



# 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)."

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

In this Sunday's Gospel we see the humanity of Jesus and the divine  
spark in the Canaanite woman.

Jesus' rather abrupt reply to the Canaanite woman is based on His  
understanding as a human person that He was sent to the people of  
Israel, the Jews.

We must remember that Jesus through His life emptied Himself of His  
divinity so that as a human he could respond openly to the will of God.  
So, it was the Holy Spirit who was His guide, His strength and through  
which He performed miracles.

He was also growing in wisdom as a man, and part of that was letting  
human thinking be replaced by divine wisdom gained through the Spirit.

So, holding onto the Jewish mindset He saw His mission as being to the  
Jews, the chosen people of God as He understood it. But what He came  
to see was that this Canaanite woman had the gift of faith. The Spirit was  
with Her. Israel was not just Jews, but all people in whom dwelled the  
Spirit of God.

It's almost a role reversal.

It's a lesson for us. Don't assume we as individuals or we as Catholics, or  
Christians have any exclusive claim on God and His Spirit.

We need to pray that the Spirit will open us up to see the divinity in each  
and every person and help them in their need.

Not help in the way that coined the old expression: "it was as cold as  
charity" alludes to but help them because we see them as one with us,  
animated and given life by the Spirit and loved by God.

It is when we engage with others from an empathetic, compassionate  
(meaning suffering with) concern for their wellbeing that we become  
something special, we become Israel, the people of God in which the  
Spirit dwells in a very real and meaningful way.

Deacon Alan.



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



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

**20th Sunday in Ordinary Time 20 August**  
Mass 8am Wentworth Falls  
Mass 9.30am Blackheath  
Mass 10.00am Katoomba  
Mass 5pm Leura

**MONDAY 21 August**  
Mass 9.00am Katoomba

**TUESDAY 22 August**  
Mass 9.00am Leura

**WEDNESDAY 23 August**  
Mass 9.00 am Wentworth Falls

**THURSDAY 24 August**  
Mass 9.00am Leura ( No Mass)

**FRIDAY 25 August**  
Mass 12pm Katoomba

**SATURDAY 26 August**  
Mass 9:00am Katoomba  
Mass Vigil 5pm Leura  
Mass Vigil 5pm Mt Victoria

**21st Sunday in Ordinary Time 27 August**  
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.

## Building Safe Parishes Together in 2023: An Update from the Office for Safeguarding

Face – To – Face Training at the parish of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop's  
Katoomba.

The date for the 2023 face-to-face session:

Saturday 28th October 2023.

Start from 10.00am – 3.00pm Finish.

Please contact the Parish Office to register for the Face-to-Face Training.

Volunteers across the Diocese are asked to participate in this training to  
ensure our parishes are inclusive and safe for children and adults at risk.  
We are very grateful for the commitment already demonstrated within the  
Parish by those who have already completed their 6 points of Safeguarding  
training online. If you completed this in 2021 you are now ready to renew  
this training.

or you can complete the training independently on our online training  
platform if you wish. You can start these modules at any time and complete  
them at your own pace. You can sign up on the platform by clicking on this  
[link: https://learning.safeguarding.org.au](https://learning.safeguarding.org.au)

If you do have any questions about the Safeguarding Training, please email  
me directly at [maria.kervin@parracatholic.org](mailto:maria.kervin@parracatholic.org) .

## Farewell

A big thank you to Yvonne Augustine  
for all the volunteering and all she has done  
in our parish over the years she has lived in  
the mountains. Good luck to Yvonne as she  
leaves our parish for a new venture.

**MASS CHANGES WHILE I AM ON LONG SERVICE LEAVE:**

There will be no mass on Thursdays;  
Wednesday mass will alternate between Wentworth Fall and Blackheath ( pls check the bulletin)  
I would like Fr Peter to have a day off each week hence the above decision.  
God bless. Fr John

**NINE-WEEK NOVENA FOR THE DIOCESAN SYNOD**

All are invited to pray a Nine-Week Novena for the Diocesan Synod. The Novena will begin the week of Sunday 13 August and conclude the week of Sunday 8 October in the lead-up to the Synod Assembly: Friday 13 to Sunday 15 October. You are invited to pray once a week as a parish community, with your family, ministry groups or during personal prayer. More information: <https://parracatholic.org/synod2023/>

**NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR PAPAL, CIVIL AND DIOCESAN AWARDS**

From today until Thursday 7 September 2023, you can nominate an outstanding individual who has contributed to the Catholic Church and society for a Papal Honours Award, Civil Award or Diocesan Award. Please visit [parracatholic.org/awards](http://parracatholic.org/awards). The Awards Ceremony will be held in November. More details to come.

**THE SISTERS OF SAINT JOSEPH :**

They have prepared an Australian Pilgrimage, "In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop" commencing in Melbourne on 17 October, journeying through Victoria and South Australia, and ending at Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney on 28 October 2023. During the pilgrimage we visit many places associated with Mary MacKillop's life and ministry. I am happy to answer any questions and provide an itinerary and application form, and may be contacted at [national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au](mailto:national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au) or on 89124818.

**ST MARYS PARISH DON BOSCO RELIC VISIT: 23 – 27 AUGUST**

The relic statue of St John Bosco, better known as Don Bosco, will be visiting Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, St Marys, as part of the celebrations of the centenary of the arrival of the Salesians on Australian soil. There will be opportunities to venerate the relic and celebrate Mass, Adoration and Confessions throughout the week. For more information, contact the parish office on (02) 9623 1962 or email [secretaryolrchurch@iinet.net.au](mailto:secretaryolrchurch@iinet.net.au)

**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:** Sarah Kiely, 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 Morphet, 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 21 Saint Pius X, Pope  
Tue 22 Our Lady, Mother and Queen  
Wed 23 Saint Rose of Lima, Virgin  
Thu 24 SAINT BARTHOLOMEW, APOSTLE Feast  
Fri 25 Saint Louis  
Saint Joseph of Calasanz, Priest  
Sat 26 BVM  
NEXT SUNDAY: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

**ROSARY AND OTHER DEVOTIONS**

SAT and SUN: 4:20pm, 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:** During 10:00am Sunday mass, exit after the opening pray, return by offertory procession.

Are parents welcome? Very much.

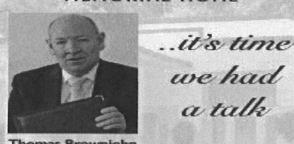
**Organiser:** Jeremy Brown

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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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

St Canice's school community has a long record of supporting people in need in Katoomba, through our Mini Vinnies activities. The children are bringing in lots of much needed items of food. They are also helping to raise funds for St Vincent De Paul's winter appeal. They have had a PJ day to help them better understand what it would be like not to have a warm home and clothes in winter, and are also having a winter games night in the hall on Friday.

**MANDATORY SAFEGUARDING FACE-TO-FACE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**

Mandatory Modules 1-3:  
St Canice's Church, Katoomba  
Saturday 28 October, 10am-3pm.  
Please contact the parish office to enroll 02 4782 2804.

**20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A**

**ENTRANCE** Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

**FIRST READING** (Isaiah 56:1,6-7)

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest.

Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

**RESPONSE** O God, let all the nations praise you.

**SECOND READING** (Romans 11:13-15,29-32)

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice.

Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all people in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all Humankind

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL** (Matthew 15:21-28)

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.

**COMMUNION**

I am the living bread that came down from heaven, says the Lord. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever.

