



**Today** Is 22:19-23; Rom 11:33-36;  
Mt 16:13-20  
**Next week** Jer 20:7-9; Rom 12:1-2;  
Mt 16:21-27

**Psalm Response:** Lord, your love is eternal;  
do not forsake the work of your hands.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! You  
are Peter, the rock on which I will build my  
Church; the gates of hell will not hold out  
against it.. Alleluia!

**Servers**  
23 Aug Pat Wicks  
30 Aug Grahame Adams

**Readers**  
23 Aug 1st Reader David Buckley  
2nd reader Christa Buckley  
WELCOME/Intercessions Brian Bright  
30 Aug 1st Reader Pat Wicks  
2nd reader Claire Maguire  
WELCOME/Intercessions Paul Harris

**Counters**  
23 Aug Diane Stewart  
30 Aug Pamela and John

**Church Care**  
August Lance & Julie Hodgkinson

**Flowers**  
August Cate Mitchell

PLEASE PRAY for the sick and their carers:  
Breda Seamons,, Ron O'Brien, Peter Gale,  
John & Marion Crowley, Shielagh  
Kirkham, Maria Slater, Marie John-  
son, Pat Frazer, Tatiana Schultz,  
Trennah Portelli, Elizabeth Farrar's  
daughter Emma, John Hanna and ,  
Doug - Connie and Graham's son-in-law

**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** (24 Aug - 29 Aug)

24 Aug	St Bartholomew	apostle
25 Aug	St Joseph Calasanz	priest
26 Aug	St. Bichier	French Carmelite, foundress
27 Aug	St Monica	St Augustine's mother
28 Aug	St Augustine	bishop, doctor
29 Aug	The Passion of St John the Baptist	martyr

21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
YR A

. At some point, if we want our faith  
to move from being a code of law, a  
concept, or some excellent ideas to  
something we can experience, we  
must take the faith of the Church,  
which has nurtured us up to now, and  
make it our own. In doing so, when  
we encounter Christ, we contribute to  
the re-founding of the Church in our  
generation.  
Just being part of the 'Catholic  
crowd' is hardly the challenge Jesus  
presents to the disciples in today's  
Gospel. We are commissioned like  
the disciples to bear witness to  
Christ's personal love in the work-  
place, with our friends and in our  
families.  
And it all hinges on that great ques-  
tion which is asked of each of us to-  
day: 'Who do you say that I am?'  
How we answer this question reveals  
so much, including whether Christ is  
an idea we like, or the object of our  
passion.  
© Richard Leonard SJ

# 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 SUN-  
DAY at Blackheath Attendance is still limited to 50 – Please 'book in' no later than 10am  
this Saturday. Please email Brian – [bbright45@bigpond.com](mailto:bbright45@bigpond.com) - with cc to - [dbuckley45@bigpond.com](mailto:dbuckley45@bigpond.com)  
Or simply telephone/text: 0401 768 688 (Brian) or David on 0400 208 707.

<b>Parish Mobile:</b> 0428 878 810	<b>Parish Office:</b> 02 4787 8540
<b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:blackheath@parracatholic.org">blackheath@parracatholic.org</a>	<b>Office hours</b> Wed 12.00pm - 3.00pm
<b>Fr Jolly:</b> 0417 541 637 and email: <a href="mailto:jollyms20022000@yahoo.co.in">jollyms20022000@yahoo.co.in</a>	<b>Thu</b> 9.00am - 1.00pm
	<b>Address:</b> 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](mailto:bbright45@bigpond.com)) or David Buck-  
ley (Deputy Chair) ([dbuckley45@bigpond.com](mailto: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](mailto:blackheath@parracatholic.org)

**Website:** <https://sacredheartblackheath.org.au/>

[www.facebook.com/Sacred-Heart-Parish-Community-Blackheath-NSW-Australia-153850768029631/](https://www.facebook.com/Sacred-Heart-Parish-Community-Blackheath-NSW-Australia-153850768029631/)

**PARISH CALENDAR:**

Saturday 22 August: Working Bee – Church Grounds – 8am – 11am  
Wednesday 26th August: PPC Zoom meeting 4.30-6.00pm  
Sunday 30th August: Social Justice Sunday  
Tuesday 1st September: World Day of Prayer for Creation - Special Mass at 11.00am

**A Silver Lining** Fr. Mike Moynahan SJ 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time  
 The gospels are full of challenging questions. In the opening chapter of John's gospel, Jesus turns to two of John the Baptist's disciple who are following him and asks, "What do you want?" When two men who are blind approach Jesus on the road, he asks them, "What do you want me to do for you?" When this disciples are in a boat in the middle of a storm and Jesus calms that storm, he looks at them and asks, "Why were you afraid?" When Jesus is trying to teach his disciples about the cost of discipleship, they ask him, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" Jesus even asks the disciples of Emmaus, discouraged by the passion and death of Jesus, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?"

Christ's identity is a mystery. He is like a beautiful stained glass window made up of so many different colored pieces of glass. This mystery is something we can participate in but never fully understand. There are clues to his identity in the four gospels. We see Jesus as the son of a carpenter brought up in Nazareth. He is a storyteller par excellence. His stories challenge us and fill us with hope. He is a healer. He restores sight to the blind. He cleanses lepers. He returns the use of their legs to the paralyzed. He is a Teacher—on the Mount of Beatitudes, on the Mountain of Transfiguration, and as he dies on the cross with some of the last words on his lips being forgiveness. He is this and much more.

This weekend the Christ of the Gospels asks each of us, "Who do you say that I am?" Our answer will depend on our ability to find him in all things—in the scriptures, in the sacraments, in the faith community, in suffering and joy, in challenges and blessings. So Jesus asks us first—"Who do you say that I am?" After we've responded, perhaps we can be brave enough to ask this question of him, "Who do you say that I am, Lord?" And listen to his response.

**PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE:** 1st September marks the beginning of a month long celebration of the Season of Creation. We are celebrating a **mass at 11.00am** on this day, the World day of Creation, to mark this occasion. The Season of Creation has been introduced to our calendar by Pope Francis. As Fr Daniel O'Leary writes in his book An Astonishing Secret, "God's infinite love expressed itself first in Creation and then finally and fully in Incarnation. And that love is our essence too - recognised and revealed to a greater or lesser degree in all of us and in the evolving world itself." St Francis invites us 'to see nature as a magnificent book in which God speaks to us and grants to us a glimpse of his infinite beauty and goodness' (Laudato Si 11)

Sunday September 6	Sunday September 13
Focus: Forests	Focus : Land
Sunday September 20	Sunday September 27
Focus : Outback	Focus: Rivers
Sunday October 4	
Focus: St Francis of Assisi	

**APPOINTMENT:** Fr Jolly has been appointed Parish Priest at Stanhope Gardens, after six years at Glenbrook and will be taking up his appointment there in late September or early October. It has been our blessing to have him with us over recent months as priest moderator for Blackheath and we wish him well in his new assignment.



Our next Parish working bee is on Saturday morning

**WORKING BEE SATURDAY 22 August 8am**

22 August from 8am. ALL welcome!

**PARISH PASTORAL PLAN:** Parishioners are invited to join a Zoom session if interested in developing our plan. Please pick up a pack of materials after Mass this Sunday, 23rd August. We will have our first Zoom planning session on Wednesday, 26th August, from 1.30pm to 2.30pm. Please email me on [bbright45@bigpond.com](mailto:bbright45@bigpond.com) if you want to join in and I will send you an email with the Zoom link for this session, closer to the day.

**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.

**SHARING OUR FAITH – OUR FUTURE**

As we think about the future of our parish, it is becoming obvious that we need to encourage more young families to join us. At the moment the only way we can make contact with them is through the children in our SRE (Scripture) classes, BUT with only 3 scripture teachers (catechists), we barely have enough to take the classes at Blackheath and Mt Victoria. **WE NEED MORE CATECHISTS** to make sure we can continue with our SRE classes. For more information contact: [paracatholic.org/ccd/#section-1](mailto:paracatholic.org/ccd/#section-1) Claire Maguire: mob 0400786639, email: [cmaguire269@gmail.com](mailto:cmaguire269@gmail.com).

**PETER GALE** would like to thank everyone who has been praying for him during his illness. He is feeling much better, and sends his blessings.

**EARTH MINISTRY PROJECT**

**11am Mass** Tuesday September 1 World Day of Prayer for Caring for Creation. Register your attendance with Brian or David  
**Sacred Heart Gardeners** ~ Enjoy gardens and gardening?  
 The aim of our garden group is to build biodiversity on the site through a variety of plantings, including veggie garden beds. Regular jobs will involve composting, weeding, watering, mulching, planting, harvesting and topping up the bird bath containers. Meetings will be weekly at 2pm on a Friday afternoon.



**DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA COVID -19 UPDATE**

Parishes across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains have COVID-Safety plans in place requiring social distancing, maximum attendance figures and other safety measures. On consideration of the most recent NSW Health advice, the Diocese of Parramatta highly **recommends all worshippers at Masses in the Diocese to wear a mask**, during and from Mass and other services. We understand the inconvenience that masks may pose, but the health of our parishioners and the wider community is our highest concern. We sincerely thank you for understanding, and for playing your part in keeping our community safe.

**Rest in Peace!**

23rd Barry Bowden (2019)  
 Barbara Hodgkinson  
 (2019)  
 26th Wladyslaw Ziolkowski  
 28th Ian Maguire



**Happy Anniversary!**

23rd Ingeborg and David Caplice  
 28th Kate and Robert Forbes

