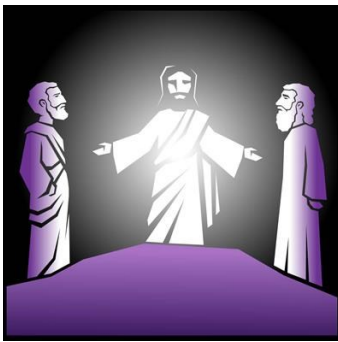


Today Gen 9:8-15 ; 1 Pt 3:18-22 ; Mk 1:12-15
Next week Gen22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18; Rom 8:31-34; Mk 9:2-10

Psalm Response: Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

Gospel Acclamation: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!



Servers
 21 Feb Server Alan Skofic
 28 Frb Server Grahame Adams

Readers
 21 Feb 1st Reader Connie Adams
 2nd Reader Mary Roberts
 Welcome/Intercessions Paul Harris
 28 Feb 1st Reader Monica Bright
 2nd Reader Brian Bright
 Welcome/Intercessions David Buckley-

Counters
 21 Feb Diane Stewart
 28 Feb Pamela & John


Church Care
 19 Feb Julie & Lance Hodgkinson

Flowers
 Feb Rosemary Kenny & Mary Batty

St Paul's Mt Victoria
Entrance Ant: When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days
Communion Ant: One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

Happy Birthday !

23rd Janet Lamerton
 23rd Diana (2002)



PLEASE PRAY for the sick and their carers: Laurie Noyes, Barbara Grieves, Ray Wood, John & Marion Crowley, Maria Slater, Marie Johnson, Pat Frazer, Tatiana Schultz, Trennah Portelli, Doug Ford

**1st Sun in Lent Yr B
 21 Feb 2021**

When we look at how the desert is used in the Bible, mythology, art, literature and the cinema two competing images emerge. The first is that the desert can be a place of loss and ruin where some great heroes have gone and not returned. In another equally venerable tradition journeys to the desert, while filled with a mixture of pleasure and pain, are abundant with revelation, transformation and recreation. It's important to remember in our own particular deserts that temptation is not sin. To be tempted by something is not the same as doing it. Temptations are the allures that make destructive choices look good. The good news is that we can learn how to deal with them. This Lent, let's do anything that helps our self-esteem, deal with our anger, attend to why we might work or drink too much, and ensure that we are less stressed. Contrary to what we might think, these activities could be the most helpful ways we can make sure we emerge from our desert the better for having been there.
 © Richard Leonard SJ

Rest In Peace !
 22nd Rick Frazer
 23rd William (Bill) Grieves
 26th Rita Jenner
 26th Nancy Etccl
 27th Ken Kirkham (2017)



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 , Sat 9.00am
1st Friday Mass, Adoration & reflection 6.30pm
2nd Friday: Friday Fiesta Contemplative prayer and meal (booking is essential)
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

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

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**

Website: <https://sacredheartblackheath.org.au/>
www.facebook.com/Sacred-Heart-Parish-Community-Blackheath-NSW-Australia-153850768029631/

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

First Sunday of Lent, Year B

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

As we commence our Lenten journey once again this year, let us strive to make these 40 days a time of conversion in our lives.

Let us reflect on those things in our lives which block us from a closer relationship with Jesus; and let's aim to do something about turning ourselves around to face the right road that leads to Him.

Let's utilise the great Christian traditions of Penance and Sacrifice to aid us in this journey towards the Lord.

Let's recommit ourselves to seeking the healing touch of the Lord in the Sacrament of Reconciliation; in making amends in practical and concrete ways for past hurts.

And in this coming week, let's begin our Lenten season by reflecting on the depth of meaning in Jesus' initial Gospel proclamation:

"Repent and Believe in the Good News!"

PLEASE NOTE

1. I am pleased to announce that the new Parish Secretary for both Sacred Heart Parish, Blackheath, and St Mary of the Cross Mackillop Parish, Upper Blue Mountains is Christine Burke. Christine, with her husband Dominic, are members of Sacred Heart Parish; and their children attended St Canice's school. I look forward to working with Christine in her new role of service for both parish communities.

2. Although we no longer HAVE to wear masks at Mass, I still think it is a wise thing to do. I intend to continue to wear a mask while giving out Communion. After all, the 2 square metre rule allows more people into our churches, but sometimes this conflicts with the 1.5m social distancing rule. We need to do our best to remain safe.

MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL THIS LENT! Fr John

From the Finance Committee – Second Collection for our Parish

Thanks to all those parishioners who give so generously in their second collection contributions each week. We now have a number of ways for you to make your second collection parish contribution. These are:

Direct Transfer from your bank account. If you have internet banking this is the simplest way to contribute each week. Please contact John Tweedie after Mass to find out how, or you can contact him via the parish email blackheath@parracatholic.org or on 0407 288 957.

Tap and go machine at the door – We have now set this to receive contributions of \$10 (or multiples of \$10). We started out programming it with \$5, but many parishioners were swiping twice and this delayed people exiting the church.

Contributions via the traditional Envelopes.

Cash contributions. Thanks John

EMAIL SCAM

Many priests emails have been compromised by scammers, and any request for gift cards is not a valid message from me, but a scam...

One of the numbers used for the text messages is 0488 875 092. THIS IS A FALSE ACCOUNT. DO NOT respond to text messages you receive from this number. Please report any occurrence to the police. God Bless Fr John



World Day of Prayer AUSTRALIA

World Day of Prayer will be held on Friday the 5th March at St. Adrians Anglican church at 2pm, corner of Hat Hill Road and Great western Hwy. All welcome.

WORKING BEE

Saturday February 20 at 8:00am

Please come and make our grounds look great

EVERYONE

WELCOME



Laudato Si' Online Conference

15-17 March 2021

In celebrating the journey since the launch of Laudato Si', the Vatican's Dicastery of Integral Human Development has launched the special Laudato Si' Anniversary Year and the seven-year challenge of the Laudato Si' Action Platform.

The Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea, in partnership with the Faculty of Theology and Philosophy at ACU and the CRA Ecology Alliance Committee, invite you to join us as we explore this call.

All the details of the conference are on this site

<https://institute.mercy.org.au/opportunity/laudato-si-conference/>

Fairtrade Fortnight 2021 will take place from 22 February to 7 March

Copies of *Comfort* the reflection book for Lent will be available for purchase at Mt Victoria Mass on Saturday evening and Blackheath Mass on Sunday morning. This prayerful resource is produced by the Wollongong Diocese and is \$7 a copy.

UPCOMING BLACKHEATH EVENTS:

Fri Feb 19: Lenten Discussion Group



First Sunday of Lent
21st February 2021



Jamila is a Rohingya refugee living in a camp in Bangladesh with her elderly mother and baby daughter. With the support of Caritas Australia, and through Caritas Bangladesh, Jamila has been able to access to emergency food, shelter, counselling, and vocational training that will help to support her family.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 to help mothers like Jamila be more for her family and her community.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413