



THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS

Acknowledges the Darug and Gundungurra people, the Traditional Custodians of the land on which our churches are built and we pay respect to elders past, present and emerging

CLERGY

Fr. John McSweeney PP VF
Fr. Peter Lamont (AP)
Fr. Jessie Balorio (AP)
Rev. Alan Skofic (Deacon)

SUNDAY MASSES

Sat: 5pm Leura
Sat: 5pm Lawson
Sat: 6pm Mt Victoria
Sun: 8am Wentworth Falls
Sun: 8.30am Lawson
Sun: 9.30am Blackheath
Sun: 10am Katoomba
Sun: 5pm Leura

WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon: 9am Katoomba
Tue: 9am Leura
Wed: 9am Blackheath
Thu: 9am Wentworth Falls
Fri: 9am Lawson
Fri: 12pm Katoomba
Fri: 4pm Megalong Valley
(3rd Fri of the month)
Sat: 9am Katoomba

CONFESSION

Fri: After 12pm Mass Katoomba
Sat: 9:30-9:50am Katoomba
Sat: 4:30-4:50pm Leura
NOTE: Confessions are always available upon request.

Weddings: Inquire @the Office

Baptisms:

2nd Sunday @ Katoomba 11:00am
4th Sunday @ OLN Lawson 10:30am
Inquiries: 47822804
Email: bluemountains@parracatholic.org

ADORATION CHAPEL

St. Canice's, Katoomba
Mon 9.30am to Fri 6pm
closed at other times.

Christian Meditation

Tuesdays-10am
@Sacred Heart



Please mute your mobile at Mass. Let's turn off the technology and turn on to God!

FROM THE SEVEN CHURCHES IN THE MIST 4th Sunday of Easter Year A. 26 April 2026

REFLECTION OF THE GOSPEL

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

The readings this week highlight the importance to listening to the teachings of the Church and in a special way the guidance given by the Pope, the successor of St Peter. We have two readings where St Peter speaks to us. In the reading from Acts St Peter calls the people to acceptance of Christ as saviour and repentance, a change of life, so Christ can gather them in, but not only them alone, their children and all those who are far away. A clear reference to evangelisation. This evangelisation only happens through a real change in the life of believers. A visible easily perceptible change.

This is what St Peter presents in the second reading. He puts before us the example of Christ the suffering servant who doesn't turn to verbal or physical violence to deal with injustice but relies on the justice of God. Justice in this sense means the "putting things back in order". God will put all things into order.

In the Gospel the sheepfold is the Heavenly Jerusalem, the Church. Christ is the Gatekeeper, the one who enters the Church through the gate, through Christ is the Vicar of Christ, St Peter and His successors, now Pope Leo XIV. The sheep who listen to the Shephard's voice are those who listen to Christ, His representative on earth, the Pope and these sheep are safe. These are those who focus on the teachings and guidance of the Church which is the Body of Christ. The thieves and brigands are those other voices, political leaders, media personalities, proponents of various ideologies, value systems, allegiances and religious views.

An extremely important message for our times. Let's focus on Christ, His example, and His teachings interpreted and taught by His Body the Church so that we remain safe and can bring others to the safety of the loving embrace of our saviour.

- Deacon Alan

NOTICE FOR ALL THOSE WHO VOLUNTEER IN THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS

For Compliance and Professional Standards Audit 2026

In preparation for the first Professional Standard Audit taking place from April-June 2026, our Parish, in compliance with all the regulations set by the Diocese and from the recommendation of the Royal Commission, will have a face to face training day on **Saturday 23rd May commencing at 10.00am**, St Canice's Parish Hall, hosted by the Maria Kerven from the Diocese's Safeguarding and Professional Standard Office. The length of this training will be approximately 2 ¼ hours with a break for morning tea. **Everyone serving in our Parish is required to do the Mandatory training and ongoing refresher modules while serving in the Parish.** Although some of you have already done the Mandatory modules some years ago, a refresher program is now due for all. This will examine all aspect of Safeguarding training. Please **save the date. For inquiries, please** contact the Parish Office or RSVP as soon as possible. Thank you for your generosity and service.

- Fr. John Parish Priest

Parish Churches

LAWSON: Our Lady of The Nativity, Somers St; **WENTWORTH FALLS:** St. Francis Xavier's, 3 Day St. **LEURA:** St. Bonaventure's, Railway Pde. **KATOOMBA:** St Canice's, 158 Katoomba St. **BLACKHEATH:** Sacred Heart, 165 Wentworth St. **MEGALONG VALLEY:** St Joseph's, Megalong Rd. **MOUNT VICTORIA:** St Paul, 65 Great Western Highway. * Pictures on this bulletin are taken from the website. Copyright infringement is unintended. Acknowledgment is due.

CONTACT US

Parish Office: 158 Katoomba St, Katoomba 2780.

Postal Address: PO Box 526, Katoomba NSW 2780.

Phone: (02) 4782 2804.

Office Hours: 10am-3pm Tuesday-Friday.

After Hours Emergency Number: 0490814284.

Calls only; no texts please.

Parish email address:

upperbluemountains@parracatholic.org

Parish websites:

bluemountainscatholic.org.au

sacredheartblackheath.org.au

lawsoncatholicchurch.org.au

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

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

Lawson Facebook: [facebook.com/olncclawson](https://www.facebook.com/olncclawson)

Blackheath Facebook: [facebook.com/profile.php?id=100076756208721](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100076756208721)

Parish YouTube:

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

SUNDAY MASS

Live streaming of the 10am Sunday 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>.

[UChTj55risvGDQqCDN7mldNQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHtj55risvGDQqCDN7mldNQ).

PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL



If you 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.

PARISH SCHOOLS

St Canice's Catholic Primary School

Katoomba Street, Katoomba.

Principal: Ms. Miriam Meaney.

Phone: (02) 4780 6800.

Email: stcanices@parra.catholic.edu.au

Our Lady of the Nativity Catholic Primary School

Somers Street, Lawson.

Principal: Mr. Matthew Bond.

Phone: (02) 4753 2200.

Email: oln@parra.catholic.edu.au

HOSPITAL/HOME VISITS

If you or your loved ones are sick and would like a visit, please contact the parish office or Barbara Davidson (0417 490 103)

Weddings & Church Bookings

For Inquiries and Church Bookings of your choice, please call the office.

USUAL 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.

First Fri: 7.00pm Benediction Lawson

Sat: 8:30am before Mass and Cenacle Rosary after, Katoomba.

Notice for Parish Bulletin

If you wish to receive electronically or via email our parish bulletin, please email us on

bluemountains@parracatholic.org

If you also want to include any items for the weeks' parish bulletin, email us on or before Wednesday afternoon.

Parish Finance Council Members

Fr John

John Tweedie (Chair)

Maylin Corros

Fr Peter

Elaine Smith (Deputy Chair)

Marilyn Rowe

Fr Jessie

John Grant

Dec Alan

Tom Boyd

---FINANCE NEWS---

Our Lady of the Nativity Lawson Meeting Room Rebuild

Restoring the meeting room is seen a priority issue

We are calling on parishioners to assist in raising funds for this project.

We need to raise \$20,000

Donation Rebuild Meeting Room

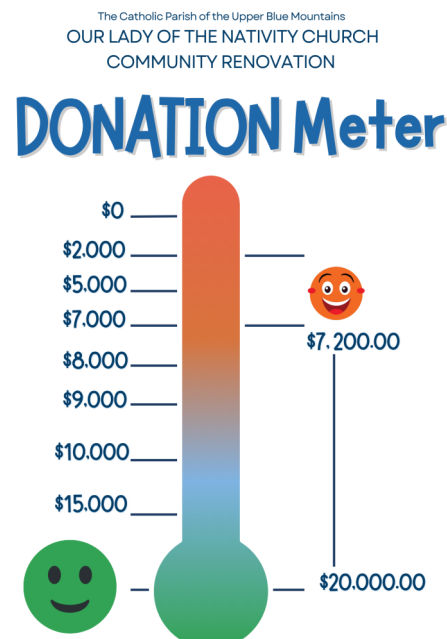
Account name: Lawson Our Lady of the Nativity

BSB: 067-950

Account Number: 00000164

Reference: Donation Rebuild Meeting Room

- Fr John McSweeney and John Tweedie, Chair of the Finance Com



Parish Registration/Survey Card If you are a new parishioner or visitor and if you haven't completed one of our New Parishioner Card, we encourage you to register with us and be part of our Parish Community. Our Parishioner cards are available in the foyer.

RCIA For all enquiries regarding joining or coming back to the Church please contact Deacon Alan via the Parish office.

THE LEGION OF MARY The Church's largest lay apostolate. We meet every FRIDAY at 6:15 pm in the old adoration chapel at Katoomba. You are most welcome to attend and see what the Legion is all about.

REDISCOVERING THE VALUE OF FAITH every 4th Sunday of the month 11:00am @ St Canice's Hall, Katoomba, until November. Come along, bring a friend, and take part in a welcoming conversation grounded in **Catholic tradition, shared faith, and community.**
Next meeting **26th April.**

SAINT THIS WEEK

Mon 27 Saint Louis Marie de Montfort, Priest
Tue 28 Saint Peter Chanel, Priest, Martyr
Wed 29 Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin, Doctor
Thu 30 Saint Pius V, Pope
Fri 1 Saint Joseph the Worker
Sat 2 Saint Athanasius, Bishop, Doctor
NEXT SUNDAY: 5th Sunday of Easter

PROJECT COMPASSION. Please return your boxes/ donation in the next two weeks. Thank you.

A QUIET DAY OF REFLECTION. Parishioners and friends are invited to a Quiet Reflection Day to be held at Sacred Heart Hall, Blackheath, on Saturday May 2 from 10am-3pm. This will be a time for spiritual nourishment, growth, and renewal. BYO lunch. Morning tea provided. Entry by donation. All are welcome to this day.

RSVP to Marilyn Jones: 0401637 759
marlyn.jones5@bigpond.com for more details.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION

St Canice's Church
Katoomba

Family group sessions

Venue: St Canice's school;

Wednesday's at 6pm

Dates: 6th,13th,20th & 27th

May 2026

Wednesday 3rd June 6pm at St Canice's Church

Special Liturgy and Rehearsal.

First Communions: Sunday Masses 6th and 7th at St Canice's Church (possible First Communions during " Sunday" Mass in other churches at Blackheath, Mt Vic, Wentworth Falls)

Nativity Church, Lawson

Family group session 1 2nd May at 3.45pm or 3rd May at 9.45am at Mid Mountains Community Centre Joy Anderson Room 7 New Street Lawson

Family group session 2 16th May at 3.45 pm or 17th May 9.45am at Mid Mountains Community Centre

Family group session 3 23rd May at 3.45pm OR 24th May at 9.45am at Mid Mountains Community Centre

Family group session 4 30th May at 3.45pm OR 31st May 9.45am at Mid Mountains Community Centre.

Wednesday 10th June 4pm Special Liturgical Celebration including First Communion Rehearsal in Lawson Church

First Communion Mass: Saturday or Sunday 13th 5pm or 14th June 8.30am or 10.30am at Our Lady of Nativity Church Lawson

Inquiries email: Maureen Ryanolol254@gmail.com



MASS OFFERING INTENTIONS



Recently Deceased: Veneranda Mifsud, Kevin Gordon, Maria Christina Vera de Penna, Rebecca Etccl, Stephen Mount

Death Anniversary: La Roche, Brown, Foley, Ronne Families, Tochillo(Scott)Brown, Wlodek Kozlowski, David Powell, Jan, Miecia & Zyguh Slawek, Patricia Ducrest, John Mifsud, Moran William Halliday, Paul Nyssen, Bridget Collits, Stephanie Jean Murphy, Dulcie Elizabeth Nyssen, Lenna & Elizabeth, Barbara Connolly, Max Dodd and all forgotten souls in purgatory.

Pray for the Sick and their Carers: Charlie Congreve, Malik, Maureen O'Reilly, George and Laura Boffa, Sarah-Jane Hallett, Les Hayward, Chloe Newton, Kelly Gale, Nathan, Susan Sergeant, Sandy Mobray, Joella, Doreen Kinsella & George Commens, Bern McPhee, Maria Cora, Josephine Burdett, Beverly Bateup, Anne Farindon, John Crowley, Maria Johnson, Trennah Portelli, Kevin Medlin, Lan Franco Matteucci. Anthony Griffin, Daniel Smith, Sienna Erdmanis, Mary Whyte, Shirley Bennet, and All Private Intentions.

NB: Due to the strict privacy laws, names of the sick can only be included in the Bulletin with the permission of the immediate family. Thank you.

Who is our Patron Saint?

THE SEARCH IS ON CAST YOUR VOTE!

Two weekends ago, we began giving a brief overview of the 5 options for our parish Patron– which will be voted on during all Pentecost Masses. Please pray about each of the suggestions that have come from many different people and groups. The original 13 names have been reduced to the 5 majority options. This week we look at St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop.

SAINT MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP

Mary MacKillop (1842-1909) co-founded the Sisters of St. Joseph [Megalong Valley] of the Sacred Heart [Blackheath], who at one stage ran two schools in the upper Blue Mountains at Katoomba.

Mary stands as a uniquely Australian model of faith, courage, and compassion. As a woman who became our first saint, she devoted her life to serving the poor, educating children, and bringing hope to isolated communities. Her deep trust in God's providence, her practical charity, her commitment to bringing God's love to people wherever they were and her belief that "we are but travellers here" can resonate strongly with our parish.

She famously said, "never see a need without doing something about it." With our various parish groups and ministries and works of charity, indicative of our care for our neighbour and our natural environment, our parish could draw inspiration from her example of service, resilience, unwavering faith and inclusive love, as a community that welcomes all with the same generous spirit that defined her life.

Image credit: Paul Newton.



Winter Appeal: Knitted & Crochet Donations



During Term 2, Our Lady of Nativity Primary School is seeking donations of

knitted or crocheted squares (approximately 25cm x 25cm), wool,

knitting needles or crochet hooks to support St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal.



If you are able to contribute squares or materials, please bring them to the Church of Our Lady of Nativity in Lawson, where a basket will be available for donations at the back of the church or bring them into the school office at Our Lady of Nativity Lawson.

Thank you for your support.

Katheleen Power and Theadora Mahairas
Faith in Action Team

POPE LEO XIV PRAYER FOR PEACE

Please join the Sacred Heart Blackheath Church community each evening at 5pm, wherever you are, as we come together in spirit to pause, light a candle, and share Pope Leo's Peace Prayer:

Lord Jesus, you conquered death without weapons or violence: you shattered its power with the strength of peace. May the madness of war cease, and the Earth be cared for and cultivated by those who still know how to bring forth, protect and love life. Hear us, Lord of life!

OPPORTUNITY FOR OUR PARISH TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY CONCERT IN BLACKHEATH

ART IN HARMONY – WITH HARMONI CHAMBER CHOIR

3pm Saturday 9 May 2026 Phillips Hall Blackheath
Tickets \$20 . Tickets available at: [ART IN HARMONY](#)

Further details on Flyer on Church Notice Board

Ministry of Care courses: 3-24 June

Those who visit the sick and are involved in the Ministry of Communion to the Sick and Dying in Hospitals, Aged Care Facilities and in Homes are invited to attend this course on the Ministry of Care. The course will take place every Wednesday in June at 7pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. Please register via parracatholic.org/ministry-of-care-courses to reserve your spot. For enquiries, please contact ofw@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795.

CHURCH COMMUNITY NEWS



SACRED HEART CHURCH COMMUNITY BLACKHEATH

"Yanama Budyari Gumada– Walk with Good Spirit"

DONATIONS

Until our parish finances are unified, please continue to follow the link below and make your choice of option. You will be asked to show your name and mobile phone number:



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

[CATHOLICPARISHOFSACREDHEARTBLACKHEATH](https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay)

As an alternative to following the link, please use the attach QR Code.

Blackheath Vinnies Support phone number:
0490 709 547

Sacred Heart Care Group Helping parishioners in need:
Monica Bright 0420 937 690

WEDNESDAY CUPPA'S TOGETHER IN SACRED HEART HALL! Cuppas

" has resumed on Wednesdays. Come for coffee, home made cakes and a catchup with other locals. All members of the community are welcome to come along. Time: 9:30am - 12:00pm each Wednesday. Location: Sacred Heart Church Hall - Wentworth St, Blackheath.



Saturday 25th Anzac Day. 6am Dawn Service in Blackheath Memorial Park, **10.15am Anzac Day March** starts next to the Victory cafe and proceeds along Wentworth St. to Blackheath Memorial Park, for the **11am Anzac Day Service.**

Afterwards, light refreshments are available for free at the RSL Blackheath-Mt. Victoria sub-branch.

The Sacred Heart Church Community Pastoral Team. Your team members are **Frances Huckstep, Julie O'Keeffe, Marilyn Jones, Graham Beale and Paul Harris.** Please see any of these people if you would like a matter raised.



A Huge Thank you to the many members of our Sacred Heart, St Paul and St Joseph's

Communities who once again donated so generously to this year's Lenten Foodbank Appeal. Your generosity is a great help to many families in our Diocese who are in desperate need. Donations will be taken down to Parramatta for a couple of weeks so if anyone missed out and would like to donate **please contact David Buckley – 0400208707/47875105.** if it is easier donating a supermarket GIFT CARD can be a great help too.



**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

THANK YOU!

Caritas Australia would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the parish community of The Catholic parish of Upper Blue mountains for your generous support of Project Compassion 2026.

Your support is helping to bring hope, uphold dignity and create lasting change to communities facing poverty and injustice around the world. Together, your community helped to bring clean water, education, nutritious food, healthcare and support for those living with disability - showing what's possible when we come together as a Church to live out the Gospel message of love and justice.

Thank you for uniting with us this Lent to build a more just and compassionate world.

THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS

First Friday Adoration and Benediction

**OUR LADY
OF NATIVITY
CHURCH,
LAWSON**

7.00 pm | 01 MAY 2026



254 Great Western Highway, Lawson, NSW 2783
– Deacon Alan Skofic

Our Commitment to Safeguarding at The Catholic Parish of the Upper Blue Mountains



We are dedicated to creating a safe and nurturing environment for all members of our community, especially children and vulnerable adults, in line with the "Parramatta Way."

The Parramatta Way of Safeguarding is to... Act with justice, and state that we have a zero tolerance for any form of abuse or harm to children or any person; Act with justice, and ensure that laws and obligations are upheld, and safety is paramount.



OUR LADY OF THE NATIVITY CHURCH LAWSON

DONATIONS: Until our parish finances are unified, please continue to follow. Donations can be made to Our Lady of Nativity via direct deposit to the bank account below.

Account name: Lawson Our Lady of the Nativity
BSB: 067-950 Account Number: 00000164

OLN SENIORS' GROUP will meet next on **Wednesday, 29th April**, commencing with morning tea from 10am (provided) with BYO lunch. Please contact Paula Currie on 0416 185 651 for venue and/or for further information.

2026 FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES. We will soon display in the foyer a schedule for fundraising activities for 2026 and providing both morning teas (Sundays) and suppers for Saturday night mass on the 1st weekend of every month. We kindly ask for donations and of any Artwork (paintings or prints) and small empty clean lidded jars. These can be provided to myself or Kate in the foyer after each mass. Or alternatively call Jenny (0428057753) or Kate 0420545275) for any enquiries you may have. We look forward to your support to raise funds for our Church Community throughout 2026.

97 Years OLD. The Our Lady of Nativity Church was officially blessed and opened on April 7 1929 by Archbishop Michael Kelly. The Church was built as a memorial to Alice Meagher, with the foundation stone laid on October 21 1928 by Cardinal Ceretti, following a property donation by her husband Richard Meagher. Eternal Rest to the Meagher's and Congratulations to OLN Community .

Renovation. Ongoing repricing and Application for Approval from the Diocese. Work will start as soon as possible.

Free Copy of Way of the Cross. Please grab a copy of our Scriptural Church Way of the Cross as depicted on our Church Wall. Collect your copy as you leave the Church today.

CATHOLIC OUTLOOK MAGAZINE for Lent & Easter/ Autumn issue is now available at the church foyer. Some articles of interest are: **History of Parramatta Diocese**, which extends from Parramatta/Ermington to Mt Victoria, Dundas Valley to Megalong Valley, Luddenham in the south to Wiseman's Ferry in the north, is celebrating its **40th anniversary**; **the new Catholic Precinct and church for Blacktown**; the Pope honours a Lalor Park parishioner; to name a few.



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER'S CHURCH WENTWORTH FALLS

DONATIONS: Until our parish finances are unified, please continue to follow the link from St Canice's Katoomba. Please follow this link.

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

MUSIC MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY @ ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH Inviting those music enthusiasts and musically incline to form a choir for St Francis Xavier Church Community Mass every Sunday at 8:30 am. Please call the office or let the sacristan know. Practice will be announced as soon as we have you.



ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHURCH LEURA

DONATIONS: Until our parish finances are unified, please continue to follow the link from St Canice's Katoomba. Please follow this link.

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

MUSIC MINISTRY IN LEURA If you are able to sing at 5:00 pm Sunday Mass in St Bonaventure Church, we would like to invite you to be part of the Choir with **Colleen (?)** or call the parish office. Thank you.



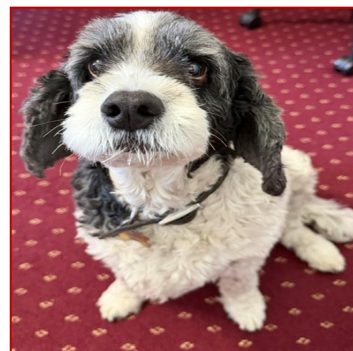
ST. JOSEPH CHURCH MEGALONG VALLEY

Our next mass at the Valley will be on Friday 15th of May at 4:00 pm. Address: 1270 Megalong Rd, Megalong Valley NSW 27



ST. PAUL CHURCH MT VICTORIA

Vigil Masses for Sunday occurs every Saturdays at 6:00 pm. Address- 65 Great Western Highway, Mount Victoria NSW 2786.



SPENCER'S 10TH BIRTHDAY PARTY

ON 17TH MAY 2026@ St Canice's Parish Hall after the 10:00 am Sunday Mass.



abaxkf.com.au 1300 300 369

PO Box 7250 1 Cowpasture PI, Wetherill Park NSW 2164



†
ST. CANICE'S CHURCH
KATOOMBA

PARISH B. POINT: We have introduced a new and easy way of contribution for both 1st and 2nd collections. When choosing 2nd collection please note name and envelop No. Please follow this link.

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

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 Bpoint.



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**

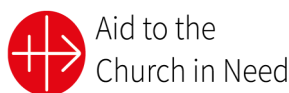
DIOCESE NEWS & BEYOND

SAFEGUARDING AUDIT ON APRIL-JUNE 2026. In preparation for the first audit that will take place this year. A member of the Safeguarding Audit team will be in touch and answer any questions you may have. You can also email the team any time at: safeguardingaudit@parracatholic.org

PONTIFICAL HOLY LAND COLLECTION 2026. We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for all your support and generosity extended for the upkeep of All the Pilgrimage Sites in the Holy Land.

DEANERY CLUSTER MEETING for the MOUNTAINS AND NEPEAN. We will be holding the Deanery Cluster Meetings for the Parish Admin Staff on 24th June 2026 @ Edmund Rice Centre Mulgoa.

Diocese of Parramatta@40 years. A special Mass of Thanksgiving and celebration of 40 years of our Diocese will take place on the Solemnity of the Holy Trinity, Sunday 31st of May at St Patrick's Cathedral, 2:00 pm.



ACN AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND

Aid to the Church in Need is calling for urgent prayer and support for Christian communities affected by war in the Middle East. Your help will provide emergency food packages, support parishes sheltering displaced families, keep schools running, and supply vital medical and pastoral care. To learn more or give today, please scan the QR code or visit www.rebrand.ly/EmergencyAppeal.

Middle East Emergency Appeal – Aid to the Church in Need

About Aid to the Church in Need (ACN)

Aid to the Church in Need is the only international Catholic charity dedicated to the service of suffering Christians wherever they are persecuted, oppressed or in pastoral need. Founded in 1947, ACN is a pontifical foundation and provides vital aid for pastoral projects, religious education, and emergency relief in areas affected by conflict and poverty. For many years we have partnered with parishes to share news of our work in bulletins to let parishioners know about these projects. ACN operates solely on benefactor donations, with no funding from Church or State. Learn more on our website: www.aidtochurch.org



Two IMPACTFUL Sessions!

APRIL INFO SESSION

• SCAN HERE •

• SCAN HERE •

APRIL INFO SESSION

MAY INFO SESSION

• SCAN HERE •

• SCAN HERE •

MAY INFO SESSION

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY ORDAINED DEACONS. The Ordination of Mr Paul Tran on Saturday 25 April, 6pm at St Nicholas of Myra Parish, Penrith, and Mr Jeff Hood on Sunday 26 April, 6pm at St John XXIII Parish, Glenwood-Stanhope Gardens.

Eucharist28 Update – Renewal has begun! The great gift of the Eucharist is that it is not merely a story remembered over a few sacred days. At every Mass, we encounter the reality itself: we offer ourselves to God alongside Christ, truly present in our midst. For more information and regular updates, please register on the website: eucharist28.org



**“We are an Easter people and alleluia is our song!”
 St Augustine, Sermon 243**

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

FIRST READING (Acts 2:14, 36-41)

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.'

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.

SECOND READING (1 Peter 2:20-25)

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty.

This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL (John 10:1-10)

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them. So Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly,
I am the gate of the sheepfold.
All others who have come
are thieves and brigands;
but the sheep took no notice of them.

I am the gate.

Anyone who enters through me will be safe:
he will go freely in and out
and be sure of finding pasture.

The thief comes
only to steal and kill and destroy.

I have come
so that they may have life
and have it to the full.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Good Shepherd has risen,
who laid down his life for his sheep
and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

