

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



14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A 5 JULY 2020

FIRST READING

Zechariah 9:9-10

The Lord says this: Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion! Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem! See now, your king comes to you; he is victorious, he is triumphant, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will banish chariots from Ephraim and horses from Jerusalem; the bow of war will be banished. He will proclaim peace for the nations. His empire shall stretch from sea to sea, from the River to the ends of the earth.

RESPONSE I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

SECOND READING

Romans 8:9,11-13

Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him, and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you. So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.

ACCLAMATION Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 11:25-30

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. 'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'

COMMENT ON THE GOSPEL

St. John Chrysostom (c. 347-407)

I am gentle and humble in heart (Matthew 11:29)

Our Master is always the same, gentle and benevolent. In his constant concern for our salvation, he says explicitly in the gospel just read to us: "Come, learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart."

What great condescension on the part of the Creator! And yet the creature feels no shame! "Come, learn from me." The Master came to console his fallen servants.

This is how Christ treats us. He shows pity when a sinner deserves punishment. When the race that angers him deserves to be annihilated, he addresses the guilty ones in the kindly words: "Come, learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart."

God is humble, and we are proud! The judge is gentle; the criminal arrogant! The potter speaks in lowered voice; the clay discourses in the tones of a king! "Come, learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart." Our

master carries a whip not to wound, but to heal us.

Reflect upon his indescribable kindness. Who could fail to love a master who never strikes his servants? Who would not marvel at a judge who beseeches a condemned criminal? Surely the self-abasement of these words must astound you.

I am the Creator and I love my work. I am the sculptor and I care for what I have made.

If I thought of my dignity, I should not rescue fallen humankind. If I failed to treat its incurable sickness with fitting remedies, it would never recover its strength. If I did not console it, it would die. If I did nothing but threaten it, it would perish. This is why I apply the salve of kindness to it where it lies.

Compassionately I bend down very low in order to raise it up. No one standing erect can lift a fallen man without putting a hand down to him.

"Come, learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart." I do not make a show of words; I have left you the proof of my deeds. You can see that I am gentle and humble in heart from what I have become.

Consider my nature, reflect upon my dignity, and marvel at the condescension I have shown you. Think of where I came from, and of where I am as I speak to you.

Heaven is my throne, yet I talk to you standing on the earth! I am glorified on high, but because I am long-suffering. I am not angry with you, "for I am gentle and humble in heart."

Homily on St Bassus.



COMMUNION Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed the man who seeks refuge in him.

PARISH PRIEST APPOINTED

Fr John McSweeney has been appointed as our new parish priest from mid-September. Fr Robert Anderson will continue to be with us as parish administrator until Fr John's arrival.

PLEASE NOTE

The extra 9am Sunday Mass will be discontinued from Sunday 12 July onwards. Wednesday morning Masses from 8th July onwards will be at 8:30am.

Dear brothers and sisters

On behalf of Fr Omar and on my own behalf, I would like to express my deepest gratitude. Your farewell to us was so moving, especially under the current circumstances (and God blessed us with a beautiful day!). Both Fr Omar and I will treasure the moments we have spent together with you in this wonderful parish. I want to thank everyone for so many gestures of friendship and genuine Christian love towards us. Our families are far away, but we've always felt at home among you. Thank you! I thank you especially for your good example, shown particularly in your fidelity to prayer, the care for the sick and for your faith-filled bond and mutual help. Please in your spare time say a Hail Mary for us. Thank you all again! We will also miss you... :)

PS: Thank you for your generous gifts and for the beautiful messages written on the cards. Fr Carlos.



SIX SCHOOL CHILDREN BAPTISED: Six primary school children from St. Canice's school made the decision to be baptised. "I wanted to get baptised to get closer to God and to get closer to the Catholic faith," one candidate said. "Before my Dad died, he said I could choose the religion I would like to follow. I chose to be a Catholic. I wanted to be part of the Catholic family," another candidate said. Fr. Carlos baptised the children. You can read the whole article here: <https://www.catholicoutlook.org/six-school-children-welcomed-into-catholic-faith/>

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).

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.

SUNDAY MASS TIMES You need to book Sunday Leura 5pm (Saturday) Wentworth Falls 8am Katoomba 9am Katoomba 10am Leura 5pm	WEEKDAY MASS TIMES MON: 8:30am Katoomba TUE: 5:15pm Leura WED: 10am W-Falls THU: 5:15pm Leura FRI: 12pm Katoomba SAT: 9:30am Katoomba	CONFESSION TIMES MON: 9am Katoomba TUE: 4:45pm Leura WED: 9:30am W-Falls THU: 4:45pm Leura FRI: 12:30pm Katoomba SAT: 10am Katoomba	SAINTS THIS WEEK: Ora pro nobis. MON: St. Maria Goretti TUE: Bl. Peter To Rot THU: Saint Augustine Zhao Rong and his Companions SAT: St. Benedict Next SUN: 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time Next THU: Our Lady of Mount Carmel
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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:** Valerie Small, 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 Heinger, 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

ST CANICE'S SCHOOL NEWS: St Canice's School community warmly welcomes the new Parish Administrator Fr Robert Anderson. We look forward to welcoming him to the school and introducing him to the students.

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>

BOOKING A SUNDAY MASS: From July 1 places of worship are allowed to take numbers as space allows determined by the 1.5 social distancing requirements.

Following the updated regulations we can fit into our churches these numbers of people:

Katoomba: 60 people. Leura: 40 people. Wentworth Falls: 30 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.

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

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.

