



# 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](mailto:bluemountains@parracatholic.org)  
Parish website:  
[bluemountainscatholic.org.au](http://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](mailto:stcanices@parra.catholic.edu.au)

## USUAL SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Leura 5pm (Saturday)  
Mt Victoria 5pm (Saturday)  
Wentworth Falls 8am  
Blackheath 9:30am  
Katoomba 10am  
Leura 5pm

## USUAL WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

MON: 9am Katoomba  
TUE: 9am Leura  
WED: 9am Blackheath  
THU: 9am Wentworth Falls  
FRI: 12pm Katoomba  
FRI: 4pm Megalong (3rd Fri of the month)  
SAT: 9am Katoomba

## USUAL CONFESSION TIMES

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

9.30am 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)."

## The Transfiguration of the Lord

YEAR A - 6 August 2023

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

This Sunday is the feast of the Transfiguration.

St Paul tells us that we can rely on prophecies, and in fact we should rely on prophecies, until the "dawn comes and the morning star rises" in our minds.

The first reading is a prophecy from the book of Daniel which foretells of the coming of the Son of Man, of Christ and of the establishment of His reign.

A reign which has its authority from the throne of fire, from which a stream of fire flows.

Fire is a symbol of purification. The Holy Spirit is the fire that burns sins away. Sins being all those thoughts, words and actions that are contrary to God's will. Thoughts, words and acts that hurt us, the people around us and even our world.

This blazing power is made manifest to the Peter, James and John at the Transfiguration where the Spirit's presence and unity with Jesus is seen and the Father identifies Jesus as His Son and tells His disciples to listen to Him.

We are to listen, but we must be careful to understand what kind of listening is called for or we will hear nothing. We need to listen with our very beings, we need to feel the message of Christ. This involves praying and contemplating with a deep empathy for what transpired in the life of Christ and Our Lady and what is happening around us today. We are all victims and villains but so many of our wrong choices come from our wounds.

So let us pray from the depths of our hearts. With a yearning from within to hear Christ through meditation on His life and see ourselves and our neighbour through the clear light of the morning star which is the sign of a new comprehension of ourselves, our world and our God.

Then we will be able to fully understand the Law and the Prophets, represented by Moses and Elijah, which are correctly interpreted and fulfilled in Christ.

May God bless you all

Deacon Alan.



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



## WHAT'S ON IN THE UPPER MOUNTAINS THIS WEEK

### The Transfiguration of the Lord 6 August

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

### MONDAY 7 August

Mass 9.00am Katoomba

### TUESDAY 8 August

Mass 9.00am Leura

### WEDNESDAY 9 August

Mass 9.00 am Blackheath

### THURSDAY 10 August

Mass 9.00am Wentworth Falls

### FRIDAY 11 August

Mass 12pm Katoomba

### SATURDAY 12 August

Mass 9:00am Katoomba  
Mass Vigil 5pm Leura  
Mass Vigil 5pm Mt Victoria

### 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time 13August

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

## FR JOHN'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

On the 20th August we will celebrate Fr John's 40th Anniversary of his ordination after the 10 am Mass at Katoomba.

Please bring a plate of food to share in the hall after the Mass .

Also there is a raffle of 3 beautiful paintings, tickets will be sold after each mass and will be drawn on the 20th August. Money raised will go to the parish.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to those who received Confirmation at the 10am Sunday Mass this weekend! Our prayers and well wishes are with you and your families.

**1ST CONFESSION** sessions will begin this Wednesday evening 6:30pm at St Canice's Church Katoomba. Please attend this first session to enroll and bring a copy of your child's Baptism certificate. Four preparation sessions are required to receive the sacrament. For further information please call Mary 0468 483 194

**BECOME A CATECHIST! - CATECHIST TRAINING COMMENCING IN AUGUST AT ST FINBARS, GLENBROOK**

Sharing the gospel with students in our public schools is an important ministry at our parish. It may sound daunting but it is very rewarding spending time with young people sharing our faith. You'll be joining a supportive team and curriculum materials and ongoing training are provided. We'd love to see you there. To enquire/enrol speak to your Parish Catechist Coordinator Jody Noppert or email [ccd.training@parracatholic.org](mailto:ccd.training@parracatholic.org) with your details.

**GET #ACTIVE4VOCATIONS IN THE CITY2SURF: 13 AUGUST**

Join the Parramatta Catholic Foundation #Active4Vocations team. Walk, stroll, jog, or run with our Holy Spirit seminarians, deacons, priests, and community. Scan this QR code or visit [tinyurl.com/Active4Vocations](http://tinyurl.com/Active4Vocations) to register or donate. Funds raised support our Diocese's seminarians to become priests. Thank you for getting #Active4Vocations.

**HOMELESSNESS WEEK 2023**

It's time to end Homelessness!

Home is more than four walls and a roof. Home is a place where people can feel safe and secure. A safe home is powerful and can transform lives. It allows people to live with dignity, grow their families and gain independence. Without a safe place to call home, people can struggle to maintain employment, access education or find help through challenging times.

National Homelessness Week (7-13 August) raises awareness of homelessness in Australia.

**MASS OFFERING INTENTIONS: DECEASED and ANNIVERSARIES:** FRANCIS BEDE 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 Hagor, 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 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**

Mon 7 Sts Sixtus II, Pope, and his Companions, Martyrs; also Saint Cajetan, Priest  
Tue 8 ST MARY OF THE CROSS (MACKILLOP)  
Wed 9 St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein), Virgin, Martyr  
Thu 10 ST LAURENCE, Deacon, Martyr  
Fri 11 St Clare, Virgin  
Sat 12 St Jane Frances de Chantal, Religious  
NEXT SUNDAY: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**ROSARY AND OTHER DEVOTIONS**

SAT and SUN: 4:10pm, Leura.  
MON 8.30am before Mass, Katoomba.  
TUE: 8.30am before mass, Leura.  
WED: 8.30am before Mass, Blackheath  
THU: 8.30am before Mass, Wentworth Falls  
FRI: 11:30am before Mass, Katoomba.  
FRI: 5.00pm Divine Mercy Hour, Leura.  
SAT: 8:30am before Mass and after, Katoomba.

**Children's liturgy**

**Returns for Term 2!**


**When:** Returning Sunday 23rd, during 10:00am Sunday mass, exit after the opening pray, return by offertory procession.

Are parents welcome? Very much.

**Organiser:** Jeremy Brown

We need you! Under NSW law, Children's liturgy must have two volunteers. Even one Sunday a term will help. If interested, please call Jeremy on 0428 174 999

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



**ST. CANICE'S SCHOOL NEWS:**

**ST CANICE'S OPEN DAY 4 AUGUST**

For enrolments and enquiries please contact school office 02 4780 6800

**World Youth Day in Lisbon Portugal**

170 young people from Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains have officially taken off to World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal for an experience of a lifetime. Our pilgrimage will travel through some of the most beautiful and sacred parts of Europe and you are invited to follow along from home. We will be posting videos, photos and articles throughout the trip, so you can see and hear what our pilgrims are experiencing. Sign up today by visiting [catholicoutlook.info/WYD23News](http://catholicoutlook.info/WYD23News)

**THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD YEAR A**

**ENTRANCE** In a resplendent cloud the Holy Spirit appeared. The Father's voice was heard: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased. Listen to him.

**FIRST READING (Daniel 7:9-10,13-14)**

As I watched:

Thrones were set in place and one of great age took his seat. His robe was white as snow, the hair of his head as pure as wool. His throne was a blaze of flames, its wheels were a burning fire. A stream of fire poured out, issuing from his presence. A thousand thousand waited on him, ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him. A court was held and the books were opened. I gazed into the visions of the night. And I saw, coming on the clouds of heaven, one like a son of man. He came to the one of great age and was led into his presence. On him was conferred sovereignty, glory and kingship, and people of all nations and languages became his servants.

His sovereignty is an eternal sovereignty which shall never pass away, or will his empire ever be destroyed.

**RESPONSE** The Lord is king, the most high over all the earth.

**SECOND READING (2 Peter 1:16-19)**

It was not any cleverly invented myths that we were repeating when we brought you the knowledge of the power and the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ; we had seen his majesty for ourselves. He was honoured and glorified by God the Father, when the Sublime Glory itself spoke to him and said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour.' We heard this ourselves, spoken from heaven, when we were with him on the holy mountain.

So we have confirmation of what was said in prophecies; and you will be right to depend on prophecy and take it as a lamp for lighting a way through the dark until the dawn comes and the morning star rises in your minds.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

The is my Son, my beloved, in whom is all my delight; listen to him. Alleluia!

**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**

When Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

