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A
Is 49:3, 5-6; 1 Cor 1:1-3;
Jn 1:29-34

**Psalm Response; Here I am, Lord;
I come to do your will.**

**Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
The Word of God became flesh and dwelt
among us. He enabled those who accepted
him to become the children of God. Alleluia!**

Servers
19 Jan Grahame Adams
26 Jan Pat Wicks

Readers
19 Jan 1st Reader Elaine Jackson
2nd Reader Basil Jackson
Welcome/Intercessions Paul Harris
26 Jan 1st reader Barbara Grieves
2nd reader Frances Huckstepp
Welcome/Intercessions Patricia Dee

Communion
19 Jan Brian & Monica Bright
26 Jan Mary Roberts & Elizabeth Doolan

Counters
19 Jan Julie & Lance Hodgkinson
26 Jan Cate Mitchell

Morning Tea
19 Jan Elizabeth Doolan
26 Jan Pamela Nash

Church Care
24 Jan Lance and Julie Hodgkinson

St Paul's Mt Victoria & St Joseph's Megalong Valley
Entrance Ant: All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!
Communion Ant: You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

Saints Days of the Week (20 Jan - 25 Jan)

20 Jan St Fabian	pope, martyr
21 Jan St Agnes	virgin, martyr
22 Jan St Vincent	deacon, martyr
23 Jan St. Marianne Cope	Franciscan, carer of lepers
24 Jan St Francis de Sales	bishop, doctor
25 Jan The Conversion of St Paul	



**2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY
TIME 19.1.2020**

Saying Jesus is the Lamb of God is a shorthand way of telling us two things. The first is that Jesus is God's most precious gift; God's own self, given to the world that we might know how serious God is about us. God can give us nothing more than Jesus. Secondly, John would have known that 'talya', the Aramaic word for sheep, is the same word used for servant. The first hearers of this Gospel would have known it too. Jesus, then, is the servant who brings us the truth we need for life, who answers our deepest desires to know that our existence has meaning and purpose and he opens up for us the life beyond this one, where there will be no more weeping or sadness.
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Next Week:
Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21;
Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

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)	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
Office hours: Wed 1.00pm - 4.00pm
E-mail: blackheath@parracatholic.org
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/

CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR: *What a dramatic period this 'so-called' restful Season has been for every one of us! Dare I say, even unique! Not the beneficial 'unique' that you and I seek at this celebratory time of the year. This has been a diabolical period in which, in a practical sense we each have felt the fear of and very real danger from the surrounding 'fire storms' that have prompted those evacuation calls, many times in the middle of the night!*

Fire authorities invited us to depart this locale ASAP, leaving only a much smaller residential population 'in situ'. Needless to say, the normal tourist inflow never eventuated. Hence numbers of people were way down compared to any other year. Few attended any of our Christmas/New Year rituals/Masses, including Mt. Victoria's 7.00am early Mass. Too, cash flow was measured in a few dollars only. Financially, for us this was a non-event! Similarly, the same situation prevailed for all traders in/around Blackheath and the wider parish. Those left here never capitulated, never stopped praying, never stopped attending our Masses. No lives were lost though up to 30 homes (Bell, Dargan, Clarence, Mt. Wilson, Mt. Irvine, and Lithgow) were destroyed by the raging inferno. The rest of NSW, Queensland, ACT, Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania and Western Australia suffered a similar fate with some loss of human life as a consequence. Heroes all, these dedicated volunteers to whom every one of us owes a sincere debt of gratitude that we can never repay! Please pray for the deceased, their families and friends and for all who have lost so much. Amen!

2020: While it is certainly true that 2019 was, in many ways, a watershed year both for our parish (and me too), the challenge sown in the second half of last year will be answered during this year. Unfortunately (for me), I will not be around to see the fulfilment of all that needs to be done. In colloquial terms, I have given Sacred Heart Parish my best 'shot' in the 11 years you have shared yourselves with me and our joint efforts. So my time here is about to reach its end on April 12 (Easter Sunday). However, we still have a garage sale, Lent, Holy Week and Easter to share. Let's make this a great time for Bishop Vincent and support him in all that he seeks to achieve through this wonderful community of my family and friends.

AUSTRALIA DAY: *Would you believe it! Next Sunday is Australia Day! Special arrangements are in hand to join with Blackheath Rotary Club at the Blackheath cricket ground (near the public school) for a picnic with rides and other entertainment the order of the day. While the day's activities begin at about 10,00am, we can join them once Mass ends at 10.30am. More will be revealed, verbally, at today's Mass.*

PARISH COUNCIL COMMISSIONING: *Will take place immediately following the homily. Given that this is a year of 'change', we pray that God will endow all councilors with the wisdom to make this a truly great year for both parish and parishioners.*

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE: *Despite all the horrors mentioned above, our raffle netted the parish an amount of \$794! What a magnificent result! Congratulations to everyone involved!*

*P.S: The office re-opened last Wednesday for the ensuing year! Here's to the year ahead!
God Bless! Fr. Bob*

The Bishop's Conference Statement "CATHOLIC CHURCH PLANS NATIONAL RESPONSE TO BUSHFIRE CRISIS" is available on the notice board for you to read.


GARAGE SALE ~ Saturday and Sunday 1 & 2 Feb.
We will be needing volunteers to help collect, sort, set up and price the items for sale in the hall. **ALL ARE WELCOME.** Please fill out the time sheet on the noticeboard to say when you can come. This is our main fundraiser for the year to sustain the parish and its works. Please help. Thank you.




ALPHA TEAM TRAINING WORKSHOP
9 February 2019, 9.30am- 4.30pm at the Institute for Mission, 1-5 Marion Street BLACKTOWN
FOR REGISTRATIONS & FURTHER INFORMATION
Pastoral Planning Office:
lisa.bright@parracatholic.org 8838 3497
Alpha in a Catholic Context:
lorraine.mccarthy@alpha.org.au 0402 217 123

PLEASE PRAY for the sick and their carers: John & Marion Crowley, Shielagh Kirkham, Maria Slater, Marie Johnson, Pat Frazer, Tatiana Schultz, Trennah Portelli, Ray Wood and Elizabeth Farrar's sister Mary Rose

In Memoriam

10th	Henry Columbine	
11th	Gerard Johnston	
14th	Joyce Malkin (d 2012)	
19th	Roma Ziolkowski (2018)	
20th	Jan Roberts (2019)	
20th	Henry Columbine	
22nd	Bridget Chan (d 2011)	

Happy birthday

1st	Robyn Ann Bogart	
20th	Connor Lillis	
22nd	Grahame Adams	
23rd	Marjanna Gilchrist	
25th	Patricia Frazer	

PLENARY 2020
You are invited to attend a Listening and Discernment session on the 6th February at the Institute for Mission| 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown starting at 10.30 am to 1.00 pm. At this session we will be covering the six themes for discernment:
* Missionary and Evangelising
* Inclusive, participatory and synodal
* Prayerful and Eucharistic
* Humble, healing and merciful
* A joy, hope-filled and servant community
* Open to conversation, renewal and reform

At this session you will have the opportunity to select and explore one of these themes. Could you please advise your attendance to tanya.quinn@parracatholic.org ASAP.

Morning tea will be provided

Family Spirit | ABN 35 623 563 422 2C West Street, Lewisham NSW 2049 | PO Box 360, Summer Hill NSW 2130 R:\OPR\07 CE\Program Marketing\FAMILY SPIRIT\FOS_113 Special Carer Recruitment\FOS_113 Carer Recruitment.docx 14 January 2020

Family Spirit is seeking urgent assistance to find a safe and permanent home for a 14 year old boy named Joshua*. Joshua is a student at Katoomba High School so the ideal placement for him would be with a couple or a single person who live within a reasonable travelling distance to his current school.

Family Spirit is a partnership between Marist180 and Catholic Care Sydney, who, by working together strive to improve the lives of children, young people and families in need. Family Spirit operates across the Catholic Diocese of Parramatta and the Archdiocese of Sydney.
* Name changed for privacy

Happy Anniversary!
23rd Louise and Laurie Noyes

