

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**



20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR C

18 AUGUST 2019

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 38:4-6,8-10

The king's leading men spoke to the king. 'Let Jeremiah be put to death: he is unquestionably disheartening the remaining soldiers in the city, and all the people too, by talking like this. The fellow does not have the welfare of this people at heart so much as its ruin.' 'He is in your hands as you know,' King Zedekiah answered 'for the king is powerless against you.' So they took Jeremiah and threw him into the well of Prince Malchiah in the Court of the Guard, letting him down with ropes. There was no water in the well, only mud, and into the mud Jeremiah sank. Ebed-melech came out from the palace and spoke to the king. 'My lord king,' he said 'these men have done a wicked thing by treating the prophet Jeremiah like this: they have thrown him into the well, where he will die.' At this the king gave Ebed-melech the Cushite the following order: 'Take three men with you from here and pull the prophet Jeremiah out of the well before he dies.'

RESPONSE Lord, come to my aid.

SECOND READING

Hebrews 12:1-4

With so many witnesses in a great cloud on every side of us, we too, then, should throw off everything that hinders us, especially the sin that clings so easily, and keep running steadily in the race we have started. Let us not lose sight of Jesus, who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection: for the sake of the joy which was still in the future, he endured the cross, disregarding the shameful of it, and from now on has taken his place at the right of

God's throne. Think of the way he stood such opposition from sinners and then you will not give up for want of courage. In the fight against sin, you have not yet had to keep fighting to the point of death.

ACCLAMATION Alleluia, alleluia!
My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them and they follow me. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 12:49-53

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were blazing already! There is a baptism I must still receive, and how great is my distress till it is over! 'Do you suppose that I am here to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on a household of five will be divided: three against two and two against three; the father divided against the son, son against father, mother against daughter, daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law, daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'

COMMENT ON THE GOSPEL

Denis the Carthusian (1408-1471)

Christ foretells that he will suffer death on a cross before the human race is inflamed by the fire of this love; for it was by his most holy passion that he won so great a gift for humankind, and it is chiefly the recollection of his passion that kindles the flame of love in Christian hearts. "There is a baptism which I must undergo." By divine decree there remains for me the duty of receiving a baptism of blood, that is, of being bathed, soaked upon the cross not in water but in my own blood poured

out to redeem the whole world. "And what constraint I am under until that has been achieved"—until my passion is love and I say: It is accomplished. For Christ was impelled incessantly by the love within him. The way to attain the perfection of divine love is then stated. "Do you think that I have come to bring peace on earth?" In other words: Do not imagine that I have come to offer people a sensual, worldly, and unruly peace that will enable them to be united in their vices and achieve earthly prosperity. "No, I tell you, I have not come to offer that kind of peace, but rather division"—a good, healthy kind of division, physical as well as spiritual. Love for God and desire for inner peace will set those who believe in me at odds with wicked men and women, and make them part company with those who would turn them from their course of spiritual progress and from the purity of divine love, or who attempt to hinder them. Good, interior, spiritual peace consists in the repose of the mind in God, and in a rightly ordered harmony. To bestow this peace was the chief reason for Christ's coming. This inner peace flows from love. It is an unassailable joy of the mind in God, and it is called peace of heart. It is the beginning and a kind of foretaste of the peace of the saints in heaven—the peace of eternity.

On Luke's Gospel: Opera omnia XII.



COMMUNION I am the living bread that came down from heaven, says the Lord. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION MISSION: We thank Fr Gary Holmes for conducting the Eucharistic Mission at our parish over the past weekend. We are so grateful to all those who attended the mission and signed up to adore Jesus in the Eucharist for an hour a week. **If you haven't signed up yet, you can still do it.** Fr Gary has donated the special collection money towards the temporary adoration chapel.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING: This Sunday, 18 August.

MAINTENANCE GROUP MEETING: This Monday, 19 August 4pm.

BODINGTON MASS: This Thursday, 10:45am, no Leura Mass.

NEW PRIEST FOR THE PARISH: Fr Omar Mazzega, a native of Argentina, has been assigned to our parish and will arrive here on 28 August. Fr Omar was ordained to the priesthood in 1985 and has worked as a priest in various countries. He has been provincial superior for our Institute in Brazil and subsequently in Peru. Prior to his ordination he had become a Chemist, and after his ordination he obtained a Licentiate Degree in Philosophy at a Pontifical University in Rome. Fr Omar has been Rector of Major Archdiocesan Seminaries in Brazil as well as in Peru. More recently, he has been working as parish priest in Genoa, Italy, and as assistant parish priest in Toronto, Canada. Father Omar speaks Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, German and English. Though Father Omar is conversant in English, he says he still needs to improve on the language (please encourage him if you have a chance). Father Omar is very happy to have been assigned to Australia and is looking forward to working with us at the parish.

Stand for Life Rally against proposed Abortion Laws: The NSW Parliament is about to legislate for abortion on demand till birth, one of the most extreme abortion laws in the world. The Bill was pushed through the Legislative Assembly and will be debated in the Legislative Council from Tuesday, 20 August. Join us in peaceful protest against this radical proposed legislation.

DATE: Tuesday 20 August.

WHERE: Martin Place (Macquarie Street side)

TIME: 6pm until 9pm (including vigil outside NSW Parliament)

Under this Bill:

- Children can be aborted for any reason right up till the final moments of a pregnancy; - Amendments to protect children who survive botched abortions attempts were defeated; - There are no safeguards to prevent targeted abortion based on gender or disability; - Doctors and medical staff are compelled to participate (by referral) in the taking of an innocent life. This Bill was ambushed on Parliament, with no consultation, in an attempt to curb community backlash. This is our last opportunity to fight against this extremist Bill. The event is being supported by the Archdiocese of Sydney, a number of Maronite organisations and Right to Life NSW.

"For your baby, the first trimester [12 weeks] is a time of rapid growth and development. Your baby's brain, spinal cord and other organs begin to form, and your baby's heart begins to beat. Your baby's fingers and toes even begin to take shape (source: mayoclinic.org)."

Scripture teachers urgently needed to help teach in the state primary schools, morning and afternoon classes Thursdays. Training and teaching materials provided. Please contact the parish office 4782 2804

CONFIRMATION this year will take place at St Canice's 8th September 10am Sunday Mass. At this occasion a first-degree relic of Saint John Paul II will be installed in our chapel of Divine Mercy, St Canice's Church, by Right Reverend Peter Williams who will also confer the sacrament of Confirmation on our children.

FATHER'S DAY APPEAL: 1 September. This is the Bishop's annual appeal to support retired and sick clergy in the diocese. It is hoped to raise \$200,000 each year through this appeal. Last year, through your generosity we reached the target. Appeal envelopes will be available next week for those who will not be here on the Father's Day weekend. If you wish you can make online contributions at csfparra.org.au using your credit card or direct transfer via eft to BSB 067 950 and Account No 001691 in the name of the CSF with reference your name, and send e-mail to csf@parrocatholic.org with your details so receipts can be sent, usually in January.

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

DECEASED and ANNIVERSARIES: JOHN MURPHY, JOHN EGAN, FRANCIS BEDE MURPHY, DIANNE WOOD, MICHAEL BOURKE, KEVIN JOHN SUTTON, RICHARD WARNER, and ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED ESPECIALLY THOSE FOR WHOM YOU REQUESTED PRAYERS AND MASSES AND THE FORGOTTEN SOULS IN PURGATORY. **SICK LIST:** John Murphy, Maureen O'Reilly, Evelyn Maw, Len Lambert, Wanda Heffernan, Mary Roberts, Jacquelin Singh, Kath Paine, June Way, Robert Sullivan, Natale Assanti, Alex Sharah, 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 Heinger.

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.

Weddings: Please call Parish Office for details. (Baptisms: upon request)

Parish Website at: www.marymackillopupperbluemountains.org.au

Parish Facebook at: www.facebook.com/Blue-Mountains-Catholic-567984977037106

Parish School: St Canice's Primary School, Katoomba **Principal:** Mr. Mark Geerligns

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND

First - For the Parish: **Second - For the Diocese:**
\$2,338.55



ROSTERS for August 25 (21st Sunday in Ordinary Time)

LEURA 5pm	Reader Server Sacristan	Elaine Smith Zelko Livaic Pam + Natale
WENTWORTH FALLS 8am	Reader Server Sacristans	Halina and Ann Sylvester Simon Bev and Halina
KATOOMBA 10am	Reader Server Sacristans	Karyn and Peter Lawlor John Czekanowicz Annette, Matthew, Maylin.
LEURA 5pm	Reader Server Sacristan	Jenny Porter and Alexander Stilmark Hugh Jones Pam LeBreton
Counters	Counter Counter Counter Counter Counter	Jim Walsh John Grant Peter Marshall
Cleaners (from 22 August)	Kat Church & Hall	John and Ben (church) and Leah (hall)

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