

TODAY
Jer 38:4-6. 8-10; Heb 12:1-4;
Lk 12:49-53

Psalm Response: Lord, come to my aid!

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Servers
18 Aug Pat Wicks
25 Aug Grahame Adams

Readers
18 Aug 1st Reader Breda Seamons
2nd reader Barbara Grieves
Welcome/Intercessions Patricia Dee
25 Aug 1st Reader Brian Bright
2nd Reader Monica Bright
Welcome/Intercessions Pat Wicks

Communion
18 Aug Brian & Monica Bright
25 Aug Mary Roberts & Elizabeth Doolan

Counters
18 Aug Laurie Noyes
25 Aug Pamela & John

Morning Tea
18 Aug George Commens
25 Aug Christine Burke

Church Care
23Aug Marilyn Rowe & Noleen Cliff

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

Entrance Ant: Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

Communion Ant: With the Lord there is mercy; in him is plentiful redemption.

Saints Days of the Week (19 Aug to 24 Aug)

19th	St. John Eudes	priest
20th	St Bernard	abbot, doctor
21st	St. Pius X	pope
22nd	The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
23rd	St Rose of Lima	virgin
24th	St. Bartholomew	apostle



20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 18/8/19
This gospel is both a stark reminder of the costs involved in following Jesus and a comfort to us in the church today. Sometimes we can domesticate the Christian community into a 'feel-good' society. Our religious words and actions, however, are always meant to have an edge; our faith should 'afflict the comfortable and comfort the afflicted'. If Christians at home, at work, in society and on the international stage just go along with what is trendy or current because we're frightened of conflict or because we want to be seen to be part of the crowd, then we are not worthy of this Gospel.
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Next Week:
Is 66:18-21; Heb 12:5-7, 11-13;
Lk 13:22-30

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.



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 **Office hours:** Wed 1.00pm - 4.00pm
(Emergency only) **Thu** 9.00am - 12.00pm
E-mail: blackheath@parracatholic.org **Fri** 11.30am - 2.30pm

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/

FATHERS'DAY APPEAL FOR RETIRED & SICK CLERGY 2019:

The Clergy Support Foundation of the Diocese of Parramatta assists in meeting the needs of the retired and sick priests of the Diocese, and an annual appeal, The Bishop's Collection for Retired and Sick Clergy is held on Fathers' Day each year to support the Foundation. It is hoped to raise \$200,000 each year through this Appeal.

Last year, through your generosity we nearly reached the target with donations totalling \$195,000 and the Foundation thanks you for this contribution. This year the appeal in the Diocese will be held on the weekend of August 31-September 1.

A third collection will be held on this weekend at each Mass. Special envelopes will be available and all donations over \$2 are tax deductible. If you wish to claim a tax deduction, please tick the box and write your details clearly on the envelope. Appeal envelopes will be available next week for those who will not be here on the Fathers' Day weekend. If you wish, you can make online contributions at csfparra.org.au using your credit card or direct transfer via eft to BSB 067 950 and Account No. 001691 in the name of the CSF with reference to your name, and send e-mail to csf@parracatholic.org with your details so receipts can be sent, which we usually do in January.

105TH WORLD DAY OF MIGRANT & REFUGEES: Migrant & Refugee Week this year extends from tomorrow (Monday) 19th – 25th August. Next weekend's Masses will focus on migrants and refugees, their plight, their needs, their hopes and our ability to assist them improve their situation in this particular time of need for them.

Pope Francis has much to say on this subject, when he says in this recent excerpt: "Faith assures us that in a mysterious way the Kingdom of God is already present here on earth. Yet in our own time, we are saddened to see the obstacles and opposition it encounters. Violent conflicts and all-out wars continue to tear humanity apart; injustice and discrimination follow one upon the other; economic and social imbalances on a local or global scale prove difficult to overcome. And above all, it is the poorest of the poor and the most disadvantaged who pay the price.

For this reason, the presence of migrants and refugees – and of vulnerable people in general – is an invitation to recover some of those essential dimensions of our Christian existence and our humanity that risk being overlooked in a prosperous society. That is why it is not just about migrants. When we show concern for them, we also show concern for ourselves, for everyone; in taking care of them, we all grow; in listening to them, we also give voice to a part of ourselves that we may keep hidden because it is not well-regarded nowadays." More next week!

MY "RETIREMENT": Its been quite a week! My phone has not stopped ringing, and support for me, overwhelming! Thank you for caring and, I suspect, for letting others know your views in relation to my programmed retirement. You are, indeed, a very special 'family'. This coming Tuesday I am to meet with the Vicar of Priests to determine the circumstances of my 'retirement'. Will keep you informed as to any decisions taken at that time. The irony of this for me is that it was exactly a year ago (25-26 August 2018) that Bishop Vincent conducted his five-year pastoral visit to this parish and expressed his pleasure in the way we live, practice and promote our faith here.

PS: Don't forget to pray for all those living west of the ranges in their struggle to survive under the present years-long drought!
God Bless! Fr. Bob

LETTERS TO THE BISHOP ~ The Parish Councils's letter to the Bishop, concerning Fr. Bob's news last week, will be discussed after next Sunday's Mass. If you would like to write to the Bishop, the following details are the correct addresses:
Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv DD STL
PO Box 3066,
North Parramatta NSW 1750 OR bishop@parracatholic.org

You are warmly invited to our next **TAIZE SERVICE** Today 18th August from 5 - 6 pm at Leura Uniting Church. The theme is 'Give peace to every heart'. All are welcome at this special meditative time of singing, prayer and silence in the Taize tradition. Taize services are held every third Sunday.

Please pray for the sick and their carers: Barry Bowden, John & Marion Crowley, Ron O'Brien, Shiela Kirkham, Maria Slater, Marie Johnson, Trennah Portelli, Pat Frazer, Tatiana Schultz & Elizabeth Farrar's sister Mary Rose.

WORKING BEE ~Wednesday 21st August ~ 8am

Our next working bee is on Wednesday morning, 21st August from 8am. Come and work with our maintenance team and help maintain our beautiful grounds.

Please bring a sunhat and garden gloves. Call Lance on 47878096 or John on 0407 288 957 for further information, or just turn up on the day.



NEEDED, VOLUNTEERS. ~

We are having a HUGE Spring Sale of donated items on Saturday and Sunday Sept 7th and 8th. We will need helpers to set up on Friday Sept 6, and sell on Saturday and Sunday 7th and 8th Sept. Please keep these dates free as we NEED your help. Thanks



PALMS MEET & GREET

Discovering Global Mission ~ How can our skills create better opportunities for disadvantaged people? Communities in Timor Leste, PNG, Samoa, Kiribati and Kenya seek volunteers to build local capacity. These assignments are not quick fixes.

Find out how Blue Mountains couple Lukas and Kristina increased and expanded services for people with disabilities in Dili, Timor Leste, and how sharing your skills can immerse you in a world of deep cultural discovery. Qualified medics, teachers, tradies, business and admins are always required.

Palms Meet and Greet:
Sunday September 1st @ 10:30am
The Heritage Terrace Café
Westfield 585 High St, PENRITH
www.palms.org.au



MINISTRY OF COMMUNION TO THE SICK & DYING

Ongoing formation Saturday 14th September 9:30AM – 2:00PM
INSTITUTE FOR MISSION
1-5 Marion St Blacktown
RSVP 10 September
REGISTER (02) 8838 3456 or annie.alimangohan@parracatholic.org
Morning tea and lunch provided

Happy Anniversary!

23rd Ingeborg and David Caplice

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