

Today Acts 4:8-12; 1 Jn 3:1-2;
Jn 10:11-18

Next week Acts 9:26-31; 1 Jn 3:18-24;
Jn 15:1-8

Psalm Response: The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.
Alleluia!

Servers
25th April Server Grahame Adams
2nd May Server Paul Harris

Readers
25th April 1st Reader Monica Bright
2nd Reader Brian Bright
Welcome/Intercessions: David Buckley
2nd May 1st Reader Claire Maguire
2nd Reader Christa Buckley
Welcome/Intercessions: Adrian Carroll

Counters
25th April Julie & Lance Hodgkinson
2nd May Pamela & John

Church Care
16th April Lance and Julie Hodgkinson

Flowers
April Cate Mitchell

St Paul's Mt Victoria

Entrance Ant: The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

Communion Ant: The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.



**FORTH SUNDAY OF EASTER-
YEAR B
25th April 2021**

In recent years the bishops, who are often called shepherds of the local Church, have come under extraordinary scrutiny. And rightly so. All of us who are living the Christian life are accountable for what we have done and have failed to do, and the bishops are no exception. It's a tough time to be the local shepherd. The flock is highly educated and we no longer follow anyone's lead with a herd mentality. We want to know our shepherd, hear his compassionate voice call for justice for victims everywhere, but especially ones who have been injured in any way by the Church.

Today's Gospel reminds us what Christian leadership should look like. Jesus didn't liken it to princes in palaces or governors of provinces. His metaphor was of a compassionate shepherd who sleeps in the field with his flock, one who knows them so well and loves them so dearly that he lays down his own life for them.

Let's pray at this Eucharist that we always have the leaders we deserve, ones whose compassion is so transparent that it inspires us to be the same, even towards them.

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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.

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, 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
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 Thu 10.am - 3.00pm

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 Pastors Desk:

In the text chosen for this 'Good Shepherd Sunday' Jesus, rejected by the leaders of Israel, has proven to be the keystone to whole edifice of faith in God.

Indeed, by laying down his life for humankind, Jesus has shown himself to be the True Shepherd (Carer, Leader, Guide) of faith-filled people.

This was at the heart of the early preaching of the Church... and it has a consequence for us all: those who accept Jesus as the keystone of faith, as the Good Shepherd, as the Son of God... are called and become a reality ; children of God'. And our destiny is then assured: we shall see God face to face.

Our texts this week continue to give us hope. They encourage us in our faith. And they inspire us to imitate the Good Shepherd, and to be people of unconditional love.



Please Note: From Sat 1st May mass at Mt Victoria will be at 5.30pm
Friday 21st May mass at 4.00pm Megalong Valley

Glenbrook Parish Women's Retreat: 12 June

St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook, is hosting a women's retreat filled with peace, prayerfulness, adoration, Mass, Reconciliation, guest speakers and praise and worship. It will be held at the parish on 12 June from 8.30am to 8.30pm. Registration is \$60, and with places limited, register now at <https://forms.gle/KkBaTAVm1qkYYCzm8>. For enquiries, email beloved2021info@gmail.com

Australian Women Preach

New podcast series by Christian women from across all denominations preaching the gospel with theological insight and relevance to our daily lives. Launched on International Womans Day 2021, Bishop Vincent introduces the series encouraging all who have desire to enrich themselves with the unique insight and wisdom of Australian Christian women. Sr Patty Falkner SGS, preaches on today's Easter Sunday gospel. Find the series at www.australianwomenpreach.com.au

'Morning Tea at Café Sacre Coeur is in the hall after Mass this week on Sunday, 25th April

Bringing your own cup reduces our waste. Thank you!



[Parramatta Young Christian Students Worker, Fulltime – 2 year appointment](#)

Location: Catholic Diocese of Parramatta, Sydney (YCW House, Granville, NSW 2142)

About the Organisation

The Australian Young Christian Workers (YCW) is a not-for-profit, international, grassroots movement that seeks to serve, educate and represent young people whilst engaging them in action and establishing teams of volunteers to address the issues most affecting young people today. Catholic Social Teachings are at the heart of the Mission of the YCW and the organisation itself, seeks to motivate young leaders within the church, to live out their faith and to find their true vocation. With a particular focus on Young people between the ages of 15-25, the YCW utilises the 'See, Judge & Act' method to motivate young people to be in control of their realities. YCW believes in empowering young people to put their faith into action and encourages them to be active members within their communities. We currently have teams in Adelaide, Perth and Sydney and contacts and connections all across Australia.

The Blue Mountains Spirituality Forum

invites you to a conversation on **Fr Eugene Stockton's** book The Aboriginal Gift: Spirituality for a Nation at Leura Uniting Church hall on Sunday 9 May at 2 pm.

The Rev. Dr Mark Hillis will lead the discussion and Fr Stockton and others will respond to Mark's presentation. Because of Covid-19 restrictions numbers are limited. Please RSVP to William Emilsen at wemilsen@gmail.com. by Friday 16 April.

Working Bee Saturday 24 April 8am

Working bee Saturday 24 April from 8am. Come and work with our maintenance team and help maintain our beautiful grounds. Amongst other things we will be filling the pot holes in the church car park.
Call Lance on 47878096 or John on 0407 288 957 for further information, or just turn up on the day.



Happy Birthday !

26th Sue Gracey
28th Paula Schreiber (b 1922)
29th Sheilagh Kirkham



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

