

**DROUGHT PRAYER:** O God, Lord of all creation, by whose power the whole earth came to be, look upon our parched land, we pray, and bestow upon it abundant rain, that pastures, fields and paddocks [and communities too] may by your goodness thrive once more. Through Christ our Lord. Amen. Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us. (from the Roman Missal)

# ST MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP PARISH UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS



CORPUS CHRISTI

YEAR A

14 JUNE 2020

## FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 8:2-3,14-16

Moses said to the people: 'Remember how the Lord your God led you for forty years in the wilderness, to humble you, to test you and know your inmost heart – whether you would keep his commandments or not. He humbled you, he made you feel hunger, he fed you with manna which neither you nor your fathers had known, to make you understand that man does not live on bread alone but that man lives on everything that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

'Do not become proud of heart. Do not forget the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery: who guided you through this vast and dreadful wilderness, a land of fiery serpents, scorpions, thirst; who in this waterless place brought you water from the hardest rock; who in this wilderness fed you with manna that your fathers had not known.'

## RESPONSE Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

## SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 10:16-17

The blessing-cup that we bless is a communion with the blood of Christ, and the bread that we break is a communion with the body of Christ. The fact that there is only one loaf means that, though there are many of us, we form a single body because we all have a share in this one loaf.

## SEQUENCE:

Lauda, Sion

Behold the bread of angels, sent / For pilgrims in their banishment, / The bread for God's true children meant, / That may not unto dogs be given:

Oft in the olden types foreshowed; / In Isaac on the altar bowed, / And in the ancient paschal food, / And in the manna sent from heaven.

Come then, good shepherd, bread divine, / Still show to us thy mercy sign; / Oh, feed us still, still keep us thine; / So may we see thy glories shine / In fields of immortality;

O thou, the wisest, mightiest, best, / Our present food, our future rest, / Come, make us each thy chosen guest, / Co-heirs of thine, and comrades blest / With saints whose dwelling is with thee. / Amen

**ACCLAMATION** Alleluia, alleluia!  
**I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live for ever. Alleluia!**

## THE GOSPEL

John 6:51-58

Jesus said to the crowd: 'I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.' Then the Jews started arguing with one another: 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' they said. Jesus replied: I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you. Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him. As I, who am sent by the living Father, myself draw life from the Father, so whoever eats me will draw life from me. This is the bread come down from heaven; not like the bread our ancestors ate: they are dead, but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.'

## COMMENT ON THE GOSPEL

St. Augustine of Hippo (354-430)

*My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. (John 6:55)*

You see on God's altar bread and a cup. That is what the evidence of your eyes tells you, but your faith requires you to believe that the bread is the body of Christ, the cup the blood of Christ. In these few words we can say perhaps all that faith demands.

Faith, however, seeks understanding; so you may now say to me:

You have told us what we have to believe, but explain it so that we can understand it, because it is quite possible for someone to think along these lines: We know from whom our Lord Jesus Christ took his flesh—it was from the Virgin Mary.

As a baby, he was suckled, he was fed, he developed, he came to young man's estate. He was slain on the cross, he was taken down from it, he was buried, he rose again on the third day. On the day of his own choosing, he ascended to heaven, taking his body with him; and it is from heaven that he will come to

judge the living and the dead.

But now that he is there, seated at the right hand of the Father, how can bread be his body? And the cup, or rather what is in the cup, how can that be his blood?

These things, my friends, are called sacraments, because our eyes see in them one thing, our understanding another. Our eyes see the material form; our understanding, its spiritual effect.

If, then, you want to know what the body of Christ is, you must listen to what the Apostle tells the faithful: "Now you are the body of Christ, and individually you are members of it." (1 Cor 12:27) If that is so, it is the sacrament of yourselves that is placed on the Lord's altar, and it is the sacrament of yourselves that you receive.

You reply "Amen" to what you are, and thereby agree that such you are. You hear the words "The body of Christ" and you reply "Amen." Be, then, a member of Christ's body, so that your "Amen" may accord with the truth.

Yes, but why all this in bread? Here let us not advance any ideas of our own, but listen to what the Apostle says over and over again when speaking of this sacrament: "Because there is one loaf, we, though we are many, form one body."

Let your mind assimilate that and be glad, for there you will find unity, truth, piety, and love. He says, one loaf. And who is this one loaf? "We, though we are many, form one body."

Now bear in mind that bread is not made of a single grain, but of many. Be, then, what you see, and receive what you are.

So much for what the Apostle says about the bread. As for the cup, what we have to believe is quite clear, although the Apostle does not mention it expressly.

Just as the unity of the faithful, which holy Scripture describes in the words: "They were of one mind and heart" in God, should be like the kneading together of many grains into one visible loaf, so with the wine.

Think how wine is made. Many grapes hang in a cluster, but their juice flows together into an indivisible liquid.

It was thus that Christ our Lord signified us, and his will that we should belong to him, when he hallowed the sacrament of our peace and unity on his altar.

Anyone, however, who receives this sacrament of unity and does not keep the bond of peace, does not receive it to his profit, but as a testimony against himself.

Sermon 272

**COMMUNION** Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him, says the Lord.

## BOOK A MASS

If you wish to come to a weekend Mass, please click on the link below to book a Mass time. You may book one Mass per weekend. Bookings close 3pm this Friday:

<https://forms.gle/LDSNjTP69UjtEJYs5>

\*\*\*SUNDAY JUNE 28: will be Fr Carlos & Fr Omar's last day here in the parish. \*\*\*

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING will not be held this month.

**INVITATION FROM BISHOP VINCENT:** to join a diocese wide zoom meeting on 11am-12.30pm on Tuesday 16th June. RSVP via link <https://dioceseofparramatta.zoom.us/j/9123456789>

The three broad aims/steps of the gathering are to: 1. Record some of the experiences and insights in parishes from the period of church shut down. 2. Share some of the possible new or renewed responses ahead for parishes as we transition from COVID-19. 3. Invite thoughts of how this time might help cast light for us as a Diocese, on a key priority (such as a Plenary Council theme), for our mission and ministry.

**PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES:** Please return asap to sacristy after Mass or parish office. Thank you.

**BOOKING A SUNDAY MASS:** Right now we may celebrate Mass with up to 50 people in attendance, while ensuring that social distancing is maintained. For this reason, the Mass Schedule for the weekend will be kept as usual but to accommodate more people there will be one additional Sunday Mass celebrated at Katoomba at 9am.

Given the spaces, we can fit into our churches these numbers of people: Katoomba: 50 people. Leura: 40 people. Wentworth Falls: 24 people

Please note: You MUST book to attend a Sunday Mass. You may do so either on the link above (also on our Facebook page) or by emailing or calling the parish office. Bookings open until Friday at 3pm.

We ask parishioners to attend only one weekend Mass (Saturday Vigil or Sunday). Those who have booked a Mass should arrive at least 5-10 minutes early as the doors will be locked at the start of the Mass. There is no more drive through Communion.

With the new directives, up to 50 people can attend funerals and baptisms. Up to 20 people can attend weddings.

Weekday Masses are on a first-come-first-serve basis, you do not need to book beforehand. You register as you come in.

**ENVELOPES:** The envelopes for the weekly contribution are available. Please pick up your pack from the back of the church.

**USHERS:** If people wish to volunteer to assist as ushers at our Masses please contact the parish office.

**MASS REGISTER WEBSITE:** If you have not done so already, please visit [MassRegister.com.au](http://MassRegister.com.au) just once, to provide your contact details, as well as the parishes you usually visit. If a confirmed case of COVID-19 occurs in a parish, every person who has registered as an attendee of the parish will receive an email notifying them of the diagnosis and the date and time the person attended the church. No other details will be provided.

**ADORATION:** Adoration in our chapel has started again. Only a maximum of 2 people at a time are able to be in the chapel. During the day if the chapel is full the main church will be open for private prayer.

**FINANCES:** 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

If you would like to contribute to the Second Collection for the parish: Bank Transfer: BSB 067 950 Account 000 00594 Name: Katoomba St Mary MacKillop Reference: Surname and envelope number or Parish Donation (with or without surname if preferred).

**DECEASED and ANNIVERSARIES:** MOYA THERESE ZARB, BERNARD GLASHEEN, SR VIRGINIA WILKINSON, FR PETER MORRISSEY, MARGARET ESGATE, DR NEIL SHANKAR, RICKY BRUNNER, and ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED ESPECIALLY THOSE FOR WHOM YOU REQUESTED PRAYERS AND MASSES AND THE FORGOTTEN SOULS IN PURGATORY. **SICK LIST:** Marie Thuez, Maria Laznic, Mary Sullivan, Kathleen Hayes-Gilson, Evelyn Maw, Wanda Heffernan, Mary Roberts, Jacquelin Singh, Kath Paine, June Way, Robert Sullivan, Natale Assanti, Susan Keegel, Eugenio Natonton, Emiliana Santiago, Pat Coyne, Inga Morphett, Amanda Peters, Alison Michaels, Aimee De la Motte, Lorraine Russelle, Margaret Murphy, Joan Nolan, Pat Wolthers, Tricia Hogan, Shiela Page, Sr Jeanie Heininger.

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](http://www.marymackillopupperbluemountains.org.au)

Parish Facebook: [www.facebook.com/bluemountainscatholic](https://www.facebook.com/bluemountainscatholic)

Parish School: St Canice's Primary School, Katoomba Principal: Ms. Miriam Meaney



**SEND YOUR GUARDIAN ANGEL TO MASS PRAYER**

*When you can't make it to Mass and are stuck at home, send your guardian angel to church to intercede for you!*

O Holy Angel at my side, go to church for me, kneel in my place, at Holy Mass, where I desire to be.

At Offertory, in my stead, take all I am and own, and place it as a sacrifice upon the Altar Throne.

At Holy Consecration's bell, adore with Seraph's love, my Jesus hidden in the Host, come down from Heaven above.

Then pray for those I dearly love, and those who cause me grief, that Jesus' Blood may cleanse all hearts, and suffering souls relieve.

And when the priest Communion takes, oh, bring my Lord to me, that His Sweet Heart may rest on mine, and I His temple be. Amen.

**ST CANICE'S SCHOOL NEWS:** This week St Canice's are doing something very different. For the first time parents are having meetings with staff via Zoom meetings online. Social distancing has restricted parents from entering the school so parents and their child will meet with teachers to discuss how they went at home and at school for their Semester One learning. Not only is this a unique opportunity for parents to give feedback on how their child learnt at home but they are part of sharing the goals their child can set for next semester.

## PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS

Please email or contact the parish office if you have a prayer request you would like placed in the bulletin.