

Isaiah 56:1,6-7 **God of all**
Romans 11:13-15,29-32 **God of mercy**
Matthew 15:21-28 **A pagan's faith**

Psalm Response: **Let all the peoples praise you, O Lord. Let all the peoples praise you.**

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick. Alleluia, alleluia!

Servers

20 Aug Michelle Davis
27 Aug Michelle Davis

Readers

20 Aug 1st Reading David Buckley
2nd Reading Christa Buckley
Intercessions Patricia Dee
27 Aug 1st Reading Brian Bright
2nd Reading Monica Bright
Intercessions Marilyn Rowe

Communion

20 Aug Jan Roberts and Grahame Adams
27 Aug Elizabeth Doolan and Paul Harris

Counters

20 Aug Laurie
27 Aug Carla and Neil

Morning Tea

20 Aug Rasa Blansjaar
27 Aug Dave Harris

Church Care

8 Sept Noeleen Cliff and Jennifer Milani

St Paul's Mt Vic & St Joseph's Megalong Valley

Entrance Antiphon: Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

Communion Antiphon: With the Lord there is mercy; in him is plentiful redemption.

In loving memory: Wladyslaw Ziolkowski ~ 26th August

Feast Days of the Week—Sunday 20th to Saturday 26th August

20th St Bernard, Bounder, Abbott, Doctor (1090-1153), Memorial
21st St Pius X, Pope (1835-1914), Memorial
Our Lady of Knock, Irish Feast (1879)
22nd Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary (1955), Memorial
23rd St Rose of Lima, Virgin (1586-1617), optional
24th St Bartholomew, Apostle, Feast
25th St Louis IX, King (1214-70), optional
26th St Caesarius of Arles, Bishop (470-543)



Who do you say I am?
Isaiah 22:19-23; Ps 137;
Romans 11:33-36;
Matthew 16:13-20



**Twentieth Sunday
Year A**

20th August 2017

In today's poignant story of the Canaanite woman, Jesus rebuffed her, saying that he was sent to the people of Israel, not to the pagans. The disciples pleaded her cause, not out of compassion, but to be rid of her as an embarrassment. But the woman, driven by maternal love for her child, persisted with great faith and self-forgetfulness. Her persistence won through. Do we likewise persevere in prayer?

(Artwork by Jenny Close, Liturgyhelp)

**A VOCATION
VIEW**

It's so easy to push people out of our lives. But the Lord knows no boundaries or races or colours. Spread the Good News that we are all God's people.



Sacred Heart Parish

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

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.

We acknowledge the Darug and Gundungurra people, the traditional custodians of this land and pay our respects to the elders past and present, including those who may be with us today.

Blackheath	Sunday Mass	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 Priest: Father Bob Sheridan

Parish Office: 02 4787 8540

Parish House: 02 4787 8811

Facsimile: 02 4787 6143

Parish Mobile: 04 1735 5479
(Emergency only)

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

E-mail: shbheath2@bigpond.com

Parish House: 18 Inconstant Street, Blackheath. 2785

Sacred Heart Church: 167 Wentworth Street, Blackheath.

St Paul's Church: 65 Great Western Highway, Mount Victoria.

St Joseph's Church: 1270 Megalong Road, Megalong Valley.

For Baptisms, Marriages and sick calls, please contact the Parish House.

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 Christine O'Grady (Secretary).

Sacred Heart Care Group (helping parishioners in times of need) call 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

Website: <https://sacredheartblackheath.org.au/>



www.facebook.com/

Sacred-Heart-Parish-Community-Blackheath-153850768029631/

WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES 2017 (21st—27th August): Starting tomorrow (Monday), we in this parish join with the rest of the world through our Universal Church to focus our attention on the awful plight of so many migrants and refugees.

In the words of Pope Francis: *"...on the occasion of the annual World Day of Migrants and Refugees, I feel compelled to draw attention to the reality of child migrants, especially the ones who are alone. In doing so I ask everyone to take care of the young, who in a threefold way are defenceless: they are children, they are foreigners, and they have no means of protecting themselves. I ask everyone to help those who, for various reasons, are forced to live far from their homeland and are separated from their families."*

...Lastly, I wish to address a word to you, who walk alongside migrant children and young people: they need your help. The Church too needs you and supports you in the generous service you offer. Do not tire of courageously living the Gospel, which calls you to recognise and welcome the Lord Jesus among the smallest and most vulnerable.

I entrust all child migrants, their families, their communities, and you who are close to them, to the protection of the Holy Family of Nazareth; may they watch over and accompany each one on their journey. With my prayers, I gladly impart my Apostolic Blessing."

Our Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv., supports Pope Francis, when he says: *"Pope Francis has chosen the theme, 'Child Migrants, the Vulnerable and the Voiceless', for the 103rd World Day of Migrants and Refugees, commemorated in Australia on the last Sunday of August 2017. "...The statistics are alarming. UNICEF reported in December 2016 that, 'An estimated 535 million children...live in countries affected by conflict or disaster, often without access to medical care, quality education, proper nutrition and protection...' We are no longer able to sit in silence when confronted with these realities. We therefore need to become informed and also become engaged."*

Bishop Vincent also highlighted the need to place the interests of the child first, ideally within their own family, with our support. He also spoke about trafficked children and the urgent need to remediate that situation as a matter of urgency.

You and I need to do all possible to save every suffering innocent we find, be they adults, children or indeed whole families. Prayer would be a great starting point!

Concurrent with this commitment, next Sunday afternoon from 2pm-4pm at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Hall, 7 Grantham St, Seven Hills, the year-long launch of our Diocesan special focus - **"Walking with Refugee and People Seeking Protection"** - will be made by Bishop Vincent. You are personally invited to attend. Light refreshments will be provided.

FEAST DAYS: I draw your attention to the fact that Tuesday next (22/8) is the Memorial Feast of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary, while on Thursday (24/8) we celebrate the Feast of St Bartholomew, Apostle.

A BAPTISM: Tiny 4 month young **Max Jack Thomas**, son of local Blackheath family Leonie and Trevor, is to be baptised here this morning after our 9.30am Mass, at 11.30am. We congratulate little Max especially, also his parents and family on him becoming the latest addition to our parish 'family'. May Max enjoy a happy, healthy and God-filled long life of love! **God Bless! Father Bob**

CCSS Solo Parent Services are holding Session two for our Seminar on **"Understanding Family Law."**

Wed, 22nd August - *Understanding the Family Law Act* - Focus on Property/Settlements. Venue: 38 Prince St, Blacktown.
Time: 7pm-9pm Cost: \$7.00 Registration Essential—Solo Parent Services - Please contact Rita - Ph: 8822 2222

BISHOP'S COLLECTION FOR RETIRED AND SICK CLERGY
The Clergy Support Foundation of the Diocese of Parramatta assists in meeting the needs of the retired and sick priests of the Diocese, and an annual appeal,

The Bishop's Collection for Retired and Sick Clergy, is held on Father's Day each year to support the Foundation. Last year, through your generosity, we received donations totalling \$205,000 and the Foundation thanks you for this contribution. This year the appeal in the Diocese will be held on the weekend of **September 2-3**.

A third collection will be held on this weekend at each Mass. Special envelopes will be available and all donations over \$2 are tax deductible. If you wish to claim a tax deduction, please tick the box and write your details clearly on the envelope. Appeal envelopes will be available next week for those who will not be here on the Father's Day weekend.

If you wish, you can make online contributions at **csfparra.org.au** using your credit card or direct transfer via eft to BSB 067 950 and Account No. 001691 in the name of the CSF with reference your name, and send e-mail to **csf@parra.catholic.org.au** with your details so receipts can be sent, which we usually do in January.

WALKING WITH REFUGEES AND PEOPLE SEEKING PROTECTION

Bishop Vincent Long will launch this important, year-long Diocesan Journey on **Sunday, 27 August, at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Hall, Seven Hills, 2pm—4pm. Special guest speaker: Fr Tom Smolich**,

International Director of Jesuit Refugee Services. A feature of the afternoon will be to hear personal stories from refugees and asylum seekers as well as the opportunity to join small group discussions to discern how best the Diocese may achieve its goal ... particularly at a parish level. If you would like to join others from around the Diocese at the launch, please contact the Social Justice Office on 8838 3461 or register online at: <https://register.eventarc.com/38860/invitaiton-to-migrant-and-refugee-sundaylaunch-27-th-august> Local Parish contact: David Buckley - 4787 5105, dbuckley45@bigpond.com

Happy Golden Anniversary to David and Ingeborg Caplice - 50 years on 23rd August.

ATTENTION

The steps to Wentworth St, outside the church, will be out of action until next Saturday, due to maintenance.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND THEIR CARERS

Catherine Beaver, Barry Bowden, Margaret Clancy, John and Marion Crowley, Fr Paul Hanna, Kevin Madden, Jim McArdle, Kerry Oliver-Graham, Ray Phillips, Philia Portelli, Amber Simmons and Roma Ziolkowski.

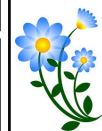
PARISH WORKING BEE

Monday 21 August commencing at 8am. Please help if you can.

New 2017-18 **planned giving envelopes** are now available from the back of the church.

FAREWELL CELEBRATION FOR NORMA LONGMUIR

You are invited to celebrate and farewell dear Norma for her generous contribution to our Sacred Heart Community after Sunday Mass **today**, in the Hall. The litany of Norma's generosity is endless. A card will be available for you to sign.



Thank you for your support.

Monica Bright

CONFIRMATION

will be held at Sacred Heart, on **Sunday, 17th Sept**, at 9:30am. Our Celebrant will be the Very Rev. Fr Chris de Souza.