



THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS

CLERGY

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

VIGIL & 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: 9.30am Lawson
Fri: 12pm Katoomba
Fri: 4pm Megalong Valley
(3rd Fri of the month)
Sat: 9am Katoomba

RECONCILIATION

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: Please call the Office for details.

Baptisms: upon request.
(2nd and 4th Sundays)

ADORATION CHAPEL

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

FROM THE SEVEN CHURCHES

Solemnity of Christ the King YEAR C | 23 Nov 2025

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

The texts from Scripture for this Solemnity of Christ the King reflect on the idea of true kingship, and how we must be ready for the Lord's Return at the end of time, when he will be Ruler of all.

Christ has already fulfilled the OT, and has saved those who believe in the Truth of His Gospel. We must be like the 'good thief' and continually try to comprehend the mystery that is the Son of God, living faithfully our Discipleship.

The expectation that Christ will come again gives a sense of urgency to a Christian's life: we do not know when we will see the Lord face to face. Hence we live each moment fully and faithfully.

Let's pray today and in the coming week that the Lord Jesus will gift us with strength and determination to do all that we must to be ready at all times to welcome the Return of the King!

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

NEXT SUNDAY (30th November): **THE FIRST PARISH ASSEMBLY** This is to be held in St Canice's Hall, commencing at 11:15am.

Please make an effort to be there for this important gathering. We will discern and decide on the Church Community Pastoral teams.

With regard to discerning our Patron Saint, the interim Parish Pastoral Council last Sunday decided that we really need to look at our parish mission before finalizing our Patron. So, the Assembly will offer us an opportunity to work towards establishing our mission as a new combined parish, and this will aid us in coming to a decision on a Saint or Name that epitomizes our Christian vocation as Church in this part of the world.

God Bless you all.
Fr John



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

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, 1270 Megalong Rd.
MOUNT VICTORIA: St Paul's, 65 Great Western Highway.

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: blue-mountains@parracatholic.org

Parish websites:
bluemountainscatholic.org.au
sacredheartblckheath.org.au
lawsoncatholicchurch.org.au

Facebook: [facebook.com/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>.



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)

OFFICE OF SAFEGUARDING

"This is what the Lord asks of you... 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/

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

Interim Parish Pastoral Council Members

Peter Lawlor (Chair Katoomba)
Maria Dodd (Lawson)
John Tweedie (Finance Rep)
Julie O'Keeffe (Blackheath)
Therese Moore (Katoomba)
Graham Beal (Blackheath)

Matthew Brawn (Secretary- Katoomba)
Russel Smith (Leura)
Paul Gannon (Lawson)
Maria Eades (Deanery Pastoral Council Rep.)
The Clergy (ex-officio Fr Peter, FR Jessie, Dec Alan)
School Rep (TBC)

Parish Finance Council Members

Fr John
Fr Peter
Fr Jessie
Dec Alan

John Tweedie (Chair)
Elaine Smith
John Grant
Tom Boyd

Maylin Corros
Marilyn Rowe
Peter Lawlor (PPC Representative)

MASS OFFERING INTENTIONS:

Recently deceased: Patricia Wolthers, Marie Hurley, Noni Emerton, John Casey, Sister Helena, Lena, Ronald Fletcher.

Deceased and anniversaries: Jim Le Breton, Betty O'Conner, Mick Le Breton, Andrew Krawczyk, Jean Lennane, ted and Liselotte Cocksedge, Eileen Smith, Ron Drummond, Jarovslav Zeeman, Leslie Dee, Edna Bentick, Patricia Davies, Barry Roberts, Brenda Pateman, Andrew Harris and all the faithful departed especially those for whom you requested prayers and masses and the forgotten souls in purgatory.

Pray for the Sick and their Carers: Kevin Gordon, Kelly Gale, Nathan, Susan Sergent, Sandy Mobray, Joella, Joan Gracey, Doreen Kinsella & George Commens, Mary Moran, Fr Kerry Bayada, Bern McPhee, Maria Cora, Josephine Burdett, Beverly Bateup, Anne Farindon, John Crowley, Maria Johnson, Trennah Portelli, Kevin Medlin, Rob Nickl, 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.*

THIS WEEK IN THE UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS NO CHANGES TO MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

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.

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 WEDNESDAY at 6:00pm in the old adoration chapel at Katoomba. You are most welcome to attend and see what the Legion is all about.

INVITE OUR LADY INTO YOUR HOME

Our Lady's statue is currently being repaired and visits to parishioner homes are on hold. Thank you for your understanding.

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, as they will make arrangements.

AN INVITATION FROM SISTER JACINTA SHAILER TO ALL IN PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS

There will be an Advent gathering on Friday December 19 at 10am-12noon at The Function Room, St Scholastica's Congregational Centre, 2 Arcadia Rd, Glebe Point. This will be a time of song and silence, poems and prayers, sharing and blessing. Morning tea will be included. Please RSVP to Sister Jacinta on 0418 619 027 or email jshailer@goodsams.org.au

CALL FOR BUILDING CONTRACTORS - OLN LAWSON



The Parish is hoping to hear from any parishioners or local builders who would like to quote for the rebuild of the fire damaged administration building at Our Lady of the Nativity, Lawson.

If you're able to help — please get in touch with the Parish Office 02 4782 2804 or Damian Moore 0425 259 500.

PARISH ASSEMBLY INVITATION

All parishioners are warmly invited to our First Parish Assembly on Sunday, 30 November 2025, from 11:15 am to 1:00 pm in the Parish Hall at St Canice's, Katoomba.

Together, we will pray, reflect, and discuss how to strengthen our shared mission across the Upper Blue Mountains through new Church Community Pastoral Teams and begin shaping our Parish Mission Statement to guide our future.

This is a time to listen, share, and help build a sustainable and hope-filled future for our parish. Everyone is encouraged to come – your presence and voice matter as we gather in faith and hope, trusting the Holy Spirit who continues to guide our journey.

PARISH DISCUSSION GROUP

The next meeting of the parish's discussion group will be **3:00-4:30pm, 29 November, Sacred Heart Church Hall, Blackheath**. At this meeting we'll be focussing on **Chapter 3 A Church for the Poor**, of Pope Leo's new exhortation *Dilexi Te* (I have loved you). https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/apost_exhortations/documents/20251004-dilexi-te.html At the last meeting we spent time coming to terms with the first two chapters of this work. Central to this is Pope Leo's statement "I share the desire of my beloved predecessor [Pope Francis] that all Christians come to appreciate the close connection between Christ's love and his summons to care for the poor. I too consider it essential to insist on this path to holiness." Chapter 3 will focus on how in its 2,000 years history has met this call.

Discussions are open and mutually supportive. Please let me know if you'd prefer a Zoom or Teams link. All welcome!. Clive Kanen (email via bluemountains@parracatholic.org)

BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Next weekend, our parish is proud to support our Bishop's Christmas appeal. Envelop is provided in the Church's pews.

DIocese of PARRAMATTA

OPEN THE DOORS OF HOPE TO GRIEVING HEARTS THIS CHRISTMAS

Bring counselling support to people experiencing grief and loss.

"Normalising grief as a deeply human experience can bring us hope that we're not alone."
- Harrison Porter, Grief and Loss Counsellor,
Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains

Scan to give to the Bishop's Christmas Appeal

parracatholic.org/appeal



ST CANICE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
WITH
ST VINCENT DE PAUL

GIFT GIVING DAY

MONDAY 1ST DECEMBER 2025

LUKE 1:26-28, 30-31
"THE ANGEL SAID TO MARY, 'DO NOT BE AFRAID.
YOU HAVE FOUND FAVOUR WITH GOD.
YOU WILL GIVE BIRTH TO A SON, AND YOU WILL NAME HIM JESUS.'"

ALL WELCOME

8:20AM TREE DECORATING

GIFTS UNDER THE TREE

KINDY TINS OF FRUIT / BOB BONS / CHRISTMAS SERVIETTES
STAGE 1 BUTTER COOKIES / SHORTBREAD / MINCE PIES
STAGE 2 SMALL TINNED HAM / SOFT DRINK / CHRISTMAS SERVIETTES
STAGE 3 LOLLIES / SOFT DRINK / BOB BONS
STAFF TOYS

8:45AM PRAYER

**SONGS AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE
FEATURING THE SCHOOL CHOIR**

CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS MASS TIMES

Wednesday

CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS

5:00 pm St Bonaventure Church, Railway
Pd & Hartley Esplanade, Leura

24

5:00 pm Our Lady of Nativity Church, 254
Great Western Hwy, Lawson

DECEMBER

6:00 pm Sacred Heart Church, 167
Wentworth Street, Blackheath

Thursday
DECEMBER 25

CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT

12:00 am
St Canice's Church, 158 Katoomba St, Katoomba

CHRISTMAS DAY

Thursday

8:00 am St Francis Xavier Church, 3 Day St,
Wentworth Falls

25

8:30 am Our Lady of Nativity Church, 254
Great Western Hwy, Lawson

DECEMBER

9:30 am Sacred Heart Church, 167
Wentworth Street Blackheath

10:00 am St Canice's Church 158
Katoomba St, Katoomba

NO EVENING MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY
FRIDAY 26TH DECEMBER 2025 BOXING DAY MASS
@ 12:00 NN ST CANICE'S CHURCH
158 KATOOMBA ST KATOOMBA

Please Save *the Dates*

Saturday
November **29**

Parish Discussion Group @ Sacred Heart Parish Hall
3:00 PM to 4:30 PM

Sunday
November **30**

First Sunday of Advent
The Catholic Church New Liturgical Year
Happy New Year

Sunday
November **30**

**First Catholic Parish Assembly of the Upper
Blue Mountains**
St Canice's Hall @ 11:15 am

Monday
December **01**

St Canice's Primary Christmas Gift Giving
8:20 am to 8:45 am St Canice's Primary Katoomba

Friday
December **05**

Sacred Heart Blackheath Christmas Party
Sacred Heart Church Hall @ 6:00 PM

Sunday
December **07**

**Catholic Parish of the Upper Blue Mountains
Christmas Party**
after the 10:00 am Mass @ St Canice's Church Hall

@year 2025

Epiphany Pilgrimage – Coordinator Needed

The much-loved Epiphany Pilgrimage (2–8 January), a 110 km Catholic pilgrimage through our beautiful Blue Mountains, needs a new Coordinator (or Coordinators) so this cherished tradition can continue.

This role oversees the planning and smooth running of the pilgrimage: connecting with pilgrims, coordinating with hosting parishes, supporting volunteers, organising chaplains and speakers, and working with the Diocese and Deanery Council on registration and promotion.

If you have a heart for mission, hospitality, and helping others journey with Christ, we invite you to consider this meaningful service.

The full role description is available by contacting the parish office.

Your “yes” could help keep the Epiphany Pilgrimage alive for years to come.

Sacred Heart Church Community

Sacred Heart Church ~ Blackheath
Saint Paul's Church ~ Mount Victoria
Saint Joseph's Church ~ Megalong Valley

As a community bonded together through faith,
we are called to share our experience of God with those we meet each day,
in particular, those in our local community.

*We acknowledge the Darug and Gundungurra people, the traditional custodians of this land
and pay our respects to the elders past and present.*

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_CATHOLICPARISHOF-SACREDHEARTBLACKHEATH



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

CUPPA'S TOGETHER EVERY WEDNESDAY AFTER 9AM MASS IN SACRED HEART HALL

Join us for a warming coffee and fun conversation from 9:30-12:00. Vinnies assistance is available during this time in the meeting room. All welcome on Wednesdays!



CHRISTMAS RAFFLE AT BLACKHEATH

David Buckley will talk this Sunday about our annual Christmas Raffle. Please support this fundraiser by purchasing a book of tickets after Mass today. The raffle will be drawn on Sunday 14th December. We will also have our Christmas stall on this day you need to purchase a last-minute gift or two.

Social Committee

Happy Anniversary November

19th Colette and Sean Lillis (m 1994)
21st Tony and Maree Crawford (m 1981)

IT'S CHRISTMAS PARTY TIME AT SACRED HEART!

Please join us for joyful Christmas carol singing with Pat Drummond, a delicious, shared meal and good company. All are welcome on Friday night, December 5 at 6pm-8pm in the hall. BYO drinks and a plate of savoury or sweet food to share.

FEBRUARY GARAGE SALE

We are not accepting any garage sale items at this stage for our garage sale in FEBRUARY. Please do not leave any items for sale in meeting room or the parish hall until a call goes out after Christmas. If items are left out the front of the hall, they will be disposed of. Many thanks. Garage Sale Committee.

CHRISTIAN CONTEMPLATION

Christian Contemplation every Tuesday morning at 10-10:45 in Sacred Heart Church Blackheath. A cup of tea is available afterwards for those who wish. Contact Marilyn Jones 0401637759 or read about Christian Contemplation at <https://wccm.org>



Our Sacred Heart Community has been a long time and very generous supporter of the Jesuit Refugee Service Lenten Foodbank Appeal - standing in solidarity with refugees and people seeking asylum that live in our Parramatta Diocese.

As Christmas approaches, we are being asked to support the many families and individuals who will rely on JRS Australia over the holiday period.

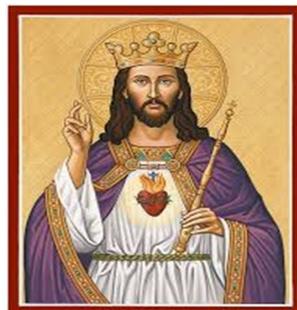
We will be holding the food drive over the next 3 weekends – concluding on Sunday 7 December – for delivery to JRS by December 11th.

Items being sought

✦ Cooking Oil, Pasta Sauce, Canned Corn, Canned Black or Red Beans. Instant Coffee

If you would prefer to support JRS by donating a Gift Card, these may be purchased at any supermarket. Please speak with David Buckley (0400208707).

Thank you in advance. For your generosity.





OUR LADY OF THE NATIVITY CHURCH COMMUNITY

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

NOVEMBER—MONTH OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

This month we remember, pray and have Mass celebrated for the departed beloved members of our families and friends.

Envelopes are in the pews and names of the Departed will be recorded in our Book of Remembrance which will be on display during November and Mass celebrated for the departed. Please place your envelope in the Second collection.

LAWSON ADVENT REFLECTION GROUPS 2025

Kate Powell (PH: 0420 545 275) and Jenny Gannon (PH: 0428 057 753) are offering an invitation to our individual Advent Reflection Groups. Being held each Wednesday morning or evening from November 26th, December 3rd, 10th and 17th. We welcome you all to join us on this special Advent occasion.

Please refer to the form in the Lawson church foyer to confirm you would like to join us in these reflections and a chat afterwards with tea and cake.

Please call the above phone numbers for any enquiries you may have, thank you

From the Discernment Questions- in line with the Diocesan Pastoral Plan for a Synodal Church & the

What are the challenges the faith community (at Lawson) may need to encourage?

Structurally:

*Wheelchair- and Walker-assisted members... -to have a more convenient option to sit other than at the rear of the church; -to be Readers; -to participate in the Offertory Procession. *Disabled toilet facility. *Public Address system; celebrants wearing microphones.

Physically:

*To organise an inventory of the Housebound.
*Ministry to the Housebound.... -who seek travel assistance to Mass or Devotions; -who would appreciate a visit; -who may be shy to request Holy Communion *Assistance to Housebound who wish Liturgy-streaming of parish Mass.

Psychologically/Spiritually:

*How confident can members, physically or mentally afflicted, be to attend Mass should they require special conditions -e.g autistic condition that requires to wear a headphone owing to noise-level? *In the prevailing climate of loneliness & financial hardship, is there a call to identify such situations within our community. *For members who do not attend Mass, can churches be open for personal visits. *What approach can be taken to welcome those who project a disposition of isolation? - Len Blahut (Chair)



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER'S CHURCH COMMUNITY.

WENTWORTH FALLS

NOVEMBER MASS OFFERING ENVELOPES IN THE CHURCH: If you would like to have your deceased loved 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.

Farewell

A big **THANK YOU** to **Matalena and Jerome** for their valued support and contribution to our Church community in Wentworth Falls. We wish them all the best in their return to **SAMOA**. We pray that the Lord continues to look after them in the future



ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHURCH COMMUNITY

LEURA

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

NOVEMBER MASS OFFERING ENVELOPES IN THE CHURCH: If you would like to have your deceased loved 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, indicate the names will be published on the November Mass list including the name of the donor.

LEURA CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS SINGING

Children are invited to come to the Christmas Eve Vigil Mass, to be held at 5pm at St Bonaventure's Church Leura, to sing in a children's choir. Please contact Colleen Bourke, Tel: 0415329048, email: cbourke5@parra.catholic.edu.au.

Parish Assembly – Your Voice Matters
All parishioners are invited to our **First Parish Assembly** on **Sunday 30 November 2025**, from **11:15am–1:00pm** in St Canice's Parish Hall, Katoomba. This is a crucial moment for our parish. We'll pray, reflect, and help shape our future together through the formation of **new Church Community Pastoral Teams** and the beginnings of our **Parish Mission Statement**.

We especially need strong participation from Leura parishioners so we can build a fully functioning Pastoral Team

Please come. Your presence, your insights, and your faith-filled voice are essential as we plan a hopeful, sustainable future for our parish family.

Music Ministry in Leura

If you are able to sing at the Masses in St Bonaventure Church, we would like to invite you to be part of the Choir with Sarah Nyssen 0488203267 or call the parish office. Thank you.



ST. CANICE'S CHURCH COMMUNITY

KATOOMBA

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

<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 B.point.



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

NOVEMBER MASS OFFERING ENVELOPES

If you would like to have your deceased loved 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.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME 2025

There are two sessions: Thursdays at 2.00pm and 7.00pm. Please note that the program will start on Thursday 4th December 2025. The cost of the advent books \$5.50. 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.

PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY

The parish Christmas party will be held in Katoomba Hall Sunday 7th of December after 10am Mass, every one welcome, please bring plate.

Also Saturday 6th December after 11am we will be setting up the hall for the party. If anyone is available to

come and help put tables, chairs and decorations out, contact Barbara, Pam or the office.

DONATION FOR CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

We are in need of donations for Christmas hampers. Baskets will be provided in the Church foyers.

POPE PIUS XI'S ENCYCLICAL INSTITUTING THE FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING 11/12/1925

32. Nations will be reminded by the annual celebration of this feast that not only private individuals but also rulers and princes are bound to give public honour and obedience to Christ. It will call to their minds the thought of the last judgment, wherein Christ, who has been cast out of public life, despised, neglected and ignored, will most severely avenge these insults; for his kingly dignity demands that the State should take account of the commandments of God and of Christian principles, both in making laws and in administering justice, and also in providing for the young a sound moral education.

33. The faithful, moreover, by meditating upon these truths, will gain much strength and courage, enabling them to form their lives after the true Christian ideal. If to Christ our Lord is given all power in heaven and on earth; if all people, purchased by his precious blood, are by a new right subjected to his dominion; if this power embraces all people, it must be clear that not one of our faculties is exempt from his empire.

He must reign in our **minds**, which should assent with perfect submission and firm belief to revealed truths and to the doctrines of Christ. He must reign in our **wills**, which should obey the laws and precepts of God. He must reign in our **hearts**, which should spurn natural desires and love God above all things, and cleave to him alone. He must reign in our **bodies** and in our members, which should serve as instruments for the interior sanctification of our souls, or to use the words of the Apostle Paul, as instruments of justice unto God.

If all these truths are presented to the faithful for their consideration, they will prove a powerful incentive to perfection. It is Our fervent desire, Venerable Brethren, that those who are without the fold may seek after and accept the sweet yoke of Christ, and that we, who by the mercy of God are of the household of the faith, may bear that yoke, not as a burden but with joy, with love, with devotion; that having lived our lives in accordance with the laws of God's kingdom, we may receive full measure of good fruit, and counted by Christ good and faithful servants, we may be rendered partakers of eternal bliss and glory with him in his heavenly kingdom.

ON THE SOLEMNITY OF
CHRIST THE KING

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

How worthy is the Lamb who was slain,
to receive power and divinity,
and wisdom and strength and honour.
To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

FIRST READING 2 Samuel 5:1-3

All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron. 'Look' they said 'we are your own flesh and blood. In days past when Saul was our king, it was you who led Israel in all their exploits; and the Lord said to you, "You are the man who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you shall be the leader of Israel.'" So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a pact with them at Hebron in the presence of the Lord, and they anointed David king of Israel.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

SECOND READING Colossians 1:12-20

We give thanks to the Father who has made it possible for you to join the saints and with them to inherit the light. Because that is what he has done: he has taken us out of the power of darkness and created a place for us in the kingdom of the Son that he loves, and in him, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins.

He is the image of the unseen God and the first-born of all creation; for in him were created all things in heaven and on earth: everything visible and everything invisible, Thrones, Dominions, Sovereignities, Powers—all things were created through him and for him. Before anything was created, he existed, and he holds all things in unity.

Now the Church is his body, he is its head. As he is the Beginning, he was first to be born from the dead, so that he should be first in every way; because God wanted all perfection to be found in him and all things to be reconciled through him and for him, everything in heaven and everything on earth, when he made peace by his death on the cross.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom of David our Father; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 23:35-43

The people stayed before the cross watching Jesus. As for the leaders, they jeered at him. 'He saved others,' they said 'let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.' The soldiers mocked him too, and when they approached to offer him vinegar they said, 'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.' Above him there was an inscription: 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals hanging there abused him. 'Are you not the Christ?' he said. 'Save yourself and us as well.' But the other spoke up and rebuked him. 'Have you no fear of God at all?' he said, 'You got the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus,' he said 'remember me when you come into your kingdom.' 'Indeed, I promise you,' he replied 'today you will be with me in paradise.'

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The Lord sits as King for ever.

The Lord will bless his people with peace.

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