

Prayer for the divine mercy: Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world. For the sake of his sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world. Jesus I trust in you.

ST MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP PARISH UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS



UPCOMING EVENTS:

EASTER VIGIL MASS REHEARSAL: Tuesday 16 April, 6pm.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: No meeting Sunday 21 April, Easter Sunday.

RIP: Your prayers are asked for the repose of the soul of Lorraine Bowerman whose funeral service was held last Tuesday at St. Canice's RC Church, Katoomba. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

PAINTING: Painting the St. Canice's church doors + windows. Volunteers needed.

IMPORTANT MILESTONE: a plaque at back of Church notes the opening of the Presbytery on 21 April 1919. This means that Easter Sunday on 21 April 2019 will be the 100 year anniversary.

FASTING AND ABSTINENCE: Good Friday is an obligatory day of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. For members of the Latin rites, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding from age 14 onwards.

PROJECT COMPASSION: Project Compassion is Caritas Australia's annual Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal. Millions of Australians come together in solidarity with the world's poor to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. Please give generously this lent. For further information visit: www.caritas.org.au/compassion/

RENAISSANCE OF MARRIAGE CONFERENCE—building a Catholic Marriage Culture: Australia's annual gathering of Catholic leadership working directly and indirectly in the areas of marriage and relationship formation. The conference offers a unique opportunity to hear about some of the most effective and ground-breaking initiatives relevant to parishes on Catholic Marriage, and to connect and network with other leaders across the country. For more information, including registration information, can be found at www.rom.org.au or via email rom@marriagerc.org

HOLY THURSDAY READERS: Matalena Ale (MC), Marjorie Brown (1), Mary Gale (2), Matthew Brawn (intercessions).

GOOD FRIDAY READERS: Jenny Porter (MC and intercessions), Margaret Peoples (1), Matalena Ale (2), Russel Smith (narrator), Linda Muller (other).

EASTER VIGIL READERS: Matthew Brawn (MC and intercessions), Margaret Gale (1), Sharon Varney (2), Mary Gale (3), Margaret Peoples (4), Russel Smith (5), Matalena Ale (epistle).

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND

First - For the Diocese: Second - For the Parish:



ROSTERS for April 21 (Easter Sunday)

LEURA 5pm (no Mass)	Reader	
Easter Vigil Mass	Server	
6:30pm Katoomba	Sacristan	
WENTWORTH FALLS 8am	Reader	Margaret and Matalena
	Server	Sylvester Simon
	Sacristans	Bev and Halina
KATOOMBA 10am	Reader	Maria Golez and Mary Gale
	Server	Michael Wood
	Sacristans	Annette, Matthew, Natale.
LEURA 11am	Reader	Russel Smith
	Server	
	Sacristan	Pam LeBreton
Counters	Counter	Michael Wood
	Counter	Natale Assanti
	Counter	Ben Howard
	Counter	Russell Smith
	Counter	Lawrence O'Dell
Cleaners (from April 18)	Kat Church & Hall	Annette and Bernard Yen

USUAL WEEKDAY MASS TIMES AND DEVOTIONS

MONDAY: Mass at Katoomba 8:30am. (On Public Holidays—10am)

TUESDAY: Mass at Leura 5.15pm. Exposition 4.45pm.

WEDNESDAY: Mass at Wentworth Falls 10.00am.

THURSDAY: Mass at Leura 5.15pm. Silent Exposition 4.45pm.

FRIDAY: Mass at Katoomba 12 noon.

SATURDAY: Mass at Katoomba 9.30am. Cenacle after.

SUNDAY MASS TIMES: Saturday Evening at Leura 5.00pm

Wentworth Falls Sunday 8.00am Katoomba Sunday 10.00am

Leura Sunday 5.00pm

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION YEAR C 14 APRIL 2019

FIRST READING

Isaiah 50:4-7

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

RESPONSE My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

SECOND READING

Philippians 2:6-11

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

ACCLAMATION Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! Christ became obedient for us even to death, dying on the cross. Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL

Luke 22:14-23:56

...Now with him they were also leading out two other criminals to be executed. When they reached the place called The Skull, they crucified him there and the two criminals also,

one on the right, the other on the left. Jesus said, Father, forgive them; they do not know what they are doing. Then they cast lots to share out his clothing. The people stayed there watching him. As for the leaders, they jeered at him, saying, He saved others, 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 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, saying, Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us as well. But the other spoke up and rebuked him: Have you no fear of God at all? 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, remember me when you come into your kingdom. He replied, Indeed, I promise you, today you will be with me in paradise. It was now about the sixth hour and, with the sun eclipsed, a darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour. The veil of the Temple was torn right down the middle; and when Jesus had cried out in a loud voice, he said, Father, into your hands I commit my spirit. With these words he breathed his last.

All kneel and pause a moment

When the centurion saw what had taken place, he gave praise to God and said, This was a great and good man. And when all the people who had gathered for the spectacle saw what had happened, they went home beating their breasts. All his friends stood at a distance; so also did the women who had accompanied him from Galilee, and they saw all this happen. Then a member of the council arrived, an upright and virtuous man named Joseph. He had not consented to what the others had planned and carried out. He came from Arimathea, a Jewish town, and he lived in the hope of seeing the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. He then took it down, wrapped it in a shroud and put him in a tomb which was hewn in stone in which no one had yet been laid. It was Preparation Day and the sabbath was imminent. Meanwhile the women who had come from Galilee with Jesus were following behind. They took note of the tomb and of the position of the body. Then they returned and prepared spices and ointments. And on the sabbath day they rested, as the Law required.

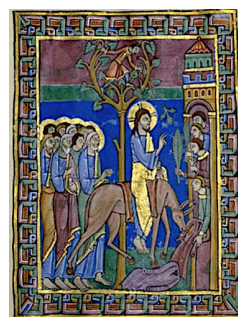
COMMENT ON THE GOSPEL

St. Cyril of Alexandria (d. 444)


"Behold, a righteous king will reign, and princ-

es will rule with justice." The only-begotten Word of God, together with God the Father, has always been king of the universe, and to him all creatures, visible and invisible, are subject. People on earth, having been caught in the snares of sin, were persuaded by the devil to reject his sovereignty and to despise his royal power, but the judge and dispenser of all justice brought them back under his own dominion. All his ways are straight, says scripture, and by the ways of Christ we mean the divine precepts laid down in the gospel. By observing them we make progress in every virtue, do honor to ourselves by the moral beauty of our lives, and attain the heavenly reward to which we have been called. These are straight, not winding ways: they are direct and easily followed. As it is written, "The way of the upright is straight; the road of the just is made smooth." Its many decrees make the law a rugged way and its difficulty intolerable, but the way of gospel commands is smooth, without any roughness or steep ascents. The ways of Christ are straight, then, and as for the holy city, which is the Church, he himself was its builder and he makes it his own dwelling. In other words, he makes the saints his dwelling: sharing as we do in the Holy Spirit, we have Christ within us and have become temples of the living God. Christ is both the founder of the Church and its foundation, and upon this foundation we, like precious stones, are built into a holy temple to become, through the Spirit, a dwelling place for God. Since it has in Christ such a firm foundation, the Church can never be shaken. Scripture says: "I am laying the foundation stone of Zion, the cornerstone, chosen and precious. No one who believes in him will ever be put to shame." When he founded the Church, Christ delivered his people from bondage. He saved us from the power of Satan and of sin, freed us, and subjected us to his own rule, but not by paying a ransom or by bribes. As one of his disciples wrote, "We have been freed from the futile ways handed down to us by our ancestors, not by anything perishable like silver and gold, but by the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without mark or blemish." He gave his own blood for us, so that we no longer belong to ourselves, but to him who bought us and saved us. Those therefore who turn aside from the noble rule of the true faith are justly accused by all the saints of denying the Lord who redeemed them.

On Isaiah IV, 2.



COMMUNION Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.



HOLY WEEK & EASTER
Holy Thursday: 7:30pm
Good Friday: 3pm
Stations of the Cross:
9:30am (W-Falls) 10am (Leura)
10:30am (Katoomba)
Easter Vigil: 6:30pm
Easter Sunday: 8am (W-Falls)
10am (Katoomba)
11am (Leura, no evening Mass)

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:
 Come to Jesus in the Blessed Eucharist. Come to Eucharistic Adoration.
 "All of us, gazing on the Lord's glory are being transformed into his image. (2 Corinthians 3:18)."

USUAL CONFESSION TIMES
Monday: Katoomba 9:00am
Tuesday: Leura 4:45pm
Wednesday: Wentworth Falls 10:30am
Thursday: Leura 4:45pm.
Friday: Katoomba 12:30pm
Saturday: Katoomba 10am Leura 4:30pm
Sunday: W. Falls 9am Kat 11am Leura 4:30pm

PARISH OFFICE: 158 Katoomba Street, Katoomba 2780
Postal Address: P.O. Box 526, Katoomba NSW 2780
Phone: (02) 4782 2804 **Hours:** 10am-3pm Tuesday-Friday.

DECEASED and ANNIVERSARIES: LORRAINE BOWERMAN, SUSIE BLANK, CARMEL MAISY MAHONY BROWN, FR DENZIL MEULI, GENIE FIELD, STEPHANIE JEAN MURPHY, TERRY GORMAN, DAVID YORK, WILLIAM HALLIDAY, and ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED ESPECIALLY THOSE FOR WHOM YOU REQUESTED PRAYERS AND MASSES AND THE FORGOTTEN SOULS IN PURGATORY. **SICK LIST:** Evelyn Maw, Len Lambert, Florence Gardner, Wanda Heffernan, Diane Wood, Mary Roberts, Jacquelin Singh, John Egan, Kath Paine, June Way, Robert Sullivan, Natale Assanti, Alex Sarah, Susan Keegel, Eugenio Natonton, Emiliana Santiago, Pat Coyne, Inga Morphet, Amanda Peters, Alison Michaels, Aimee De la Motte, Gloria Trevallion, Margaret Esgate, Lorraine Russelle, Margaret Murphy, Joan Nolan, Pat Wolthers, Brenda Dore, Tricia Hogan, Shiela Page, Sr Jeanie Heining.

Weddings: Please call Parish Office for details. (Baptisms: upon request)
Parish Website at: www.marymackillopupperbluemountains.org.au
Parish School: St Canice's Primary School, Katoomba **Principal:** Mr. Mark Geerligns