

TODAY
Acts 5:12-16 ; Rv 1:9-13, 17-19
Jn 20:19-31

Psalm Response: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Servers
 28 Apr Paul Harris
 5 May Grahame Adams

Readers
 28 Apr 1st Reader Breda Seamons
 2nd Reader Claire Maguire
 Welcome/Intercessions Frances Huckstepp
 5 May 1st reader Brian Bright
 2nd Reader Monica Bright
 Welcome/Intercession Paul Harris

Communion
 28 Apr Brian & Monica Bright
 5 May David & Christa Buckley

Counters
 28 Apr Julie & Lance Hodgkinson
 5 May Cate Mitchell

Morning Tea
 28 Apr Connie Adams
 5 May Mary Batty

Church Care
 3 May Phil and Pat Wicks

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

Entrance Ant: Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.
Communion Ant: Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

Saints Days of the Week (29th Apr- 4 May)
 29 Apr St. Catherine of Siena Doctor of the Church
 30 Apr St. Pius V Pope
 1 May t Joseph the Worker bishop, doctor
 2 May St Athanasius apostles
 3 May Sts Philip and James English martyr
 4 May St. Richard Reynolds



**Second Sunday of Easter
 Year C 28.4.19**

In the gospel, two resurrection appearances form a kind of diptych with Thomas as the connecting hinge. Thomas represents the second generation of Christians, those who are called to believe on the testimony of others. The faith required of him is, in a way, more demanding than that required of those who actually encountered the risen Lord. Viewed in this way, his doubt is understandable. While we may judge him harshly for it, Jesus does not. Instead, he invites Thomas to touch him, an invitation not extended earlier to the other disciples. The story does not say that Thomas actually touched the wounds, only that he cried out in faith: 'My Lord and my God.' © Dianne Bergant CSA

Next Week:
Acts 5:27-32. 40-41; Rv 5:11-14 ;
Jn 21:1-19

PARENTS' ROOM: The Sacristy, which contains a few books and toys, is available for parents to use when young children are restless. We hope this makes it a little easier for you and your little ones.



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

Administrator: Father Bob Sheridan **Parish Office:** 02 4787 8540
Parish House: 0455 104 994.
Parish Mobile: 0417 355 479 **Office hours:** Wed 1.00pm - 4.00pm
 (Emergency only) **Thu** 9.00am - 12.00pm
E-mail: blackheath@parracatholic.org **Fri** 12.00 - 3.00pm

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 Sunday 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 blackheath@parracatholic.org

Website: <https://sacredheartblackheath.org.au/>
www.facebook.com/Sacred-Heart-Parish-Community-Blackheath-NSW-Australia-153850768029631/

Well! How did you survive Holy Week, Easter Sunday and the week just ended? The weather was fantastic, particularly given that this has been a very late Easter. Unbelievable! For example, I have just returned from the ANZAC Day war memorial service at Blackheath. Huge crowd and a real picnic atmosphere! That makes up for those other Easters down through the years which weatherwise have been far less appealing. While on that subject, the ANZAC DAY Mass attendances were lower than I would have liked, though our Mass was squeezed between the sunrise service and the main war memorial service. Perhaps that was the reason. However, I do pray that the day was for you and your family a memorable occasion, a reflective morning of quiet personal introspection followed by an afternoon filled with the company of friends and loved ones!

HOLY WEEK/EASTER REVIEW: The last week of Lent with its flow-in to Easter via the Triduum attracted for us a large number of both local parishioners and visitors whose numbers were way above expectations. While relatively low attendances were recorded at Holy Thursday's Last Supper and Saturday's Easter Vigil Mass, all other masses and liturgies enjoyed very pleasing attendances indeed. Particularly impressive were the Easter Sunday Masses at all three churches where the turnout far exceeded our expectations.

None of this just 'happened' by itself! Julie Hodgkinson both planned and co-ordinated every event conducted over the entire Holy Week/Easter period with the very able support, assistance and other involvement of too many people to individually name and thank here. As ever, in the end it was you, our volunteers who carried the week unheralded, unsung and unequalled! What about the flowers? Magnificent, thanks to Patricia Dee and her 'team.' Music also, headed by Diana Landsberg and Pat Drummond. Absolutely superb! As for Fr. Paul Hanna, without his willing support throughout this period, this would have been a much tougher celebration to deliver. Thanks, Fr. Paul! Thanks also to everyone else for sharing yourself with us.

Finally, what about the cake and plant sale on Easter Sunday morning at Blackheath? That raised a whopping \$652.00 – about \$40.00 more than last year's record result! Many thanks to everyone who contributed so much to the success of this venture, including us customers!

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY: Over the past couple of weeks I have drawn your attention to today's celebration of Jesus' Divine Mercy on this Divine Mercy Sunday. As mentioned last week, Pope John Paul II initiated this Feast when canonizing St. Faustina Kowalska on the 30th April, 2000. So this is a recently-introduced feast. Our readings this day are all about mercy, trust and the forgiveness of sins. Locally, you are invited to attend the special celebrations, reconciliation and Mass commencing about 2.30pm this afternoon at Leura's St. Bonaventure's Catholic Church in Railway Parade. Including the practice of Divine Mercy into the more general activities of our faith, involving the daily recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet, has become a permanent daily feature in the prayer life of so many Catholics in this age. You are most welcome to join today's celebration.

FIRST SPIRITUAL EXERCISES RETREAT: As I write this Thursday evening, I have just received a text from Len Blahut in which he advises that six (6) persons (from this parish?) are to undertake this retreat to be held in our parish hall on four consecutive Thursdays commencing next week (2nd May) from 1.15 – 2.45pm. Should you be not one of those already committed to this retreat, you may, if you so desire, just turn up on the day at the appointed time and all will be fine. I confirm that this retreat is free, and that it is to be conducted by a visiting Jesuit priest.

Booklets are still available on the brochure stand, should you wish to check the details. Any enquiries please contact Carol/Len Teodori-Blahut on 4758 7549. It's not often that an opportunity such as this is available to us without cost to us. Best wishes to those who have already accepted this invitation.

God Bless! Bob

COFFEE CAPERS ~ This Wednesday
May 1st.. 12 noon at The Grand Central
Hotel THAI. 69 Main St Lithgow.
Ring Elizabeth 47875537. ALL WEL-
COME.

Happy Birthday

28th Apr Paula Schreiber
29th Apr Sheilagh Kirkham
4th May a special 70th birthday
wish to Marilyn Rowe



BENEDICTINE SPIRITUALITY MORNING
The next Benedictine Spirituality morning will be held at the Good Samaritan Community House, 3 Valley Road, Wentworth Falls on Friday May 3rd from 10 am till noon. Chapter 4 of "Wisdom –The Good Life" will be discussed. Morning Prayer, quiet time in the garden and morning tea will be included. New friends are very welcome. Enquiries Sr. Jacinta 4757 2290

Caritas Australia would like to THANK YOU for supporting Project Compassion 2019. If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week or visit www.caritas.org.au to make your donation online.

Through your generosity you are helping to empower communities with hope and helping those in great need shape a better future for themselves, their families and their communities. Lives change when we all give 100%.

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1800 024 413



Please pray for the sick and their carers:
Barry Bowden, John & Marion Crowley, Barbara Grieves, Kevin Madden, Maria Slater, Frank Mackrell, Marie Johnson, Ron O'Brien, Trennah Portelli and Pat Frazer

BLUE MOUNRAINS EDUCATION AND RESEARCH TRUST ~ invites you to a book launch ~ *Aboriginal Heritage of the Blue Mountains - recent research and reflections (edited by Kelvin Knox and Eugene Stockton)* ~ at 1:00pm Sunday May 5 in Our lady of the Nativity School Hall (behind Lawson church - turn off the highway at Somers St) No EFTPOS available, cheques or cash only. Refreshments and drinks will be available

RSVP secretary@bmert.org

FEAST DAY OF THE DIVINE MERCY: Sunday 28/4/2019. Praising, scripture readings, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, singing, Benediction, reconciliation all at St Bonaventure's Church Leura. Time: 2:30pm to 4:30pm. Sunday Mass: 5pm. Finger foods and coffee afterward. Come join us on this special day.

Living Faith ~ Renewals are now due. Please pay Marilyn \$15.00 at your convenience.