



Gen 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18 *Abraham's sacrifice*  
 Rom 8:31-34 *God's saving grace*  
 Mark 9:2-10 *Listen to my Son*

**Psalm Response:** I will walk in the presence of the Lord; in the land of the living.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus. Praise and honour, Lord Jesus Christ. **From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.**

**Servers**

25 Feb Michelle Davis  
 4 Mar Paul Harris

**Readers**

|        |               |                   |
|--------|---------------|-------------------|
| 25 Feb | 1st Reading   | Claire Maguire    |
|        | 2nd Reading   | John Woodward     |
|        | Intercessions | Patricia Dee      |
| 4 Mar  | 1st Reading   | Pat Wicks         |
|        | 2nd Reading   | Barbara Grieves   |
|        | Intercessions | Frances Huckstepp |

**Communion**

25 Feb Monica and Brian Bright  
 4 Mar Robert Forbes and Graham Adams

**Counters**

25 Feb Carla and Neil  
 4 Mar Pamela and John

**Morning Tea**

25 Feb Dave Harris  
 4 Mar George Commens

**Church Care**

9 Mar Pat McAuley and Julie Hodgkinson  
 23 Mar Margaret Solomons and Catherine McNamara

**St Paul's Mt Victoria & St Joseph's Megalong Valley**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

**Communion Antiphon:** This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

**Feast Days of the Week - Sunday 25th Feb to Saturday 3rd March**

|          |                                                                           |
|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 25th Feb | St Walburga, Abbess (710-779)                                             |
| 26th     | St Porphyrius, Bishop (349-420)                                           |
| 27th     | St Leander of Seville, Bishop (565-500); St Anne Line, Martyr (1565-1601) |
| 28th     | St Hillary, Pope (d1468); Blessed Carlo Gnocchi (1902-1956)               |
| 1st Mar  | St David, Bishop (d672) Patron of Wales                                   |
| 2nd      | St Chad, Bishop (d672)                                                    |
| 3rd      | Blessed Katherine Drexel, Founder (1858-1955)                             |



**Second Sunday of Lent Ordinary Time Year B**

25th February 2018

This is the third Lenten gospel reading in which a solitary place is mentioned. On Ash Wednesday we are advised to pray in our rooms with the doors shut. On the first Sunday of Lent the Spirit drives Jesus into the wilderness. In today's gospel Jesus and three disciples go 'up a high mountain apart, by themselves'. An extraordinary theophany is experienced by the disciples in this remote place. Here, the presence of God is signalled by both bright light and shadow. Is Mark mixing his metaphors, or does this amazing event confound homogeneous imagery? Try looking at last week's image and this one together - an unusual relationship between the two emerges.

*Reflection and Artwork by Jenny Close (Liturgyhelp)*

Next Week

**Zeal for God's house**

Ex 20:1-17  
 Ps 18  
 1Cor 1:22-25  
 Jn 2:13-25

# 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.*

|                        |                                                |               |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Blackheath</b>      | <b>Sunday Mass</b>                             | <b>9.30am</b> |
| 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</b>  | <b>Vigil Mass</b> (1st, 3rd and 5th Saturdays) | <b>6.00pm</b> |
| <b>Megalong Valley</b> | <b>Vigil Mass</b> (2nd and 4th Saturdays)      | <b>6.00pm</b> |

|                                                        |                                                                                          |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Parish Priest:</b> Father Bob Sheridan              | <b>Parish Office:</b> 02 4787 8540                                                       |
| <b>Parish House:</b> 02 4787 8811                      | <b>Facsimile:</b> 02 4787 6143                                                           |
| <b>Parish Mobile:</b> 04 1735 5479<br>(Emergency only) | <b>Office hours:</b> Wed 1.00pm - 4.00pm<br>Thu 9.00am - 12.00pm<br>Fri 9.00am - 12.00pm |
| <b>E-mail:</b> 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](mailto:shbheath2@bigpond.com)

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



[www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/)  
**Sacred-Heart-Parish-Community-Blackheath-153850768029631/**

**LENTEN MESSAGE FROM HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS:** *“Dear Brothers and Sisters, Lent is a time of renewal for the whole Church, for each community and every believer. Above all, it is a time of grace. God does not ask of us anything he himself has not first given us. We love because he has first loved us. He is not aloof from us. Each one of us has a place in his heart. He knows us by name, he cares for us and he seeks us out whenever we turn away from him. He is interested in each of us; his love does not allow him to be indifferent to what happens to us. Usually, when we are healthy and comfortable, we forget about others (something God the Father never does): we are unconcerned with their problems, their sufferings and the injustices they endure...our hearts grow cold. As long as I am relatively healthy and comfortable, I don't think about those less well off. Today, this selfish attitude of indifference has taken on global proportions, to the extent that we can speak of a globalisation of indifference. It is a problem which we, as Christians, need to confront.”*

Please note that this is but a short excerpt only of a much longer Lenten Message from the Holy Father. This is certainly a message we need to hear and put into practice throughout Lent - and beyond!

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER:** This year's World Day of Prayer is to be hosted by the local Baptist Church at 6 Bundarra Street, Blackheath. All are invited to attend this annual ecumenical service that involves every local Christian denomination. Our attention this year will be drawn to the small beautiful nation of Suriname which is located in Northern South America, bordered to the north by the North Atlantic Ocean, French Guyana to the east, Guyana to the west and Brazil to the south.

This service will be held on Friday next, 2nd March, commencing at 2.00pm. Light refreshments will be provided at the conclusion of prayers. Jan Roberts (4787 5252) is your contact after today's Mass. We Catholics have some involvement in this service with two of our ladies to undertake readings. We do, however, need as many parishioners as possible to be at the Baptist Church to share in this very special annual prayer day and associated Christian inter-denominational social gathering. Others support us when we host this event, so we really need your support this time around. Thank you in advance for that support! Overall, I would expect the service to take about one and a half hours.

**CATHOLIC FOUNDATION (DWF):** Today is the second week of our regular DWF re-named Catholic Foundation Collection for those who want to donate to the wider range of charitable works of the Parramatta Diocese, but who missed last week's opportunity. 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 the pews in front of you. I again remind you that a few of the charitable ministries supported by these collections include priests and religious training, Catholic Social Services, family support and youth activities. Overall, there are more than 30 such groups who draw funding from this source, 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.

**The next Benedictine Spirituality morning** will be held at the Good Samaritan Community House, 3 Valley Rd, Wentworth Falls on 2nd March ~ 10am - 12pm. From p.62 till the end in *Towards Perfection* will be discussed. New book (\$15) is available. Morning Prayer will be included. New friends are very welcome. Enq: Sr Jacinta 4757 2290

**2017 FINANCIAL YEAR AUDIT:** Thought you might like to know (belatedly) that results of the financial year audit for 2017 are now to hand, and in the words of the auditor in his item 4 comment - "just like the previous year, the audit for FY17 was outstanding and we commend you and your staff at Blackheath for a job well done." Huge thanks to Marilyn Rowe and her 'team' for once more achieving such a great result! That makes nine years in a row without blemish under her stewardship. Wow! **God Bless! Father Bob**



**Rattanak in Cambodia**

contracted polio as a child and also became deaf. The Deaf Development Program, supported by Caritas Australia, helped him become a barber and he is now supporting himself, his wife and baby. Please donate to Project Compassion 2018 and help deaf youth in Cambodia to build a just future, and live in communities that uphold everyone's dignity. **A Just Future starts with your support!**

You can donate through Project Compassion boxes/envelopes, visit [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or ph 1800 024 413.



**LENTEN CARITAS FUNDRAISING**

Thank you all who helped out with the pancakes after Mass two weeks ago - those who supplied mixture, those who helped serve up the pancakes on the day and all who purchased and consumed them.

We took \$104 on the day.

**Brian and Monica**

*Please pray for the sick and their carers: Barry Bowden, John & Marion Crowley, Bill Grieves, Kevin Madden, Maria Slater and John Tweedie.*

**In loving memory: Rita Jenner ~ 26th February  
Ken Kirkham ~ 27th February and Anthony Gilchrist ~ 28th February.**

**FATHER BOB'S BIRTHDAY BASH**

We are celebrating Fr Bob's 85<sup>th</sup> birthday on Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> March. The Rhododendron Room has been booked at the Blackheath Golf Club from 6.00pm. Finger food will be served at a cost of \$15.00 per head. We ask that you contribute \$10.00 per head towards this supper. Drinks will be BYO but tea and coffee will be served. We anticipate our celebration to finish around 8.00pm. We will need numbers for catering purposes and have left a list on the noticeboard. Please give your money to Pat Wicks, Patricia Dee or Marilyn Rowe before the date. Looking forward to seeing you all there with your birthday voices.

**GETTING ZOE TO BLACKHEATH**

**Zoe Griffiths and her husband Dave need our help!**

Zoe has three life threatening conditions and has been told she must move to a cooler climate. They are trying to rent a house in Blackheath and are asking if anyone has a house they could rent at lower than normal rate for this area. (Their medical expenses are very high.)

If you can help, please go to <https://www.youcaring.com/zoeinezsimms-1079492/>

**Happy 10th Anniversary  
Philia & Frank Portelli ~ 1st March**