

<b>Today</b>	Acts 10:25-26.34-35.44-48; 1 Jn 4:7-10 ; Jn 15:9-17
<b>Next week</b>	Acts 10:25-26.34-35.44-48; 1 Jn 4:7-10 ; Jn 15:9-17
<b>Psalm Response:</b> The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power	
<b>Gospel Acclamation:</b> Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them	
<b>Servers</b> 9nd May Server Grahame Adams 16nd May Server Paul Harris <b>Readers</b> 9nd May 1st Reader Brian Bright 2nd Reader Monica Bright Welcome/Intercessions: David Buckley 16nd May 1st Reader Pat Wicks 2nd Reader Frances Huckstepp Welcome/Intercessions: Adrian Carroll <b>Counters</b> 2nd May Barbara Grieves 9nd May Marilyn Rowe <b>Church Care</b> 16th April Lance and Julie Hodgkinson <b>Flowers</b> May Cate Mitchell	
<b>St Paul's Mt Victoria</b>  <b>Readers:</b> 1st Reader Peter McAuley 2nd Reader Carla Edan  <b>Entrance Ant:</b> Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; <b>proclaim to the ends of the earth:</b> <b>The Lord has freed his people, alleluia</b> <b>Communion Ant:</b> If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, <b>and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia</b>	



### SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER- YEAR B 9ND MAY 2021

The Italian film, Life is Beautiful vividly portrays the truth of today's Gospel. It shows a father convincing his five-year-old son that the concentration camp is an elaborate game that the Nazis had invented to test the Italians. Some members of the Jewish community criticised this film because they claimed it made light of the holocaust. Writer and director, Roberto Benigni, however, argued that the heart of the film lies in the fact that most parents will do anything to spare their children the reality of evil. Most parents who have seen and wept through the film know exactly what he's talking about.

And if parents could take such risks and go to such lengths for their children, how much more has God done for us in Christ Jesus. We are the only world religion to believe that our God took our form and died out of love for us so that we might understand the love God has for us, and the love we are called to have for each other.

It isn't, however, just any old love Christ calls us to practise. It's not about a fleeting feeling or having a warm fuzzy inside. Jesus tells us today that the character of Christian love is the degree to which it's sacrificial. This is a challenging way of working out who we really love, isn't it? The people we love are those for whom we are prepared to sacrifice something of ourselves, maybe everything.

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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.*

**MASSSES:** No booking required for Sunday Mass. However you will still, need to sign on when you arrive and observe social distancing requirements.

**MT VIC VIGIL MASS AT 5.30pm**

**MEGALONG MASS : Friday 21st May @4.00pm ( Mass every 3rd Friday of month)**

**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: 0490814284

Calls only; no texts please.

For all **Office** matters, please call 0490814284

**E-mail:** blackheath@parracatholic.org

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

**Reflection on the Readings:**  
by Fr John:

All three Readings for this Sixth Sunday of Easter (B) speak to us of 'Love': the unconditional love ('agape') that the Lord has for us all.  
This love enabled the Lord to lay down his life for the salvation of all; indeed, it is this unconditional love which drove Jesus throughout his Life.  
And it is this same love which must be at the basis of every Christian's life.

How does this pan out in reality?  
Each one of us knows the ways that we are called by God to be loving people who care for others, even those who persecute us.  
The Scriptures challenge us to look at our life now and ask ourselves how we can improve our interaction with our neighbour.  
Where are those areas in which hate or envy or jealousy or any form of negative emotion must be converted and destroyed, so that 'agape' love can replace them?  
Are we will to ask for the Spirit's loving aid in this continual process of conversion?

Let's reflect on the New Commandment of the Lord Jesus, given to all disciples who wish to walk in his footsteps:  
"Love one another, as I have loved you".

\* \*\*Also, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all mothers in our communities a Blessed and Joy-filled Mother's Day. Let's honour and look after all mothers today and always.  
And we pray for those mothers who are already with the Lord and Our Lady on this important day.

**SUNDAY MAY 23 "Long table" Picnic Brunch in our fabulous forest!**

Bring along your own picnic/brunch for a gathering in the forest after morning Mass on Pentecost Sunday. Trestle tables and chairs will be set up. If the weather is inclement we will adjourn to the hall for an indoor picnic! Rug up for an enjoyable morning of good company, conversation and brunching!!

**'Morning Tea at Café Sacre Coeur** is in the hall after Mass next week on Sunday, 9th May

Bringing your own cup reduces our waste. Thank you!



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.

**Please note:**  
**Mass in the Megalong Friday May 21 @4pm.** We are trialling Mass at St Joseph's Church in the Megalong on the 3rd Friday of the month

**Census 2021:** The Australian catholic bishops conference 2021 national count of attendance is currently being carried out during this month of may. For the 3rd and 4th week they will be asking for the ages and gender of individuals. The data collected will greatly assist our Church community in pastoral planning for the future.

**FRIDAY FIESTA is on May 14**

Our next Fiesta is on Friday May 14, commencing at 6:30pm in the church with contemplative prayer and reflection on the day's Gospel and then to the hall at 7pm for a taste sensation Indian meal cooked by our Father Abraham and his apprentices!  
Please bring along your own drinks, crockery and cutlery and take home for cleaning.  
There is dessert after the main meal so you will need a bowl as well as a plate. This is a low carbon footprint, aiming to be a zero waste event so please choose re-useable items for your meal. A donation to cover the cost of the ingredients is appreciated- thank you! Book in for this event with Diane at Mt Vic church on Saturday evening or Julie O'K at Blackheath church on Sunday morning.

Bishop Vincent has encouraged all parishoners to read the submission from the Diocese of Parramatta in relation to the Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 currently in front of the NSW Parliament. Copies of this, and the Bishop's Pastoral Letter, are available in the church or online at <https://catholicoutlook.org/diocese-of-parramatta-submission-into-the-education-legislation-amendment-parental-rights-bill-2020/>

**Notice from Parramatta Diocese**  
**Get vaccinated for the common good**

Vaccination against COVID-19 is a morally good thing, providing protection for the person vaccinated and the wider community. Some COVID-19 vaccines are associated with ethically questionable production and research practices, but Pope Francis and the Australian Bishops have advised that it is morally permissible to receive any vaccine made available. More information is available at <https://www.catholic.org.au/coronavirus>.

Our deepest condolences to Noeleen Cliff and family on the passing of her daughter, Megan Cliff. We hold Noeleen and all of Megan's family in our prayers during this time of great grief and sorrow.

Happy Birthday !



4th Marilyn Rowe  
13th Margaret Davis

Rest in Peace!  
9th Percy Potts  
10th Kathleen Columbine (d 1966)  
12th Leonard Kirkham (1976)  
14th Dawn (Pauline Florence) Sheridan (d)



**Anniversary!**

6th Monica and Brian Bright (m 1978)  
13th Pat and Carol Drummond (m 1972)

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

