



Today Jer 20:7-9; Rom 12:1-2;
Mt 16:21-27
Next week Ez 33:7-9; Ez 33:7-9;
Mt 18:15-20

Psalm Response: My soul is thirsting for you,
O Lord my God. .

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! May
the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten
the eyes of our heart, that we might see how
great is the hope to which we are called. Allelu-
ia!

Servers
30 Aug Grahame Adams
6 Sept Diane Stewart
Readers
30 Aug 1st Reader Pat Wicks
2nd reader Claire Maguire
Welcome/Intercessions Paul Harris
6 Sept 1st Reader Monica Bright
2nd reader Brian Bright
Welcome/Intercessions Pat Wicks
Counters
30 Aug Pamela & John
6 Sept Julie & Lance Hodgkinson
Church Care
Sept Noleen Cliff & Marilyn Rowe
Flowers
Sept Pamela Scott

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, Tren-
nah Portelli, Elizabeth Farrar's daugh-
ter 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 (31 Aug - 5 Sept)
31 Aug St. Raymond Nonnatus Spanish cardinal
1 Sept St. Beatrice da Silva Meneses Portuguese foundress
2 Sept St. Ingrid of Sweden Dominican nun
3 Sept St Gregory the Great pope
4 Sept St. Hermione martyr of Ephesus
5 Sept St. Teresa of Calcutta missionary of charity

22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY
TIME YR A
We are invited, by Jesus, to see the
burden of suffering in our lives as an
opportunity to be faithful to his exam-
ple. It also gives us an opportunity to
be in solidarity with all those who
suffer in our world. This is easier said
than done. When we suffer in our
daily lives, thoughts of others rarely
come to mind easily, but it can be
consoling to keep our suffering in
context and know that we are not fac-
ing it alone. We are encouraged to see
that suffering can be an opportunity to
grow in love. If we understand our
crosses as our particular schools of
love, then we learn more about our-
selves and God and are able to help
others carry their crosses as well.
And while we are invited to take up
our cross and follow Jesus, we never
do it alone. If we have the eyes to see
it and the humility to accept it, Christ,
literally, hangs in there with us every
step of the way.
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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 - 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 Buck-
ley (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/](https://www.facebook.com/Sacred-Heart-Parish-Community-Blackheath-NSW-Australia-153850768029631/)

PARISH CALENDAR:
Sunday 30th August: Social Justice Sunday
Tuesday 1st September: World Day of Prayer for Creation - Special Mass at 11.00am
Monday, 7th September: Zoom session for Pastoral Plan
Wednesday 9th September: PPC Exec Zoom Meeting

Father Jolly's Reflection for the 22nd Sunday in ordinary time.

Anne Wilson Schaefer is a psychologist who has written a number of books about addiction and co-dependency, caused not only by drugs but also by the way people think and behave in modern society. She talks about what is going on today in the modern society and calls it as an addictive society. She describes in her book about the ways people think as a victimization of the oppressors, slavery of the masters, the powerlessness of the powerful. Today people tend to believe they are the lords of the social reality.

We live in an age of illusions and many embrace the illusions with passion in order to be happy. They believe in their heart that all pain and discomfort should be instantly eliminated and every fancy in life must be satisfied without any cost. They should get everything without self-denial and that we should and can live in a perfect world. This notion in life is a lie and repeated by many, as if repetition could transform a lie into truth.

God's plan for us is not to live a life of lie but the truth. St. Paul tells us and warns that we "must not model ourselves on the behaviour of the world around us" (Romans 12.2). This illusion is a lie which is an abomination to the Lord and He asks us to take up our daily cross and follow Him. He asks us not to run away from the crosses but to see them as opportunities to grow. By taking up our daily cross we make rooms in our lives for others and God. The cross is a necessary part of life. As a priest, I have seen many people dying including my own mother. After seeing many dying, I have come to a conclusion that there is no pain in dying, the pain is in living. Most of our comforts grow up between our crosses. They come from the fruits of someone carrying the cross. We can never talk about being a Christian without the cross. It is a cross to follow Christ. When we make our decision to follow him, we are expected to suffer rather than sin; it is a cross to be faithful to the duties of one's vocation, such as marriage, parenting, priesthood etc. Prophet Jeremiah went through torments to be faithful to his call to preach the word of God to the people. It was so heavy and he shouts at God saying: "O God, you have seduced me; you have made me daily laughingstock, the butt of every joke" (Jeremiah 20:7). The cross is the arms and the heart of Christian truth and life. It is hard to carry the cross but let us not fear the cross. It brings us lasting gains and healing. Jesus' cross was a sign of God's great love for us. He tells us through today's Gospel to take our crosses and follow him. May we follow him faithfully and closely by taking our crosses in life.

PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE: The appointment to the Upper Mountains Parish and Blackheath of Fr Abraham to serve our two communities in their pastoral and sacramental needs, leaves us now with the task of finding a pastoral leader for our parish community. Fr Abraham does not see parish leadership as his calling, only the pastoral and sacramental needs are his focus. We look forward to him joining us in the middle of September. In Vincent's emailed letter to us this week, he promised to write to the Parish shortly in response to the Transition Working group's interim report "Blackheath Dreaming" re the future leadership of our Parish. He has considered the TWG Interim Report, has spoken with parish council representatives, and has now set out the final stage of consultation. He has also set the end of September as the time to announce the new leadership model for our parish community. Please keep us all in your prayer over the coming weeks as we continue to seek God's guidance re the leadership of our parish community.

SEASON OF CREATION: On this Tuesday, 1st September, we are celebrating the World day of Creation with a mass at 11.00am. There is no need to book for this mass, just come along and you will be signed in on arrival.

Printed copies of the Social Justice Statement are also available on the brochure stand in the church.

SEASONS OF CREATION (Cont) Pope Francis (Laudato Si 86) writes: The universe as a whole, in all its manifold relationships, shows forth the inexhaustible riches of God. St Thomas Aquinas noted that multiplicity and variety 'come from the creator who willed that what was wanting in one, in the expressiveness of the divine goodness might be supplied by another, in as much as God's goodness could not be represented fittingly by one creature.' Hence we need to grasp the meaning and variety of things in their multiple relationships.

Whatever reasons we may usually have for protecting the planet and all its inhabitants, including the tiniest of these, Aquinas's words provide the deepest motivation for doing so. Every single aspect of Creation is the individual and careful work of God, providing another window into the divine creativity, another expression of the divine face, another embrace of the divine heart. (Fr Daniel O'Leary, An Astonishing Secret, p102)

PARISH PASTORAL PLAN: It is not too late to join the group of Parishioners developing our Parish Pastoral Plan. You are invited to join our next Zoom session. Please pick up a pack of materials after Mass this Sunday or next. We will have our next Zoom planning session on Monday, 7th September, from 4.30pm to 5.30pm. We will be working on the first Goal: Being a Jesus-inspired, humble, healing and merciful Parish Community. If you want to join in, please email me on bbright45@bigpond.com and I will send you an email with the Zoom link for this session, closer to the day.

ROS MAUNDER - May she rest in peace

We received the news this week that Fred Pateman has lost his dear friend and adopted daughter, Ros, who regularly came to Mass with Fred. Please keep them and Ros' family in your prayers.

SEASON OF CREATION ~ 1st September marks the beginning of a month long celebration of the Season of Creation.

11am Mass Tuesday September 1 ~ World Day of Prayer for Caring for Creation.

Subsequent Masses on Sundays of the month:-

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

Closing of Mass first and last Sundays – you -tube from Kenya

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BdX_Tn6-kQQ&feature=youtu.be



SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY – 30 AUGUST 2020 ~ This Sunday the Catholic Church in Australia celebrates Social Justice Sunday. This year, the Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement is titled: *To Live Life to the Full: Mental health in Australia today.*

The COVID-19 pandemic is affecting the mental health of many members of our parishes, schools and communities. The Bishops invite us all to reject stigmatisation, to work for the transformation of social determinants of mental ill-health, and to call for policies and service provision that meets the needs of the poorest and most marginalised members of our community. Copy of the Statement and other resources can be found at: <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2020/07/03/social-justice-statement-2020-21/>

From this same page you will also find links to Audio Podcasts, a Prayer Card, Liturgy Notes and an address from Bishop Vincent Long, Chair, Bishops Commission for Social Justice.