



ST. MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP PARISH UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS

PARISH CONTACTS

Fr. John McSweeney (Parish Priest)
Fr. Peter Lamont (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)
Parish YouTube: [youtube.com/@UpperBlueMountainsCatholic](https://www.youtube.com/@UpperBlueMountainsCatholic)

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)
Mt Victoria 5pm (Saturday)
Wentworth Falls 8am
Blackheath 9:30 am
Katoomba 10am
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: 4pm Megalong (3rd Fri of the month)
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)."

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

YEAR A - 25 June 2023

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

The sayings of Jesus in today's Gospel are an encouragement for all Christians who may suffer ridicule and/or persecution for being public in their belief and Christian praxis.

Matthew's Church was increasingly becoming a separate organisation from the mother-religion of Judaism. And the Christians in Matthew's church were experiencing ridicule / hatred / even outright physical abuse and persecution... because of their faithfulness to the Lord and His Gospel.

So it was natural that remembered sayings of Jesus would be collected on this issue:

proclaiming in the light (the public sphere) what they had been taught

not being afraid of persecution of the body, but of those who can corrupt one's faith

not needing to be afraid, because God is looking after us, just God cares for Creation (symbolised by the sparrows)

proclaiming one's faith in the sight of all, so that the Son of Man will proclaim our worthiness in the heavenly sphere.

And sayings such as these offer us Hope and Strength:

Hope that God does not abandon His chosen ones, but vindicates them (as Jeremiah was vindicated by God for his Proclamation of God's Word to Israel - as seen in our First Reading); and

Strength that, through God's Grace, we will be enabled to continue walking in the Way of Christ (and not backslide or sin - as Paul reminded us in the Second Reading, that we have been rescued from the Sin of Adam by Christ's Victory, and we need to be obedient to the Father's Will, as Christ was).

Let's reflect on the Word of the Lord offered to us today, and ask for the grace to be Public Christians; and to do whatever it takes to renew our faithfulness to the Lord Jesus Christ!

1. Next Saturday (1/7) from 3-4:30pm in St Bonaventure's, Leura, we will commence the first of 5 sessions on the Gospel of Matthew. All welcome. Bring a Bible!

2. From Monday 3/7, all weekday masses except Friday (which remains in Katoomba at 12 midday) will be at 9am: Mondays in Katoomba, Tuesdays in Leura, Wednesdays in Blackheath, Thursdays in Wentworth Falls, and Saturday mornings in Katoomba.

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

12th Sunday Ordinary Time 25 June

Mass 8am Wentworth Falls
Mass 9.30am Blackheath
Mass 10.00am Katoomba
Mass 5pm Leura

MONDAY 26 June

Mass 9.30am Katoomba

TUESDAY 27 June

Mass 5.15 Leura

WEDNESDAY 28 June

Mass 9.30 am Wentworth Falls

THURSDAY 29 June

Mass 5:15pm Leura

FRIDAY 30 June

Mass 12pm Katoomba

SATURDAY 1 July

Mass 9:00am Katoomba
Bible Course, Leura 3-4:30pm
Mass Sunday Vigil 5pm Leura

13th Sunday Ordinary Time 2 July

Mass 8am Wentworth Falls
Mass 9.30am Blackheath
Mass 10.00am Katoomba
Mass 5pm Leura

1ST CONFESSION POSTPONED.

Due to unforeseen circumstances First reconciliations has been postponed to 9 August. Confirmation sessions will now start on 28 June.

For further information please contact the parish office 4782 2804 or email bluemountains@parracatholic.org

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 10.00am 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.

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES FROM 3RD JULY

After discussions with members of the Parish Councils of both parishes of which I am Parish Priest, as well as with a number of other frequent weekday mass goers, it has been decided that the weekday times and places will be as follows from Monday 3rd July: Monday-Thursday & Saturday... 9am; Friday... Midday.

Mondays: St Canice's, Katoomba — 9.00am

Tuesdays: St Bonaventure's, Leura — 9.00am

Wednesdays: Sacred Heart, Blackheath — 9.00am

Thursdays: St Francis Xavier's, Wentworth Falls — 9.00am

Fridays: St Canice's, Katoomba — Midday

Saturdays: St Canice's, Katoomba — 9.00am

Although this will impact on some, it is hoped that this will be easier for most.

It will be in place for a 6 months trial period, after which feedback will be welcomed.

God Bless you all. Fr John

SAVE CALVARY HOSPITAL

There is a petition to the Members of the ACT Legislative Assembly to reverse a decision of the ACT government to compulsorily acquire Calvary Hospital in Canberra. This removes the ownership and management from Calvary Health Care – a Catholic operator – and gives the ownership to the government-run, non-faith-based Canberra Health Services instead. To find out more about the implications of this decision and to sign the petition please visit: www.savecalvary.com.au

SYNOD: LISTENING CONSULTATION

We are invited to engage in local gatherings, small and large also and can submit our own individual submission. <https://parracatholic.org/synod2023>

MAGI PILGRIMAGES

Fr. Brendan Murphy from Our lady of Rosary Parish, St Mary's would like to invite you for an 18-day pilgrimage, departing on 9th October 2023. This pilgrimage features Avila, Fatima, Santiago, Oviedo, Turin, Assisi, Rotondo and Rome for an all-inclusive price of \$8940. The fare includes Return Economy Airfares + Local Transfers in Deluxe coaches + Stay in Premium Hotels + All Breakfasts & Dinners + Catholic Priest + English speaking professional guides. For enquiries & bookings call 03 8839 6615 or 1300 721 561 or email us pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au.

THE DIOCESAN LITURGY CONFERENCE IS ON AGAIN IN 2023!

Save the date for Saturday 15 July at St Andrew the Apostle Parish, Marayong. Fr Peter Williams AM VG will be the Keynote speaker as we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Constitution on Sacred Liturgy. The conference will include a variety of workshops such as nourishing faith in children and discovering sacred art. To register, please visit www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1041495, scan the QR code or contact hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org



ST. CANICE'S SCHOOL NEWS:

For enrolments and enquiries please contact school office 02 4780 6800

ST AUGUSTINE: Not only had he said: "Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul." He had also left them his own example.

The precept he had enjoined on them he personally carried out, without attempting to evade the hands of those who scourged him, the blows of those who struck him, or the spittle of those who spat on him. Neither the crown of thorns pressed into his head nor the cross to which the soldiers nailed him encountered any resistance from him. None of these torments did he try to avoid.

Though he himself was under no obligation to suffer them, he endured them for those who were, making his own person a remedy for the sick. And so the martyrs suffered, but they would certainly have failed the test without the presence of him who said: "Know that I am with you always, until the end of time."

12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

ENTRANCE The Lord is the strength of his people, a saving refuge for the one he has anointed. Save your people, Lord, and bless you heritage and govern them for ever.

FIRST READING (Jeremiah 20:10-13)

Jeremiah said:
I hear so many disparaging me,
"Terror from every side!"
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!
All those who used to be my friends
watched for my downfall,
'Perhaps he will be seduced into error.
Then we will master him
and take our revenge!
But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero;
my opponents will stumble, mastered,
confounded by their failure;
everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be theirs.
But you, O Lord of Hosts, you who probe with
justice,
who scrutinise the loins and heart,
let me see the vengeance you will take on them,
for I have committed my cause to you.
Sing to the Lord,
praise the Lord,
for he has delivered the soul of the needy
from the hands of evil men.

RESPONSE Lord, in your great love, answer me.

SECOND READING (Romans 5:12-15)

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
The Spirit of truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord, and you also will be my witnesses.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL (Matthew 10:26-33)

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the housetops.

'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.

'So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.'

RECENTLY DECEASED: HAZEL SCULLY, KEN DAVIDSON, BRIAN MCGUIGAN

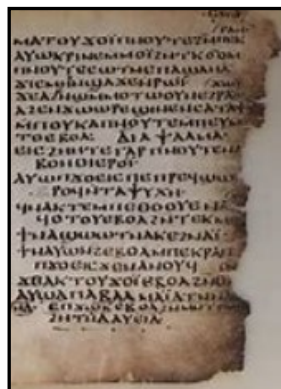
MASS OFFERING INTENTIONS: DECEASED and ANNIVERSARIES: BERNARD & HAZEL GLASHEEN, STEPHANNIE MURPHY, GRAHAM WILSON LAW, JOAN NOLAN, EVELYN RUSSELL, and all the faithful departed especially those for whom you requested prayers and masses AND THE FORGOTTEN SOULS IN PURGATORY.

SICK LIST: Aniline Crisostomo, Abbey De Guzman, John Brell, Margaret Aboud, Patricia Walters, Michael Josephs, Gerard Wolthers, Judy Skipper, Millie Robinson, Maureen O'Halloran, Eleanor Russell, Andrzej Krawczyk, Eleanor Hagar, Mary Sullivan, Kathleen Hayes-Gilson, Evelyn Maw, 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, Tricia Hogan, Shiela Page, Sr Jeanie Heiningher, 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
Tue 27 St Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop, Doctor
Wed 28 St Irenaeus, Bishop, Doctor, Martyr
Thu 29 STS PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES Solemnity
Fri 30 The First Martyrs of the See of Rome
Sat 1 Blessed Virgin Mary
NEXT SUNDAY: 13 SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

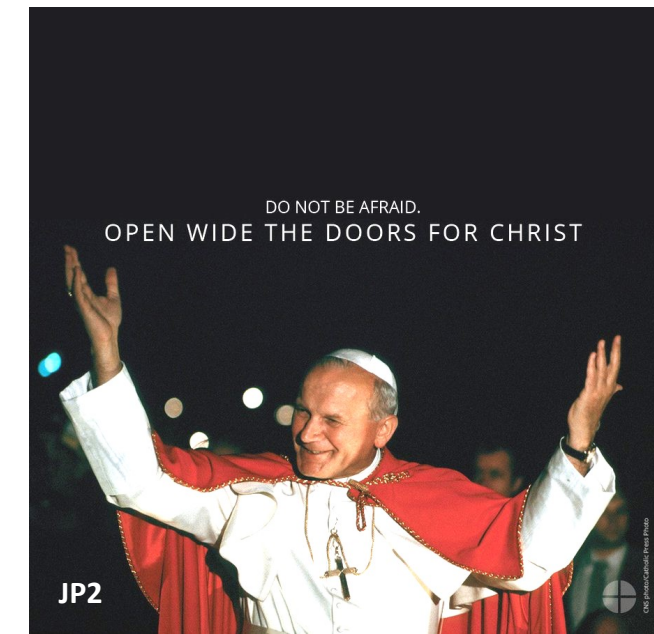
ROSARY AND OTHER DEVOTIONS
SAT and SUN: 4:10pm, Leura.
MON: 9:00am before Mass, Katoomba.
TUE: 4:30pm D-Mercy, Rosary, Exposition, Leura.
WED: before 9:00am Mass, Wentworth Falls.
THU: 4:30pm D-Mercy, Rosary, Leura
FRI: 11:30am before Mass, Katoomba.
FRI: 5.00pm Divine Mercy Hour, Leura.
SAT: 8:30am before Mass and after, Katoomba.



SAVE THE DATE
All 5 Saturdays of July Fr John will offer a Bible study: "An Introduction to the Gospel of Matthew". It will be held at Leura from 3—4.30 pm. All Welcome.

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73A Lurline St. Katoomba 2780
Also Springwood and Lithgow



COMMUNION
The eyes of all look to you, Lord, and you give them their food in due season.