



THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS

Acknowledges the Darug and Gundungurra people, the Traditional Custodians of the land on which our churches are built and we pay respect to elders past, present and emerging

CLERGY

Fr. John McSweeney PP VF
Fr. Peter Lamont (AP)
Fr. Jessie Balorio (AP)
Rev. Alan Skofic (Deacon)

SUNDAY MASSES

Sat: 5pm Leura
Sat: 5pm Lawson
Sat: 6pm Mt Victoria
Sun: 8am Wentworth Falls
Sun: 8.30am Lawson
Sun: 9.30am Blackheath
Sun: 10am Katoomba
Sun: 5pm Leura

WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon: 9am Katoomba
Tue: 9am Leura
Wed: 9am Blackheath
Thu: 9am Wentworth Falls
Fri: 9am Lawson
Fri: 12pm Katoomba
Fri: 4pm Megalong Valley
(3rd Fri of the month)
Sat: 9am Katoomba

CONFESSION

Fri: After 12pm Mass Katoomba
Sat: 9:30-9:50am Katoomba
Sat: 4:30-4:50pm Leura
NOTE: Confessions are always available upon request.

Weddings & Church Bookings

For Inquiries:
mmparishubm@gmail.com

Baptisms:

2nd Sunday @ Katoomba 11:00am
4th Sunday @ OLN Lawson 10:30am
Inquiries: 47822804
Email: bluemountains@parracatholic.org

ADORATION CHAPEL

St. Canice's, Katoomba
Mon 9.30am to Fri 6pm
closed at other times.

Christian Meditation

Tuesdays-10am
@Sacred Heart Blackheath



Please mute your mobile at Mass. Let's turn off the technology and turn on to

FROM THE SEVEN CHURCHES IN THE MIST The Pentecost Year A. 23 May 2026

REFLECTION OF THE GOSPEL



Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,
In the first reading we hear that there were devout men from all nations living in Jerusalem and they were all able to hear the Apostles preaching to them in their own language. These devout men we are specifically told were not all Jews.
Likewise in our world there are many devout people living around us, not all Christians, but people who in some way are aware of their spiritual nature and live this awareness.

But they need to hear us speaking their own language and we can all speak different languages. We all have different ways of communicating with others and opening channels of communication with others. Our interests, our hobbies, our life experiences, our work, these are all ways of finding a means of connection with others. It not only in words, but in actions, service, compassion, companionship and listening. This is what the second reading is telling us. We all have unique characters, unique personalities, gifts, strengths and weakness and these allow us to each serve in a particular and important way.
That's what we are tasked to do. Just as Christ sent His disciples out into the world, so too are we now sent out. Sent out to be noticeable and inspirational so that others can see the attraction of Christ through us. To see that the Father created us to exist for all eternity in joy and peace and fulfilment in unity with Him, through His Son who imparts to us the Spirit which makes us children of God. *Deacon Alan*

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

1. My thanks to all who are intending to complete the necessary Safeguarding modules over the next month or so. It is important that the requirements of the civil law are followed by all those in ministry in our Parish.
2. My thanks to Tom, Hannah, Fr. Colin and other generous Bellringers who are finishing the installation of the last bell, and teaching members of our parish the intricacies of bellringing. Congratulations to those who have volunteered and who are doing so well in their training.
3. This weekend we choose the Patron/Title of our new parish. Please write your name on the form; and choose your first and second preferences. I will announce the result in 2 weeks' time - in order to give those who may be away this weekend a chance to vote next weekend.
4. Please remember to bring back the donation envelopes for the Bishop's Appeal this weekend or next. This collection is for the support of our Diocesan Seminary.
5. We congratulate the church community of Our Lady of the Nativity, Lawson, on the commencement of the rebuilding of the Church Meeting rooms. And I thank those who have donated already towards the shortfall in the funds for this purpose. We are over half way to our goal!
God Bless you all
Fr John

**THE NATIONAL COUNT
ATTENDANCE WILL
CONTINUE FOR WHOLE
MONTH OF MAY**

**FOR BULLETIN NOTICES &
ENQUIRIES RE: SACRAMENTS
PLEASE EMAIL:
mmparishubm@gmail.com**

Parish Churches

LAWSON: Our Lady of the Nativity, Somers St; **WENTWORTH FALLS:** St. Francis Xavier's, 3 Day St. **LEURA:** St. Bonaventure's, Railway Pde. **KATOOMBA:** St Canice's, 158 Katoomba St. **BLACKHEATH:** Sacred Heart, 165 Wentworth St. **MEGALONG VALLEY:** St Joseph's, Megalong Rd. **MOUNT VICTORIA:** St Paul, 65 Great Western Highway. * Pictures on this bulletin are taken from the website. Copyright infringement is unintended. Acknowledgment is due.

CONTACT US

Parish Office: 158 Katoomba St, Katoomba 2780.

Postal Address: PO Box 526, Katoomba NSW 2780.

Phone: (02) 4782 2804.

Office Hours: 10am-3pm Tuesday-Friday.

After Hours Emergency Number: 0490814284.

Calls only; no texts please.

Parish email address:

upperbluemountains@parracatholic.org

Parish websites:

bluemountainscatholic.org.au

sacredheartblackheath.org.au

lawsoncatholicchurch.org.au

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

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

Lawson Facebook: [facebook.com/olncclawson](https://www.facebook.com/olncclawson)

Blackheath Facebook: [facebook.com/profile.php?id=100076756208721](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100076756208721)

Parish YouTube:

[youtube.com/@UpperBlueMountainsCatholic](https://www.youtube.com/@UpperBlueMountainsCatholic)

SUNDAY MASS

Live streaming of the 10am Sunday Mass at St Canice's this week. The live feed will be via our parish YouTube page as per usual.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHtj55risvGDQqCDN7mldNQ>.

MINISTRY OF SPIRITUAL HEALING, DELIVERANCE AND EXORCISM

Email: deliverus.caseofficer@parracatholic.org;

deliverance.exorcist@parracatholic.org

Phone/ Call: 0472761879 or

Reached out to the Receptionist of Office of the Bishop or the Chancery.

PARISH SCHOOLS

St Canice's Catholic Primary School

Katoomba Street, Katoomba.

Principal: Ms. Miriam Meaney.

Phone: (02) 4780 6800.

Email: stcanices@parra.catholic.edu.au

Our Lady of the Nativity Catholic Primary School

Somers Street, Lawson.

Principal: Mr. Matthew Bond.

Phone: (02) 4753 2200.

Email: oln@parra.catholic.edu.au

HOSPITAL/HOME VISITS

If you or your loved ones are sick and would like a visit, please contact the parish office or Barbara Davidson (0417 490 103)

USUAL ROSARY AND OTHER DEVOTIONS

Sat and Sun: 4:20pm, Leura.

Mon 8.30am before Mass, Katoomba.

Tue: 8.30am before mass, Leura.

Wed: 8.30am before Mass, Blackheath

Thu: 8.30am before Mass, Wentworth Falls

Fri: 11:30am before Mass, Katoomba.

Fri: 5.00pm Divine Mercy Hour, Leura.

First Fri: 7.00pm Benediction Lawson

Sat: 8:30am before Mass and Cenacle Rosary after, Katoomba.

Notice for Parish Bulletin . If you wish to receive electronically or via email our parish bulletin, please email us on bluemountains@parracatholic.org. If you also want to include any items for the weeks' parish bulletin, email us on mmparishubm@gmail.com or before Wednesday afternoon.

RCIA For all enquiries regarding joining or coming back to the Church please contact Deacon Alan via the Parish office.

Parish Finance Council Members

Fr John

John Tweedie (Chair)

Maylin Corros

Fr Peter

Elaine Smith (Deputy Chair)

Marilyn Rowe

Fr Jessie

John Grant

Dec Alan

Tom Boyd

--- FINANCE NEWS ---

Our Lady of the Nativity Lawson Meeting Room Rebuild

Restoring the meeting room is seen a priority issue.

We are calling on parishioners to assist in raising funds for this project. We need to raise \$20,000.

Donation Rebuild Meeting Room

Account name: Lawson Our Lady of the Nativity

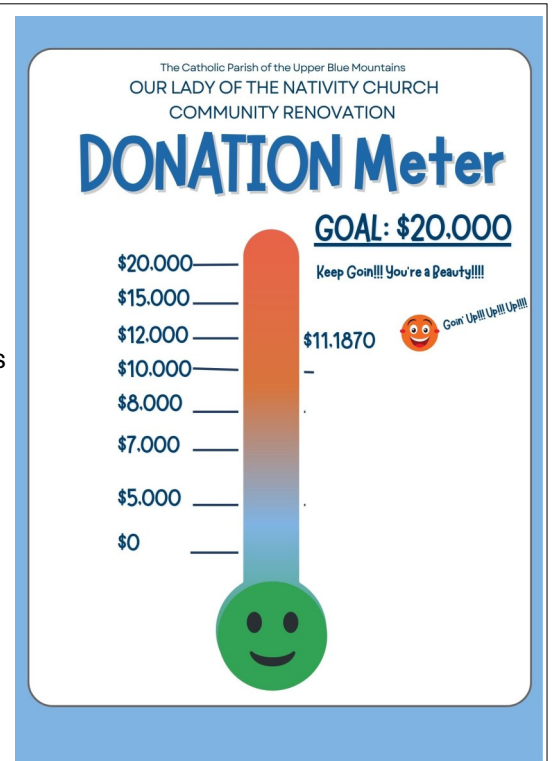
BSB: 067-950

Account Number: 00000164

Reference: Donation Rebuild Meeting Room

- Fr John McSweeney and John Tweedie, Chair of the Finance Com

“Work commenced last week 18th of May 2026”



PARISH NEWS

THE LEGION OF MARY The Church's largest lay apostolate. We meet every FRIDAY at 6:15 pm in the old adoration chapel at Katoomba. You are most welcome to attend and see what the Legion is all about.



REDISCOVERING THE VALUE OF FAITH. The next session will be on Sunday the 14th June, 11:00am @ St Canice's Hall, Katoomba, Topics will be- The Holy Spirit & the Church.

Bishop's Good Works Appeal

Reminder (23-24 May, 30-31 May & 6-7 June) Weekends

Thank you for your generous support of the Bishop's Good Works Appeal. This Appeal supports Holy Spirit Seminary at Harris Park, helping form the future priests our Diocese will need in the years ahead.



Your kindness provides the education, spiritual formation, pastoral training and safe accommodation our seminarians need as they continue answering God's call. With your support, they are being formed to one day serve our parishes with faith, compassion and hope.

Through this Appeal, our Diocese also supports vital ministries including Catholic Care, the Ephpheta Centre and the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, bringing care, hope, guidance and belonging across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains. Please give generously at parracatholic.org/appeal or scan the QR code. Thank you.

PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL. If you would like a rostered holy hour each week or to be on the temporary fill in list, please contact Conor on 0451461697 to register your details or scan the QR code. Hours currently available: Tuesday 1-2pm, 5-6pm; Wednesday Noon-1pm; Thursday 11am-Noon; Friday 9-10am, 4-5pm



The FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION is now well under way with two family group sessions held over the last couple of weeks at both Katoomba and Lawson. The first session was based on the gathering of the family of Jesus at Mass. The highlight was the families participation in a play about Jesus' visit to Martha and Mary

(Luke 10: 38 -42). This visit was compared to the times we gather at a family get together as well the planning, praying, telling stories through the scriptures and sharing in the communion that we do at Mass

At the second session we focussed on the sacred scriptures read during Mass. It is especially through the proclamation of the Gospel that we know so much as about the love of God. The children responded by illustrating their favourite story about Jesus whilst the parents shared what the scriptures teach us about the love of God

Please pray for the children making their first Holy Communion.



BIGGEST MORNING TEA INVITATION. The combined Churches of Blackheath & Mt Victoria invite the community to a Biggest Morning Tea fundraiser in an effort to support the essential work of Cancer Research. Donation of \$20 entry. Cash & electronic options available . Date: Thursday, 28 May 2026; Where: RSL sub-branch Hall, Blackheath (Station St) Time: 10am-12.30 pm. Come for all or some of the time.



MASS OFFERING INTENTIONS



Recently Deceased: Marie Perrott, Kay Cheevers, Jeannette Rosemary Grimson, John Martin, Veneranda Mifsud, Kevin Gordon, Maria Christina Vera de Penna, Rebecca Etccl, Stephen Mount, Fr David Taylor, Genieve Ticehurst

Death Anniversary: Tochillo (Scott) Brown (27.04.2021), members of Kozlowski, La Roche, Brown, Foley, Roome Families, David Powell, Jan, Miecia & Zyguich Slawek, Patricia Ducrest, John Mifsud, Moran William Halliday, Paul Nyssen, Bridget Collits, Stephanie Jean Murphy, Dulcie Elizabeth Nyssen, Lenna & Elizabeth, Barbara Connolly, Max Dodd and all forgotten souls in purgatory.

Pray for the Sick and their Carers: John Barclay, Mildred Taft, Charlie Congreve, Malik, Maureen O'Reilly, George and Laura Boffa, Sarah-Jane Hallett, Les Hayward, Chloe Newton, Kelly Gale, Nathan, Susan Sergent, Sandy Mobray, Joella, Doreen Kinsella & George Commens, Bern McPhee, Maria Cora, Josephine Burdett, Beverly Bateup, Anne Farindon, John Crowley, Maria Johnson, Trennah Portelli, Kevin Medlin, Lan Franco Matteucci. Anthony Griffin, Daniel Smith, Sienna Erdmanis, Mary Whyte, Shirley Bennet, and All Private Intentions.

NB: Due to the strict privacy laws, names of the sick can only be included in the Bulletin with the permission of the immediate family. Thank you.

Who is our Patron Saint?

THE SEARCH IS ON CAST YOUR VOTE!

Five weekends ago, we began giving a brief overview of the 5 options for our parish Patron – which will be voted on during all Pentecost Masses. Please pray about each of the suggestions that have come from many different people and groups.



Pray for Persecuted Christians in Nigeria

Christians in Nigeria continue to suffer greatly for their faith, yet many persevere with deep trust in Christ and devotion to Our Lady. *Aid to the Church in Need* invites you to join with John, a Catholic farmer in Nigeria, in praying a decade of the Rosary this week for persecuted Christians and all who suffer for their faith.

Watch John's moving testimony and download a free Red Rosary Prayer Card to unite your prayers with the suffering Church throughout the world.

Scan the QR code or visit www.rebrand.ly/RedRosary26

SAINTS THIS WEEEK Mon 25 Our Lady, Help of Christians Solemnity . Tue 26 Saint Philip Neri, Priest .
Wed 27 Saint Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop . Fri 29 Saint Paul VI, Pope

NEXT WEEK: Trinity Sunday



St Vincent de Paul Society

good works

Upper Mountains Conferences.

Retired?

Have some extra time in your week?

*Would you like a way to put your faith
into action?*

*Would you like a way to Serve
Christ locally?*

*Just a few hours a fortnight or monthly
helping others?*

We need volunteers to join us.

*Our work is only possible because someone like you says,
"Yes I will give it a try!"*

Lawson Conference - contact Paul Gannon
Paul.Gannon@vinnies.org.au or text 0409 592 055
Katoomba Conference - contact Russell Smith
russell.smith@vinnies.org.au or text 0439 604 916
Blackheath Conference - contact John Tweedie
john.tweedie@vinnies.org.au or text 0407 288 957

CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS

First Friday
Adoration and
Benediction

**OUR LADY
OF NATIVITY
CHURCH,
LAWSON**

7.00 pm | 05 June 2026



254 Great Western Highway, Lawson, NSW 2783
- Deacon Alan Skofic

Laudato Si week-

Watch **Catholic Earthcare's 10th Anniversary of Laudato Si** film.

Be inspired by Catholic schools, parishes and individuals around Australia celebrating their journey of living out Laudato Si. View/Download the film from Vimeo:

<https://vimeo.com/1112169729?fl=pl&fe=sh>

A Prayer for Creation

Lord, grant us the grace
to grow deeper
in our respect of and care for your creation.
Lord, help us to recognize the sacredness
of all your creation
as signs of your wondrous love.
Lord, help us turn from selfish consumption of resources
meant for all
and to see the impacts of our choices
on the poor and the vulnerable.
May we always be grateful for nature's gifts
and continuously work to preserve and cherish them.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Engaged Encounter courses for 2026

How prepared are you for marriage? Engaged Encounter provides you with deeper insights into each other and into married life. We give you a chance to spend time together to strengthen and enrich your relationship. For further information visit our web site: www.engagedencounter.org.au Choose any of the coming Weekends: May 23-24, Aug 8-9, Nov 14-15



Bishop's
**GOOD
WORKS
APPEAL**

**HELP OUR SEMINARIANS
ANSWER GOD'S CALL
AND SUPPORT THE FUTURE
PRIESTS OF OUR CHURCH**



Please Tap to Give
parracatholic.org/appeal



CHURCH COMMUNITY NEWS



SACRED HEART CHURCH COMMUNITY BLACKHEATH

"Yanama Budyari Gumada- Walk with Good Spirit"

DONATIONS

Until our parish finances are unified, please continue to follow the link below and make your choice of option. You will be asked to show your name and mobile phone number:

<https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay>

[CATHOLICPARISHOFSACREDHEARTBLACKHEATH](https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/CATHOLICPARISHOFSACREDHEARTBLACKHEATH)

As an alternative to following the link, please use the attach QR Code.



Blackheath Vinnies Support phone number:
0490 709 547

Sacred Heart Care Group Helping parishioners in need:
Monica Bright 0420 937 690

WEDNESDAY CUPPA'S TOGETHER IN SACRED HEART HALL! Cuppas

"Cuppas" has resumed on Wednesdays. Come for coffee, home made cakes and a catchup with other locals. All members of the community are welcome to come along. Time: 9:30am - 12:00pm each Wednesday. Location: Sacred Heart Church Hall - Wentworth St, Blackheath.



The Sacred Heart Church Community Pastoral Team. Your team members are **Frances Huckstep, Julie O'Keeffe, Marilyn Jones, Graham Beale and Paul Harris.** Please see any of these people if you would like a matter raised.

125 Year Anniversary

Sacred Heart Church Blackheath will reach its 125 year anniversary in 2027. This will be a special year and we look forward to celebrating this milestone together. It's not too early to start planning for some special events for 2027. Parishioners, who would like to join a working group to coordinate anniversary activities for 2027, are invited to contact a member of the Blackheath Church Community Pastoral Team.

Our Commitment to Safeguarding at The Catholic Parish of the Upper Blue Mountains

We are dedicated to creating a safe and nurturing environment for all members of our community, especially children and vulnerable adults, in line with the "Parramatta Way."

The Parramatta Way of Safeguarding is to... Act with justice, and state that we have a zero tolerance for any form of abuse or harm to children or any person; Act with justice, and ensure that laws and obligations are upheld, and safety is paramount.





OUR LADY OF THE NATIVITY CHURCH LAWSON

DONATIONS: Until our parish finances are unified, please continue to follow. Donations can be made to Our Lady of Nativity via direct deposit to the bank account below.

Account name: Lawson Our Lady of the Nativity
BSB: 067-950 Account Number: 00000164

Citrus Fruit Donations

Anyone with citrus fruit trees that are bearing surplus fruits and would like to donate to our church community fundraising events would be most welcomed. Would you kindly bring any donations to Saturday or Sunday masses over the next 3 - 4 weekends. Kate Powell or Jenny will be in the foyer after each mass to gratefully accept your offerings. Any enquiries please call Kate 0420 545 275 or Jenny 0428 057 753.

Artwork Event

We are continuing to receive paintings or prints (thankyou) of which will be sold in an art sale to raise funds towards the building of our Meeting room. If you have any artwork that you wish to still donate please see Kate or Jenny in the foyer of each mass over the next three weekends or call Kate on 0420 545 275 or Jenny 0428 057 753. If anyone has any art easels that we can borrow for this event please let us know, thankyou Jenny

OLN SENIORS' SOCIAL GROUP'S outing for this month is a visit to the Bygonne Beauties Tearooms and Museum on Wednesday, 27th May where will enjoy lunch and a stroll around the Teapot Museum after which we will visit the newly upgraded Leura Gordon Falls Reserve. Anyone interested in joining us on the day and for further information, is asked to contact Paula Currie on 0416 185 651 before Monday, 25th as numbers need to be given prior to the day.

The Catholic Parish of the Upper Blue Mountains is a CHILD SAFE ZONE

The Care and Protection of Children is everyone's responsibility. Help us to care and protect your children by always knowing what your child is doing, where he/she is and who he/she is with. Parents / Guardians Always Keep an Eye on your Children.



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER'S CHURCH WENTWORTH FALLS

DONATIONS: Until our parish finances are unified, please continue to follow the link from St Canice's Katoomba. Please follow this link.

<https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/MaryMackillopParishUpperBlueMountains>

MUSIC MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY @ ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH Inviting those music enthusiasts and musically incline to form a choir for St Francis Xavier Church Community Mass every Sunday at 8:30 am. Please call the office or let the sacristan know. Practice will be announced as soon as we have you.



ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHURCH LEURA

DONATIONS: Until our parish finances are unified, please continue to follow the link from St Canice's Katoomba. Please follow this link.

<https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/MaryMackillopParishUpperBlueMountains>



ST. JOSEPH CHURCH MEGALONG VALLEY

Our next mass at the Valley will be on Friday 19th of June at 4:00 pm. Address: 1270 Megalong Rd, Megalong Valley NSW 2785



ST. PAUL CHURCH MT VICTORIA

Vigil Masses for Sunday occurs every Saturdays at 5:00 pm. Address-- 65 Great Western Highway, Mount Victoria NSW 2786.

NOTICE FOR ALL THOSE WHO VOLUNTEER IN THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS

For Compliance and Professional Standards Audit 2026

WHAT: Face to face training day with Safeguarding and Professional Standard Office.

WHEN: Saturday, 23rd May 2026 at 10:00 pm (approx. 2 hrs and 15 mins with Morning Tea)

Everyone serving in our Parish is required to do the Mandatory training and ongoing refresher modules while serving in the Parish.

For inquiries, please contact the Parish Office or RSVP as soon as possible.



abaxkf.com.au 1300 300 369

PO Box 7250 1 Cowpasture PI, Wetherill Park NSW 2164



†
ST. CANICE'S CHURCH
KATOOMBA

PARISH B. POINT: We have introduced a new and easy way of contribution for both 1st and 2nd collections. When choosing 2nd collection please note name and envelop No. Please follow this link.

<https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/MaryMackillopParishUpperBlueMountains>

Our parish finances need a consistent income. If you could consider using Direct/credit card Debit, we would be grateful. There is also the opportunity to use Bpoint.

FINANCES: If you would like to contribute to the 2nd 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).

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**

DIOCESE NEWS & BEYOND

THE MESSENGER

Inspired by St Gabriel's Mission, this weekly update brings news from across the Diocese of Parramatta for clergy, parishes and agencies.

SAFEGUARDING AUDIT ON APRIL-JUNE 2026. In preparation for the first audit that will take place this year. A member of the Safeguarding Audit team will be in touch and answer any questions you may have. You can also email the team any time at: safeguardingaudit@parracatholic.org

DEANERY CLUSTER MEETING for the MOUNTAINS AND NEPEAN. We will be holding the Deanery Cluster Meetings for the Parish Admin Staff on 24th June 2026 @ Edmund Rice Centre Mulgoa.

Diocese of Parramatta@40 years. A special Mass of Thanksgiving and celebration of 40 years of our Diocese will take place on the Solemnity of the Holy Trinity, Sunday 31st of May at St Patrick's Cathedral, 2:00 pm.

Ministry of Care courses: 3-24 June. Those who visit the sick and are involved in the Ministry of Communion to the Sick and Dying in Hospitals, Aged Care Facilities and in Homes are invited to attend this course on the Ministry of Care. The course will take place every Wednesday in June at 7pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. Please register via parracatholic.org/ministry-of-care-courses to reserve your spot. **For enquiries, please contact ofw@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795.**

Journeys of St Paul & the Cities of the Book of Revelation



An update on the Journey of St Paul & the Cities of the Book of Revelation pilgrimage. Due to the situation in the Middle East this pilgrimage has been postponed until 7 April next year. For those who have already paid for this or for more information please contact Harvest Journeys on harvestjourneys.com/pv2601 Free-Call: 1800 819 156 or info@harvestjourneys.com

Eucharist28 Update – Renewal has begun! The great gift of the Eucharist is that it is not merely a story remembered over a few sacred days. At every Mass, we encounter the reality itself: we offer ourselves to God alongside Christ, truly present in our midst. For more information and regular updates, please register on the website: eucharist28.org



**“We are an Easter people and alleluia is our song!”
St Augustine, Sermon 243**

Nominations open for the 2026 Papal & Diocesan Awards

Nominations are now open for the 2026 Papal and Diocesan Awards, recognising individuals – both religious and lay – who have made outstanding contributions to the Catholic Church and its community. Do you know someone who deserves to be recognised? Nominations close at midnight on 30 June 2026. For more information or to submit a nomination, visit parracatholic.org/contribute/papal-diocesan-awards/

LIFE RALLY
Sydney

6-7 PM | TUESDAY 2 JUNE 2026
NEW PARLIAMENTS HOUSE
MACQUARIE ST SYDNEY

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world
and that which contains all things
understands what is said, alleluia.

FIRST READING (Acts 2:1-11)

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout people living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these people speaking their own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in our own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome - Jews and proselytes alike - Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Lord, send out your Spirit,
and renew the face of the earth.

SECOND READING (1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13)

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless one is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

SEQUENCE

Veni Sancte Spiritus

Holy Spirit, Lord of Light,
From the clear celestial height
Thy pure beaming radiance give.
Come, thou Father of the poor,

Come with treasures which endure
Come, thou light of all that live!

Thou, of all consolers best,
Thou, the soul's delightful guest,
Dost refreshing peace bestow
Thou in toil art comfort sweet
Pleasant coolness in the heat
Solace in the midst of woe.

Light immortal, light divine,
Visit thou these hearts of thine,
And our inmost being fill:
If thou take thy grace away,
Nothing pure in man will stay
All his good is turned to ill.

Heal our wounds, our strength renew
On our dryness pour thy dew
Wash the stains of guilt away:
Bend the stubborn heart and will
Melt the frozen, warm the chill
Guide the steps that go astray.

Thou, on us who evermore
Thee confess and thee adore,
With thy sevenfold gifts descend:
Give us comfort when we die
Give us life with thee on high
Give us joys that never end.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL (John 20:19-23)

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit
and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.