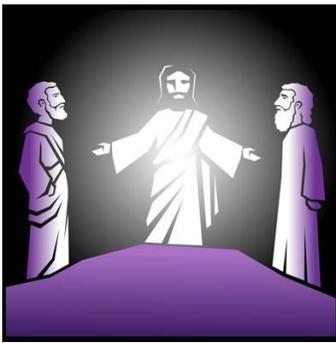


Today Gen22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18; Rom 8:31-34; Mk 9:2-10
Next week Ex 20:1-17; 1 Cor 1:22-25
 Jn 2:13-25

Psalm Response:) I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

Gospel Acclamation: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,



Servers
 28 Frb Server Grahame Adams
 7 mar Server Paul Harris

Readers
 28 Feb 1st Reader Monica Bright
 2nd Reader Brian Bright
 Welcome/Intercessions David Buckley
 7 Mar 1st reader Claire Maguire
 2nd Reader Christa Buckley
 Welcome/intercessions Adrian Carroll

Counters
 28 Feb Pamela & John
 7 Mar Julie & Lance Hodgkinson

Church Care
 5Th Mar Noleen Cliff and Marilyn Rowe

Flowers
 Mar David Buckley

**2nd Sun in Lent Yr B
 28 Feb 2021**
 © Richard Leonard SJ

One of the thousand morals of the story of Abraham and Isaac is that ... it is also a tale of survival and of mercy. In the end Abraham heard his God instruct him not to set his hand against his son ... Isaac survived ... He became a parent, blind to Jacob's defects, but one who, pointedly, attempted no sacrifices of his own ...

May this story and our Eucharist give us hope that no matter what altar of sacrifice we feel sometimes laid upon, God does not abandon us in our need, and never wants us to sacrifice ourselves, or anyone else. Lent is about mercy and survival because true obedience to God, even in its demands for a hard love, ALWAYS leads to life.

St Paul's Mt Victoria
Entrance Ant: Of you my heart has spoken, Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.
Communion Ant: **This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.**

Happy anniversary !
1st Philia and Frank Portelli



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

Rest In Peace !
 28th Anthony Gilchrist .



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. 10.00am . 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

Second Sunday of Lent, Year B

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

The story of the Transfiguration is found in Mark, Matthew and Luke.

And from the story in the Gospels we can glean the following points for reflection:

1. In taking his three closest friends with him, Jesus show that relationships in the Lord are important for us all. We need the support of our sisters and brothers (the Church community) to help us continue faithful to the Lord.

2. In witnessing Jesus' transformation and seeing the representatives of the Law and the Prophets on the Mountain, we can see that reading and reflecting on the Scriptures are important aspects of our spiritual journey, so that we are nourished with God's Word (our 'daily bread').

3. In the experience of the Cloud covering the mountain and the voice of the Father, we realise that we also need to make certain that we allow God's Presence to infuse us with his love and mission; times of silent prayer are essential for all of us, so that we encounter the Lord often 4. And the command - "this is my beloved Son, Listen to him" - is said to us every day: we need to be active in faithful ministry to our neighbour, in order to be faithful to God's Command to imitate the Son sent for our salvation.

In this second week of Lent, let's recommit ourselves to the reading of the Scriptures, spending time in silent prayer, and loving our neighbour in practical ways. And in all these spiritual endeavours, let's allow the community of God's Faithful, the Church, to support us at all times.

1. The Sacramental Programme for First Reconciliation commences in St Canice's Hall at 9am this Sunday. Let's pray for the children preparing for this marvellous Sacrament of Healing. And also for the children being prepared by the SRE Teachers in the Blackheath and Mt Victoria public schools.

2. First Friday is this coming Friday: Adoration, Confessions and Benediction after the Midday Mass at Katoomba; Reflection, Adoration, Benediction from 6:00pm at Blackheath

God bless you all Fr John

Bishop **Bede Heather**, Emeritus Bishop of the Diocese of Parramatta, died this morning at St Ezekiel Moreno Nursing Home, Croydon. At the time of his passing, he was comfortable and Leona was with him.

Bishop Bede was also the first Bishop of Parramatta.

Funeral details will be advised as soon as available.

In your charity, please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Bishop Bede and remember his family in your prayers.

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

Friday Mass Times During Lent Friday
Mass now will be at 10.00am. Preceding the Lenten discussion group meeting.

UPCOMING BLACKHEATH EVENTS:

Fri Feb 26: Lenten Discussion Group

Sun Feb 28: Morning tea in the hall

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.



Second Sunday of Lent 28th of February 2021



Margret is a teacher at a vocational school for deaf students in the Solomon Islands that suffered long-term water shortages and damage from Tropical Cyclone Harold. With Caritas Australia's support, Margret's school installed water tanks, repaired cyclone damage and implemented COVID-19 prevention measures, and is now planning to boost food security.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 and help people living with disabilities in the Solomon Islands gain access to education and clean water, empowering them with skills to protect our common home.

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