

TODAY'S READINGS
Eccl 15:15-20; 1 Cor 2:6-10; Mt 5:17-37

Psalm response:
The Lord is kind and merciful.

Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia! Whoever keeps the word of Christ, grows perfect in the love of God. Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia!



Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time—Year A

19th February 2017

Jesus tells us that it's easy to love those who love us - anyone can do that. The test of Christian love is to love those who seem unlovable or even seek to make themselves appear unlovable. It's easy to stop saying hello to the person who never returns your greeting. It's easy to avoid the person whose disability makes you uncomfortable. It's easy to hate the person who's nasty to you. But Jesus says that it's these people who we must love. If we are only polite, pleasant and hospitable to our friends then we are failing to follow the footsteps of Jesus.

-from Liturgyhelp online

Servers
19 Feb Michelle Davis
26 Feb Diane Stewart

Readers
19 Feb 1st Reading Claire Maguire
2nd Reading Pat Wicks
Intercessions Robert Forbes
26 Feb 1st Reading Elaine Jackson
2nd Reading Basil Jackson
Intercessions Adrian Carroll

Communion
19 Feb Ray Wood and Grahame Adams
26 Feb Monica and Brian Bright

Counters
19 Feb Laurie
26 Feb Carla and Neil

Morning Tea
19 Feb Pamela Nash
26 Feb Monica Bright

Church Care
3 Mar Noeleen Cliff and Jennifer Milani

St Paul's Mt Victoria and St Joseph's Megalong Valley

Entrance Antiphon:
My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

Communion Antiphon:
For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord, the water I shall give will become in him a spring welling up to eternal life.

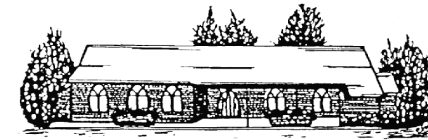
Next Week: **Do not worry about tomorrow**
Is 49:14-15; Ps 61:2-3. 6-9. Cor 4:1-5; Mt 6:24-34

Feast Days of the Week: Sunday 19th to Saturday 25th February 2017

19th St Mansuetus, Bishop (d685)
20th Bl. Francisco & Jacinta Manto, (1908-1919), Fatima's children
21st St Peter Damian, Bishop & Doctor (1007-1072AD), optional
22nd The Chair of St Peter, Apostle, Feast; St Margaret of Cortona (1247-97)
23rd St Polycarp, Bishop & Martyr (c69-c156), optional
24th St Ethelbert, King (d616)
25th St Walburga, Abbess (710-779)



Sacred Heart Parish



Sacred Heart Church ~ Blackheath
Saint Paul's Church ~ Mount Victoria
Saint Joseph's Church ~ Megalong Valley

We respectfully acknowledge the Darug and Gundungurra people, the traditional custodians of the land of the Blue Mountains.

As a community bonded together through faith, we are called to share our experience of God with those we meet each day, in particular, those in our local community.

Parish Priest: Father Bob Sheridan
Parish House: 02 4787 8811
Parish Mobile: 04 2887 8810 (Emergency only)
Parish Office: 02 4787 8540
Facsimile: 02 4787 6143

Office hours: Wed 1.00pm - 4.00pm
Thu 9.00am - 12.00pm
Fri 9.00am - 12.00pm

For Baptisms, Marriages, & sick calls contact Parish House.
e-mail: shbheath2@bigpond.com

Parish House: 18 Inconstant St, Blackheath.
Sacred Heart Church: 167 Wentworth St, Blackheath.

Website: <http://www.keepersoftheflame.net/SacredHeartParish/index.html>

Blackheath - Mass	Sunday	9.30am
Evening Mass	Tuesday	6.30pm
Morning Mass	Wednesday, Friday and Saturday	9.00am
	Thursday	8.00am
Benediction	2nd Saturday after 9.00am Mass	
Exposition	All other Saturdays after 9.00am Mass	
Reconciliation	Saturdays	9.30am
Healing Mass	1st Saturday of the month	9.00am
Mount Victoria - Vigil Mass	1st, 3rd and 5th Saturdays	6.00pm
Megalong Valley - Vigil Mass	2nd and 4th Saturdays	6.00pm

Parish Pastoral Council meets the 4th Thursday of each month. If you would like an issue discussed, please submit it in writing to Fr Bob or David Buckley (Chair); Adrienne Kitching (Deputy Chair) or Karen Hayward (Secretary).

Sacred Heart Care Group: Monica Bright 4757 3943

BULLETIN ITEMS: Please contact the Parish Office on Wednesday or Thursday during office hours on 4787 8540 or email shbheath2@bigpond.com

GARAGE SALE: This has been our major fundraiser for 2017. I am also extremely conscious of the huge investment of time, effort and expertise committed over many, many months by a whole team of volunteers, so well organised by Marilyn, Sue and Patricia with results this year that, for me, are simply staggering! Despite the most oppressive heatwave conditions for many years that just about stifled all activity throughout the entire Upper Blue Mountains, including our garage sale, this was the same stifling heatwave that (I thought) kept so many potential buyers away, and our workers in a constant dehydrated state. While the final count is \$6,294.23. That beats our previous best-ever 'take' by more than \$500. And in those conditions! What an extraordinary achievement - almost beyond belief! So! Take a bow, everyone! Huge thanks to each of you! This was indeed a massive community event in which just about every parishioner (and others from outside our ranks!) shared the workload. Thank you, once more, for your commitment and dedication to the task at hand. Finally, the benefits accruing from the 'garage sale' are not just confined to our parish. Surplus merchandise has been distributed to, and been gratefully received by, a number of other charities who, too, will distribute those leftover goods to a much wider needy population.

DIOCESAN WORKS FUND (DWF): Today is the second week of this round of our DWF collection for those who may want to donate to the wider range of charitable works of the Parramatta Diocese, but who missed last week's collection. Mind you, should you have contributed last week, you are more than welcome to do so again - the need certainly exists! You will find the necessary envelopes in front of you in the pews. A reminder that a few of the ministries that the DWF supports include priests and religious training, Catholic Social Services, family support and youth activities. Overall, there are about 30 such groups who draw funding from the DWF, so please, help if you can. Many thanks to all who have so far provided funds for this essential work of the Church - and 'thank you' in advance also to those who make a donation today! Finally, please place the completed envelopes on the second collection plates.

LENTEN GROUPS: As you know, every year at this time a number of parishioners normally gather together in groups of about 6-8 people to meet weekly during Lent to better prepare each other in their formation for Holy Week and the Paschal Feast of Easter. Our hosts from past years are not available this year, so we need an infusion of up to three new hosts to co-ordinate this year's Lenten programme. Would you like to undertake this task? Without a host to lead the group, effectively, there will not be any group. That would be a tragedy! So, please! Give it a try! The programme consists of about six meetings spread throughout Lent on a date and time to suit you. Any questions, kindly speak to Mon or Brian Bright, or myself after Mass.
God Bless! Father Bob

Lenten Retreat Day for Families at Mt Schoenstatt: 5 March—Families of all ages welcome! 11am Holy Mass followed by BYO picnic. Afternoon program begins at 1.30pm with Input for Adults and program for children; 3pm Prayer followed by afternoon tea. Mount Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Rd, Mulgoa. Free event but registration is essential. Sr M Julie Bracar mob: 0408 738 334 email: juliebracar@gmail.com

LITURGICAL MINISTERS - TRAINING COURSE - SATURDAY 11TH MARCH
Parramatta Diocese puts on courses for people in Ministry a few times a year. The Diocese is very conscious of how far we have to travel for the courses, so once again Sr Mary Louise is bringing the liturgy course to us. All existing Liturgy Ministers are strongly encouraged to attend, along with any parishioners wanting to become a Reader, Eucharistic Minister or Server. For all existing Readers and Eucharistic Ministers and those who are interested in getting involved in these ministries, *the course will be on Saturday 11th March in the Parish Hall.*

Readers Please be at the Parish Hall by 9.50am for the 10.00-11.30am Readers' course

Eucharistic Ministers and Servers Please be in the Parish Hall by 12.10pm

Communion 12.15 - 1.15pm followed by a short break
1.15 - 2.00pm Communion to the sick

(If Parishioners are interested in taking Communion to the sick in their homes, Nursing Homes or Hospitals, you are invited to attend from 12.15pm - 2pm.)

We need to know numbers so **RSVPs** are essential. Please email Michelle on michelled95@hotmail.com by **Tuesday 28th February.**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
Janet Lamerton ~ 23rd February
Seamus O'Keeffe ~ 27th February

PARISH WORKING BEE
Working bee from 8am next Wednesday 22 February in the parish grounds. All welcome. Bring garden gloves, sun hat and sunscreen. We need you help!
Hope to see you there!

PANCAKE SUNDAY
As always, we shall launch this year's Project Compassion Appeal on the Sunday before Ash Wednesday - **NEXT SUNDAY.**
HELPERS needed with this year's appeal ... PLEASE - to bring along Pancake Mix, to cook and to serve!
If you are able to help out, please contact Christa or David on 4787 5105, 0400 208 707; dbuckley45@bigpond.com

Please pray for the sick and their carers:
Barry Bowden; Madge Boylan; Margaret Clancy; John & Marion Crowley; Paul Kalmar; Kevin Madden and Philia Portelli.

New 'Youth Minister' Role at La Salle Academy, Lithgow
Ideal for a gap student (accommodation provided in a lovely semi-rural setting). For position description, please contact Joanne Brown (Religious Education Co-ordinator—Mission) at La Salle Academy. Ph: 6354 5100

Walk the Camino! 20-day Pilgrimage in 2017—From Leòn to Santiago de Compostela (17 May to 5 June). Catholic Mission's pilgrimage balances walking and simple hospitality, with silence, personal reflection-prayer. Small group led by an experienced guide. Sr Veronica OP 0451 387 906; Bianca (02) 9919 7825.
For more information send an email to assistantadmin@catholicmission.org.au

In memoriam
Rick Frazer ~ 22nd February