

TODAY

*Acts 1:1-11 Taken to heaven
Ephesians 1:17-23 God's power at work
Mark 16:15-20 He works with us*

Psalm Response

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Go and teach all people my gospel.
I am with you always, until the end of the world.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Servers

17 May Bill Grieves
24 May Jan Roberts

Readers

17 May 1st Reading David Buckley
Intercessions Ron Davis
2nd Reading John Woodward
24 May 1st Reading Ron Davis
Intercessions Dominic Burke/family
2nd Reading Christine Helby

Ministers of the Eucharist

17 May Jan Roberts and Elizabeth Doolan
24 May David Buckley and Diana Landsberg

Counters

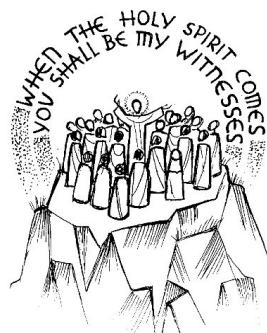
17 May Barbara and Bill
24 May Marilyn

Morning Tea

17 May Rasa Blansjaar
24 May Christine O'Grady

Church Care

22 May Noleen Cliff and Mary Kingston



ASCENSION OF THE LORD ~ Year B

17th May 2015

During forty days
Jesus appeared to his
disciples to assure them
of the reality of his
resurrection, to comfort
and to strengthen them.
He now commissions
them to go out to
the whole world to
proclaim the Good News.
This preaching is to be
perpetuated through the
Church down the ages.
In this week, we pray for
the unity of all Christians
under Christ our head.

Please remember in your prayers those who are unwell and also their carers:
Siobhan Atkin; Leslie Dee; Neal Evans; Anne Farindon; James Ford;
Kenneth Kirkham; Frank Mackrell; Lorraine McKelvie; Fr Laurie Mooney OSA;
Cathy Salier; Frances Slater and Nicole Warner.

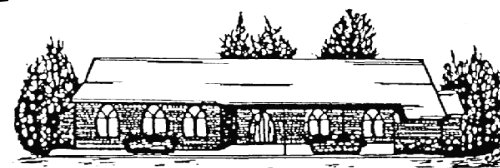
This Week's Feast Days for Sunday 17th to Saturday 23rd May

17th St Paschal Baylon, Religious (1540-92)
18th St John 1, Pope, Martyr (d526), optional feast
19th St Celestine V, Pope (1215-1296)
20th St Bernadine of Siena, Priest (1380-1444), optional feast
21st St Constantine, Emperor (d313)
22nd St Rita of Cascia, Widow & Nun (1381-1457), optional feast
23rd Bl. Girolamo Savanarola, Religious & Martyr (1452-98)



Next Week
Spirit of truth
Acts 2:1-11
Psalm 103
Galatians 5:16-25;
John 15:26-27;
16:12-15

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 Blue Mountains' land.

Our Mission Statement: 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: 4787 8811 **Thu:** 9.00am - 12.00pm
Parish Mobile: 0428 878810 (Emergency only) **Fri:** 9.00am - 12.00pm
Parish Office: 4787 8540 **Fax:** 4787 6143 All enquiries regarding Baptisms,
e-mail: shbheath2@bigpond.com Marriages and sick calls - 4787 8811.

Parish Address: 18 Inconstant Street, Blackheath. NSW 2785

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

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Sacred-Heart-Parish-Blackheath/153850768029631>

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 Sunday of each month (after 9.30am Mass).
If you would like an issue discussed, please submit it in writing to Fr Bob or Diana
Landsberg (Chair); David Buckley (Deputy Chair) or Dennis Doherty (Secretary).

Sacred Heart Care Group: Michelle Funnell 4757 2638

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

ASCENSION SUNDAY: Today we celebrate the second of the three major feasts that collectively make up the Easter Season. First, of course, is Easter Sunday and Jesus' Resurrection from the dead. We now celebrate Christ's return to His Father in Heaven via the feast we call the Ascension - this being the Sunday following the original Feast of Ascension Thursday, the actual 50th day following Easter Sunday. Last of all is the Feast of Pentecost where we celebrate the descent of the Paraclete (the Most Holy Spirit - third person of the Divine Trinity) to be our Advocate, and to take Jesus' place among all people, in every generation. That feast is celebrated next Sunday. Tradition sort of tells us that Jesus' Ascension took place in the same Garden of Gethsemane where He had just a few weeks earlier suffered the beginning of the trauma that was His Passion and Death. However, Luke's version of this event would have us believe that Jesus ascended into Heaven from Bethany, a village then about 3kms from Jerusalem. So! Take your pick! I happen to think it was the Garden of Gethsemane, but I have no absolute proof!

With Jesus on this occasion were those closest to Him, to bear witness to His physical departure from us for His journey home - Heaven, from whence He had originally come to us. We perhaps need to be reminded that once ascended into Heaven, Jesus, our Saviour, who individually and personally has supported us every moment of our existence on this difficult life's journey, will also be there to adjudicate on the life we have lived here once we have departed this world.

DIOCESAN WORKS FUND: A big thank you to all parishioners who gave generously to the DWF collection. An amount of \$912.00 was raised.

SACRED HEART HISTORY 1964-65: About one month ago, a very close friend of mine since 2005, Judith Arnold (now in her 90's and a permanent resident at Bodington Nursing Home, Wentworth Falls), gave me a copy of **THE OFFICIAL YEAR BOOK OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND AND OCEANIA 1964-65 EDITION.** It makes very interesting reading for us in the Upper Blue Mountains.

The Blackheath entry, which I quote verbatim, reads as follows:

BLACKHEATH (1943) - Sacred Heart. Mt. Victoria: St. Paul. Megalong Valley: St. Joseph; Hall at Medlow Bath where Mass is celebrated each Sunday. Rev. L. E. Mahon. Presbytery: Inconstant Street, Blackheath. Tel.: Blackheath W540. Convent School: Sisters of Mercy: girls, 47; boys, 37. Tel.: Blackheath W341.

You may also find the Katoomba entry interesting:

KATOOMBA (1890) - St. Canice. Rev. J. O'Rourke, P.P.; Rev. K. Hay. Presbytery: Katoomba Street, Katoomba. Tel.: Kat 109. Masses: 7, 9½, 10½ and 5 p.m. Convent Schools: Sisters of Charity: girls 124; boys 55. Mt. St. Mary's College: Sisters of Charity: boarders, 54; day pupils: girls, 119. Tel.: Kat. 185. Boys Schools: St. Bernard's College. De La Salle Brothers. "Woodlands"; boarders, 81; day pupils, 132. "Clairvaux": boarders, 30; day pupils, 98. Tel.: Kat. 790.

For anyone interested, Leura Parish is listed separately.

I have still to thank Judith Arnold for this wonderful historic gift to us, but have thanked her for the gift last year of our Mt Victoria church piano.

God Bless! Father Bob

'REFUGEES - LET'S DO BETTER' - Compere: Fr Frank Brennan. The Blue Mountains Refugee Support Group are hosting this event. The speakers are: **Dorothy Hoddinott**, two young refugees, **Lee Rhiannon** and **Phil Glendenning**. They will be supported by The Western Sydney Male Voice Choir. The event will be at **Wentworth Falls School of Arts on Sunday, 24 May, at 2.00pm.** Tickets: Adults \$15/Conc. \$10 available at Megalong Books, Turning Page and Gleebooks.

CARITAS AUSTRALIA - Special Appeal for Nepal

Today we are continuing our Special Appeal to assist Caritas Australia in its emergency relief and long term recovery efforts for the victims of the earthquake in Nepal. To date, your generosity has resulted in \$1196 being raised - Thank You! If you have not already had the opportunity to do so, you are asked to please consider giving generously and to keep the people of Nepal in your Prayers. Envelopes remain in the pews today and may be placed on either collection. Again, *Thank You!*

Prayer for Nepal

Loving God, we pray for all those affected by the earthquake in Nepal as we offer the words of the psalmist:

'Be strong and take heart, all who hope in the Lord.'

May those who are paralysed by fear...

(R) Be strong and Take Heart.

May those who have lost or are still searching for loved ones...(R)



May those who remain trapped under rubble...(R)

May those rescue workers who provide relief and recovery...(R)

May those who are moved with compassion to help...(R)

God, whose love knows no bounds, fill all those who suffer with your comfort and peace.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

DIOCESAN WORKS FUND: A big **thank you** to all parishioners who gave generously to the DWF collection. An amount of \$912.00 was raised.

PARISH DINNER: To be held at the **Blackheath Golf Club** on Friday evening, **19th June**, commencing at 6.00pm with an Asian Buffet, Sweets and Tea/Coffee. Cost \$30.00 per head. Tickets on sale now.



Sacred Heart Care Ministry offers support for those in our community requiring assistance. Please contact Michelle on 4757 2638.

~ Words of Wisdom ~

"Holy Mary,
Mother of God, pray for us
sinners now
and at the hour
of our death."

From The Hail Mary

(Cathnews)



In memoriam
Jean McSweeney ~ 17 May

Living the Gospel - Proclaim Good News

Francis of Assisi is credited with saying, **'Preach the gospel at all times and when necessary, use words!'** In every interaction we have we say so much about who we are, what we think of the other person and what we believe - even without opening our mouth. Our actions and attitudes proclaim our beliefs more powerfully than our words ever do. If we claim to be concerned about justice and yet behave unjustly then it is our actions, not our words, that will be heard! When we are called to 'proclaim the Good News' we are called to this first and foremost in action.

(Liturgyhelp)