



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)
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: upon request.

2nd Sunday @ Katoomba

4th Sunday @ OLN Lawson

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
Church Blackheath



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

FROM THE SEVEN CHURCHES

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A 15 February 2026

Dear Sisters & Brothers in Christ,

In today's text from Matthew Jesus interprets the Commandments from a more mature standpoint.

Indeed, the Christian message is not a legalistic message (although many Christians of various persuasions down through the ages have attempted to make it so!).

No, the Gospel of Jesus Christ is a teaching that liberates one from the primitive and childish slavery to rules and regulations. It is a message that frees us for a more mature and adult life in the Spirit.

And this is based on LOVE: love of God, love of neighbour, love in imitation of the unconditional love of Christ for all.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

* This weekend we are inviting more members of the Parish to volunteer to spend one hour in Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. We are blessed to have such a magnificent Adoration Chapel in our Parish. Please volunteer to pray before the Lord!

* This coming week sees the commencement of Lent: Ash Wednesday masses will be 9am at Sacred Heart, 6pm at St Canice's and 6pm at Our Lady of Nativity.

Remember that Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of Abstinence for all and of Fasting for those 18-60.

God Bless you all. Fr John

CHANGES TO MAIN GATE OPERATION

ST CANICE'S CHURCH DRIVEWAY:

The current setup for the main driveway gates enables users to access the property after hours via the keypad installed in the driveway. However, to close the gates they need to exit their vehicles and re-enter the access code to close the gates. This process is repeated when exiting the property.

To enable after hours users a greater level of security and safety access to the property afterhours will be as follows:

Entry: Enter pin into keypad to open gates – proceed through gates – Gates will automatically close after your vehicle passes the newly installed sensors.

Exit: Drive to gate and vehicle sensors installed in the driveway will open the gates. Exit driveway and the gates will automatically close, there is no need to enter the pin code on exiting the property.

Normal hours (6am to 6pm) gate operation will remain unchanged.

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: Upperblue-mountains@parracatholic.org
Parish websites:
bluemountainscatholic.org.au
sacredheartblkheath.org.au
lawsoncatholicchurch.org.au

Facebook: facebook.com/bluemountainscatholic
Lawson Facebook: facebook.com/olncclawson
Blackheath Facebook: facebook.com/profile.php?id=100076756208721
Parish YouTube: 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

Weddings & Church Bookings

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

Interim Parish Pastoral Council Members

Fr John McSweeney, Parish Priest
The Clergy (ex-officio Fr Peter, Fr Jessie, Deacon Alan)
Matthew Brawn (Secretary & Katoomba)
Russell Smith (Leura)
Julie O'Keeffe (Blackheath & Deanery Pastoral Council Rep.)
Therese Moore (Katoomba)
School Rep (TBC)

Peter Lawlor (Chair Katoomba)
Graham Beale (Blackheath & Deputy Chair)
Maria Dodd (Lawson)
John Tweedie (Finance Rep)
Maria Eades (Leura & Deanery Pastoral Council Rep.)
Paul Gannon (Lawson)

Parish Finance Council Members

Fr John
Fr Peter
Fr Jessie
Dec Alan

John Tweedie (Chair)
Elaine Smith (Deputy Chair)
John Grant
Tom Boyd

Maylin Corros
Marilyn Rowe
Peter Lawlor (PPC Representative)



MASS OFFERING INTENTIONS



Recently deceased: Rebecca Etccl, Stephen Mount, Elizabeth (Lizzy) Marshall, Sis Jeana Abejuela OAR, Joan Marie Gracie, Robert Nickl

Deceased and anniversary: Jahja Soetanto, Kenneth Soewandi, Lucy Yonatan, Paul Le Breton, La Roche, Brown, Foley, Rome Families, Tochillo(Scott)Brown, Wlodek Kozlowski, Vicky Todarello, Dr John Howard Casey, Dr Vale Jeane Lennane; Ted and Lislotte Cocksedge and the all forgotten souls in purgatory.

Pray for the Sick and their Carers: George and Laura Bofta, Sarah-Jane Hallett, Les Hayward, Chloe Newton, Kevin Gordon, Kelly Gale, Nathan, Susan Sergent, 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, 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

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, and they will make arrangements.

REDISCOVERING THE VALUE OF FAITH

In a world that moves fast and often pulls us in many directions, this is an invitation to **pause, reflect, and reconnect**.

Join us as we **rediscover the richness of our Catholic faith**, exploring the deep treasures found in uncovering the **teachings of the Church, the Liturgy**, and how faith continues to guide, comfort, and inspire us in everyday life. Whether you are deeply rooted in your faith, returning after time away, or simply seeking to grow and understand more, **you are most welcome**.

When & Where

Discussions every 1st Sunday of the month 11:30am@ St Canice's Hall, Katoomba

First Discussion Sunday, 1st March

Come along, bring a friend, and take part in a welcoming conversation grounded in **Catholic tradition, shared faith, and community**.

ECUMENICAL EASTER SUNDAY DAWN EVENT

Preparations are underway for the Easter Sunday Dawn community celebration overlooking the majestic Jamison Valley in Leura on **Easter Sunday, 5th April 2026**. This ecumenical event is a collaboration between Churches in the Upper Mountains. It is an open invitation to experience the joy and wonder of the risen Christ in our lives, in our communities and in the world as the sun rises.

Can you help us support this event?

As part of the event planning team we are inviting support from our parish communities with the following:

musicians with portable instruments to support the event (note there is no power at the site). Please contact Merrill (Leura Uniting Church) on 0423 067 442 by [the 15th March](#).

donations (financial and/or quality raffle items) to contribute towards costs of printing, and advertising and other event costs. Please contact Barbara Davidson (St Bonaventure, Leura) on 0417 490 103.

Further details about the event will be published in the Bulletin closer to Easter.

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.

PROJECT COMPASSION Boxes are available this week in the pews please donate generously this Lent 2026.



**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

Project Compassion Sunday 14–15 of February 2026

This Lent, we are called to *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion.

Your generosity this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need.



Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

Or online at: www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate

Or by calling: 1800 024 413



The NSW Government is reviewing the State's euthanasia (Voluntary Assisted Dying) laws and is calling for public feedback until 26 February. This is an important chance for Christians to advocate for faith-based aged care homes, which are currently required to allow euthanasia on their premises, even when it conflicts with their beliefs. A proposed amendment to give faith-based providers the same right as hospitals to transfer residents off-site did not pass last year. With strong public support now, we have an opportunity to push for this vital protection again.

Please make a submission through the official NSW Government portal [here](#) and speak up for freedom of belief and the sanctity of life.

Link in case the hyperlink doesn't work: https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=v6eHptsC30O8u-eovaYRonOGaP4-4qBNhkd3Md_YL7hUQUxGNTQ1Szg1MEs5MjVWTjBCUzIFN1hJOSQIQCN0PWcu&route=shorturl



Volunteer with IMPACT
Develop sustained self-reliant futures in overseas communities!

Join Palms International Volunteering [online](#) in this special session where you'll learn about our [diverse assignments](#) suited to your qualifications. Hear from past Palms volunteers how skill-exchange makes a lasting impact in communities and changes lives.

Venue: Online- Scan the QR or register at palms.org.au/events

Date: Thursday 19 February 2026
Time: 7 pm – 8:30 pm AEDT
02 9560 5333
palms@palms.org.au



Want to visit a community first? Join our 13-day **Encounter Tour to Timor Leste!**
Book by **28 February** for the May tour! See palms.org.au/encounters

Catholic Engaged Encounter Weekend: 21-22 February

How prepared are you for marriage? Engaged Encounter provides you with deeper insights into each other and into married life. We give you a chance to spend time together to strengthen and enrich your relationship. Additional weekends will be held from 23-24 May and 8-9 August. For further information, visit our website: www.engagedencounter.org.au

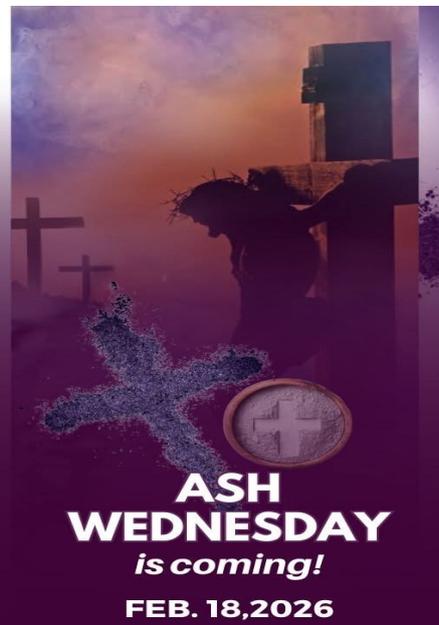
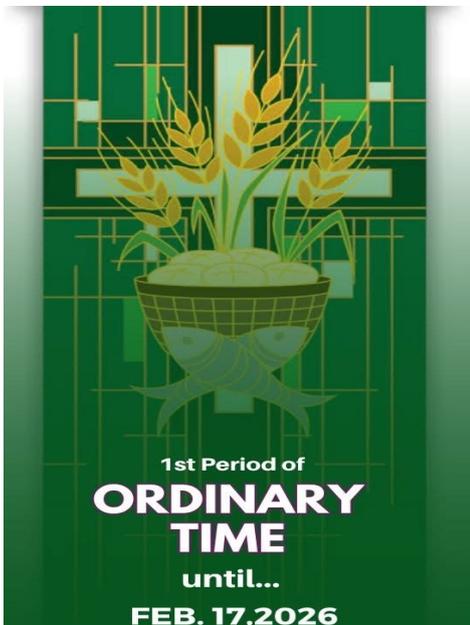
2026 ACBC Social Justice Statement on the cost of living

The Australian Bishops have released the first of two Social Justice Statements for 2026, titled "*The Cost of our Living: Economic and Social Justice for the Common Good*". The new statement and accompanying resources can be found at socialjustice.catholic.org.au.



Ash WEDNESDAY MASSES

9.00 am Blackheath
6.00 pm Katoomba
6.00 pm Lawson



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

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. Or join the newly formed group for a game of Mahjong. Beginners are welcome to join. 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.



Monday Morning Connection

The Uniting Church has resumed the Monday morning "CONNECTION". During the summer months, refreshments, tea, coffee & snacks will be served along with friendly conversation, games, & varied activities. All members of the community are welcome to come along. Time: 10am - 12.30pm each Monday

Location: Blackheath Uniting Church Hall - Govett's Leap Rd, Blackheath

Lenten Group

Sacred Heart parishioners are invited to join a Lenten group in preparation for Easter. The Lenten booklet, Compassio, will be used (on sale after Mass).

Time: 2pm OR 7pm. Date: Commencing 12 February & each Thursday in Lent

Location: 3 Easter St Leura.

Leader: Barbara Davidson. We thank Barbara for her hospitality.

JESUIT REFUEE SERVICE LENTEN FOODBANK APPEAL



Our Sacred Heart Community has been a long time and very generous supporter of the JRS Lenten Foodbank Appeal. Throughout the upcoming 6

weeks of Lent, we are once again asking you to stand in solidarity with refugees and people seeking asylum who live in our Parramatta Diocese. **These struggling families desperately need our support!**

Items being sought this year - please refer to the Gift Flyer. If you would prefer to support JRS by donating a Gift Card, please check out the Gift Card Flyer or speak with David Buckley (47875105 or 0400208707). Thank you in advance for your generosity.

JRS AUSTRALIA FOODBANK

A SMALL GIFT MAKES A BIG DIFFERENCE

Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Australia supports 150 families every week through our Foodbank. Over the next 6 weeks of Lent, you can support refugees and people seeking asylum by donating these essential items!

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3
Cooking Oil 750ml or 1L 	Dishwashing Liquid 	Canned Tuna Unflavoured, in oil 
Week 4	Week 5	Week 6
Laundry Detergent 	Dried Red Lentils 375g or 1kg 	Long Life Milk 1L Full Cream 

Supermarket Gift Cards also enable families to choose the items they need most

Email foodbank@jrs.org.au for more information

The Next Mass at St Joseph's Megalong will be Friday 20th February at 4pm.

"Yanama Budyari Gumada- Walk with Good Spirit"



**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: 0000164**

VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED

Calling anyone who is willing to help take care of the OLN Church grounds - mainly mowing, occasionally trimming hedges, weeding, etc We are hoping to create a roster of volunteers to keep our Church grounds tidy and presentable. All helpers welcome. Please contact **PAUL GANNON on 0409592055**

2026 WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

I would like to invite you, as representatives of Lawson Catholic Church community, to attend this year's **Mid Mountains World Day of Prayer service** to be hosted by the **Baptist Church, Cnr Orient Street & Great Western Highway, Lawson**, from 10.30am on **Friday, 6th March**, followed by morning tea provided by their community. On this day Christians in over 170 countries around the world will be praying in particular for the women of **Nigeria**, who have put together a brief service of prayers and readings for us to follow. It would be most helpful if you could **add your name to the list in the church foyer** or alternately, phone **Paula Currie on 0416 185 651 prior to Thursday, 5th March**, so that our parish's numbers can be forward to the organiser for the purpose of catering and setting up the venue. Thanking you for your consideration.

THURSDAY AND FRIDAY MASS TIMES

After comments from parishioners and some consultation, our **Friday Church Mass is at 9:00 am with an additional OLN Primary School Mass on Thursday at 9:00 am DURING THE SCHOOL TERMS.** The next school mass will be announced later.



**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER'S CHURCH
COMMUNITY.
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
COMMUNITY
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 Sunday 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.

ACOLAYTE AND ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

If you are able to serve at this Mass, we are happy to welcome you as part of our team. Training will be provided. Call the Office.

PASTORAL CARE

We are in need of some Extraordinary Ministers of Communion for Age Care and Hospitals. Please contact the Parish office.

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.

**People and Culture
Office
for
Safeguarding**

Diocese of Parramatta

P: (02) 8832 3419
E: safeguarding@parracatholic.org
E: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org
T: <http://learning.safeguarding.org.au/>

OFFICE FOR SAFEGUARDING DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA
AT TIMES WE ALL NEED SUPPORT THIS CARD CONTAINS A VARIETY OF SUPPORT SERVICES AVAILABLE FOR THOSE SEEKING SOMEONE TO TALK TO OR TO SEEK GUIDANCE OR ASSISTANCE.

Emergency | Police | Fire | Ambulance 000

Department Communities and Justice	Kids Helpline	NSW Rape Crisis
Child Protection Helpline - 13 21 11	1800 551 800	1800 424 0171
Link2Home Homelessness - 1800 152 152	Lifeline Australia	1800 385 578
Domestic Violence Line - 1800 656 463	13 11 14	Blue Knot Foundation
National Disability Abuse & Neglect Hotline - 1800 880 052	1800 RESPECT	1300 224 636
CatholicCare Western Sydney & The Blue Mountains - 02 8843 2500	1800 737 732	Mental Health Line
Headspace - 1800 650 890	Saman	1800 011 511
Beyond Blue - 1300 224 636	02 8355 3711	National Disability Abuse & Neglect
	1800 472 676	1800 880 052
	Elder Abuse	
	1800 628 221	



ST. CANICE'S CHURCH COMMUNITY 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 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**

SAINTS THIS WEEK

Tue 17 Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order
Wed 18 Ash Wednesday
Sat 21 Saint Peter Damian, Bishop, Doctor

NEXT SUNDAY: 1st Sunday of Lent

LENTEN GROUPS

There are two groups: Afternoon 2pm and evenings 7pm
Location: 3 Easter St, Leura
Group facilitator: Barbara Davidson
Start date: Thursday 12 February 2026
Contact: Barbara on 0417 490 103
Lenten programme participant books are available for purchase \$7 each.

PARISH ADORATION CHAPEL: Perpetual Eucharistic adoration is a wonderful way to show our gratitude and respond to Jesus' love for us. God loves you and when you adore the Lord in Adoration, He grants many special blessings of His goodness, grace, love and mercy. Our parish is blessed to have an Adoration Chapel located on the side of Katoomba Church that runs Monday through Friday.

A sign-up weekend will be held at the Sunday Masses on 21—22 February or alternatively please call Catherine on 0420 337 033 to enquire regarding signing up for a rostered weekly Holy Hour in the Adoration chapel.

We are inviting all parishioners to come and share in this beautiful gift that we are blessed and grateful to have in our parish.



Baptisms are held at both **Katoomba**, usually on the 2nd Sunday of each month and at **Lawson**, usually on the 4th Sunday of each month.

As preparation for the parents is part of the process a few weeks notice is needed.

“Just today, I baptised several newborn babies who have become our new brothers and sisters in the faith. How beautiful it is to celebrate the love of God – who calls us by name This first of the sacraments is a sacred sign that accompanies us forever. In moments of darkness, Baptism is light; in life's conflicts, it is reconciliation; at the hour of death, it is the gateway to heaven.”

From Pope Leo XIV's Angelus address given 11 January, the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, at St Peter's Square.

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.



Furnishing environments
that inspire Creativity,
Learning and Work in the
Education, Library,
Museum, Health and
Corporate sectors.

Contact: 1300 300 369
info@abaxkf.com.au
www.abaxkf.com.au

6th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Be my protector, O God,
a mighty stronghold to save me.
For you are my rock, my stronghold!
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

FIRST READING (Sirach 15:15-20)

If you wish, you can keep the commandments,
to behave faithfully is within your power.
He has set fire and water before you;
put out your hand to whichever you prefer.
humankind has life and death before us;
whichever we like better will be given us.
For vast is the wisdom of the Lord;
he is almighty and all-seeing.
His eyes are on those who fear him,
he notes every action of humanity.
He never commanded anyone to be godless,
he has given no one permission to sin.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

SECOND READING (1 Corinthians 2:6-10)

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of humanity, all that God has prepared for those who love him.

These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

GOSPEL Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia,

GOSPEL (Matthew 5:17-37)

Jesus said to his disciples: ' Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish them but to complete them. I tell you solemnly, till heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, one little stroke, shall disappear from the Law until its purpose is achieved. Therefore, the one who infringes even one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven; but the one who keeps them and teaches them will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven.

'For I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill they must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother or sister will answer for it before the court; if someone calls their brother or sister "Fool" they will answer for it before the Sanhedrin; and if someone calls them "Renegade" they will answer for it in hell fire. So then, if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, go and be reconciled with your brother or sister first, and then come back and present your offering. Come to terms with your opponent in good time while you are still on the way to the court with them, or they may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. I tell you solemnly, you will not get out till you have paid the last penny.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye should cause you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body thrown into hell. And if your right hand should cause you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body go to hell.

'It has also been said: Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a writ of dismissal. But I say this to you: everyone who divorces his wife, except for the case of fornication, makes her an adulteress; and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all, either by heaven, since that is God's throne; or by the earth, since that is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, since that is the city of the great king. Do not swear by your own head either, since you cannot turn a single hair white or black. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

They ate and had their fill,
and what they craved the Lord gave them;
they were not disappointed in what they craved.