thing, who will trust you with genuine riches? And if you cannot be trusted with what is not yours, who will give you what is your very own?

'No servant can be the slave of two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second, or treat the first with respect and the second with scorn. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money.'

COMMUNION

You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept, may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

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. Januarius, Bishop, Martyr.
TUE: Sts. Andrew Kim Taegon, Priest, and Paul Chong Hassang, and their Companions, Martyrs.
WED: St. Matthew, Apostle.
FR: St. Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio).
SAT: BVM.
NEXT SUN: 26th 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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...it's time we had a talk

Thomas Brownjohn
Proprietor

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73A Lurline St. Katoomba 2780
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