

**Today** 2 Sam 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16;  
Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38  
**Next week** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21;  
Lk 2:22-40

**Psalm Response:** For ever I will sing the  
goodness of the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! I am  
the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be  
done. Alleluia!



**Servers**  
20 Dec Grahame Adams  
27 Dec Diane Stewart  
**Readers**  
20 Dec 1st Reader Pat Wicks  
2nd Dec Claire Maguire  
Welcome/Intercessions Paul Harris  
27 Dec 1st Reader Monica Bright  
2nd Reader Brian Bright  
Welcome/Intercessions Pat Wicks  
**Counters**  
20 Dec Cate Mitchell  
27 Dec Barbara Grieves  
**Church Care**  
**Dec** Julie & Lance Hodgkinson  
**Flowers**  
Dec Cate Mitchell

**St Paul's Mt Victoria**  
**Entrance Ant:** Drop down dew from above,  
you heavens, and let the clouds rain down  
the Just One; let the earth be opened and  
bring forth a Saviour.  
.  
**Communion Ant:** Behold, a Virgin shall con-  
ceive and bear a son;  
and his name will be called Emmanuel.

**SAINTS OF THE DAY** (21 Dec to 26 Dec )  
21 Dec St. Peter Canisius priest, doctor  
22 Dec St. Demetrius Italian martyr  
23 Dec St. John of Kanty priest  
24 Dec St. Adela abbess and foundress  
25 Dec NATIVITY OF THE IORD  
26 Dec St Stephen first martyr

**4th Sunday of Advent Yr B  
20 Dec 2020**

In this final week of Advent let's keep reminding ourselves of this simple fact: Jesus saves us. Jesus saves us from death. Jesus saves us from living lives devoid of purpose and meaning and Jesus saves us from ourselves. We don't save ourselves. We cannot earn salvation by good works or prayers or penance. And, we cannot save anyone else. That includes our children, spouse, grandchildren, parents or friends. Our prayers, good works and faith are the responses we make to the salvation of Christ we claim here and now. And how we live is the way by which those we love will find the gift of God's salvation for themselves. In the midst of this frantic final week before Christmas when so many other things can distract us from what this grace-filled feast is really all about, let's take a moment to join Mary in accepting into our lives and hearts the greatest of all gifts – our undeserved salvation, Jesus Christ the Lord. © 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.*

**MASSES:** Attendance is limited. Please 'book in' no later than 10am this Saturday. Please email Brian – bbright45@bigpond.com - with cc to Julie O'Keeffe (julesongodson@bigpond.com) Or phone/text: 0401 768 688 (Brian)  
**MT VIC VIGIL MASS AT 6.00PM (every week for the time being)**  
**BLACKHEATH MASSES**  
**SUNDAY 9:30AM**  
**Tues 6.30pm, Wed 6:30pm, Thurs 9.00am, Fri. 6.30pm**  
**1st Friday Mass, Adoration & reflection 6.30pm**  
**RECONCILIATION at 6.15pm Wed**  
**PPER 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 Paul Harris (Chair) (pauls\_harris@hotmail.com) or Julie O'Keeffe (julesongodson@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/)

**Dear sisters and brothers in Christ**

It is not always easy to be obedient to God's Will!  
 David wanted to build a Temple for the Lord, but God had another plan.  
 Mary probably dreamed of a normal marriage with a large family as was the expectation of the time, but God wanted her to give birth to the Saviour.  
 And Paul was zealous for the Law of Moses, but God demanded he change direction and support His Son's church.  
 At times we, too, are asked to change direction and walk paths we would rather not walk. Although we can be disappointed, even angry, our Faith calls us to see God's Hand at work in all things.  
 For 'He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to Him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen'

Some points to note:

Please note this year's changes in place and time for Christmas masses in this bulletin. There are a couple of corrections needed to what is in the Gazette: Vigil at Katoomba is 6pm, not 6:30pm; Wentworth Falls day mass now at 8am, not 7:30am; and Blackheath day Mass is now 10am, not the usual 9:30 time.  
 Also, the only mass on Boxing Day morning is 9am at Blackheath.  
 The Sunday masses are as normal.

Finally, on behalf of Fr Abraham and the Parish Staff in both parishes, may I wish you a Blessed Christmas - and a happy (and Healthy) 2021!

God Bless you all  
 Fr John

**Friday Fiesta**

Our inaugural Friday Fiesta last week commenced with a contemplative style of prayer in the church and concluded with a delicious meal in the hall. Thanks to Fr Abraham, Julie, Frances, Di, Sigi and Paul who contributed to the Fiesta. The next Friday Fiesta is on January 8, 6:30 pm. Bookings are open [www.trybooking.com/BMVXR](http://www.trybooking.com/BMVXR) or see Julie or Paul.

**Morning Tea**

You are welcome to share Morning Tea in the Hall after Sunday Mass. The team have been busy baking and decorating the hall! A great opportunity to meet other parishioners and build our community. Remember to BYO cup.

Please make sure a Working Bee reminder for Sat 19th goes out in the body of the email – not necessary for the bulletin... (This Saturday 19th .. 8am)  
 Thanks

paul

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE FOR CHRISTMAS**

The parish office will be closed for the Christmas holidays from December 24 to January 27.  
 Have a Happy and holy Christmas.



**LITURGICAL MINISTRY FORMATION COURSES**

There will be a series of 6 sessions available on either Monday nights at Blacktown at 7.00pm, beginning on Feb 8; or Thursday nights at Penrith at 7.00pm beginning on 11 Feb. If you are interested please contact Pat Wicks or the Office

**ANNUAL GARAGE SALE**

It's on again, our annual garage sale scheduled for Saturday 6th & Sunday 7th February 2021.  
 We will be asking for helpers closer to the event but at this stage we just want you to lock in the dates and start your annual clean out.  
 As in the past you can leave your items on the parish hall verandah which will be checked regularly.  
 If you have any larger items you can ring Marilyn or Pat W in the office for pick up. The best contact number is Marilyn's mobile on 0414536601.  
**GET SORTING!!!**

**PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS, JOURNEYING THROUGH ADVENT WITH CARITAS**

A gathering will be held on Friday morning on the 18 December from 10:30 - 11:30 in the church. The Caritas Advent program will be followed and each session will include the lighting of candles and prayer, a gospel reading and reflection, a Caritas Australian story and reflection, our faith in action and a closing prayer. BYO brunch if you would like to stay for a short while afterwards. This program will be facilitated by Frances Huckstepp. All Welcome!

**WORKING BEE**  
**Saturday December 19th**  
**8:00am**



**Please come and make our grounds look great for Christmas. EVERYONE WELCOME**

**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMETABLE**

<b>Sacred Heart Blackheath</b>	<b>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> Dec (Children's Mass) 6.00pm</b> <b>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> Dec Christmas Vigil 9.00pm</b>
<b>Sacred Heart Blackheath</b>	<b>Friday 25<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Day 10.00 am</b>
<b>Sacred Heart Blackheath</b>	<b>Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> December Boxing Day 9.00am</b>
	<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021 New Year's Day 9.00am</b>

**FLOWERS FOR CHRISTMAS**



Christmas Flowers: Donations of flowers and foliage from parishioners would be greatly appreciated at this time for the Christmas floral display. Two white buckets will be placed outside the front door for this purpose. Cate Mitchell

**Happy Birthday !**

**20th Robert Forbes (b 1956)**  
**21st Dominic Burke (b 1963)**  
**24th David Buckley (b 1945)**



**PLEASE PRAY** for the sick and their carers: Ray Wood, John & Marion Crowley, Maria Slater, Marie Johnson, Pat Frazer, Tatiana Schultz, Trennah Portelli, John Hanna, Doug Ford and .Bishop Geoffrey Robinson

