

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



12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A

21 JUNE 2020

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 20:10-13

Jeremiah said: I hear so many disparaging me, "Terror from every side!" Denounce him! Let us denounce him! All those who used to be my friends watched for my downfall, 'Perhaps he will be seduced into error. Then we will master him and take our revenge!' But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero; my opponents will stumble, mastered, confounded by their failure; everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be theirs. But you, O Lord of Hosts, you who probe with justice, who scrutinise the loins and heart, let me see the vengeance you will take on them, for I have committed my cause to you. Sing to the Lord, praise the Lord, for he has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of evil men.

RESPONSE Lord, in your great love, answer me.

SECOND READING

Romans 5:12-15

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

ACCLAMATION Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord, and you also will be my witnesses. Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 10:26-33

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the housetops.

'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.

'So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.'

COMMENT ON THE GOSPEL

St. Augustine of Hippo (354-430)

Do not be afraid of those who kill the body. (Matthew 10:28)

Thanks be to that grain of wheat who freely chose to die and so be multiplied! Thanks be to God's only Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, for whom the enduring of our human death was not a thing to be scorned if it would make us worthy of his life!

Mark how alone he was before his passing: his is the voice of the psalmist who said, "I am all alone until I depart from this place"—a solitary grain that nevertheless contained an immense fruitfulness, a capacity to be multiplied beyond measure.

How many other grains of wheat imitating the Lord's passion do we find to gladden our hearts when we celebrate the anniversaries of the martyrs!

Many members have that one grain, all united by bonds of peace and charity under their one head, our Saviour himself, and, as you know from having heard it so often, all of them form one single body.

Their many voices can often be heard praying in the psalms through the voice of a single speaker calling on God as if all were calling together, because all are one in him.

Let us listen to their cry. In it we can hear the words of the martyrs who found themselves hard pressed, beset by danger from violent storms of hatred in this world, a danger not so much to their bodies which, after all, they would have to part with sometime, but rather to their faith.

If they were to give way, if they should succumb either to the harsh tortures of their persecutors or to love of this present life, they would forfeit the reward promised them by the God who had taken away all ground for fear. Not only had he said: "Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul." He had also left them his own example.

The precept he had enjoined on them he personally carried out, without attempting to evade the hands of those who scourged him, the blows of those who struck him, or the spittle of those who spat on him. Neither the crown of thorns pressed into his head nor the cross to which the soldiers nailed him encountered any resistance from him.

None of these torments did he try to avoid.

Though he himself was under no obligation to suffer them, he endured them for those who were, making his own person a remedy for the sick. And so the martyrs suffered, but they would certainly have failed the test without the presence of him who said: "Know that I am with you always, until the end of time."

Expositions of the Psalms 69



COMMUNION The eyes of all look to you, Lord, and you give them their food in due season.

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. ***

A Farewell for Fr Carlos and Fr Omar will take place at 11.00 am on Sunday, 28th June following the 10.00 am Mass at Katoomba in the parish hall. No more than 50 people will be allowed in the hall at any one time and social distancing will be required. Please feel free to take your cup of tea outside the hall to mingle with others should the hall become overcrowded. Please bring a plate to share.

FUNERAL MASS HAZEL GLASHEEN at St Canice's Church 25 June at 11am. The funeral will be streamed. If you would like to participate online via streaming please contact Peter Glasheen via email for the link: peterglasheen@optusnet.com.au Hazel was a faithful & long-time parishioner and passed away on 17 June. Our prayers and sympathy go out to her family during this time.

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.

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: Mary MacKillop Parish Reference: Surname and envelope number or Parish Donation (with or without surname if preferred).

SUNDAY MASS TIMES	WEEKDAY MASS TIMES	CONFESSION TIMES
You need to book Sunday Leura 5pm (Saturday) Wentworth Falls 8am Katoomba 9am Katoomba 10am Leura 5pm	MON: 8:30am Katoomba TUE: 5:15pm Leura WED: 10am W-Falls THU: 5:15pm Leura FRI: 12pm Katoomba SAT: 9:30am Katoomba	MON: 9am Katoomba TUE: 4:45pm Leura WED: 9:30am W-Falls THU: 4:45pm Leura FRI: 12:30pm Katoomba SAT: 10am Katoomba

DECEASED and ANNIVERSARIES: MOYA THERESE ZARB, HAZEL & BERNARD GLASHEEN, MARION EDWARDS, VALERIE SMALL, SR VIRGINIA WILKINSON, FR PETER MORRISSEY, MARGARET ESGATE, 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 Morphet, Amanda Peters, Alison Michaels, Aimee De la Motte, Lorraine Russelle, Margaret Murphy, Joan Nolan, Pat Wolthers, Tricia Hogan, Shiela Page, Sr Jeanie Heining, Michelle Scully, Julie Walss.

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: 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: Refugee Week is an opportunity for students to become aware of the refugee plight in Australia and to celebrate the achievements of many refugees now living in Australia.

The Jesuit Refugee Service is an international Catholic organisation, founded in 1980 as a work of the Society of Jesus ("the Jesuits").

The Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) established the Shelter Project in 2007 in response to a shortage of affordable housing and accessible services for people seeking asylum living in the community called 'The Arrupe Project' located in Westmead. Now, more than ever, refugees in Australia need our help. The clients at Arrupe House are currently ineligible for JobKeeper or JobSeeker, so bridging this gap will be their next challenge.

On Friday 19th June St Canice's will be having a mufti day with a Gold Coin donation and sending the donations to the Jesuit Refugee Services at Arrupe House in Westmead to support the many refugees in our Western Sydney Area.

LITURGICAL WORKSHOP: The Office for Worship will be conducting 2 workshops on Liturgical Ministry in October at St Finbar's, Glenbrook. This will include Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Communion to the Sick & Dying. This is for those interested in serving in this ministry, whether new or to refresh and update. Registration forms will be available soon.

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS

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