

**Today** Wis 6:12-16; 1 Thes 4:13-18;  
Mt 25:1-13  
**Next week** Prv 31:10-13. 19-20. 30-31; 1 Thes  
5:1-6 ;  
Mt 25:14-30

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

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Be  
watchful and ready: you know not when the  
Son of Man is coming. Alleluia!

**Servers**  
8 Nov Paul Harris  
15 Nov Pat Wicks  
**Readers**  
8 Nov 1st Reader Connie Adams  
2nd Reader Mary Ryan  
Welcome/Intercessions David Buckley  
15 Nov 1st Reader Christa Buckley  
2nd Reader Monica Bright  
Welcome/Intercessions Brian bright  
**Counters**  
8 Nov Barbara Grieves  
15 Nov Marilyn Rowe  
**Church Care**  
Nov Jim & Cathy McNamara  
**Flowers**  
Nov David Buckley

**St Paul's Mt Victoria**  
**Entrance Ant:** Let my prayer come into  
your presence. Incline your ear to my cry  
for help, O Lord.

**Communion Ant:** The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures where he  
gives me repose,  
near restful waters he leads me.



**32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
8th November**

The parable of the wise and foolish virgins is about planning for the future and pacing oneself to see that one has a future to enjoy. In Christian theology this is called 'discernment'. St Ignatius Loyola, the founder of the Jesuits, wrote a lot about discernment and one of his teachings is that the Holy Spirit allows us to prepare for our future without living it. Matthew tells us then, that the Christian life is about wisdom, right judgment and reading the signs of the times. St Ignatius tells us the best way to prepare for the future is to let go of the unhealed past, as best as we can, and live in the here and now. The Holy Spirit helps us see what needs to be done today and what preparation is necessary for tomorrow. This is such simple and sound advice and yet many of us don't heed it. 'keep awake because you know not the time or place'.

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**SAINTS OF THE DAY** (9 Nov to 14 Nov)  
9 Nov Dedication of the Lateran Basilica  
10 Nov St Leo the great pope, doctor  
11 Nov St Martin of Tours bishop  
12 Nov St Josaphat bishop, martyr  
13 Nov St. Frances Xavier Cabrini US foundress,  
14 Nov St. Lawrence O'Toole Irish archbishop

# 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.*

**MASSES:** Attendance is limited. Please 'book in' no later than 10am this Saturday. Please email Brian – bbright45@bigpond.com - with cc to dbuckley45@bigpond.com Or phone/text: 0401 768 688 (Brian); David on 0400 208 707.

**MT VIC VIGIL NO MASS** on Nov 14 or Nov 21  
**BLACKHEATH MASSES**  
SUNDAY 9:30AM  
Tues 9:00am , Wed, Thurs, Fri. 6:30pm, NO MASS ON SATURDAY  
**RECONCILIATION** at 6.15pm Wed  
**UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS PARISH MASSES**  
Saturday morning 9am St Canice's Church Katoomba  
Vigil Mass 5pm St Bonaventure's Church Leura  
Sunday 8am Mass St Francis Xavier's Church Wentworth Falls  
Sunday 10am Mass St Canice's Church Katoomba  
Sunday 5pm Mass St Bonaventure's Church Leura

AH Emergency Number: 0428 878 810  
Calls only; no texts please.  
For all **Office** matters, please call 0247878540

**E-mail:** blackheath@parracatholic.org  
john.mcsweeney@parracatholic.org  
abraham.kunnatholy@parracatholic.org

Parish Priest: Fr John McSweeney  
Assistant Priest: Fr Abraham Kunnatholy  
**Priest-on-call phone number:** 0428 878 810

**Office hours** Wed 12.00pm - 3.00pm  
Thu 9.00am - 1.00pm  
**Address:** PO Box 354, Blackheath NSW 2785

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

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

The text from Scripture for this weekend have much to offer us:

Our lives on earth are meant to be lives that remain open to the delights of Divine Wisdom. They are meant to be full and rounded lives NOW: lived in love of God and neighbour. And so we need to ask ourselves: How are we living our lives now - in imitation of Christ and his double commandment of love, or otherwise? What can we do to renew our commitment to Christ and His Gospel in this coming week?

Furthermore, our lives should also be lived with a view to the future: Will we be ready for the Judgment to come, when we will meet the Lord face-to-face? What do we need to do to be ready and awake for Lord's Coming?

Let's use these last weeks of the Church's Liturgical year to reflect on and renew our Christian responsibilities and commitments.

I will be on Annual Leave from Sunday evening, back on deck on the 27th November.

In my absence, Fr Abraham is Acting Parish Priest.

Let's continue to pray for and support each other in the days ahead.

God Bless you all!

Fr John

**NAIDOC WEEK -TAKING ACTION:** A recent National Church Life Survey recorded that when individual churchgoers were asked what they themselves had done to encourage indigenous reconciliation/awareness/ relationship building (see figure below) in the previous 12 months, almost six in 10 church attenders (59%) said that they had done nothing. Of those churchgoers who have acted on these issues, "Made an active effort to stay informed on indigenous issues and policies" was the largest action (16% of attenders). In a nation where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples regularly ask for non-indigenous citizens to stand with them in policy and cultural issues only 4% of church attenders had engaged in public advocacy. When asked about making financial contributions, the very low level of church attenders' contributions (4%), is noteworthy. However, despite the low levels of personal contact and individual action, when asked whether "churches should more actively promote reconciliation" 62% of churchgoers agreed. This finding reveals that the majority of Australian church attenders have a desire that their churches take action on reconciliation. Further, some 48% agreed that their local church should do more to build relationships with Aboriginal people, with 43% being neutral or unsure. Attenders' hopes for their churches to be more proactive, against a backdrop of low levels of individual mobilisation, show there are further roads to travel in churches when it comes to justice and reconciliation with the first peoples of Australia. Listed in the table in the insert are some of the actions you personally can take to encourage indigenous reconciliation, awareness and relationship.

**PARISH COUNCIL:** Several members have retired from the Parish Council over recent weeks. I would like to thank, on your behalf, Christine O'Grady, John Barclay, Cate Mitchell and David Buckley for their contribution to the life of our parish through their participation on the Council over recent years. I thank them all particularly for their support over the last year while I have been chair. Their support, their hours of planning and action, have helped us as a community to thrive during these challenging times. I would like to thank David especially for his generosity in the way he has shared his gifts and expertise while on the Council and while leading it as chair. David Buckley is continuing his role on the Diocesan Pastoral Council to follow through on some important initiatives across the diocese. It is through the energy and resourcefulness of

LIVESTREAM MASSES

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

parish members like these that a vibrant sense of community has been built up in our Parish over many years.

**PARISH AGM:** If you have a matter for discussion at our AGM this needs to be put in writing and sent to the Secretary, Adrian Carroll ( [ajandra@bigpond.com](mailto:ajandra@bigpond.com)), by the close of business on this Friday, 13th November. It may also be left at the Parish Office during office hours this week or posted to the Parish Office (PO Box 354, Blackheath NSW 2785) by Friday 13th November.

Any Parishioner wishing to attend this meeting in person will need to book in by 5pm on Friday 27th November, to ensure we stay within the 47 people allowed in the Church, under current Covid restrictions. Book by email, phone or text message ([bbright45@bigpond.com](mailto:bbright45@bigpond.com) - 0401 768 688) Parishioners may attend via Zoom video conferencing and for this they will need to book in by Wednesday 25th November, to allow for sending of the Zoom link and checking for successful video & audio access to the meeting.

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST:** We will need a number of parishioners competent in helping with the sacramental life of the parish. We will hold a number of training sessions over coming months. Sr Mary-Louise Walsh is coming to Katoomba for our first training session on Saturday 14 November from 10am till 12.00 noon.

This is for current ministers as well as anyone wanting to learn more about helping in this capacity. Call Katoomba Parish Office to book your spot on this course - 4782 2804.

#### PARISH CALENDAR:

Sunday 8th November Ministry Group Coordinators Meeting at 11.00am  
NAIDOC week begins

Saturday 14th November Course for Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist 10-12pm at Katoomba - register your name at Katoomba Parish Office

Sunday 29th November Parish AGM at 11.00am

#### COURSE FOR EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

to be held on Sat Nov 14 from 10am to 2pm at Katoomba - is for all current ministers as well as those interested in becoming one. Please register your name at Katoomba parish office on 4782 2804

**Institute for Mission: BRINGING THE ADVENT GOSPELS ALIVE!**  
The Institute for Mission invites you online to enjoy letting scripture presenter Dr Michele Connolly rsj energise your Advent on 10 November at 7pm. Register via [www.ifm.org.au/scripturenight](http://www.ifm.org.au/scripturenight). Please feel free to speak to any of the IFM Team on (02) 9296 6369 if you require any further information or send us an email to [connect@ifm.org.au](mailto:connect@ifm.org.au).

#### Happy Birthday!

10th David Caplice



#### Happy Anniversary!

13th Margaret and Bob Davis



#### Rest in Peace!

9th Melanie Hinklemann

14th Fr Jim Dooley (d 2007)



**PLEASE PRAY** for the sick and their carers: Barbara Grieves, Peter Gale, John & Marion Crowley, Shielagh Kirkham, Maria Slater, Marie Johnson, Pat Frazer, Tatiana Schultz, Trennah Portelli, John Hanna and , Doug Ford.

