

Ezekiel 33:7-9 Personal responsibility
Romans 13:8-10 Love cannot harm
Matthew 18:15-20 Seek to reconcile

Psalm Response: If today you hear His voice,
 harden not your heart.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!
 God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to
 himself; and the Good News of reconciliation
 he has entrusted to us. Alleluia, alleluia!

Servers

10 Sep Graham Adams
 17 Sep Paul Harris

Readers

10 Sep	1st Reading	Emma Quartermaine
	2nd Reading	Barbara Grieves
	Intercessions	Paul Harris
17 Sep	1st Reading	Claire Maguire
	2nd Reading	Paul Harris
	Intercessions	Patricia Dee

Communion

10 Sep Ray Wood and Michelle Davis
 17 Sep Monica and Brian Bright

Counters

10 Sep Julie and Lance
 17 Sep Robyn and Adrian

Morning Tea

10 Sep Christine Burke
 17 Sep Mary Batty

Church Care

22 Sept Sue Gracey and Pat McAuley

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

Entrance Antiphon:
 You are just, O Lord, and
 your judgement is right;
 treat your servant in accord
 with your merciful love.

Communion Antiphon:
 Like the deer that yearns for
 running streams, so my soul is
 yearning for you, my God; my soul
 is thirsting for God, the living God.

In loving memory: ♦ Mary Kingston ~ 10th September
 ♦ Elsie Carroll ~ 15th September

Feast Days of the Week—Sunday 10th to 16th September

10th	St Nicholas of Tolentine, Priest (1245-1305)
11th	St Adelphus, Bishop (5th Century)
12th	Holy Name of Mary - Optional
13th	St John Chrysostom, Bishop & Doctor, Memorial (c344-407)
14th	The Exaltation of the Cross – Feast
15th	Our Lady of Sorrows - Memorial
16th	St Edith of Wilton, Abbess, Patron of Wilton Abbey (d984)



**Twenty Third
 Sunday ~ Year A**

10th September 2017

A judgemental attitude
 towards others never
 promotes love and
 harmony.

We can all feel hurt
 and offended at times,
 but if we approach that
 person with kindness
 rather than anger,
 there is more chance of
 peaceful reconciliation.
 Jesus asks us to do all
 we can to promote love,
 peace and tolerance,
 and he assures us that he
 will be there among us
 with his support and
 encouragement.

Next week: Why be envious?
 Isaiah 55:6-9; Psalm 144;
 Phil.1:20-24,27; Matthew 20:1-16

A Vocation View

How much would the world
 be changed if everyone
 were completely forgiving?
 Probably totally! Jesus'
 stories of forgiveness are
 so loved because they are
 so needed. Re-tell them!
 Re-live them!

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	Office hours: Wed 1.00pm - 4.00pm
(Emergency only)	Thu 9.00am - 12.00pm
E-mail: shbheath2@bigpond.com	Fri 9.00am - 12.00pm

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/

TODAY IS CHILD PROTECTION SUNDAY ("See Me, Hear Me"): As has become the custom each year, the Child Protection Sunday and preceding week provides a focus reminding each of us to play a part in protecting our children. This year our theme is *"See Me, Hear Me"*. The question is, how do we at Sacred Heart Parish play our part in listening to children to ensure they are kept safe? This year the National Committee for Professional Standards has commissioned a video and brochure through the Australian Catholic University reflecting on research around what children think about their safety.

In the first reading for the 10th September, Child Protection Sunday, the Prophet Ezekiel speaks of "being a sentry to the House of Israel". As already stated within our Catholic Communities, there is horror, anger and sorrow over the abuse of children. As Pope Francis outlined before leading the crowds in the Angelus prayer in March last year, it is important to *"Listen: this is the key word. Do not forget, listen to the hurt, sick and marginalized, or among families."* As a sentry, each of us plays a part in listening to what the children have to say, making sure that every child is safe and protected from abuse and harm.

In 2016, following a proposal from the Pontifical Commission for the protection of Minors, the Holy Father established a 'Day of prayer and penance for the victims of sexual abuse, and to ask God for a greater awareness of the responsibility of the members of the Church towards the underage people entrusted to them'. Here in Australia, this second-stated purpose is already a focus of Child Protection Sunday, which is observed each year on the second Sunday in September, so decided by the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference as the day of prayer and penance for the victims of sexual abuse.

TODAY IS ALSO MARRIAGE SUNDAY: Daniel Fleming, from St Vincent's Health, Australia and keynote speaker at a recent conference for Catholic parents in Manly, when asked about the future for families, said: "I think a lot of us operate out of a 'thin' version of Catholicism, one which emphasises this or that part of Tradition and adds that to an otherwise normal life, but doesn't challenge us to dive into its depths and draw on its great richness. The Catholic Tradition provides us with a beautiful vision of what it means to be human and great guidance on what that vision means for how we live out our lives. However, it is a challenging vision. It is not popular to put faith and the vision for life it gives at the centre of things, and that makes it really hard for families. Don't forget, that in the Catholic Tradition, spirituality (our ongoing relationship with God) and ethics (the way in which we choose to live) are closely related as seen in the 25th Chapter of Matthew when Jesus is quoted as saying - "just as you did to the least of these...". He concluded by saying: "We have a beautiful faith tradition, which invites us into a beautiful life (marriage, family!). I think that's good news for all of us and for our world!"

BISHOP'S COLLECTION FOR RETIRED AND SICK CLERGY: Thank you for your generosity in contributing to the Bishop's Collection for Retired and Sick Clergy last weekend. For those who were unable to contribute, some envelopes are available on the pews. Please place any donations on the second collection. If you wish, you can make online contributions at csfparra.org.au using your credit card or direct transfer via BSB 067 950 and Account No. 001691 in the name of the CSF with reference to your name, and send e-mail to csf@parra.catholic.org.au with your details so we can send a receipt. These tax deductible receipts will be sent by February 2018. Once again, many thanks for this expression of your support!

God Bless! Father Bob

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND THEIR CARERS: Catherine Beaver, Barry Bowden, Margaret Clancy, John & Marion Crowley, Kevin Madden, Jim McArdle, Ray Phillips, Philia Portelli and Jan Roberts.



Peace Meditation

Join others around the world creating peace for the celebration of

UN International Day of Peace, Thursday 21 September.

Organised by the Blue Mountains Interfaith Group, a half hour meditation will be led by local leaders of faiths. During the half-hour, there will be a short meditation commentary, silence and soft music on the didgeridoo.

Venue: The Blue Mountains Cultural Centre Katoomba - 10:15am for a 10:30am start.

Everyone is welcome. Free event. No booking required.



Urgent Appeal for Jesuit Refugee Service Parramatta

Over the next 3 Sundays we will have an additional tub in each of our 3 churches - **to collect urgently needed toiletry items** for distribution by Jesuit Refugee Service, Parramatta. This will be in addition to the Vinnies tub that has been 'resident' in Sacred Heart Blackheath for many months and so generously filled most weeks by parishioners. For the next 3 Sundays, Vinnies have generously agreed to work with JRS - toiletry items going to JRS. Food items and other much appreciated gifts will continue to be distributed to the many in need - locally.

A list of suggested toiletry items for JRS is on the notice board.

You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments. (Rom:13:9-10)

Two important dates for your diary:

Parish Meeting - Sunday 24 September straight after Mass, in the Church.

This will be to start the conversation in relation to the appointment of a **Pastoral Associate**. A letter in relation to this, from Fr Bob, David Buckley and John Tweedie, is being distributed this weekend at the Megalong Valley and Blackheath Masses and next Saturday at the Mount Victoria Mass.

Parish Annual General Meeting Sunday 26 November

This year 5 members of the Parish Pastoral Council conclude their term on Council. So, we are looking for 5 nominations! If you are interested in becoming involved with this important Ministry, please speak with Fr Bob or any member of the current Council.

Happy Birthday Ron Walsh for the 12th September

CONSTANCE on the EDGE

Filmed over 10 years, this is an unflinchingly honest portrayal of a group of African Australians from refugee backgrounds, attempting, often against the odds, to create a home in regional Australia.

It reveals their courage and resilience, as they strive to reconstruct their own lives and enrich others along the way.

SUNDAY 24 Sept at 2:30pm at Blackheath Baptist Church, Bundarra Street.

Film followed by Q&A.

Tickets at the door - Cost: \$20, \$15 concession, children free.

(Fundraiser for 'Home Among the Gum Trees', which offers support for asylum seekers to holiday in rural and coastal towns.

