

TODAY
 Mal 3:1-4 ; Heb 2:14-18 ;
 Lk 2:22-40

Psalm Response; Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! This is the light of revelation to the nations, and the glory of your people Israel. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Servers
 2 Feb Paul Harris
 9 Feb Grahame Adams

Readers
 2 Feb 1st reader Brian Bright
 2nd reader Monica Bright
 Welcome/Intercessions Pat Wicks
 9 Feb 1st Reader Claire Maguire
 2nd Reader Breda Seamons
 Welcome/Intercessions David Buckley

Communion
 2 Feb Grahame Adams & Diane Stewart
 9 Feb Paul Harris & Michelle Davis

Counters
 2 Feb Barbara Grieves
 9 Feb Marilyn Rowe

Morning Tea
 2 Feb Claire Maguire (at the Garage Sale)
 9 Feb Connie Adams

Church Care
 7 Feb Phil and Pat Wicks

St Paul's Mt Victoria & St Joseph's Megalong Valley
Entrance Ant: Your merciful love, O God, we have received in the midst of your temple. Your praise, O God, like your name, reaches the ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with saving justice.
Communion Ant: My eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples.

Saints Days of the Week (3 Feb - 8 Feb)
 3 Feb St. Margaret of England Cistercian nun
 4 Feb St. Andrew Corsini Carmelite monk
 5 Feb St Agatha martyr
 6 Feb St. Paul Miki & companions Japanese martyrs
 7 Feb Bl. William Richardson English martyr
 8 Feb St. Jerome Emiliani patron of orphans



PRESENTATION OF THE LORD YR A 2.2.2020

We present ourselves in the temple today and it's important we remember that we do not have to put on a show for God. God invites us to an encounter of love. Seeing that God knows us intimately it's crazy that we should be anything but ourselves before him. But we sometimes go through the pretence of dressing things up, pretending otherwise or putting on a show. May Jesus' presentation enable us to embrace a new way of encountering God's presence, where we own just how we are, and not how we would like to be. When we do this we can enjoy the possibilities of a rich, deep and realistic relationship with God. We also find that it's so much easier to discover, with God, the causes and the actions that will lead us to healing, fulfilment and peace.

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Next Week:
 Is 58:7-10 ; 1 Cor 2:1-5 ;
 Mt 5:13-16

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
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/

GARAGE SALE: *In all the years I have administered this Parish, I have never experienced the range of competing activities that have beset us this past Christmas Season. What with droughts, bush fires, Christmas/New Year, my pending retirement, and now our great money-making Garage Sale, this has been a tough period for all. Just as well we are a very flexible, accommodating people. We have needed to be! By its nature, the Garage Sale has a long lead-in period as we gather together the things we are about to sell. Talk about being 'flat out'! Its been difficult for everyone involved! As our major fund-raiser for 2020, I never fail to be most impressed by the way we manage to fit all our stock in the parish hall and committee room – and in orderly fashion, too! By this afternoon, prayerfully, most of that stock will have been circulated to other places to our financial benefit! Let's hope so!*

So many people have contributed to the conduct of this 'Sale' that it would be impossible for me to thank each person separately – the donors, the carriers, the many volunteers including stock movers, cooks, salespersons, money counters and co-ordinators so ably led by Marilyn Rowe (plus Paul) and her experienced "team". Please accept my personal thanks and that of all parishioners for your superb effort!

Past history tells us that this should be another success story for the parish and us. By the time you read this report, we should have a better idea as to how the fundraising is progressing. Following today's Mass, there will be one last chance for you to 'acquire' another bargain at a near 'give-away' price. Best not to pass up this last opportunity! Finally, If you want a 'cuppa', it's waiting for you in the hall!

SCHOOL'S BACK: *While teachers returned to work last Tuesday and students (by-and-large) began their first term on Wednesday, only our catechists have yet to commence their 2020 programme. They also are gearing up for another year of dedicated service to God and students, ensuring that the spiritual education of our Catholic youth keeps pace with the ever-increasing demands of a hectic, largely secular life in which Our Lord features very little, if at all! Our Catechist Co-ordinator, Claire Maguire, URGENTLY needs either trained SRE's (religious education teachers) OR unskilled volunteers to be trained into that role by this Parish and the Parramatta Diocese – I might add, at our financial cost, not yours! So, should you have a spare hour or two Wednesday/Thursday (morning) when schools are 'in', and if you want to find out more about this most satisfying and fulfilling work involving our children, please contact Claire at your early convenience on 47 87 7635. The need for religious education, particularly these days in our community is critical for the survival of our faith in our precious children who are able to attend only public primary schools in this parish. Hope you are able to help out in this most valuable, rewarding vocation.*

LAST WEEK REVIEW: *Last Sunday everything devolved around our celebration of Australia Day. I visited the local cricket ground after Mass, with, I have to say, very poor results! A non-event for us! Last year was a disaster that we had to cancel because of heavy rain the night before; this year, no good either!*

Shielded by the Australia Day event, was a decree issued by Pope Francis in which he has dedicated the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time each year hereafter to become "GOD OF WORD SUNDAY" (ie. THE BIBLE!) – effective immediately! Let's see how that pans out in the fullness of time, given its proximity to Australia Day!

The day before (the Saturday) at Blackheath Maxine Carter married Clayton HELLYER in a nuptial mass to a full house! Reception was held at Mt. Wilson. Home will be Orchard Hills.

God Bless! Fr. Bob

GARAGE SALE ~ TODAY
 After Mass will be your last chance to bag a bargain..
 A sausage sizzle and drinks will also be available.
 Please come down



COFFEE CAPERS IS BACK! Our first lunch is on Wednesday 5th February 12noon, at Thai Silk, 124 Wentworth St., Blackheath. Disabled access at rear. ALL Parishioners welcome. Ring Elizabeth on 47875537 to RSVP.

SECURE KEY BOX
 The code to open the secure key box outside the office has had to be changed. If you need access to this box please contact Marilyn for the new code.

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. Could you please advise your attendance to tanya.quinn@parracatholic.org

FIRST AID QUALIFICATION ~ If you hold a current first aid qualification and are willing to go on a parish list of qualified first aiders, could you please advise Marilyn or John Tweedie or phone or email the office on 4787 8540 / blackheath@parracatholic.org .

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 daughter Emma

Happy birthday
 3rd Beryl Cornish
 8th Joe Landsberg
 8th Freya McNair



PARISH GATHERING – Consultation Commences. You are warmly invited to attend a parish gathering at the Parish Hall on Sunday 9 February, following the 9.30am Mass and concluding at 12.30pm. As you know, we are being asked by Bishop Vincent Long to discern and recommend our preferred models of leadership following Fr Bob's retirement in April. At this gathering, the process for consultation will be outlined as to how we will listen to the hopes and dreams of the whole community. You will also have the opportunity to share your own feedback. Also at this meeting, the process for separate consultations with Fr Bob, parish staff, and various parish groups will be shared, as well as the different means by which you and others can offer feedback. Our gathering will be facilitated by Richard McMahon and other members of the Parish Transition Working Party.



EARTH MINISTRY PROJECT ~ The recycling collection has been expanded to include unwanted WEARABLE spectacles, plastic glue sticks, smoke detectors and metal bottle tops. Plastic lids need to be plastic bottle caps from milk, water, soft drink and long life milk containers and metal bottle tops (not from jars) from bottles, such as wine, olive oil or mineral water. Bird baths or shallow dishes suitable for use as a bird bath- are you able to donate a bird bath for placement in our church grounds to support wildlife seeking refuge from the heat and drought? Please let a member of the Grounds Maintenance Ministry know if you are able to help out with this and /or would like to be a regular "topper up" of the water in the bird baths. Thank you!

Church Coffee Cup- an increasing number of very cool re-useable cups are appearing for morning tea after Mass on Sunday. Please BYO cup for a cuppa!

The updated list of our collection items for recycling is on the door at the back of the church.