



Today 1 Kgs 3:5-7-12 ; Rom 8:28-30;
Mt 13:44-52
Next week Is 55:1-3; Rom 8:35. 37-39;
Mt 14:13-21

Psalm Response: Lord, I love your commands.

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

COUNTERS

26 Jul Cate Mitchell
2 Aug Barbara Grieves

CHURCH CARE

July Jim & Cathy McNamara

READERS AND SERVERS: If you are planning to attend Sunday mass could you please volunteer to read or serve on the day as no rosters can be done at the moment. If you could get there early it would help us to get organised Thanks.

WORKING BEE SATURDAY 25 July 8am ~
Our next Parish working bee is on Saturday morning 25 July from 8am.
Call Lance on 47878096 or John on 0407 288 957 for further information.



Jesus reminds his disciples that in glimpsing the things of heaven they have to be like the master of a household. That's a rich image. In Jesus' day such a person would have provided protection, love, security and justice for all.

God has given us free will and treasures, both new and old, to help us protect each other, love each other, feel secure in the truth and act justly. But we need to know that the choices we make in regard to these things have implications for how we live now and in the life to come..

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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>

LIVESTREAM MASSES

You can see which parishes offer online Mass on our Diocesan website (<https://www.parracatholic.org/covid19/#online>).
Sunday Mass will be also be streamed live on YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/user/parramattadiocese>) and Facebook (<https://facebook.com/st-patricks-cathedral-parramatta-1590485624520954/>) from St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta.

SAINTS OF THE DAY (27 July - 1 Aug)
27 July St. Theobald of Marly Cistercian abbot
28 July St. Samson Welsh bishop
29 July St Martha friend of Jesus
30 July St. Peter Chrysologus bishop, doctor
31 July St Ignatius of Loyola priest
1 Aug St. Alphonsus Liguori bishop, doctor

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@bigond.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:

Saturday 25th July Church Working-Bee at 8am

Sunday 26th July: Meeting for Ministry Representatives after Mass

Wednesday 5th August: Workshop on Communion Services 1.30-3.00pm

Wednesday 5th August: PPC Zoom meeting 4.30-5.30pm

Father Jolly's Reflection for the 17th Sunday in ordinary time.

Our attitudes are the mother of all our actions. Before anything moves toward action, it must first be an attitude. Then it becomes a perception, an idea and it becomes a feeling and moves into a decision. Nothing can happen without having an attitude. Our attitudes direct and define our lives. In today's First reading we see Solomon having the right attitude in life. The Lord appears to him and asks him in a dream "Ask what you would like me to give you".

If you were asked this question by the Lord, what would each of us be asking the Lord? Solomon's answer was "Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil". The Lord said to Solomon, yes, you have asked the right thing. You have the right attitude in life. You did not ask for riches or long life or victory over your enemies. Yes, you have asked for the gift of discernment and gift of wisdom. The book of Proverbs says, "Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get Wisdom: and with all you are getting get understanding" (Proverb 4:7). There is nothing more important in life than having a proper discernment. Solomon chose to receive this gift and blessing from the Lord above everything else. What is discernment? Discernment is the ability to decide between truth and error, right and wrong. Discernment is the process of making careful distinctions in our thinking about truth. Discernment in life is important because it is the key to living an uncompromising life. It is the ability to exercise wisdom in every area of one's life.

Unfortunately, discernment is an area where most Christians stumble. Many times we are not armed enough to take a decidedly strong stand against the evil things. In his letter to the Romans, St. Paul points out to us the importance of proper discernment by saying "We know that by turning everything to their good. God co-operates with those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28). It is true discernment that helps us to discover God's purpose for each of us at each moment. It is through this discernment that we come to share his glory. Thus today's Second Reading invites us to discern and co-operate with God's plan for all of us. True discernment ultimately leads us to the discovery of true treasures in life. Just think for a moment the tremendous joy of the two men of the parable in today's Gospel reading must have felt when one discovered a hidden treasure and the other a priceless pearl (Matthew 13:44-46)! One discovered the treasure by chance, while the other discovered the pearl by deliberate search. They were ready to make any sacrifice and give up everything that was less value, compared to the joy and happiness the treasure and pearl brought to them. Yet it is not for pearl or this kind of treasure that ultimately our hearts yearn. These are images of the reality and not the reality. The reality for which our hearts yearn is for the reality of eternal joy. Those who discover this joy are the blessed ones. May we always discern God's will with the hope of receiving eternal joy. May we discern God's will with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Let our prayer to the Holy Spirit be:

*Holy Spirit come,
Fill me with your wisdom today
And be near me.*

*Speak in your still sweet voice to me so that
My soul may find answers to the many questions that I alone cannot find.
Stay with me all the time,
So that I may celebrate
The blessing of everlasting joy.*

SATURDAY SESSIONS ~ Grow and share faith ~ *The gift of power and emotional courage.* Watch the presenter then join the online discussion from 11.00am. Registration is essential. Contact Lisa Bright on lisa.bright@parracatholic.org to join the mailing list to receive session information.

PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE: Our thanks to our Covid-19 Team, David Buckley, John Barclay, Connie Adams and Monica Bright and Julie O'Keefe for helping to keep us safe. It is so hard to see our fellow citizens in Melbourne going through another series of lockdowns and more intrusive restrictions at present. We would not like to see conditions in Sydney escalate because of any actions on our part. So we have a plan and will remind everyone what has to be done to keep us all safe. Please be patient with us, and please keep your social distance at all times at Sacred Heart Church.

MEETING WITH MINISTRY GROUPS REPRESENTATIVES: This Sunday after mass the Parish Council and Fr Jolly will meet with representatives from ministry groups to hear how things are going for them in this time of transition. The council is looking forward to hearing how things are going with each ministry during this Covid-19 time, also this in-between time when we have Fr Jolly as our moderator till December before the appointment of a new lay Pastoral Leader for our parish. We would like to hear, too, what they might be thinking about for the future in terms of their ministry. Also on the agenda is to check with our ministry groups about the Parish Plan being developed to guide us over the coming 12 months or so.

COMMUNION SERVICE WORKSHOP: Sr Mary-Louise Walsh will run a workshop in Blackheath on 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 .

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Fr Jolly is leading us in our Mass this Sunday.

***** 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 next week on Wednesday and Friday between 2:00 -3:30pm for private prayer. Social distancing, signing in and sanitising your seat will be required.

IN MEMORY !

28th Eric Perriam



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

27th Laurie Noyes

28th Ron O'Brien

31st Ingeborg Caplice



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, Adrian & Robyn Carroll