

TODAY
 Gen 2:7-9; 3:1-7 ; Rom 5:12-19 ;
 Mt 4:1-11

Psalm Response: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Gospel Acclamation: Praise and glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ. No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise and glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Servers
 1 Mar Michelle Davis
 8 Mar Paul Harris

Readers
 1 Mar 1st reader Barbara Grieves
 2nd reader Breda Seamons
 Welcome/Intercessions Paul Harris
 8 Mar 1st Reader Claire Maguire
 2nd Reader Pat Wicks
 Welcome/Intercessions Brian bright

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

Counters
 1 Mar Pamela & John
 8 Mar Julie & Lance Hodgkinson

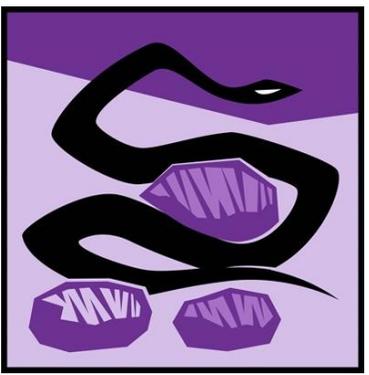
Morning Tea
 1 Mar Rasa Blansjaar
 8 Mar Christine O'Grady

Church Care
 6 Mar Jim and Cathy McNamara (Margaret Solomons)

St Paul's Mt Victoria & St Joseph's Megalong Valley
Entrance Ant: When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

Communion Ant: One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

Saints Days of the Week (2 Mar - 7 Mar)
 2 Mar St. Angela of the Cross holy woman
 3 Mar St. Katharine Drexel American nun
 4 Mar St. Casimir patron saint of Poland and Lithuania
 5 Mar St. Colman of Armagh disciple of St Patrick
 6 Mar St. Colette foundress
 7 Mar Sts. Perpetua and Felicity martyrs



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
YR A 1.3.2020

'The Genesis story about the origins of sin in the world rewards very careful reading. The serpent promises Eve two things: that her eyes will be opened to know good from evil and that this will make her like God. Knowledge is a gift given us by God.. We highly value scholarship, rational thought and inquiry. As anxious as the Church has sometimes been about scientific investigations, our best traditions are to see God revealed in human thoughts and scientific achievements that ennoble our human family. It is the application of knowledge, or the way it is abused, that can be harmful.
 © Richard Leonard SJ

Next Week:
 Gen 12:1-4; 2 Tm 1:8-10;
 Mt 17:1-9

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/

LENT: Last Wednesday (Ash Wednesday) spiritually, we moved from 'Ordinary Time' to 'Lent'. Even after these first few days of Lent we should already be progressing in our Lenten endeavours in what is for most of us the major penitential effort for this year. Over the next 36 days we will have many opportunities to join Lenten activities that will help us form an ever-closer relationship with God and each other – a time when we seek to revise, renew and reset our priorities in this life. Lent is that special period of the year when the liturgies are particularly framed to support us as we self-analyse where we are at, where we want to be, and how best to reach that goal. Yes! Lent is a time for action!

A reminder, too, that all Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence from meat, except Good Friday which is both a day of fast and abstinence for those to whom it applies. On another tack, I also remind you that every Catholic is obliged under pain of mortal sin to receive the Sacraments of both Reconciliation and Holy Communion at least once a year between Ash Wednesday and Trinity Sunday which this year falls on 7th June.

Finally, during Lent the "Alleluia" is omitted in Mass, even when celebrating Solemnities and Feasts. The "Gloria" is also not said during this period – its next use being Holy Thursday 9th April.

CARITAS (Project Compassion): As ever, Caritas is our key charity and fund-raiser for this year with donations being received throughout the Lenten/Easter period. Through Project Compassion, you and I have a unique opportunity to help Caritas Australia to support those far less favoured than us by helping to reduce their poverty, promote justice for them and uphold the dignity that is the right of every living being. All the Caritas literature, including Project Compassion boxes are to be found around the church today. If you haven't already done so, please take one home with you, fill it with your spare coins, and return same to us at Easter. By so-doing, you will be assisting more than you could imagine those severely deprived, dispossessed and suffering people/families in many countries around the world. Thank you for caring! Thank you for your generosity!

Ps. I have been advised that the pancake 'rush' netted \$117.00 last Sunday. They were great! Thanks everyone for your extra effort this time around – those who prepared and cooked; also those who bought and ate!

COMMITTEE CHANGES: During last Sunday's Pastoral Parish Council meeting I was advised of several resignations, one each from 3 different committees. First was our chairman, Brian Bright, who has resigned from one of this parish's Blue Mountains Deanery Citizens Committee's two positions; second was John Barclay, who has resigned with immediate effect from membership of the Transitional Group; third was Dianna Landsberg who tendered her resignation from the PPC, also with immediate effect. While the motivation for these changes varied for these retirees, they each take with them our heartfelt thanks for the considerable work they have undertaken for us parishioners under our present unique circumstances. Should you be interested in joining the 'team' whose task is to make this an ever-better parish for all in the wider Parramatta Diocese, kindly see either myself, Brian or another member of the Parish Council at your early convenience. While this will be quite challenging for you, the results are expected to be most satisfying both for yourself and all parishioners.

God Bless!

Fr. Bob

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

NEW MINISTRY GROUP: Following Fr Bob's departure. there will be an interim period of about 6 months before the new parish leadership is in place. During this time, we will rely on Fr Carlos and Fr Omar from Katoomba for Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals. As their time will be limited, we are forming a group of parishioners to help prepare those requesting these sacraments. Training will be provided by Sr Mary Louise Walsh from the diocesan office. If you are able to join us in this ministry, please contact Fr Bob, the Parish Office or any member of the Parish Council. If you know of someone who might be interested, please draw their attention to this announcement.

COFFEE CAPERS ~ Wednesday
March 4th we are going to the Old Post Office Cafe. 12 Noon
2 Old Bathurst Rd., Hartley.
All welcome. Please contact Elizabeth Doolan on 47875537.

WORKING BEE Saturday 7 March 8am
Our next working bee is on Saturday morning 7 March from 8am. We've had plenty of rain so there is a lot of mowing and trimming to do.
Please bring garden gloves and a hat. Call Lance on 47878096 or John on 0407 288 957 for further information, or just turn up on the day.

CATHOLIC HEALTHCARE
Government-funded Home Care Packages. Catholic Healthcare's local Care Advisors can work with you to create a customised support plan. Get a quote on 1300 734 350.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER ~ to be celebrated in the Uniting Church at 2pm Friday 6th March. The service has been prepared by the women of Zimbabwe & a guest speaker from that country will be present, all are welcome and a lovely afternoon tea will be served afterwards.

UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS PARISH 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.

FR BOB'S BIRTHDAY PARTY ~ 15TH MARCH

All money for tickets must be paid today 1st March so we can organise caterers with numbers attending. Function requires payment before the event. See Diane Stewart please



COMMUNITY FAREWELL TO FR BOB On SATURDAY 18TH APRIL at a luncheon in the Parish Hall, we are celebrating Fr Bob's retirement from full-time service as a priest and we are especially celebrating his service to the community of Blackheath. We wish him well in retirement and hope to see him back at Sacred Heart Parish when he is able. Further information will be published in the coming weeks. This Community Celebration is in addition to the birthday/farewell social gathering at the Blackheath Golf Club on 15 March. If you would like to assist or need further information, please contact any of the following parishioners:

John Tweedy 0407 288 957 Karen Hayward 0419 123 744 Julie O'Keefe 47875974

Happy Anniversary
1st Philia and Frank Portelli

