

**T  
O  
D  
A  
Y**

Acts 5:12-16 **Numerous believers**  
Apocalypse 1:9-13,17-19 **The Living One**  
John 20:19-31 **Sent to forgive**

**Psalm Response:** Give thanks to the Lord  
for he is good, his love is everlasting.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, Alleluia! (x2)  
**You believe in me, Thomas, because you have  
seen me; happy those who have not seen me,  
but still believe!** Alleluia, Alleluia! (x2)

**Servers**

3 Apr Peter Gale  
10 Apr Michelle Davis

**Readers**

3 Apr 1st Reading David Buckley  
2nd Reading Christa Buckley  
Intercessions Patricia Dee  
10 Apr 1st Reading Brian Bright  
2nd Reading Monica Bright  
Intercessions Robert Forbes

**Ministers of the Eucharist**

3 Apr Ray Wood and Jan Roberts  
10 Apr Elizabeth Doolan and Pat Wicks

**Counters**

3 Apr Pamela and John  
10 Apr Robyn and Adrian

**Morning Tea**

3 Apr Pamela Scott and Elizabeth Doolan  
10 Apr Christine O'Grady

**Church Care**

15 Apr Noleen Cliff and Mary Kingston

In memoriam: ✠ **Roma Ward** ~ 4th April

**April/May Liturgical  
Ministers' Rosters**  
are available at the  
back of the church.  
Please collect a copy.

**St Paul's Mt Victoria & St Joseph's Megalong Valley**  
**Entrance Antiphon:** Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure,  
spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.  
**Communion Antiphon:** Bring your hand and feel the place  
of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

Next week: **It is the Lord** Acts 5:27-32,40-41; Psalm 29 Apocalypse 5:11-14; John 21:1-19

**Feast Days of the Week—** Sunday 3rd to Saturday 9th April

3rd Divine Mercy Sunday; Feast of Sts Agape and Irene (d304), martyred virgins  
4th The Annunciation of the Lord (Transferred to 4/4 as 25/3 fell during Holy Week)  
5th St Vincent Ferrer, Priest (d1419), Patron of Builders  
6th St Celestine I, Pope (d432)  
7th St John Baptist de la Salle, Priest & Founder (1651-1719), optional  
8th St Julian of Toledo, Bishop (620-90)  
9th St Mary of Cleophas, Mother of Apostle St James



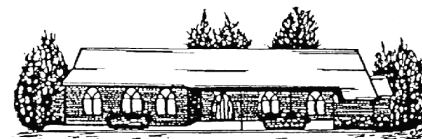
**2nd Sunday of Easter**  
Year C  
3rd April 2016

In the evening of  
resurrection day,  
the disciples were shut in  
out of fear.

Jesus comes to them  
with consoling words:  
Peace be with you.

He shows them his wounds  
from his suffering and  
death, and again speaks  
words of peace,  
filling them with joy.  
He commissions them to  
go out in the power of  
his Holy Spirit and  
forgive others as they  
themselves have been  
forgiven by him.

# 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 **Office hours:** Wed 1.00pm - 4.00pm  
**Parish House:** 02 4787 8811 **Thu** 9.00am - 12.00pm  
**Parish Mobile:** 04 2887 8810 **Fri** 9.00am - 12.00pm  
(Emergency only) For Baptisms, Marriages, & sick calls  
**Parish Office:** 02 4787 8540 contact Parish House.  
**Facsimile:** 02 4787 6143 **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>

<b>Blackheath - Mass</b>	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
<b>Mount Victoria - Vigil Mass</b>	1st, 3rd and 5th Saturdays	6.00pm
<b>Megalong Valley - Vigil Mass</b>	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 Carmen Beard (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**

**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY:** Over the past couple of weeks, I have drawn your attention to today's celebration of Jesus' Divine Mercy on this Divine Mercy Sunday. As mentioned last week, Pope John Paul II initiated this Feast when canonizing St Faustina Kowalska on 30th April 2000. So, this is a recently-introduced major feast. Our readings this day are all about mercy, trust and the forgiveness of sins. Locally, you are invited to attend the special celebrations, reconciliation and Mass commencing about 2.45pm this afternoon at Leura's St Bonaventure's Church in Railway Parade. Incorporating the practice of Divine Mercy into the more general activities of our Catholic faith, including the daily recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet, has become a permanent daily feature in the prayer life of so many Catholics in this age. You are most welcome to join today's celebration!

**HOLY WEEK/EASTER REVIEW:** The last week of Lent with its flow-in to Easter via the Triduum, attracted a remarkable number of local parishioners and visitors whose numbers were beyond my ability to count. Suffice to say that every Mass and liturgy drew numbers way beyond my expectations, with the possible exception of the Saturday Vigil Mass at Blackheath where only about 45 persons attended, the Good Friday sunset visit to Mt Blackheath where only one person turned up at the starting point and the Sunrise Service at Govett's Leap about which I have no knowledge at this time. However, Easter Sunday Mass attendances were quite spectacular. The 7am Mt Victoria Mass, with its capacity of 50 seats, had over 40 in attendance, while down in Megalong Valley the 11.30am Mass given its 30 seat capacity, overflowed with, say, 50+ parishioners and visitors present. As for the 9.30am Blackheath Mass, I have no idea regarding numbers of people attending that Mass. Suffice to say that all the extra seats were occupied, plus people standing both inside and outside the church, some under the awning. Maybe 250? Who knows! As for attendances at the other liturgies; they were each well above my expectations. Particularly well received was the 'new' Stations of the Cross presentation in Sacred Heart Church using locally-produced print material and the A/V system. Everything went like clockwork throughout the week. That did NOT just happen of its own accord! You - our volunteers - worked so hard to produce these results. You have much of which to be proud. Other parishioners and a wide selection of visitors have been so generous in their congratulations because of the spiritual atmosphere created and the competence in the results achieved through your efforts. Well done, indeed! By-the-way, did I say that the music, too, was superb!

We must never forget, however, that we did all this because of our devotion to, and love for Jesus, our Christ, whom we thank for everything He has done for each of us, plus all that He continues to do for both you and me! Amen.

**DAYLIGHT SAVING:** Well! Did you enjoy the extra hour in bed last night? Or, were you very early for Mass today! So, back to Eastern Standard Time until next October, when we can go through this whole process all over again!

**FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION:** Tomorrow is the post-dated Solemnity Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord, normally celebrated on 25th March (was Good Friday this year). Mass at St Canice's, Katoomba at 10.00am.

*God Bless! Father Bob*

The Parish Dinner has been booked for Friday 27th May. A spit roast with trimmings, sweets, tea and coffee, it will be held in our parish hall, with entertainment by our very own Pat Drummond. All welcome! Cost will be \$35 per head. We are now taking bookings (see notice board). Monies will be collected closer to the date. Come along and enjoy a great night!

**Social Justice Workshop  
Sunday 10 April**

At the Parish AGM last November, we resolved to include the formation of a Social Justice Group in our Parish Pastoral Plan. Next Sunday's workshop, to be led by **Sister Louise McKeogh** from the Diocesan Social Justice Office, will give us the opportunity to explore how best we, as a Parish, might do this and how best we might respond to the heartfelt plea from Pope Francis in his 2016 World Day of Peace plea: **"that we all engage with the world around us, not turn our backs on suffering and injustice, and not to lose hope in our human ability to conquer evil and to combat resignation and indifference."**

The workshop will follow morning tea - down in the hall. All are most welcome!

**Diocesan Works Fund (DWF)**

Gifts to the DWF benefit ministries that are supported by the Diocese and are overseen by the Bishop of Parramatta. The DWF Appeal provides funds for Catholic Care Social Services, Holy Spirit Seminary, Ephpheta, Parramatta Institute for Mission, Aboriginal Catholic Services, Hospital, Prison and University Chaplaincies and Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) to mention just a few groups. **The next appeal will be held on 10th and 17th April.** Our own 2016 quota is \$6115.00 for the year or \$2038.00 for each three monthly appeal. Gifts over \$2 to the Diocesan Works Fund are tax deductible. Please give generously!

Come and join us at the next **Laudato Si' Discussion and Action Group** gathering on **Wednesday 6 April** in the Parish meeting room, 7pm-8.30pm. Prepared reading from *Laudato Si'* is pages 23-40. Come and look more closely at Pope Francis' encyclical. **All Welcome!**

**Finances**

**\*Collections Sunday 27th March**  
1st Collection \$495.00  
2nd Collection \$1600.65  
(incl. Direct Deposits). Thank you!  
**\*Net profit YTD is \$6216.69.**  
**\*Our cake and plant stall raised \$471.00.**

*Thank you to all who made cakes, supplied plants and all who purchased them. Thank you to Marilyn and volunteers for their hard work. Well done, everyone!*

**BBQ Raffle winner: Matt McCann** from Mt Victoria. Thanks to all who bought tickets. Better luck next time!

**Afternoon Capers - Salud Café** (The Tin Shed) Lithgow on Wed, **6th April** at 12pm. If you need a lift please phone Diane 4787 1357.



**Parishioner Kevin Madden**  
A message from his Brother, Chris:

*Kevin of Mt Victoria suffered a stroke recently and after several weeks in hospital is now residing at Catholic Healthcare's Nursing Home - St Anne's in Hunter's Hill. He is settling in still and, although somewhat frail, is in good humour. His family in Sydney and elsewhere would like to extend to the parish communities of Mt Victoria and Blackheath their deep appreciation of the affection, care and support they have given Kevin during his eighteen years at Mt Victoria. Kevin has always spoken lovingly of the people around him in the mountain community and we know he would welcome any visitors in his new abode.*