



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

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)."

2nd Sunday of Lent

YEAR A - 5 March 2023

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

Today the Lord is calling us to LISTEN to what He is saying to us in the
ordinary events of life; to see the miracle in the everyday.

Abraham listened to God - and he left his country, family, friends, to found
a new nation, the people of Israel.

Paul listened to Jesus - and he left Judaism in order to follow the promptings
of the Spirit, becoming the first great missionary of Christianity.

The Disciples on the mountain listened to God - and they witnessed the real
Transfiguration and not just the vision, when they experienced the
transformation from death to life in the Resurrection of Jesus on that first
Easter morning.

And we are being called to LISTEN to Christ!

Let's endeavour to hear the Word of God, and take to heart the message
contained in the Good News, putting the Gospel into action in our daily
lives; and we too will experience that transformation from death to life over
and over again during our journey on this earth!

My friends

It is with a heavy heart that I must announce that Fr Abraham will be
leaving us to take up an appointment in Winston Hills Parish from 17 April;
his last weekend with us will therefore be the 15-16 April. After 9:15am
Mass on 16/4 there will be a Farewell morning tea at Blackheath for him;
and we will continue with a Farewell morning tea after the 10:30am Mass at
Katoomba.

Let's keep him in our prayers at this time of change for him.

I will announce Father's replacement next week, after he has informed his
present parish of this change this weekend.

UBM Parish Finance Committee meeting after 10:30am Mass this Sunday.

Deanery Pastoral Council next Saturday morning at Lawson.

Bishop Vincent will celebrate 9:15am mass next Sunday at Sacred Heart
church.

Let's continue to embrace our Lenten preparation for Easter once again this
week!

God Bless

Fr John



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



WHAT'S ON IN THE UPPER MOUNTAINS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY 5 March

MONDAY 6 March

Mass 9:30am Katoomba

TUESDAY 7 March

Confession 4:45-5:00pm Leura

Mass 5:15pm Leura

WEDNESDAY 8 March

Mass 9.30am Wentworth Falls

6.30 pm Blackheath

THURSDAY 9 March

Mass 5.15pm Leura

FRIDAY 10 March

Mass 12pm Katoomba

Confession after Mass

SATURDAY 11 March

Mass 9am Katoomba

Confession 9:30am Katoomba

Confession 4:30-4:45pm Leura

SUNDAY 12 March

3rd Sunday of Lent Year A

LENTEN GROUP TUESDAYS

Lenten program is running
through lent every Tuesday at 9
am Leura Catholic Church

LENTEN GROUP WEDNESDAYS

Morning group 10.30am and
Evening group 7.00pm. Location:
3 Easter Street Leura. Groups
facilitator: Barbara Davidson.
Please contact Barbara for more
information. 0417490103

RECENTLY DECEASED :

MASS OFFERING INTENTIONS: DECEASED and ANNIVERSARIES: GRAHAM WILSON LAW ,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, Gerard Wolthers, Judy Skipper, Millie Robinson, Maureen
O'Halloran, Eleanor Russell, Andrzej Krawczyk, Eleanor Hagar, Mary Sullivan, Kathleen Hayes-Gilson, Evelyn Maw, Wanda Heffernan, Mary
Roberts, Jacqueline 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

MESSAGE FROM AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED AUSTRALIA:

ACN is the Pontifical Foundation dedicated to supporting the suffering
and persecuted Church. Aid to the Church in Need is still supporting the Catholic Church in Ukraine in its com-
mitment to stay on the ground and keep serving its flock in the face of material and economic war. ACN is help-
ing priests and religious, who are working across the country in parishes, with refugees, in orphanages and
homes for the elderly. The main cities where we are sending immediate help are Kyiv, Zaporizhya, Odessa and
the region of Donetsk. We are doing everything we can to assist our Ukrainian brothers and sisters to be
strengthened in their faith so that they may continue to be a light in Ukraine. ACN needs your help to continue
this mission. To make an offering and learn more visit <https://aidtochurch.org/ukraine> or scan the Qr code.



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/UCHtj55rsvGDQqCDN7mldnQ>.



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.



Project Compassion

Tereesa is a Gamilaroi woman from Western Sydney who struggled with homelessness while raising her four children. Through the Baabayn Young Mums and Bubs Group, Tereesa was able to reconnect with her culture and create a better future for her children.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2023

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations**.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413.



GLENBROOK CHRISTIANS ECUMENICAL MEAL SHARING: FROM 5 MARCH

St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook, invite you to their ecumenical neighbours sharing soup and bread for Lent gatherings with their Baptist and Uniting Church neighbours. Join them for a meal and chat on Sunday 5 March at St Finbar's, Sunday 19 March at Glenbrook Baptist and 2 April at St Andrew's Uniting Church. Donations raised will go to the Blue Mountains Refugee Support Group.

LAUNCHING CHILDREN'S LITURGY

In partnership with St Canice School our parish is launching Children's Liturgy! And we need your help!

Time: During the 10:30am Sunday mass

Place: St Canice Katoomba, Children to leave from the church hall and activities run in the parish hall

Launching: Sunday the 12th of March

What: We will share the mass readings, gospel reflections and Children activities with material approved by the diocese

Registration: None required, but a roll will be taken

Organiser: Jeremy Brown.

Who? We need you! Law requires that Children's liturgy must have two volunteers. If you wish to cater for young families and enjoy sharing the gospel Children please call Jeremy on 0428 174 999. Training and support provided.

MINI RETREAT AT ST PATRICK'S CHURCH, LITHGOW SAT 18TH MARCH 9AM—4PM

TOPIC: ADORING GOD WITH MARY.

An interactive retreat drawings on Scripture, Sacred art, music. and the writings of priests, religious, scholars and saints, we explore how to love Jesus with the heart of Mary and in return to love Mary with the Heart of Jesus. Enquiries to Marie Morrison 0417150240



ST. CANICE'S

SCHOOL NEWS:

St Canice's Open Day 8th March 2023
From: 9.30am—11.30am. For More information pls call 02 47826800

Easter Raffle

PARISH FUNDRAISING: "Easter hamper raffle". Anyone who wants to donate any suitable Easter items towards the raffle please ring Barbra 0417490103

MORNING TEA INVITATION

All parishioners are warmly invited to attend MORNING TEA after the 10.30 Mass this Sunday 5th March in the hall at Katoomba. Should you wish to contribute a small item of food to share it would be greatly appreciated

24 HOUR FOR THE LORD EVENT AT SCHOENSTATT, MULGOA

Come and spend some time with Our Lord and Our Lady in the Schoenstatt Shrine: Friday 17 March 6pm Mass, then Reconciliation 7:15 – 10.00pm. On Saturday Reconciliation 10am-12pm, and 3-4.45pm with a Vigil Mass at 5pm. The Shrine will be welcoming people for prayer for the full 24 Hours. Groups to lead prayer are welcome. Contact paulandramani@gmail.com

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT A

ENTRANCE Of you my heart has spoken. Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

FIRST READING (Genesis 12:1-14)

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing.

'I will bless those who bless you:

I will curse those who slight you.

All the tribes of the earth shall bless themselves by you.'

So Abram went as the Lord told him.

RESPONSE Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you..

SECOND READING (2 Timothy 1:8-10)

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL (Matthew 17:1-9)

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured: his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order, 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'



COMMUNION

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

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

Tue 7 Saints Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs

Wed 8 Saint John of God, Religious

Thu 9 Frances of Rome, Religious

NEXT SUNDAY: 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

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.



ENROL NOW www.stcaniceskatoomba.catholic.edu.au

ABAX KINGFISHER
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
...it's time we had a talk
Thomas Brownjohn, Proprietor
Phone (02) 4782 2613
73A Lurline St. Katoomba 2780
Also Springwood and Lithgow