



Today Is 55:1-3; Rom 8:35. 37-39;
Mt 14:13-21
Next week 1 Kgs 19:9.11-13; Rom 9:1-5;
Mt 14:22-33

Psalm Response: The hand of the Lord feeds us: he answers all our needs.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Alleluia!

Servers
2 Aug Grahame Adams
9 Aug Diane Stewart
Readers
2 Aug 1st Reader Claire Maguire
2nd Reader Connie Adams
Welcome/Intercessions Pat Wicks
9 Aug 1st Reader Monica Bright
2nd Reader Brian Bright
Welcome/Intercessions Paul Harris
Counters
2 Aug Barbara Grieves
9 Aug Marilyn Rowe
Church Care
16 Nov Lance & Julie Hodgkinson
Flowers
August Cate Mitchell

Vinnies is proud to announce the launching of the **MINI VINNIES FORMATION PROGRAM (MVFP)** for students in Years 4 – 6, who wish to undertake Social Justice Formation in their own time. For more information please go to <https://bit.ly/MVFPinfo>



For us today this story has consoling resonance. Matthew is telling us that Jesus sees our need, does not turn us away, comes to where we are, as we are, and recreates us through the abundance of his love, so we can be signs of His kingdom in the world.. It's all about abundance. Our God has abundantly provided for us so that we can abundantly provide for all the world which is given into our care. 'Those to whom much is given, much is required.' The problem is that when we look around we see that while some of us have so much, others have nothing at all. If this reality doesn't move us to a change of heart and right action then we have not understood the story of the loaves and the fish, that God's goodness is never intended for a select few. Sometimes people look at the poverty in the world and think, 'How could God allow that?' This question can cause us to feel distant from God, but in light of what God has given us and our ability to share from this abundance, when we think like and feel like this, guess who has moved away from whom? © Richard Leonard SJ

LIVESTREAM MASSES

Livestreamed Masses from across the Diocese of Parramatta are still available on the Diocesan website <https://www.parracatholic.org/covid19/#online>.

SAINTS OF THE DAY (27 July - 1 Aug)
3 Aug St Dominic priest
4 Aug St John Vianney priest
5 Aug St. Gormcal Irish abbot
6 Aug Transfiguration of the Lord
7 July St Cajetan priest
8 Aug St Mary of the Cross virgin

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.

THIS COMING SUNDAY THERE WILL ONLY BE ONE MASS - AT 9:30AM SUNDAY at Blackheath Attendance is still limited to 50 – Please 'book in' no later than 10am this Saturday. Please email Brian – bbright45@bigpond.com - with cc to - dbuckley45@bigpond.com
Or simply telephone/text: 0401 768 688 (Brian) or David on 0400 208 707.

Parish Mobile: 0428 878 810
E-mail: blackheath@parracatholic.org
Fr Jolly: 0417 541 637 and
email: jollyms20022000@yahoo.co.in

Parish Office: 02 4787 8540
Office hours Wed 12.00pm - 3.00pm
Thu 9.00am - 1.00pm
Address: PO Box 354, Blackheath

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.

Parish Pastoral Council: If you would like an issue discussed, please submit it in writing to either Brian Bright (Chair) (bbright45@bigpond.com) or David Buckley (Deputy Chair) (dbuckley45@bigpond.com).

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/

PARISH CALENDAR:

Sunday August 2 National Tree Day
Wednesday 5th August: Workshop on Communion Services 1.30-3.00pm
Wednesday 5th August: PPC Exec Zoom meeting 4.30-5.30pm
Tuesday August 11 Fight for Planet A: Our Climate Challenge ABC 8:30pm
Wednesday 26th August: PPC Zoom meeting 4.30-6.00pm
Tuesday 1st September: World Day of Prayer for Creation

Father Jolly's Reflection for the 18th Sunday in ordinary time.

Scott Peck, the author of *The Road Less Travelled*, describes love as an extension of oneself in the other, in order to nurture one's own life and that of the loved one, so that both may reach abundance of life. Many have friends, but very few develop all-round loving relationships that nurture lives. Loving involves nurturing and nurturing involves free and real communication, mutual understanding, acceptance, forgiving and challenging the loved one when necessary. In this extending of our own self to the loved one we help nurture our own life and that of the loved one. In today's First Reading Prophet Isaiah tells us how God nurtures us. "Thus says the Lord: oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty; though you have no money, come! Buy corn without money, and eat, and, at no cost, wine and milk" (Isaiah 55:1-3). God makes a covenant to nurture his people. God's covenant and commitment is to nurture and love. Again the Responsorial Psalm resounds the same love of God and his nurturing love. It says, "The hand of the Lord feeds us: he answers all our needs". Then it continues to say. "The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love". The Second Reading in today's Liturgy tells us that nothing can come between us and the love of Christ. One incident in the love of Mother Teresa makes it clear to us. Mother Teresa was giving the poorest of the poor and the most neglected sick not only food, clothing and shelter, but above all human love. Once she found a man half-eaten by maggots in a rubbish dump, who after being taken to Mother Teresa's home and looked after said: "Sister, I lived like an animal on the street, but now I am going to die with a smile and, like an angel, loved and cared for". Then he said "Sister, I am going to God's house". What can separate us from the love of God?". And he died very shortly after saying the above statement. What can separate us (you and me) from the love of God? Troubles, worries, persecution, lack of food, lack of clothing, trials, death, any power or height or depth, nor any created things, not even angels? Nothing can stop God from loving us. God will continue to nurture us. In today's Gospel we see the multiplication of the bread. Jesus multiplies the bread and feeds all the people. In order to do this nurturing he takes what the disciples had. He takes the five loaves and two fish. The same way the Lord asks us to give to him the five loaves and two fish we have, so that the Lord's hand can feed everyone and answer all our needs as well as the rest of the world. The Lord needs our five loaves and two fish. As the Lord continues to nurture us and feed us, may we allow the Lord to use freely the five loaves and two fish in our hands to become the nurturing bread and fish for the rest of the humanity. Let us give our five loaves and the two fish into the hands of the Lord. He knows how to multiply them and in his hand they are good for five thousand men, ten thousand women and twenty thousand children and even more.

IN MEMORY !

2nd Chris Commens
6th Madge Carey
7th Flo Gillette
7th Dellas Holmwood



PLEASE PRAY for the sick and their carers:

Ron O'Brien, Peter Gale, John & Marion Crowley, Shielagh Kirkham, Maria Slater, Marie Johnson, Pat Frazer, Tatiana Schultz, Trennah Portelli, Elizabeth Farrar's daughter Emma, John Hanna and , Doug - Connie and Graham's son-in-law



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

6th Maree Crawford



ANNIVERSARIES

4th Julie and Lance Hodgkin-



PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE: Thank you to Parish Council members and Ministry Group representatives who listened and shared at Sunday's meeting. It was good to hear how our parishioners are travelling at this time. Those gathered were also brought up to date on where we are at with the Parish Plan. Anyone who would like to join a small group to help develop the Parish Plan to guide us over the next 12 months or so, are asked to contact any one of the Parish Council executive team. Agenda items for the Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday 12th August can be sent to bbright45@bigpond.com by Tuesday 4th August.

ZOOM WORKSHOP COMMUNION SERVICE: Because diocesan staff can't travel to parishes, Sr Mary-Louise Walsh will run this workshop via a Zoom videoconference next Wednesday 5th August from 1.30pm to 3pm. If you would like to attend to become better informed or wish to train to lead a service, please email/text or call me - bbright45@bigpond.com 0401 768 688 - We will send you an email link for this session closer to the time.

MASS BOOKINGS: If you are rostered for a Liturgical Ministry role at a Mass, there is no need to book in. You will automatically be added to the booking list for that Mass. If for some reason you are not able to take on the rostered role, please organize a replacement and let us know you will not be attending the Mass.

***** BOOKING IN IS ESSENTIAL *****

LAST SUNDAY WE HAD PEOPLE ATTEND WHO HAD NOT BOOKED IN WITH BRIAN OR DAVID. IF WE REACH OUR CAPACITY (45) AND YOU HAVE NOT BOOKED IN, YOU MAY NOT BE ABLE TO COME IN TO THE CHURCH FOR MASS. PLEASE BE SURE TO BOOK IN!

Please contact Brian bbright45@bigond.com or 0401 768 688; or David - dbuckley45@bigpond.com or 47875105 / 0400 208 707 - no later than Saturday 10am please. To better allocate seats, we need to know if you need 1, 2, 3 or 4 seats. If you can't make it on the day, please let us know

PERSONAL DEVOTIONS IN THE CHURCH ~ The church will be open on Wednesday and Friday between 2:00 -3:30pm for private prayer. Social distancing, signing in and sanitising your seat will be required.

EARTH MINISTRY PROJECT

Sunday August 2 **National Tree Day**
Support the National Parks Foundation program
Plant a Tree for Me
<http://www.plantatreeforme.org.au/>
Tuesday August 11
Fight for Planet A: Our Climate Challenge
ABC 8:30pm
Tune into this informative 3 part documentary for ideas to support the beginning of our carbon neutral parish journey

WORKING BEE SATURDAY 25 July
Thank you to those who assisted with the parish working bee last Saturday. Your help is really appreciated.



SATURDAY SESSIONS ~ 1 August ~ Envisioning the Church in Western Sydney for the new millennium. Watch the presentation then join the online discussion from 11.00am. Registration is essential. Contact Lisa Bright on li-