

TODAY
 Sir 15:15-20; 1 Cor 2:6-10;
 Mt 5:17-37

Psalm Response; Happy are those who follow the law of the Lord!

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Servers
 16 Feb Paul Harris
 23 Feb Pat Wicks

Readers
 16 Feb 1st Reader Elaine Jackson
 2nd Reader Basil Jackson
 Welcome/Intercessions Brian Bright
 23 Feb 1st Reader David Buckley
 2nd Reader Christa Buckley
 Welcome/Intercessions Brian Bright

Communion
 Unfortunately there will be no distribution of the precious blood until further notice due to corona virus.

Counters
 16 Feb Laurie Noyes
 23 Feb Carla & Neil Endean

Morning Tea
 16 Feb Mary Batty
 23 Feb Christine Burke

Church Care
 21 Feb Sue Gracey & Peter Ofner

St Paul's Mt Victoria & St Joseph's Megalong Valley
Entrance Ant: Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

Communion Ant: They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

Saints Days of the Week (17 Feb - 22 Feb)

17 Feb	St. Benedict of Cagliari	bishop
18 Feb	St. Agatha Lin	Chinese martyr
19 Feb	St. Boniface of Lausanne	bishop
20 Feb	St. Wulfric	English hermit
21 Feb	St. Peter Damian	doctor of the Church
22 Feb	The Chair of St Peter	



SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9.2.20

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus teaches us the proper use of God's name: 'Our Father'. It is our privilege as adopted children of God to use God's name in that way. Our Lord was trying to establish a new sort of society, within which truth-telling was of paramount importance, where there is no two-tiered way of speaking the truth. Truth telling should issue simply from the character of the person – the truthful person truths. We know this at the very private level of intimate relationships. As a Church, we need to heed this passage and listen to the epistle of St James recalling this passage almost verbatim. (James 5:12-13) We could pause to pray that the Church herself heeds the Great Commission: 'Teach them to keep all that I have commanded you.' (Matthew 28:20) © Fr Michael Tate;

Next Week:
 Lv 19:1-2. 17-18 ; 1 Cor 3:16-23 ;
 Mt 5:38-48

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/

MASS CHANGES: As foreshadowed in our last Bulletin, I once more confirm those adjustments temporarily in force within all Masses celebrated within the Parramatta Diocese, including this Blackheath Parish namely, that there will not be communion in the cup (celebrant excepted), that the sign of peace will not be practised, and all involved in the distribution of hosts to congregation members must be preceded by the use of an appropriate hand antiseptic while ever the present concern exists relating to the coronavirus presently afflicting the world around us. We have now had a week in which to adapt to these changes. Let's hope it comes together well for us today!

PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND CATHOLIC STUDENTS: Catholic students in public schools, spiritually, require very special attention indeed through our SRE's (Special Religious Educators - our catechist volunteers) if their faith is to survive all the spiritual pitfalls they may encounter in the secular public school system. Over the past several years the NSW Government has promulgated very detailed Child Protection Laws that requires every person in contact with children to be approved by all relevant authorities (including the police) before that contact is established. Other changes, too, have been made including, for instance, the setting up of special 'Ethics' classes for non-religious children during the religious class times. This year, for the first time in the many years I have been here, we will have no presence in the Megalong Valley School due to this year's few students and the retirement of Norma Carlon who had previously taught at that school the past 30 years.

Other changes have also been introduced that tend to lower our effectiveness as teachers of our children in that environment. Examples include making the last session of the day being made available for religious education, also changes to the traditional days, normally early Thursday mornings. The point I make here is that without regular weekly instruction by our volunteer catechists, the children who are the very foundation of our Church and its belief system, eventually are at risk of being lost to our faith. Our volunteer numbers are gradually dwindling because of age and other circumstances. We need to replace those who have left with a new influx of volunteers to teach and promote our Christian way-of-life. Could you be interested enough to contact **Claire Maguire**, our catechist co-ordinator, to at least find out more about the demands and rewards available to all catechists. Claire's phone number is **4787 7635**. Please give this matter serious thought! We need your help!

GARAGE SALE REVIEW: The figures for the Garage Sale are now to hand and total a remarkable (given the heatwave) of **\$5,656.15**. Congratulations to everyone who made this possible – especially Marilyn, Paul and the plethora of other people, including those who sold and bought! YOU made this possible!

Apologies everyone! There is no more because I am having computer problems! Ahh!
God Bless! Fr. Bob

WOMEN'S LENTEN RETREAT: 28 February – 1 March Mt Schoenstatt Spirituality Centre, Mulgoa, is inviting women to attend a Lenten Retreat from 28 February at 6pm to 1 March at 4pm. If you are looking for some quiet time to prepare for Easter and reflect on the role of women in today's Church and society, then this weekend is for you! For booking forms and payment, please contact (02) 4773 8338 or info@schoenstatt.org.au.

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

CATHOLIC FOUNDATION CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Because of the events around the Christmas period, we neglected to advise you that the Parish raised over \$1411.00 for the Bishop's Christmas appeal. The Bishop thanks you for helping vulnerable people in crisis turn their lives around, recover and thrive. Bishop Vincent, Parramatta Catholic Foundation and CatholicCare thank you for your kind-hearted generosity and support in this Appeal.

FATHER BOB'S INTIMATE GET TOGETHER

You are cordially invited to join in a very special celebration of Fr Bob's birthday, and to wish him a big 'THANK YOU' and farewell for being our Pastoral Light for the past 11 years.

When? Sunday 15th March 2020
from 6.00pm onwards
Where? Blackheath Golf Club
Cost: \$20 ph
(includes finger food)



Tickets are now available after Mass or at the parish office, or you can contact the office staff during office hours. (see noticeboard)



Payment is due before function please

Happy birthday
16th Monica Bright



UPDATE REGARDING PARISH TRANSITION PROCESS

On Sunday 9 February, in the parish hall, following Mass, our parish transition working party presented the consultation process to our parish community. Paul Harris (working party member), welcomed all present, led us in prayer, and introduced the working party members (Frances Huckstepp, Julie Hodgkinson, Peter Gale, John Barclay, Adrian Carroll, Paul Harris, Richard McMahon – chair). Richard gave an overview of the work of group to date, noting that we took a necessary hiatus during the bushfire crisis and Christmas/New Year period. John then spoke to the background paper that had been circulated, and distributed some more information on various leadership models. Frances explained that we are consulting with the whole community, through individual questionnaires, small group sessions, meetings with parish groups, and longer meetings with Fr Bob, Fr Paul, parish staff and pastoral council and finance committee. Finally, Richard distributed the questionnaire and there was a time for questions and comments. A full report of the meeting is being finalised and will be available next weekend. The questionnaire is available both in the church and online at tinyurl.com/blackheath2020. Let us continue to pray for each other and care for one other during this period of discernment. Keeping you in my own prayer, Richard.

COSMOLOGY SPIRITUALITY The next Cosmology Spirituality morning will be held at the Good Samaritan Community House, 3 Valley Road, Wentworth Falls on Friday 21st February 10 am till noon. New friends are very welcome. Enquiries Sr. Jacinta 4757 2290

REST IN PEACE

16th Gladys Gronlund (2015)
16th Nancy Etccl (2016)
22nd Rick Frazer (1986)



Happy Anniversary
17th Peter and Kate Grbanac

