



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/](https://facebook.com/bluemountainscatholic)

[bluemountainscatholic](https://facebook.com/bluemountainscatholic)

Parish YouTube: [youtube.com/](https://youtube.com/@UpperBlueMountainsCatholic)

[@UpperBlueMountainsCatholic](https://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 6pm (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)."

33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR B - 17 November 2024

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

As we move towards the end of the Church's Liturgical Year the texts chosen for the Liturgy of the Word remind us to be prepared for the End of Time.

The First Reading and Gospel for today utilise apocalyptic symbolism to encourage believers to remain faithful in times of persecution and distress as we await the End. And even the Letter to the Hebrews reminds us that Christ has won the victory, and we are awaiting the End when everything will be 'put under his feet'.

Thus, the Readings are encouraging us to remain faithful and hope-filled in this time of Waiting. We are reminded that this Day will come upon us at any time: so we need to live ethical lives so as to be able to receive the offered salvation.

But, more than simply being faithful in order to be saved, we realise that our ethical living is a 'good' in itself - indeed, living the Christian lifestyle here and now has its own reward.

These texts still challenge us, for whenever we start to slacken our commitment to Christ and His Message of Salvation, whenever we are tempted to modify our beliefs or even give them away altogether, this knowledge that the End of Time could be upon us at any moment does make us stop and reflect on things.

And, more than this, for those of us who do, indeed, try our best to live good and faithful and hope-filled lives, we have in these texts the promise that, in spite of suffering or persecution or any distress that comes our way, victory and salvation and glory will be ours!

Let's come together for our Parish Christmas Party after the 10am Mass next Sunday (the Solemnity of Christ the King) and celebrate the many blessings we have received this year.

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

SUNDAY (TODAY)

Mass: Wentworth Falls 8am
Mass: Blackheath 9.30am
Mass: Katoomba 10am
Mass: Leura 5pm

MONDAY

Mass: 9am Katoomba

TUESDAY

Mass: 9am Leura

WEDNESDAY

Mass: 9am Blackheath

THURSDAY

Mass: 9am Wentworth Falls

FRIDAY

Mass: 12pm Katoomba
Mass: 4pm Megalong (3rd Fri of the month)

SATURDAY

Mass: 9am Katoomba
Mass: 5pm Leura
Mass: 6pm Mt Victoria

SUNDAY

Mass: Wentworth Falls 8am
Mass: Blackheath 9.30am
Mass: Katoomba 10am Mass:
Leura 5pm

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: 5.30m Divine Mercy Hour, Leura.
SAT: 8:30am before Mass and Cenacle
Rosary after, Katoomba.



SCAN ME

<https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/MaryMackillopParishUpperBlueMountains>



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: Our parish finances need a consistent income. If you could consider using 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.

SAINTS THIS WEEK

Mon 18 Dedication of the Basilicas of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles
Thu 21 The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Fri 22 Saint Cecilia, Virgin, Martyr
Sat 23 Saint Clement I, Pope, Martyr
Saint Columbanus, Abbot and Missionary

NEXT SUNDAY: Christ the King



SUNDAY MASS: Live streaming of the Sunday 10.00am Mass at St Canice's this week. 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



OFFICE OF SAFEGUARDING: "This is what the Lord asks of you: only this, to act justly, to love tenderly and to walk humbly with your God (Micah 6:8)." For info: parracatholic.org/safeguarding For Training: parracatholic.org/safeguarding/training/



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 or scan the QR code.



"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... (Ven. Fulton Sheen)."

INVITE OUR LADY INTO YOUR HOME



We are offering the chance for parishioners to have our beautiful parish Rosary statue visit you in your home. The statue is of Our Lady Help of Christians, the Patron Saint of Australia.

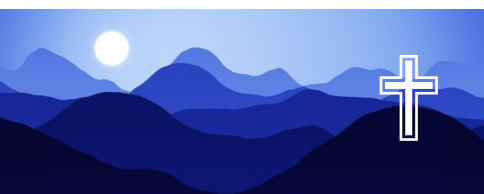
If you would like to welcome the Blessed Mother in your home for a week and be at prayer with her, please let one of the sacristans after the 10am Katoomba Mass know and they will make arrangements.

MASS OFFERING INTENTIONS

DECEASED and ANNIVERSARIES: ELIZABETH O'CONNOR, JIM LE BRETON, MICK LE BRETON, AMIR YAMMINE, ANDRZEJ KRAWCZYK, LEPULA SALAMASINA ASOVALE, PHILOMENA GABRIEL, RICHARD GALE, RAY GALE, CHAIEL BALCOMBE, CARL ALBERT, JAN MACLEAN, MARIA MANUELA SERNADES and all the faithful departed especially those for whom you requested prayers and masses AND THE FORGOTTEN SOULS IN PURGATORY.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

SICK LIST: Pat Wolthers, Sandy Mobray, Joella, Joan Gracey, Doreen Kinsella. IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE TO BE ON THE SICK LIST PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE 02 4782 2804



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.

NOVEMBER MASS OFFERING ENVELOPES IN THE CHURCH

If you would like to have your deceased love ones remembered during the month of November please drop a Mass offering envelope with the deceased names on the front of the envelope, into the parish office in the coming weeks or during the month of November. Unless otherwise indicated the names will be published on the November Mass list including the name of the donor.

THE LEGION OF MARY

Did you know that our parish has a Legion of Mary group? We meet Every FRIDAY at 6:15pm in the old adoration chapel at Katoomba. You are most welcome to attend and see what the Legion is all about.

PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY LUNCH 24 NOV 2024

Please save the date for our parish Christmas Party Lunch, the last Sunday of November, the 24th, after the 10am Mass. If everyone who is coming could bring a plate with their favourite dish to share. Entry by donation. If you could help in anyway please let Barbara, or any of the sacristan at any of our churches know, let's make this a great yearly get together. Please contact Barbara 0417490103



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME FOR CHILDREN

Baptised children who are in YEAR 3 OR ABOVE IN 2025 will be invited to join the First Reconciliation (First Confession) preparation program to be held in term 4 in 2025. Flyers are available in our church entrance.

DONATIONS FOR CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

We have commenced collection of donations for the hampers. Baskets are provided in the church foyers.

A BIBLICAL WALK THROUGH THE MASS Nov 2024

In his video-based study A Biblical Walk Through the Mass, Dr. Edward Sri explores the roots of the words and gestures we experience at Mass and explains their profound significance. This fascinating tour of the Mass will renew your faith and deepen your love for and devotion to the Holy Eucharist. 10am Saturdays at St. Canice's Church, Katoomba.



ST. CANICE'S SCHOOL

For enrolments and enquiries please contact school office on 02 4780 6800

PRAYERS BLANKETS

We wish to provide warm blankets to the sick, elderly, homeless and those in need. Along with the blankets we add our prayers for healing and comfort. Should you wish to make or donate a blanket please contact Barbara on 0417490103.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME 2024

There are two sessions: Wednesday's at 2.00pm and 7.00pm. Please note that the program will start on Wednesday 11th November 2024. The cost of the advent books \$5.00. If you are interested in joining please contact Barbara Davidson on 0417 490 103. If you cannot attend but would like to purchase an Advent book please contact Barbara.

ANNUAL MASS FOR DECEASED CLERGY: 19 NOVEMBER

The Diocese of Parramatta invites you to the annual Diocesan Mass for our Deceased Clergy on Tuesday 19 November at 9.00am at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, St Marys, followed by prayers at the gravesites of clergy buried in St Marys Cemetery. All are welcome to attend and give your gift of prayer to those whose lives were dedicated to bringing us all closer to Christ. We encourage each parish to offer a Mass for the deceased priests who have served in your own parish, to unite in prayer for this special intention.

EPIPHANY PILGRIMAGE AND FIESTA: 2-9 JANUARY 2025

Commit the first fruits of your new year to Christ with the 2025 Epiphany Pilgrimage. Enjoy 7 days of bushwalking, fellowship and prayer as we journey from Emu Plains to the top of the Blue Mountains, experiencing the wonderful hospitality of parish communities along the way. Day 1 is a family-friendly day, with the option for a children's pilgrimage finishing with the Finnies Fiesta at St Finbars, Glenbrook. For more information and to register for all or part of the journey, visit www.epiphanypilgrimage.org

THE CATERERS BLUE MOUNTAINS

Delicious catering for all occasions; Weddings, Memorials & Wakes, Parties, Buffets, Cocktail finger-food, Corporate functions and workshops, High teas, Cakes - (Weddings and Birthdays)

0402188437

www.thecaterersbm@gmail.com
thecaterersbm@gmail.com

L T R E N T DRIVING LESSONS

DAY LIGHT SAVINGS SPECIAL OCT 1ST - MARCH 1ST 4PM - 8 PM FOR BLUE MOUNTAINS RESIDENTS

Book a 5 lesson special & get your free lesson on vehicle maintenance. Pick up and drop off from your location.



BOOK BY CALLING THE BLUE MTNS
LTRENT INSTRUCTOR
MICHAEL MOLE 0412 480 013



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33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME B

ENTRANCE

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

FIRST READING (Daniel 12:1-3)

'At that time Michael will stand up, the great prince who mounts guard over your people. There is going to be a time of great distress, unparalleled since nations first came into existence. When that time comes, your own people will be spared, all those whose names are found written in the Book. Of those who lie sleeping in the dust of the earth many will awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting disgrace. The learned will shine as brightly as the vault of heaven, and those who have instructed many in virtue, as bright as stars for all eternity.'

RESPONSE Keep me safe, O God:
you are my hope.

SECOND READING (Hebrews 10:11-14, 18)

All the priests stand at their duties every day, offering over and over again the same sacrifices which are quite incapable of taking sins away. Christ, on the other hand, has offered one single sacrifice for sins, and then taken his place for ever, at the right hand of God, where he is now waiting until his enemies are made into a footstool for him. By virtue of that one single offering, he has achieved the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctifying. When all sins have been forgiven, there can be no more sin offerings.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful, and pray constantly, that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL (Mark 13:24-32)

Jesus said to his disciples: 'In those days, after the time of distress, the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, the stars will come falling from heaven and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory; then too he will send the angels to gather his chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the world to the ends of heaven.

'Take the fig tree as a parable: as soon as its twigs grow supple and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. So with you, when you see these things happening: know that he is near, at the very gates. I tell you solemnly, before this generation has passed away all these things will have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

'But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son; no one but the Father.'

COMMUNION

To be near God is my happiness,
to place my hope in God the Lord.