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Gen 18:20-32; Col 2:12-14;
Lk 11:1-13

Psalm Response: Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children, and in that Spirit we call God our Father. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Servers

28 July Grahame Adams
4 Aug Diane Stewart

Readers

28 July 1st Reader Claire Maguire
2nd Reader Frances Huckstepp
Welcome/Intercessions Marilyn Rowe
4 Aug 1st Reader David Buckley
2nd Aug Christa Buckley
Welcome/Intercessions Frances Huckstepp

Communion

28 July Paul Harris & Ray Wood
4 Aug Mary Roberts & Diane Stewart

Counters

28 July Cate Mitchell
4 Aug Barbara Grieves

Morning Tea

28 July Monica Bright
4 Aug Christine O'Grady

Church Care

9 Aug Margaret Solomons & Cathy McNamara



17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 28/7/19

The readings invite us to reflect on prayer. Whether our prayer be praise, contrition, thanksgiving or petition, it always recognises our need for God. The salutariness of prayer is often found in the change that it effects in us, not in God. By persevering in genuine prayer we may come to acknowledge that all things are in God's hands, and that we can rest content to leave them there, trusting that the situation will be cared for as God sees fit. It seems trite to say that God hears all prayer and sometimes the answer is 'No!' It is better to say that God respects the freedom of people and will seldom intervene to change the way events unfold. . © Dianne Bergant CSA

Next Week:

Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23; Col 3:1-5, 9-11;
Lk 12:13-21

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 littlies.



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

Entrance Ant: God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house; he himself gives might and strength to his people.

Communion Ant: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his benefits.

Saints Days of the Week (29 July - 3rd Aug)

29th St. Martha friend of Jesus
30th St. Peter Chrysologus bishop, doctor
31st St. Ignatius Loyola priest
1st St. Alphonsus Marie Liguori bishop, doctor
2nd St. Peter Julian Eymard priest
3rd St Dominic priest, founder

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)	5.00pm
Megalong Valley	Vigil Mass (2nd and 4th Saturdays)	5.00pm

Administrator: Father Bob Sheridan OAM **Parish Office:** 02 4787 8540

Parish House: 47878811

Parish Mobile: 0417 355 479

(Emergency only)

Office hours: Wed 1.00pm - 4.00pm

Thu 9.00am - 12.00pm

Fri 12.00 - 3.00pm

E-mail: blackheath@parracatholic.org

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/

Luke's version of the Lord's Prayer, which has 38 words, is another example of how a few sentences have changed history. Around 50 years after the death of Jesus, Luke's Gospel was written for the Christian community in Antioch, which was the political and cultural capital of the Roman Province of Syria. There are six major themes running throughout this Gospel: prayer, hospitality, compassion, forgiveness, the common life and care for the outsider. Most of them are expressed in the 38 words of this prayer. We declare that we belong to God in the most intimate of ways, as members of God's family, and therefore we belong to each other. We pray that God's Kingdom will come here and now, and, through our gratitude for God's generosity and forgiveness, we can be saved from evil. I think Christians should keep saying this prayer with great urgency. In most western countries today there are strong right wing political movements who say they are for Christ or that they want our country to return to 'Christian values', but these policies are irreconcilable with the Lord's Prayer. Indeed one politician I heard recently argued that the Immigration Act should be reviewed so that only Christians are allowed to settle here. There is little of the Gospel's hospitality, forgiveness, compassion, common life and care for outsiders in the views of these groups. These people, of course, have every right to publicly state their views on any subject they choose. Morally, however, they must also accept responsibility for what they say and its implications. It is so easy to allow our faith lives to become compartmentalised. For some, religious belief and practice fits into a nice little box that has no discernible influence on the rest of their lives. Coming to Church is a privatised affair. This may be many things, but it's not Christian. What we celebrate here each Sunday is supposed to have an affect on all areas of our lives, every day. Though we can try to make ourselves feel better by turning religion into a weekly spiritual bonbon, that is not what Jesus and the martyrs of our faith gave their lives for. There is no question that these right-wing groups appeal to many of our compatriots because of the difficulties in rural areas, the demoralisation of high unemployment and the growing inequity in wealth distribution. There is, however, NO solution in using race relations, refugees, migrants, single mothers and the poor as scapegoats for our economic shortcomings. All this does is appeal to the worst traits in our human desires, where someone else is always to blame for our difficulties. Long-lasting, truthful and humanly dignified solutions to our nation's problems are those that embody the sacrificial love and compassion of Jesus. On every occasion racism, sexism, bigotry, violence and greed are sinful. This is the Gospel. This is the teaching of the Church. Often Catholics argue that the Church's teaching should be more publicly proclaimed and obeyed. In its social teaching, the Church tells us that we should support political parties which best represent these key values in the Gospel. The Church has also taught us about refugees, immigration, gun control, violence, capital punishment and the rights of minority groups. All Catholics are called to hold true to these teachings. Some Catholics complain that the Church should not speak out on political issues. It is, however, precisely the role of the Church to help people form their consciences and to declare what it sees as evil, sinful or harmful in society. Christ expects nothing less of all of us. And where the Church has not done this, history has judged it VERY harshly, as in the Church's relatively recent condemnation of slavery. Let's join then with all Christians and be worthy of the one prayer which unites us and, in the spirit of these 38 words, pray fervently that all people everywhere will become one – in Christ – under our one Father in heaven. © Richard Leonard SJ

Please pray for the sick and their carers:

Barry Bowden, John & Marion Crowley, Shiela Kirkham, Maria Slater, Marie Johnson, Trennah Portelli, Pat Frazer, Tatiana Schultz & Elizabeth Farrar's sister Mary Rose.

THANK YOU FR ROBERT

How quickly the month of July has passed. Next Sunday is the first Sunday of August and Fr Bob will be back with us. Let us join together in thanking Fr Robert for all he has done for us, and wish him well in whatever he undertakes next. We hope to see you again soon.

EARTH MINISTRY PROJECT

Inaugural meeting for the Earth Ministry Project in the parish hall after Mass. The purpose of this meeting is to review the aims of this ministry and determine a beginning direction for our parish, including celebrating the Season of Creation. Meeting date: Sunday August 4, 11-12 noon

LAUDATO SI' - CARE OF OUR COMMON HOME

~Presenters: Winton Higgins and Michael Whelan PhD
Where: Aquinas Academy, Level 5, 141 Harrington Street, The Rocks, Sydney
When: Four Thursday mornings 10am - 12noon, August 1, 8, 15, 22, 2019
Cost: \$150/person (including notes)
For further information please telephone 02 9247 4651 or email secretary@aquinas-academy.com

Benedictine Spirituality Morning

The next Benedictine Spirituality morning will be held at the Good Samaritan Community House, 3 Valley Road, Wentworth Falls on Friday August 2 from 10 am till noon. Chapter 7 "Wisdom and Joy" in *Wisdom – The Good Life* will be discussed. Morning Prayer, quiet time and morning tea will be included. New friends are very welcome. Enquiries Sr. Jacinta 4757 2290

Vinnie's Clothing Bin - has now been installed in the back car park for your use.

Thanksgiving envelopes for 2019/2020 have arrived and are available for collection at the back of the church. Thank you for your continued support of our Parish.

✠ In Loving Memory ✠
28th Eric Perriam

CHANGED MASS TIME ~ There will be no Mass on Wednesday July 31. Sorry for any inconvenience.

PLEASE NOTE ~ The Parish House mobile phone is no longer active. The Parish House number will return to the previous landline number 4787 8811 but will not be available for 2 weeks. Fr Bob will be back on Wednesday so his mobile can be used for emergencies.

COFFEE CAPERS

12 noon, Wednesday 7th August at the Blackheath Bar and Bistro, Shop 1, 35-41 Govetts Leap Rd., Blackheath.
RSVP Elizabeth on 47875537



NATIONAL VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK: 4 – 11 August

National Vocations Awareness Week runs nationally from 4 to 11 August. The concept of 'vocation' applies to every person's life, for if we listen well, we discover that God calls each of us to play a part in his mission here on the earth. For more information about Vocations in the Diocese of Parramatta, please visit www.parracatholic.org/vocations/

LITURGICAL MINISTRY FORMATION COURSES

~ The Office for Worship is taking enrolments for its Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses for those who are interested in being Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion or Bringing Communion to the Sick and Dying. The course will be at the Institute for Mission (Downstairs Hall). **NOTE: Introduction Session on 12 August is compulsory. Enrolments close on 5 August 2019.** Please see your Parish Office for a form or for more information, contact 0288383456 or ingrid.vergano@parracatholic.org

Happy Birthday !

28th Ron O'Brien
31st Ingeborg Caplice

