



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/](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

Blackheath 9.15 am

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

FRI: 4.00pm Megalong(3rd Fri of the month)

SAT: 9am Katoomba

SAT: 6.00pm Mt Victoria

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)."

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

YEAR A 5 February

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

In being salt to the earth, light to the world - disciples of Jesus are fulfilling the image
of the upright person in today's First Reading (from the Prophet Isaiah).

We are salt / light in the very actions of caring for the poor and oppressed, in
'sharing our bread with the hungry, sheltering the homeless poor, clothing the one
who is naked...'

Thus, true Discipleship is not just about preaching the Good News in words, but it's
about LIVING THE GOSPEL.

And finally, all that we do and say must be for GOD'S glory, and not for our own
glory.

"In the same way your light must shine in the sight of all, so that, seeing your good
works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven".

I'm hoping after Easter to offer an Introduction to the Bible program over a number
of evenings. COVID prevented me organising this until now, but I am looking forward
to starting an adult learning program in the church communities of the upper
Mountains.

Furthermore, I am in the process of organising 3 'retreat' days during 2023, probably
on a Saturday. This will offer different aspects of our church's wide range of spiritual
traditions.

As the next few weeks unfold we will be organising a new roster for liturgical
ministries.

If you have not already done so, please email me your preferences for masses.

God Bless

Fr John

To share in Fr Bob Sheridan's 90th Birthday Lunch

Where: Blackheath Golf Club

When: Sunday 19th March

Time: 12pm

Cost: \$30 p.p.

If you would like to pay direct you will just need to put your name in the reference
section of you banking.

Bank details: BSB 067-950 Account No. 00000230

If you choose to pay cash the final date for payment and numbers is 12th March
for catering purposes.

If you need any further information, please contact:

Marilyn Rowe 0414536601 marilynrowe@optusnet.com.au

Diane Stewart 0401269956 mdstewart21@bigpond.com



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



WHAT'S ON IN THE UPPER MOUNTAINS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY 5 Feb

5th Sunday of the Year A

MONDAY 6 Feb

Mass 9:30am Katoomba

TUESDAY 7 Feb

Confession 4:45-5:00pm Leura

Mass 5:15pm Leura

WEDNESDAY 8 Feb

Mass 9.30am Wentworth Falls

6.30 pm Blackheath

THURSDAY 9 Feb

Mass 5.15pm Leura (No Mass)

FRIDAY 10 Feb

Mass 12pm Katoomba

Confession after Mass

SATURDAY 11 Feb

Mass 9am Katoomba

Confession 9:30am Katoomba

Confession 4:30-4:45pm Leura

SUNDAY 12 Feb

6th Sunday Of the Year A



COUNTERS REQUIRED to count the weekly Sunday parish collections. Fortnightly roster.

Day/time negotiable. Training provided.

Please contact Fr John

john.mcsweeney@parracatholic.org or

alternatively call parish office: 4782

2804 to volunteer.

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>

PARISH B-



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

"The purpose of a holy hour is to encourage a deep personal encounter with Christ. The holy and glorious God is constantly inviting us to come to Him, to converse with Him, to ask for such things as we need and to experience what a blessing there is in fellowship with Him (Ven. Fulton Sheen)."



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.

SAINT SCHOLASTICA:

Saint Scholastica was the twin sister of Saint Benedict. Benedict studied in Rome but then decided to devote all of his life to the search for God. He organised several community dwellings and finally established a very important monastery at Monte Cassino. Then Scholastica helped her brother found a community of religious women about five miles south of his monastery. Scholastica and Benedict visited together only once a year. They would spend the day praying and speaking of God and the spiritual life.

When Benedict said he had to return to the monastery, Scholastica begged him to stay and talk awhile longer. Benedict refused, saying that his rule required that the monks be in their monastery at night. Heartbroken, Scholastica folded her hands, put her head on the table, and quietly wept and prayed. As she prayed, a storm began, so terrible that no one could venture out. "What have you done?" Benedict exclaimed to his sister. She explained that since he had refused the favour she had asked, she had turned to God instead, and God granted it. Benedict and Scholastica continued their conversation and prayer until morning.

Three days later, Scholastica died. The brother and sister had enjoyed their final conversation. Benedict had her buried in the tomb he had built for himself. St. Gregory the Great said of Scholastica, "She could do more because she loved more."

DIOCESAN WORLD DAY OF THE SICK MASS: 11 FEBRUARY

A Mass for the World Day of the Sick, including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, will be held at 11am on Saturday 11 February 2023 at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. All are welcome, including those who may be sick, and those who care for the sick and dying and health care professionals. RSVPs are required by 6 February to hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org

KATOOMBA ADORATION CHAPEL: Perpetual Eucharistic adoration is our response to Jesus' love for us. God loves you and when you adore the Lord, He grants many special blessings of His goodness, grace, love and mercy. We would like to increase Eucharistic adoration at our parish. At least one adorer needs to be scheduled and present for every hour. An Adoration Invitation Sign-Up will take place at all the weekend Masses on FEBRUARY 11/12 or alternatively please call Catherine on 0420337033 to register your details. Please sign-up for a weekly holy hour with Jesus.

BUILDING SAFE PARISHES TOGETHER: An Update from the Office for Safeguarding. New Year's Dash: Face-to-Face Safeguarding Training Opportunities to Kick Off the New Year! Have you had a chance to complete your Safeguarding Training yet? April 2023 will mark the first two years of our Mandatory Safeguarding Training Program. This year over 700 people across the Diocese have completed their training in face-to-face sessions. For those who are yet to complete their initial Mandatory Safeguarding Modules, we are offering a 'New Year's Dash' Package of Training Opportunities in readiness for ministry in 2023. Contact the Parish Office to find locations, days of the week and times of Training Packages that best suit you. You can register for these by emailing: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org Of course, you are still most welcome to 'sign up' to our online Safeguarding Training Platform at: <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au>

GARAGE SALE This weekend Sacred Heart Parish

Sat 4th & Sun 5th February in the parish hall. Please come and support our church and our Social Committee

Sat 8.00am - 4.00 pm

Sun 9.00 am - 1.00 pm



RECENTLY DECEASED :

MASS OFFERING INTENTIONS: DECEASED and ANNIVERSARIES: MARK GLASHEEN, MIKE NOLAN, EILEEN NOLAN, EVELYN RUSSELL, and all the faithful departed especially those for whom you requested prayers and masses AND THE FORGOTTEN SOULS IN PURGATORY.

SICK LIST: Margaret Aboud, Patricia Walters, Michael Josephs, Libby Harrison (Mary's daughter) Gerard Wolthers, Judy Skipper, Millie Robinson, Maureen O'Halloran, Eleanor Russell, Andrzej Krawczyk, Eleanor Hagor, 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

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 6 Saints Paul Miki and his Companions, Martyrs

Wed 8 Saint Jerome Emilian
Saint Josephine Bakhita, Virgin

Fri 10 Saint Scholastica, Virgin

Sat 11 Our Lady of Lourdes

NEXT SUNDAY: 6TH 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.

GOSPEL OF SAINT MATTHEW: You are invited to join Dr Laurie Woods, spiritual writer and Scripture scholar, for an interactive exploration of: Living the Spirituality of Matthew's Gospel in 2023. Saturday 25th February, 9am-12.30pm Parish Hall, Emu Plains. RSVP 18 February to Jim Potts 0421 125 722.

Sr Nathalie Becquart Sydney Public Forum and Lecture: Sr Nathalie Becquart XMCJ, the Vatican's most influential female, is coming to Australia for a whirlwind tour in February 2023. Sr Nathalie will be in Sydney on Friday 3 February, presenting at a public forum at 4pm and a public lecture at 7pm, both held at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Places are limited, so please register via <https://parracatholic.org/srnathalie/>


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

homecare@buckland-rv.com.au
39 Hawkesbury Rd | SPRINGWOOD | (02)4752 2500


Furnishing environments that inspire Creativity, Learning and Work in the Education, Library, Museum, Health and Corporate sectors.

Contact: 1300 300 369
info@abaxkf.com.au
www.abaxkf.com.au


TR BROWNJOHN
MEMORIAL HOME


Thomas Brownjohn
Proprietor

...it's time we had a talk

Phone (02) 4782 2613
73A Lurline St. Katoomba 2780
Also Springwood and Lithgow

5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME A

ENTRANCE O come, let us worship God
and bow low before the God who made us,
for he is the Lord our God.

FIRST READING (Isaiah 58:7-10)

Thus says the Lord:

Share your bread with the hungry,
and shelter the homeless poor,
clothe the one you see to be naked
and do not turn from your own kin.
Then will your light shine like the dawn
and your wound be quickly healed over.
Your integrity will go before you
and the glory of the Lord behind you.
Cry, and the Lord will answer;
call, and he will say, 'I am here.'
If you do away with the yoke,
the clenched fist, the wicked word,
if you give your bread to the hungry,
and relief to the oppressed,
your light will rise in the darkness,
and your shadows become like noon.

RESPONSE A light rises in the darkness for the up-
right.

SECOND READING (1 Corinthians 2:1-5)

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the light of the world, says the Lord; the one who follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia!

GOSPEL (Matthew 5:13-16)

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by all.

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of all, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'



COMMUNION

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be consoled. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall have their fill.