



# 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:

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday @ Katoomba 11:00am  
4<sup>th</sup> 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



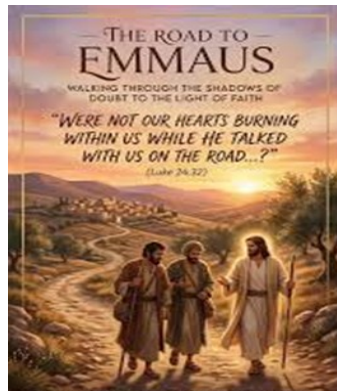
Please mute your mobile at Mass. Let's turn off the technology and turn on to God!

## FROM THE SEVEN CHURCHES IN THE MIST 3rd Sunday of Easter Year A 19 April 2026

### REFLECTION OF THE GOSPEL

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

To strengthen our faith in the risen Christ, the Church provides us with the gospel of Luke that tells us how the two disciples of Emmaus, after recognizing Jesus "in the breaking of



the bread returned to Jerusalem full of joy to tell others what had happened to them. In the face of the Apostle's disbelief and wonder, Jesus handed them some broiled fish and ate it before their eyes. One can discern a repeated invitation to overcome incredulity and believe in Christ's Resurrection, since his disciples are called to be witnesses precisely of this extraordinary event.

The Resurrection of Christ is central to Christianity. It is a fundamental truth to be reasserted vigorously in every epoch, since to deny it, as has been, and continues to be attempted, or to transform it into a purely spiritual event, is to thwart our very faith. St Paul states: "If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain" (1 Cor 15: 14). In the days that followed the Lord's Resurrection, the Apostles stayed together, comforted by Mary's presence, and after the Ascension they persevered with her in prayerful expectation of Pentecost. Our Lady was a mother and teacher to them, a role that she continues to play for Christians of all times. Every year, at Eastertide, we relive this experience more intensely and perhaps, precisely for this reason, popular tradition has dedicated to Mary the month of May that normally falls between Easter and Pentecost. Let us entrust to Mary the needs of the Church and of the whole world, especially at this time which is marked by so many shadows. We turn to her with the prayer of the Regina Caeli, a prayer that enables us to taste the comforting joy of the Risen Christ's presence.

- Excerpt from PBXVI, Third Sunday of Easter

### FROM THE PASTORS DESK

#### **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 23<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:upperbluemountains@parracatholic.org)

**Parish websites:**

[bluemountainscatholic.org.au](http://bluemountainscatholic.org.au)

[sacredheartblackheath.org.au](http://sacredheartblackheath.org.au)

[lawsoncatholicchurch.org.au](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:bluemountains@parracatholic.org)

If you also want to include any items for the weeks' parish bulletin, email us

## 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**

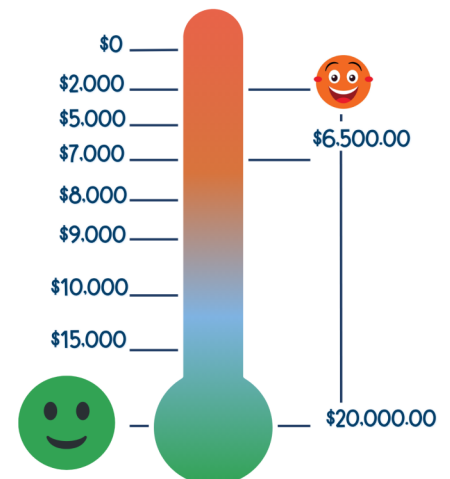
**Account Number: 00000164**

**Reference: Donation Rebuild Meeting Room**

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

## DONATION Meter

The Catholic Parish of the Upper Blue Mountains  
OUR LADY OF THE NATIVITY CHURCH  
COMMUNITY RENOVATION



**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**

- Tue 21 Saint Anselm of Canterbury, Bishop, Doctor
  - Thu 23 Saint George, Martyr  
Saint Adalbert of Prague, Bishop, Martyr
  - Fri 24 Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest, Martyr
- NEXT SUNDAY: 4th Sunday of Easter

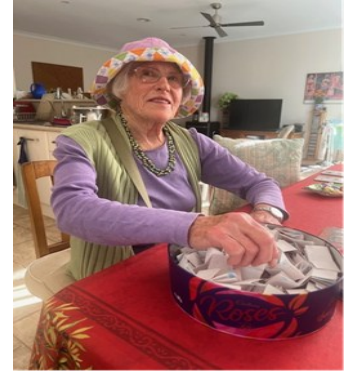
**PROJECT COMPASSION.** Please return your boxes/ donation in the next two weeks. Thank you.

**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.**

**DAWN ECUMENICAL EASTER COMMUNITY CELEBRATION**

Many thanks to those who contributed to this event. Congratulations to the lucky parishioners who won the supreme high tea generously donated by **BYGONE BEAUTIES TEA ROOMS, Leura** and the Easter bag goodies kindly donated by parishioners.



**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION**

For children who are in year 3 or a higher grade, commences this week with a Session for Parents this **Wednesday 22nd April 6:30 pm at St Canice's School, Katoomba.** enquiries email: **Maureen Ryan**  
**olol254@gmail.com**



**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.

**MASS TIMES**

Blackheath  
@ 9:00 am

Katoomba  
@9:00 am

Lawson  
@9:00 am



**MASS OFFERING INTENTIONS**



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

**Death Anniversary:** Jan, Miecia & Zyguich 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 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, 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!

Last weekend, 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. Bernard of Montjoux.

### SAINT BERNARD OF MONTJOUX

Saint Bernard of Montjoux (c. 923–1008) also known as Bernard of Menthon or Bernard of Aosta has also been suggested as a possible patron for our new parish.

St. Bernard is the patron saint of travellers, mountain explorers, and the Bernese Alps. He is renowned for his hospices, which provided shelter, medical assistance, and spiritual support to travellers crossing the treacherous Pennine Alps.

The travellers were often pilgrims headed to Rome who crossed the alps through two passes leading into Aosta, Italy, the diocese of which he was the vicar-general.

Though perhaps not as well known as other saints, his legacy of service, hospitality, welcome, compassion, courage and steadfast faith can resonate strongly in our part of the world.

St Bernard may link to our mountain identity with his hospitality across passes echoing the linking of our 7 communities. Fun fact: the Saint Bernard dog was named after him.



## ANZAC Day 2026 INVITATION



On behalf of the Blackheath-Mt. Victoria RSL sub-Branch we would like to invite you to any, or all, of our ANZAC Day activities this ANZAC Day, Saturday 25th April 2026

Refer below to the Blackheath-Mt. Victoria RSL sub-Branch Programme of Events and Activities for ANZAC Day 2026.

If you wish to be part of the formal wreath laying ceremony within a Service please advise and/or confirm this with the RSL Hon. Secretary by phone (0419639226) or email ([blackheathrsl2@gmail.com](mailto:blackheathrsl2@gmail.com))

Sunrise: 0627hrs

- 0600 **ANZAC Day Dawn Service – Blackheath War Memorial**  
Blackheath Gardens  
Cnr Hat Hill Road and Great Western Highway  
Blackheath NSW 2785  
<https://www.warmemorialsregister.nsw.gov.au/content/blackheath-war-memorial-arch>
- 0630 **Blackheath-Mt. Victoria RSL sub-Branch Hall** open for warmth and hospitality.  
**(ALL WELCOME)**  
2 Bundarra Street  
Blackheath NSW 2785  
<https://www.rslnsw.org.au/sub-branch-listing/blackheath-mt-victoria-rsl-sub-branch/>
- 0700 **ANZAC Day Gunfire Breakfast** served at **Blackheath-Mt. Victoria RSL sub-Branch Hall** (Donation \$5.00 or thereabouts)  
**Bacon & Egg sandwich + a tot of Rum**  
**(ALL WELCOME – NO BOOKING REQUIRED)**
- 0845 **ANZAC Day Service – Memorial Park, Mt. Victoria**  
Memorial Park  
2-14 Station Street  
Mount Victoria NSW 2786  
<https://www.warmemorialsregister.nsw.gov.au/content/mount-victoria-first-world-war-memorial>

### 1015 ANZAC Day March

The ANZAC Day March will assemble in the Victory Theatre carpark at 10.15am and commencing at 10.45am March down Govetts Leap Road turning into Wentworth Street and finish prior to Hat Hill Road.

There are many locations to view the March on both sides of Govetts Leap Road and Wentworth Street

### 1100 ANZAC Day Service – Blackheath War Memorial

Blackheath Gardens  
Cnr Hat Hill Road and Great Western Highway  
Blackheath NSW 2785

<https://www.warmemorialsregister.nsw.gov.au/content/blackheath-war-memorial-arch>

### 1130 Blackheath-Mt. Victoria RSL sub-Branch Hall

 open for Light Refreshments, warmth and hospitality.

**(ALL WELCOME)**



The Blackheath-Mt. Victoria sub-Branch will be open for warmth, hospitality and light refreshments from 0530hrs to 1500hrs on ANZAC Day and **ALL ARE WELCOME.**

**After the 1100 Service please join our Veterans and other Community Members for light refreshments at the Blackheath-Mt. Victoria RSL sub-Branch Hall**

All donations made at the Sub-Branch Hall on ANZAC Day help to support our Veterans and our Community..

*No support from any RSL Club is received by our sub-Branch, we are totally self-supporting*

<https://www.facebook.com/Blackheath-MtVictoria-RSL-Sub-Branch-Page-106331127676349/>

**NOTE: Wreaths may be laid at any Memorial at any time before or on ANZAC Day.**

# 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.



**Friday 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 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](mailto:foodbank@jrs.org.au) for more information

**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.

**PROPAGATION OF FAITH APPEAL.** Help us! Please call



0299197841.

Free Call 1800257296.

[catholicmission.org.au](http://catholicmission.org.au)

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**

**EASTER SERVICES:** A **HUGE thank you** to all the **volunteers** who were able to participate in our Easter services, including those behind the scenes. It definitely made it so much easier for those concerned to have the volunteer roles filled before the day. Also, massive "**thank you**" to our **musicians** and choir for leading us with the singing of all the very apt hymns. We are so fortunate to have you in our church community. We must not forget the **flower group** and our **Acolyte Pat**, who this year was a novice in this role. Fr John and the Parish Team definitely appreciated your valuable assistance Pat.

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO ASSIST** with the projection of the hymns during Sunday Mass? A great benefit in having more than one operator. If you would like further information, please see Paula Currie after the Sunday Mass. Instruction and assistance would always be available.

**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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.** The Our Lady of Nativity Church was officially blessed and opened on April 7 1972 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. The Finance Committee will make a decision soon so that 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.



## 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 17th of April 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.

†  
**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**

**THE NATIONAL COUNT ATTENDANCE FOR 2028 commencing on the** First four weeks of May starting on 2-3 May 2026. Thank you for your kind and gentle participation.

**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](mailto: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.



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](http://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](http://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**

**INVITATION TO CELEBRATE 40 YEARS OF OUR DIOCESE** .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.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY ORDAINED DEACONS.** Last Saturday 11 April, Bishop Vincent ordained Luke Huynh to the Diaconate at Holy Trinity Church, Granville. Deacon Luke Huynh spent some time with us at Sacred Heart Blackheath and St Canice's Katoomba. Kudos to you!

For the next two weekends, 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.

# 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

## FIRST READING (Acts 2:14, 22-33)

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'People of Israel, listen to what I am going to say: Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through him when he was among you, as you all know. This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified by those outside the Law. You killed him, but God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power since, as David says of him: I saw the Lord before me always, for with him at my right hand nothing can shake me. So my heart was glad and my tongue cried out with joy: my body, too, will rest in the hope that you will not abandon my soul to Hades nor allow your holy one to experience corruption. You have made known the way of life to me, you will fill me with gladness through your presence.'

'Brothers and sisters, no one can deny that the patriarch David himself is dead and buried: his tomb is still with us. But since he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn him an oath to make one of his descendants succeed him on the throne, what he foresaw and spoke about was the resurrection of the Christ: he is the one who was not abandoned to Hades, and whose body did not experience corruption. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are witness to that. Now raised to the heights by God's right hand, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit.'

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Lord, you will show us the path of life.

## SECOND READING (1 Peter 1:17-21)

If you are acknowledging as your Father one who has no favourites and judges everyone according to what they have done, you must be scrupulously careful as long as you are living away from your home. Remember, the ransom that was paid to free you from the useless way of life your ancestors handed down was not paid in anything corruptible, neither in silver nor gold, but in the precious blood of a lamb without spot or stain, namely Christ; who, though known since before the world was made, has been revealed only in our time, the end of the ages, for your sake. Through him you now have faith in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory for that very reason - so that you would have faith and hope in God.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us: make our hearts burn with love when you speak. Alleluia!

## GOSPEL (Luke 24:13-35)

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.' 'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.' Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at the table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?' They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes it is true, The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The disciples recognised the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.