

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



EASTER SUNDAY

YEAR C

21 APRIL 2019

FIRST READING

Acts 10:34,37-43

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

RESPONSE This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

SECOND READING

Colossians 3:1-4

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

SEQUENCE

Victimae Paschali Laudes

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise. The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb; and Christ, the undefiled, hath sinners to his Father reconciled.

Death with life contended: combat strangely ended! Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign

Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way.

The tomb the Living did enclose; I saw Christ's glory as he rose! The angels there attesting; shroud with grave-clothes resting.

Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee. That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know. Victorious king, thy mercy show!

ACCLAMATION Alleluia, alleluia!
Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 20:1-19

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.' So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

COMMENT ON THE GOSPEL

Guerric of Igny (c. 1070/80-1157)

Blessed and holy are those who share in the first resurrection." Christ is the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep and the firstborn from the dead. His resurrection, which is the prototype of all others, has guaranteed the rising of our souls in the first resurrection and of our bodies in the second, for he offers his own risen body to our souls as sacrament and to our bodies as exemplar. Even for our souls Christ's single resurrection has prepared a twofold grace: through the living out of the paschal mystery in our daily lives we rise from the death of sin, and by our joyful celebration

of the paschal feast today especially we rouse ourselves from the torpor of sleep. Slothful and half-hearted indeed must that person be who does not feel a thrill of joy, a sense of new life and vigour, at the glad cry: "The Lord is risen!" For myself, when I looked upon the dead Jesus I was overwhelmed by despairing grief, but in the living God, as scripture says, my heart and my flesh rejoice. It is with no mean profit to faith, no slight dividend of joy, that Jesus returns to me from the tomb, for I recognize the living God where only a little while ago I mourned a dead man. My heart was sorrowing for him as slain, but now that he is risen, not only my heart but my flesh also rejoices in the confident hope of my own resurrection and immortality. "I slept and I arose," Christ says. Awake then, my sleeping soul, and rise from the dead, and Christ will give you light! As the new sun rises from below, the grace of the resurrection already casts its radiance over the whole world, a radiance reflected in the eyes of those who have watched for him since daybreak, a dawn that ushers in the day of eternity. This is the day that knows no evening, the day whose sun will never set again. Only once has that sun gone down, and now once and for all it has ascended above the heavens, leading death captive in its train. "This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad." And you also, if you watch daily at the threshold of wisdom, fixing your eyes on the doorway and, like the Magdalen, keeping vigil at the entrance to his tomb, you also will find what she found. You will know that what was written of wisdom was written of Christ: "She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. Anyone who rises early to seek her will have no trouble; he will find her sitting at his gates." While it was still dark Mary had come to watch at the tomb, and she found Jesus whom she sought standing there in the flesh. But you must know him now according to the spirit, not according to the flesh, and you can be sure of finding his spiritual presence if you seek him with a desire like hers, and if he observes your persevering prayer. Say then to the Lord Jesus, with Mary's love and longing: "My soul yearns for you in the night; my spirit within me earnestly seeks for you." Make the psalmist's prayer your own as you say: "O God, my God, I watch for you at morning light; my soul thirsts for you." Then see if you do not also find yourselves singing with them both: "In the morning fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days."

Sermon on Easter 3, 1-2.

COMMUNION Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.

IMPORTANT EVENTS:

EASTER MONDAY 22 APRIL: A public holiday. The daily Mass will be at 10.00am, preceded by Adoration (Adoration starts at 9.00 am).
ANZAC DAY 25 APRIL: Mass at 10.00am at Katoomba and at 10.45am Bodington. No evening Mass at Leura.
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING: Sunday 28 April, 11.00am.
DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY: 28th April 2:30-4:30pm at St. Bonaventure's Catholic Church Leura, with readings, singing, the chaplet, confession and benediction, followed by Mass at 5pm.

EASTER BLESSINGS: Fr. Carlos and Fr. Sean would like to wish you and your families a very happy and blessed Easter. Our most grateful thanks and appreciation to all those involved in making the Holy Week and Paschal liturgies such a success.

DAILY ADORATION: During Lent we have had a daily hour of Eucharistic Adoration. From now on and until further notice we will continue to have one hour of Adoration on Mondays after the 8.30am Mass, and on Fridays half an hour after the 12.00pm Mass. **THE 8:30AM MASS:** will continue Monday through Thursday after Lent.

8:30AM MASS THIS TUESDAY 23: is cancelled. A requiem Mass for the late Anthony Wall will be held in St Bonaventure's at 1pm. Normal scheduled Mass at 5:15pm as usual.

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 today is the 100 year anniversary.

PROJECT COMPASSION: Could you kindly return your Project Compassion boxes as soon as possible. You may return them to the sacristy after Mass or drop them into the presbytery during office hours. We thank you for your support.

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

Leura Harvest Festival Sunday 5 May 2019: Groom your chook, grease the cake tin, juggle the jam jars, and gather your recycled materials to create a scarecrow for this year's Leura Harvest Festival on Sunday 5 May 2019. In true regional harvest theme the festival's program has traditional fair events, including the Great Blue Mountains Jam Making Competition uncovering our best local jams and chutneys, Birches of Leura Scarecrow Competition with dozens of creations using sustainable material, the Pet Chook Show bringing proud owners and their friendly fowls to Leura for the honour of Best Chook in Show, and Josophan's Great Australian Chocolate Cake Competition. We need your entries in all competitions! For further details visit www.leuravillage.com.au/Fairs or email bookings@leuravillage.com.au. Our facebook page is @LeuraHarvestFestival.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION:

Come to Jesus in the Blessed Eucharist. Come to Eucharistic Adoration.

"Blessed are they who do not see and yet believe. (John 20:29)."

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: KATHY GRANT, ANTHONY WALL, LORRAINE BOWERMAN, SUSIE BLANK, CARMEL MAISY MAHONY BROWN, FR DENZIL MEULI, GENIE FIELD, STEPHANIE JEAN MURPHY, 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 Sharah, Susan Keegel, Eugenio Natonton, Emiliana Santiago, Pat Coyne, Inga Morphett, 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 Heinger.

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND

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



ROSTERS for April 21 (Easter Sunday)

LEURA 5pm	Reader Server Sacristan	Russel Smith Zelko Livaic Pam + Natale
WENTWORTH FALLS 8am	Reader Server Sacristans	Halina and Bernard Sylvester Simon Bev and Halina
KATOOMBA 10am	Reader Server Sacristans	Peter and Karyn Lawlor John Czekanowicz Annette, Matthew, Natale.
LEURA 5pm	Reader Server Sacristan	Divine Mercy Group Zelko Livaic Pam LeBreton
Counters	Counter Counter Counter Counter Counter Counter	Jim Walsh John Grant Peter Marshall
Cleaners (from April 25)	Kat Church & Hall	John C. + Ben (Hall). Leah (church).

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

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