

Today Jb 38:1. 8-11 ;2 Cor 5:14-17; Mk 4:35-41

Next week Wis 1:13-15; 2:23-24;2 Cor 8:7. 9. 13-15; Mk 5:21-43

Psalm Response: Give thanks to the Lord, his love is everlasting.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people.
Alleluia!

Servers

20 June Server Grahame Adams
 27 June Server Alan Skofic

Readers

20 June 1st Reader Christa Buckley
 2nd Reader David Buckley
 Welcome/Intercessions: Adrian Carroll
 27 June 1st Reader Mary Roberts
 2nd Reader Pat Wicks
 Welcome/Intercessions: John Tweedie

Counters

20 June Pamela & John
 27 June Barbara Grieves

Church Care

Lance and Julie Hodgkinson

Flowers

June Rosemary Kenny & Mary Batty

St Paul's Mt Victoria

Readers: 1st Reader Maria
 2nd Reader Diane Stewart

Entrance Ant: The Lord is the strength of his people, a saving refuge for the one he has anointed. Save your people, Lord, and bless your heritage, and govern them for ever.

Communion Ant:

The eyes of all look to you, Lord, and you give them their food in due season.



**Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time B
 20 June 2021**

Having returned to the liturgical period of Ordinary Time and with it the sequential readings from the Gospel of Mark (for a few weeks at least), we can appreciate some of the literary structure and devices that were used by the gospel writer. Throughout this particular gospel, the writer has used a framing device – sometimes known as the Markan sandwich – to bracket sections of the gospel. By using these framing stories, the gospel writer draws greater attention to the substance of the ‘sandwich’ – what has been framed. This week’s reading is the beginning of such a framed section that highlights some of the great miracles performed by Jesus but also draws attention to the disciples’ lack of understanding about who Jesus really is. The section that runs from 4:35 to 8:21 is framed by two rhetorical questions: ‘Who can this be?’ asked by the disciples; and ‘Do you still not understand?’ asked by Jesus

This week’s passage includes one of the great nature miracles of Jesus – the calming of the storm. Some scripture scholars suggest that this story is a construction by the gospel writer to speak directly to the community for whom this gospel was written. The community of the gospel of Mark were consumed with doubt and surrounded by evidence of the world as they knew it falling apart. They were living the metaphor captured in the story: a boat adrift on the sea in the midst of an almighty storm. The cry of the disciples was the cry of the Christian community: ‘Master, do you not care?’ They felt that God did not care about the turmoil that surrounded them. The gospel writer reassures them that God does care about their struggle but at the same time chastens them for their lack of faith!

by Greg Sunter

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: 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 02 4787 8540

E-mail: blackheath@parracatholic.org
 john.mcsweeney@parracatholic.org
 abraham.kunnatholy@parracatholic.org

Parish Priest: Fr John McSweeney

Assistant Priest: Fr Abraham Kunnatholy

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/

Reflection

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

So often today we hear the comment: “the Church is dying”. These and other such negative statements provoke a feeling of despair in those of us who strive to be faithful to Jesus Christ and His Gospel of Love.

What happens is that we often allow the negativity of the modern world’s agnosticism to influence our Faith and Trust in God! Whenever this happens we need to reflect on today’s Gospel pericope from Mark: Jesus calms the storm. In spite of his appearing asleep, he is still the navigator of the bark of Peter (the Church). Whenever we cry out “Do you not care?”, let’s remember his answer to the same question asked by his disciples in the boat: “Why are you frightened? Have you no faith?”

So, let us do all we can to continue faithful to our baptismal vocation, and be people who trust in the Lord.

Let’s cooperate with God’s grace as we navigate the shallows of life, striving to reach our home port of Heaven.

No storm, no negativity, no nay-sayers of contemporary life, nothing must ever separate us from the love of God poured into our hearts by Christ Jesus our Lord!

Rather, we strengthen one another with the assurances of Faith; and we stand straight and tall, proclaiming to a confused world - with one mighty voice - our belief that God is in charge of the world He created, and, that, to the glory of God, JESUS CHRIST IS LORD!

1. The Parish of St Mary of the Cross Mackillop will hold its annual St Vincent de Paul Winter Collection this weekend.

Please give generously, so that those in great need in our local community may receive the support they need.

2. Sacred Heart Parish, Blackheath, will host a Yum Cha brunch in support of members of our community who are seeking to have their asylum claims approved; let’s keep this family - and all others in similar circumstances - in our prayers at this time.

3. PLEASE SAVE THE DATES: Bishop Vincent will be in the Upper Mountains on the weekend of 24-25 July, to celebrate a Mass of Induction of a New Parish Priest for each parish: 5pm Leura on 24/7; and 9:30am Blackheath on 25/7.

Although 9 months late... better late than never!!!!

God bless you all

Fr John

Clergy Support Foundation Donations

It is not too late to make a tax-deductible donation to the clergy support foundation of the diocese of Parramatta, which supports retired priests in the diocese. Please make donations via credit card at <https://parracatholic.org/csf> or transfer directly to BSB 067950 Account No 00001691 Name CSF No 1 with names as reference and send email to csf@parracatholic.org with your details for receipt to be sent. Thank you.

GATHERING THE TALENTS

An Initiative of the Blue Mountains Deanery Council

Date: Sunday 19 September 2021

Time: 1-4pm

Venue: Bishop Manning Hall, adjacent to St Thomas Aquinas school, Springwood

The purpose of this Gathering of Talents event is

*To identify our resources and resourcefulness, energies and capacities and to gain strength from each other to enrich our faith community in the Blue Mountains.

*To invite people from across parishes in the Blue Mountains Deanery to share/display what they do to bring life to their community in a range of ministries.

*Through the sharing of ideas and capacities, parishioners will develop relationships that will lead to people:

- learning from each other
- sharing ideas
- strengthening networks
- developing opportunities for mentoring

You are invited to participate in this Gathering in the following ways:

*Having a voice in determining which areas of Church life will be focused on during the afternoon, survey available Sunday June 27 to indicate your three areas of preference

*Attending the Gathering to share your thoughts, experiences and talents

*Participating in the planning and/or presentation of workshops

God gave us talents to benefit others, not just ourselves. Do come along and see what we, the Catholic Community can do TOGETHER. More information regarding registration will be available closer to the date.

Michelle Davis and Julie O’Keeffe

Happy Birthday!
26th Marion Crowley



Rest in Peace!
22nd Eusebio Dizon (d 2011)
23rd Frank Mackrell (2019)



PLEASE PRAY for the sick and their carers: Patricia Dee, John Hanna Barbara Grieves, Pat McCauley, Ray Wood, John & Marion Crowley, Maria Slater, Marie Johnson, Tatiana Schultz, Trennah Portelli, Doug Ford, Alfred Milani



Alive in the Spirit:

Virtual conference – July 8-10. For anyone who wants to be Alive in the Spirit. Explore areas of best practice for RCIA, reaching beyond the margins, planning for mission, pastoral care, social justice and much more. Visit www.aliveinthefirstspirit.com.au

REFUGEE WEEK

UNITED FOR FREEDOM Webinar
Register for this Vinnies webinar on Wednesday June 23 from 12:00 noon to 1:30pm through Eventbrite.

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/refugee-week-2021-united-for-freedom-tickets-154345111383>

Fan the Flame

20 June 2021

Fan the Flame

Towards Plenary Assembly One October 2021
‘Why are you so frightened? How is it that you have no faith?’ Mark 4:35-41

As people of faith, we believe that, through the gift of his Church, the Lord has equipped us, and continues to equip us, to recognise the needs of our time and set ourselves to doing something about them.

(Instrumentum Laboris #193)

www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fanthefflame/

PLASTIC FREE JULY

It’s time to turn off the tap of endless plastic production and waste! Think about ways of refusing and avoiding plastic during July.

Visit the website <https://www.plasticfreejuly.org/> for ideas.