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Mal 3:19-20; 2 Thes 3:7-12;
Lk 21:5-19

Psalm Response; The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Lift up your heads and see;
your redemption is near at hand.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Servers
17 Nov Grahame Adams
24 Nov Dianne Stewart

Readers
17 Nov 1st Reader Monica Bright
2nd Reader Brian Bright
Welcome/Intercessions Patricia Dee
24 Nov 1st Reader Elaine Jackson
2nd reader Basil Jackson
Welcome/Intercessions Paul Harris

Communion
17 Nov Mary Roberts & Michelle Davis
24 Nov Brian & Monica Bright

Counters
17 Nov Laurie Noyes
24 Nov Carla & Neil Endean

Morning Tea
17 Nov Christine O'Grady
24 Nov Mary Batty

Church Care
29 Nov Pat & Phil Wicks

St Paul's Mt Victoria & St Joseph's Megalong Valley
Entrance Ant: The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

Communion Ant: To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

Saints Days of the Week (18 Nov - 23 Nov)
18 Nov St. Rose Philippine Duchesne missionary to USA
19 Nov St. Atto Benedictine abbot
20 Nov St. Felix of Valois hermit
21 Nov The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
22 Nov St. Cecilia virgin, martyr
23 Nov St C;lement pope, martyr



33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 17/11/19

When bad things happen to good people, when they happen to us, we have choices. We can give into desolation, depression and despair. Or we can choose to hope. St Thomas Aquinas teaches us that hope, along with faith and love, is one of the prongs in the anchor of Christian belief. No matter how stormy are the waters, how much we are tossed and buffeted by life's winds, this anchor keeps us rooted in God until calmer seas return. Hope is about holding on, come what may. Today's Gospel is not interested in a timetable for disaster. It's about encouraging us to drop the anchor of hope overboard when the times get tough. © Richard Leonard SJ

Next Week:
2 Sm 5:1-3; Col 1:12-20;
Lk 23:35-43

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.

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| 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 OAM Parish Office: 02 4787 8540
Parish House: 4787 8811
Parish Mobile: 0417 355 479
E-mail: blackheath@parracatholic.org
Office hours: Wed 1.00pm - 4.00pm
Thu 9.00am - 12.00pm
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; Brian Bright (Chair) or David Buckley (Deputy Chair)

Sacred Heart Care Group (helping parishioners in times of need) Monica Bright 0420 937 690

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/

ON THE DROUGHT: Weatherwise, this past week has been an extraordinarily tough time for far too many people, particularly those who are resident in this State of NSW and Queensland. Over a number of years, we have seen the absence of rain cause havoc particularly throughout both states, especially this year. Hot dry winds have now added to this pain with bushfires seemingly all over the place. Lives have been lost; homes and personal possessions have been totally destroyed – and the battle is far from over as I write! Without water, we and our animals, including livestock simply cannot survive. David Buckley has written a special insert for this edition based on an original appeal from the Bishop of Wilcannia-Forbes Diocese (Bishop Columba Macbeth-Green). That Diocese occupies more than 50% of the land mass in NSW. Please! Read this heart-rending appeal and help these suffering brothers and sisters in any way you can, especially in prayer, because when they suffer, so do we!

WORLD DAY OF THE POOR: Today we commemorate the third World Day of the Poor in which Pope Francis has called for a new evangelisation that prompts Catholics “to make tangible the Church’s response to the cry of the poor”.

Pope Francis inaugurated the World day of the Poor at the end of the Jubilee Year of Mercy in 2016. The Pope’s 2018 message was signed on the Feast Day of St. Anthony of Padua (June 13), the patron of the poor.

Pope Francis said: “*The World Day of the Poor wishes to be a small answer that the Church throughout the world gives to the poor of every kind and in every land, lest they think that their cry has gone unheard. We are so entrapped in a culture which obliges us to look in the mirror and to pamper ourselves that we believe that a gesture of altruism is sufficient without compromising ourselves directly*”.

The Pope further said: “*Each individual Christian and every community is called to be an instrument of God for the liberation and promotion of the poor, and for enabling them to be fully a part of society*”.

Pope Francis concluded his message by saying that “*the cry of the poor is also a cry of hope which manifests the certainty of being liberated*”.


THE END OF ANOTHER CHURCH YEAR: Next Sunday is the Feast of Christ the King – the last Sunday of this 2019 Church Year. The year itself actually ends on the following Saturday (30th November). Then begins the 2020 Church Year, commencing with the Season of Advent that culminates in the celebration of the birth of Christ – Christmas Day! Why mention this now? Well, I have taken the liberty of setting dates early for the celebration of Sacraments/liturgies as they will occur during the Christmas/New Year period. They are:

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| <i>Reconciliation (Second Rite)</i> | Tuesday 17th December @ Blackheath 7.30pm (follows the 6.30pm Mass). |
| <i>Children’s Vigil Mass</i> | Tuesday 24th December @ Blackheath 6.30pm |
| <i>Christmas Day</i> | Wednesday 25th December; Mt. Victoria 7.00am Sacred Heart Blackheath 9.30am |
| <i>New Year’s Day</i> | Wednesday 1st January 2020 @ Blackheath 9.30am |


No Masses will be held on Thursday (26th December), Friday (27th December), Saturday (28th December), Monday (30th December) and Tuesday (31st December 2019)

Normal Mass times will apply for all other days, including 2nd January 2020.
God Bless! Fr. Bob

THE EPIPHANY PILGRIMAGE: Journey through the Blue Mountains this January. The Epiphany Pilgrimage is a not-for-profit event of the Diocese of Parramatta and outreach of the Blue Mountains Deanery. Beginning at Emu Plains on 2 January and finishing 7 days later at Bell, pilgrims walk 110km through the beautiful Blue Mountains bushland, celebrating the Christmas season with each parish along the way. To register for all or part of the pilgrimage walk or join in the parish festivities, visit www.epiphanypilgrimage.org. To follow the journey see <https://www.facebook.com/epiphanypilgrimage/>

Rest in Peace 
21st Craig Charles Huckstepp

Happy Anniversary
19th Colette and Sean Lillis
21st Tony and Maree Crawford

Happy Birthday! 
19th Brian Bright

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

UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS ADORATION CHAPEL

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Parish in the Upper Blue Mountains has opened an Adoration Chapel at St Canice’s Church, Katoomba. If you would like further information or would like to sign up for a weekly hour of adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, please call the parish office on 02 4782 2804.

NATIONAL PRAYER CAMPAIGN FOR DROUGHT

The Catholic Bishops of Australia have announced a National Prayer Campaign for Drought to take place during November. People across the country are encouraged to pray for the gift of rain, for people affected by the drought and to provide practical support, where possible. The Bishops note that large parts of the country are directly affected by the drought, but the impact is national – and so should the response be national. Access resources and find out more at: www.catholic.org.au/drought

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020 -

Deanery Forum, being run by the Blue Mountains Deanery Pastoral Council (the 6 Catholic parishes between Emu Plains and Blackheath). This will be one session only and you choose one of the themes you would like to pursue. This is being held at the **Springwood Parish Hall, 168 Hawkesbury Rd, on Sunday 24th Nov, 2.00-4.30pm**. For more information ww.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au

NATIONAL PRAYER CAMPAIGN for the gift of rain, for people affected by drought, for support services:

*Eternal God,
In wisdom and love you created our earth, to sustain us and give us life.*

We turn to you now in faith, hope and love, asking you to look with favour on our drought-stricken land, on our starving animals, on our failing crops.

Strengthen, sustain and give new heart to our farmers and to all who are affected by drought; be with those who support them. In your loving providence, send abundant rain and restore our parched earth

Father of all compassion, hear our prayer through Jesus Christ your Son, in whom the promise of new life has dawned, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, the Lord the giver of life; Renew your faithful people; Renew the face of the earth.

Our Lady of the Southern Cross, Mary help us Christians - Pray for us.

St.Mary of the Cross MacKillop - pray for us

