



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)."

2nd Sunday of Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday

YEAR A - 16 April 2023

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

The common thread in today's readings is faith.

In the first reading we encounter a utopian society built on faith. Liberated from fear of not having financial security, being cheated by others and the existential threat of loss of identity. Their identity was being the children of God, better than money in the bank according to the second reading.

What is faith?

Is it believing that God exists?

No, that's not it. Satan not only believes God exists; he knows it, but it's not doing him any good.

He trusts in himself and his agendas, agendas twisted by billions wrong decisions.

Faith is trusting in God. Christ points out to Thomas the holes in his hands and feet. The hole in His side. These are the signs that God can be trusted. Look at what He has endured to set us free. Free from our twisted agendas which are the manifestations of our own psychological issues brought about by our own wrong decisions and those of others.

Being Divine Mercy Sunday, it's very important to point out how Christ sets us free. It's through the Holy Spirit. Look at the Gospel reading. It's the Holy Spirit which Christ imparts that gives the power to forgive sin. But God's mercy is much, much more than just forgetting what we've done wrong. It's the gift of the Holy Spirit which comes to heal our minds and souls, our psyche. God's mercy is healing and he's longing to impart it to us. It comes through the Holy Spirit, that's why the Sacrament of Reconciliation can only be administered by a Priest, because only a Priest can evoke the Holy Spirit. It is only through this healing that we will be able to really turn to God, to stop making so many wrong decisions and live in the freedom of the children of God.

May God bless you all.

Deacon Alan.

Notices

Next weekend we welcome Fr Peter Lamont to our two parishes in the upper Mountains.

There will be a Liturgy of the word with communion on Tuesday 18/4 at 5.15 pm, in place of Mass. Obviously no confessions beforehand.

There will be a Funeral Mass for Lloyd Stoermer on We 19/4 at 1.00 pm in St. Canice's church. As a result, there will be NO MASS AT Wentworth Falls that morning.



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



WHAT'S ON IN THE UPPER MOUNTAINS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY 16 April

Divine Mercy devotions from 3pm at Leura.

MONDAY 17 April

Mass 9:30am Katoomba

TUESDAY 18 April

Liturgy of the word 5:15pm Leura

WEDNESDAY 19 April

Funeral Mass 1.00pm Katoomba

THURSDAY 20 April

Mass 5:15pm Leura

FRIDAY 21 April

Mass 12pm Katoomba

SATURDAY 22 April

Mass 9:00am Katoomba

SUNDAY 23 April

3rd Sunday of Easter

Easter Raffle

The Raffle drawn this weekend
16 April at Fr Abraham's farewell

ANZAC DAY MASS TUESDAY 25 APRIL

9.30am Katoomba

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.

ST. ANSELM As a young boy in Aosta, Italy, Anselm thought of being a priest. His father, angered by this desire, introduced his son to court life. Anselm forgot about his vocation. But in 1060, Anselm learned of Lanfranc, the leader of monasticism in Normandy, France. Anselm entered Lanfranc's monastery at Bec. Three years later, Anselm became a prior, or head, and began to publish his writings on the existence of God. Anselm was unanimously elected abbot in 1070, when Lanfranc was made bishop of Canterbury, England. When Lanfranc died in 1089, the English clergy wanted Anselm as their bishop. But Rufus, the son of William the Conqueror, would not approve. For four years, there was no bishop of Canterbury. Then, Rufus suddenly became mortally ill. In fear of hell, Rufus appointed Anselm archbishop of Canterbury.

Rufus recovered and fell into his former sins: taking Church lands and attempting to appoint his own bishops. Frightened over conflict between the archbishop and the king, the bishops and priests abandoned Anselm. The king then exiled him. In exile, Anselm wrote treatises and took part in the Council of Bari (1098). After the death of Rufus, Anselm returned to England. Henry I, brother of Rufus, was then the king. Like his brother, Henry wanted to appoint bishops. Anselm refused to accept his appointment from the king. Again Anselm was exiled to Rome. Pope Paschal worked out a compromise between the king and the bishop.

Until his death in 1109, Anselm remained in England, defending the faith. Through Anselm's efforts, the National Council at Westminster (1102) passed a law prohibiting the sale of people. Canterbury came to be recognized as the major see in England. In 1720, Anselm was given the title Doctor of the Church and Father of Scholasticism because he analysed and taught the truths of the faith by the aid of reason.



Project Compassion .

Caritas Australia would like to **THANK YOU** for supporting Project Compassion 2023. If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back or visit caritas.org.au/project-compassion and donate online.

Invitation to Register for CPR Training

You are invited to register for this accredited CPR Course being offered by Surf Life Saving NSW as part of a project being offered by The University of Sydney, Westmead Applied Research Centre.

The course runs for 2.5 hours and will be presented at two locations across the Diocese. St Thomas Aquinas Springwood on Saturday 13th May beginning at 10am, or Bishop Bede Heather Centre Blacktown on Monday 5th June at 4pm.

To register for the venue of your choice. <https://redcap.sydney.edu.au/surveys/?s=CA84KKR7PLE83WNE> or <https://redcap.sydney.edu.au/surveys/?s=FHMCM4L3H93T79YR>

MISSION: ONE HEART, MANY VOICES CONFERENCE: 3-5 MAY

Catholic Mission and Catholic Religious Australia (CRA) invite you to save the date for the sixth biennial national Mission Conference. Three days of professional and personal development focused on mission.

Date: Wednesday 3 May to Friday 5 May 2023.

Venue: SMC Conference & Function Centre, 66 Goulburn St, Sydney.

For more information, visit www.mohmv.com.au.

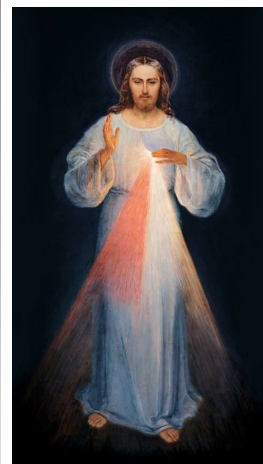
FAITH IN MARRIAGE SEMINAR: 19 MAY

The annual Diocesan Faith in Marriage Seminar returns in 2023 with Chris Padgett, American Speaker, Musician, Author and Professor of Theology. This free event will be held on Friday 19 May at 7:30pm at St Paul the Apostle Church, 40 Buckleys Road, Winston Hills. Please register at marriage@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.



DIVINE
MERCY
SUNDAY
16th April
at Leura.
Come
celebrate
this great
Feast Day.
Starting at
3.00pm.

RECENTLY DECEASED : LLOYD STOERMER, FRED PATEMAN

MASS OFFERING INTENTIONS: DECEASED and ANNIVERSARIES: STEPHANNIE MURPHY, GRAHAM WILSON LAW ,JOAN 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, 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

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

FRI 21 St. Anselm of Canterbury, Bishop, Doctor

NEXT SUNDAY 23 THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

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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SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR A

ENTRANCE Receive the joy of your glory,
giving thanks to God,
who has called you into the heavenly kingdom,
alleluia.

FIRST READING (Acts 2:42-47)

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the fellowship to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.

The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone.

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.

They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

RESPONSE Give thanks to the Lord for he is good;
his love is everlasting.

SECOND READING (1 Peter 1:3-9)

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his children, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.
I saw Christ's glory as he rose!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; Blessed are those who have not seen me, but still believe! Alleluia!

GOSPEL (John 20:19-31)

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.
For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;
for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.
Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

COMMUNION

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails,
and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.