



2 Chron 36:14-16.19-23 **Infidelity and mercy**
 Ephesians 2:4-10 **God's love and mercy**
 John 3:14-21 **Son sent to save**

Psalm Response: Let my tongue be silenced,
 if ever I forget you.

Gospel Acclamation: Praise and honour to you,
 Lord Jesus. Praise and honour, Lord Jesus Christ.
**God loved the world so much, he gave us his
 only Son, that all who believe in him might
 have eternal life.** Praise and honour ...

Servers

11 Mar Ray Wood
 18 Mar Graham Adams

Readers

11 Mar 1st Reading Christa Buckley
 2nd Reading David Buckley
 Intercessions John Woodward
 18 Mar 1st Reading Frances Huckstepp
 2nd Reading Robert Forbes
 Intercessions Marilyn Rowe

Communion

11 Mar Carla Endean and Pat Wicks
 18 Mar Elizabeth Doolan

Counters

11 Mar Julie and Lance
 18 Mar Robyn and Adrian

Morning Tea

11 Mar Christine Burke
 18 Mar Mary Batty

Church Care

23 Mar Margaret Solomons and Catherine McNamara

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

Entrance Antiphon: Rejoice, Jerusalem,
 and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning;
 exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

Communion Antiphon: The Lord anointed my eyes:
 I went, I washed, I saw and I believed in God.

Date Claimer - Sunday 20th May, 2pm-4pm

With Fr Bob's support, a group from
 Sacred Heart Parish will be hosting a
**Community Conversation with
 Refugees and People Seeking Protection**
 - Blackheath Community Centre. Please
 be sure to put the date in your diary!



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

11th March 2018

Here is another reading
 from John's gospel
 and it contains the third
 reference to the passion/
 resurrection: 'so must the
 Son of Man be lifted up'.
 Here it is apparent that
 the material world is so
 precious that, in order
 to save the world,
 God was prepared to blur
 the boundaries between
 divinity and materiality
 in the person of Jesus.

*Reflection and Artwork
 by Jenny Close (Liturgyhelp)*

Next Week: **The hour has come**
 Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 50;
 Heb 5:7-9; John 12:20-30

In loving memory:
Peter Juhas ~ 14th March
Mary Potts ~ 17th March

~ Judy Harris ~
*Remembering your
 "Goodbye Day"
 (8th March 2014)*
*We love and miss you
 so much. Lyn, Greg,
 David & family.*

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 House: 02 4787 8811
Parish Mobile: 04 1735 5479
 (Emergency only)
E-mail: shbheath2@bigpond.com

Parish Office: 02 4787 8540
Facsimile: 02 4787 6143
Office hours: Wed 1.00pm - 4.00pm
 Thu 9.00am - 12.00pm
 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 either Fr Bob;
 Diana Landsberg (Chair); John Barclay (Deputy Chair) or Patricia Dee (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/](https://www.facebook.com/Sacred-Heart-Parish-Community-Blackheath-153850768029631/)

MARY, A NEW FEAST DAY: A new feast day for Mary has been promulgated by Pope Francis. Dated 3rd March 2018, I quote from the Vatican media release:

“Today, Pope Francis has decreed that the devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, under the title ‘Mother of the Church’ be inserted into the Roman Calendar. The liturgical celebration, ‘*Beata Mariae Virginis, Ecclesiae Matris*’, is to be celebrated annually, as a Memorial. From this year, all the dioceses and parishes will celebrate this Feast the Monday following Pentecost. This official celebration underlines a characteristic of the Virgin Mary, who is both mother of Christ and of the Church. Being a Memorial, this celebration includes its own readings. All calendars and liturgical books will thus include this Memorial for both the Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours.

The Decree was released by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments. Cardinal Robert Sarah, its Prefect, explained the Pope’s decision is based on the ancient tradition built around the devotion to Mary as Mother of the Church. Cardinal Sarah also explained Pope Francis wishes to promote this devotion in order to ‘encourage the growth of the maternal sense of the Church in the pastors, religious and faithful, as well as a growth of genuine Marian piety.’

The decree itself revisits and explains the history of Marian theology in the Church’s liturgical tradition and the writings of the Church Fathers. It quotes Saint Augustine and Pope Saint Leo the Great’s reflections on the importance of the Virgin Mary not only in the life of the Church, but also in the life of Christ Himself.

This decree was signed on February 11, 2018, feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. The liturgical texts, as well as their translations approved by the episcopal conferences, will be published after the Dicastery.”

Other details of this Memorial Feast of Mary, Mother of the Church, including the readings associated with it, might be expected in the near future.

LAETARE SUNDAY: Today, the Fourth Sunday of Lent, is one of the two occasions in the Church year when the priest is entitled to wear pink (or should I say ‘rose-coloured’) vestments. This is an optional choice, which is just as well given that I do not possess vestments of that colour. The word “Laetare” is taken from the first word of today’s Entrance Antiphon whose translation from the original Latin means “*Rejoice with Jerusalem!*” By way of interest, the other Sunday authorised for the wearing of pink vestments occurs on the Third Sunday of Advent. From this Sunday forward, our attention will particularly focus on Jesus’ Passion, Crucifixion, Death and Resurrection.

WILLIAM (Bill) GRIEVES - Postscript: Today (Wednesday), in a 70% filled church at Blackheath, we bade farewell to Bill via a Requiem Mass followed by burial in Blackheath Cemetery. Bill’s presence among us will be sorely missed for the voluntary work he did, most of which went unrecognised by parishioners, for his formal service to us as an acolyte, for his caring ways and friendships and for his support of all who sought his advice and help during his many years in residence here. Our condolences and prayers are extended to Barbara and family as they now begin the struggle to normalise their lives without Bill. May God guide each of you on this difficult journey and may you, Bill, now forever rest in God’s love and peace. Amen.



St Patrick’s Day is Saturday 17 March.

May the choicest blessings of the Saint be with you always.

The next **Cosmology Spirituality morning** will be held at the Good Samaritan Community House, 3 Valley Rd, Wentworth Falls on 16/3 10am-12pm. The Prologue of our new book, **A New Harmony** by Philip Newell (\$23) will be discussed. Morning prayer and a time of silence as well as morning tea will be part of the program. As it is a new book, new participants are very welcome. Enquiries: Sr Jacinta 4757 2290

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: Held on Friday afternoon (2nd March) in Blackheath’s Baptist Church, this joint venture was attended by over 30 persons from the local Christian community. This year prayers were directed towards a nation I had never heard of - “Suriname”. It certainly is a small struggling third world country that needs all the support it can muster. A wonderful afternoon tea was provided by our most welcoming Baptist hosts. It’s our turn next year! Many thanks also to Jan Roberts for co-ordinating our presence at this gathering!

God Bless! Father Bob

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2018

First Holy Communion will be held in Sacred Heart Parish on Sunday 17 June. Parents are invited to enrol children for the sacraments of initiation. For children in year 3 or older who have been baptised, we are offering preparation for Reconciliation and First Holy Communion in the Sacred Heart Parish. If your child has not been baptised but you would like them to be baptised, please talk to Fr Bob who can be contacted on 4787 8811.

In preparation for the sacraments there will be a five classes.

These will take place in Term 2. If you have any questions or choose to register your child, please email the child’s name, your name and phone contact to the Parish Office:

shbheath2@bigpond.com

with the subject title: Sacraments. Or you can phone the Office on 4787 8540 (and leave a message with your contact details). To assist in planning, we need your response by Thursday, 22 March.

FATHER BOB’S BIRTHDAY BASH

We are celebrating **Fr Bob’s 85th Birthday on Friday, 16th 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.



PLANT, CAKE AND CRAFT STALL ON EASTER SUNDAY:

Please get busy creating contributions to make this a fundraising bonanza. Any culinary efforts need to show the ingredients on the container. Thanks.



Evangeline featured in Project Compassion 2016. With the support of Caritas Australia, she has risen to the role of Senior Artsworkeer at Djilpin Arts Aboriginal Corporation, now a multi-level contemporary arts centre and major employer for young people in her remote Northern Territory community. **Please donate to Project Compassion 2018 and help**



Caritas AUSTRALIA provide employment and training for First Australians, allowing them to remain on country and keep their culture alive, essential for a just future. **A Just Future starts with your support!** You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.