

Today Ex 24:3-8 ; Heb 9:11-15; Mk 14:12-16, 22-26

Next week Ez 17:22-24; 2 Cor 5:6-10; Mk 4:26-34

Psalm Response: I will take the cup of salvation, and call on the name of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live for ever.
Alleluia!

Servers
 6 June Server Alan Skofic
 13 June Server Grahame Adams

Readers
 6 June 1st Reader Frances Huckstepp
 2nd Reader Isabell Skoic
 Welcome/Intercessions: David Buckley
 13 June 1st Reader Brian Bright
 2nd Reader Monica Bright
 Welcome/Intercessions: Paul Harris

Counters
 6 June Pamela & John
 13 June Julie & Lance Hodgkinson

Church Care
 Jim and Cathy McNamamra

Flowers
 May Rosemary Kenny & Mary Batty

St Paul's Mt Victoria

Readers: 1st Reader Peter McAuley
 2nd Reader Carla Edan

Entrance Ant: He fed them with the finest wheat and satisfied them with honey from the rock.

Communion Ant:
Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him, says the Lord.



HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST YEAR B
6 June 2021

As Catholics we believe that Jesus is really and personally present to us in the broken bread and shared cup of the Eucharist. And although we believe that Christ is present in the Scriptures, the assembly and the ministers of the Church, we hold that Christ's presence under the form of bread and wine is one filled with the greatest intimacy and uniqueness.

The Eucharist is not intimate and unique because it is magic. It's not intimate and unique because we gaze upon the elements. The Eucharist is intimate and unique because earthly signs are transformed by God's love, and are consumed in faith. As we eat and drink these elements Christ becomes part of us, and we come alive in Christ.

In the fifth century Saint Augustine taught his people that if they truly loved the Eucharist they would become what they eat. The same is true for us today. By receiving into our hands the bread – blessed and broken, the cup – poured and shared, we say 'Amen' to becoming the same in Christ: blessed, broken, poured out and shared in love. We commune with God and God with us in the Eucharist so that just as earthly gifts are transformed into Christ so through us will be the entire world, and all things in it.

There is a huge and important difference between grace and magic. One is a trick for show. The other is the power of love, which expresses itself in faith, hope and service .

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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: 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

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: 0490814284

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

Today we celebrate the great Gift of God to us all: the Gift of Christ himself, given to us in the Eucharist.

The Scriptures help to situate our Eucharistic Celebration within the great traditions of Judaism and early Christianity:

- Semitic understandings of Sacrifice demanded sacrifice of something precious to God who would look kindly on the people, forgiving their sins; our text from Exodus also highlights the fact that a Sacrifice necessarily involved the creation of a spiritual relationship between God and the ones participating in the sacrifice.

- Mark's text shows that Jesus was deliberately echoing the Jewish tradition of sacrifice and covenant relationship in his Last Supper meal with his disciples: the concept of memorial was a participation in the once only experience of the past... for the Jewish people, it was the Exodus Event, and for Christians the Eucharistic celebration within the Last Supper.

- And the Letter to the Hebrews makes clear that early Christians saw Jesus Christ as the new and eternal sacrifice which superseded the Jewish sacrifices of bulls and goats and sheep. Christ's Sacrifice on the Cross was the sacrifice of all time, replacing the old forever!

The Gift of the Eucharist - a memorial of the Crucifixion - demands reflection from us on how we are giving of ourselves to the Lord and to the Lord's people; indeed, the unconditional love of the Lord for us demands that we are unconditional in our love for our neighbour. In fact, every time we receive Christ's Body and Blood demands of us a renewal of our Christian commitment to be people of love who give of ourselves to God and to others. If our reception of the food of life does not lead to action, then we are not responding to the Gift of the Eucharist in a correct or timely manner.

In the coming week, let's reflect on this greatest of Gifts to us all - the Eucharist - and how its reception calls us to greater and greater spreading of the Gospel of Love and Truth in both word and action!

CONGRATULATIONS to our younger parishioners who are receiving the Gift of the Eucharist for the first time this weekend.

We all pray that this experience of the food of eternal life will help each and every one of you to live more fruitfully the Gift of Faith that we share together.
God bless you all...

Also, please pray for John Collins and Michael Tan who will be ordained to the Permanent Diaconate for our Dioceses this coming Friday evening in St Patrick's Cathedral. We keep John and Michael and their wives in our prayers during this special time of grace.

Finally, my thanks to all who work behind the scenes in both parishes and help make our Liturgies wonderful occasions of prayer and worship!
And I trust this week will be of great blessing to everyone.
Fr John

Parish Pastoral Plan: The Parish Council would like to start implementing our Pastoral Plan as soon as possible, tackling things we are in a position to do right now. We anticipate involving other Blue Mountain Parishes, other local churches and local community groups. We would like local residents to feel at home to visit our church, join in parish activities, and enjoy the grounds and facilities we have to offer the community. Its by engagement with them that they will come to know us and to experience what we have to offer them, recalling Jesus' invitation to 'come and see'.

Please read the attached survey, complete it and return it ASAP.
Brian Bright (for the Parish Pastoral Council)

Vinnies Winter Appeal

No child should ever have to wonder where they will sleep at night

Every night in Australia a child asks their parents "where are we going to sleep tonight?" And mum and dad don't have an answer!

Please help provide that answer by supporting our Vinnies Winter Appeal next weekend 12/13 June.

The support our wonderful Parish provides to Vinnies each year is proof that you want to help people in need. And there is no greater need than finding shelter for a child experiencing homelessness.

Donation envelopes will be available on the pews next weekend-

Blackheath Vinnies Soup Kitchen:

All Parishioners are invited to join us a next Saturday 12 June at 6.30pm in the Parish Hall

At a local level we are working to raise awareness of the plight of all people experiencing homelessness in our Blue Mountains community. Please join us for soup and a chat about this important issue at our Soup Kitchen on Saturday evening 12 June. Following the Soup kitchen, some members of our Blackheath conference will be "sleeping rough" overnight outside the Parish hall, to get first-hand experience of what it's like to have no warm bed to sleep in on a cold Blackheath night.

For more information please contact
Karen Hayward
Vinnies Blackheath Conference
M: 0419 123 744

Holy Mass:

Next Week Friday 11 June there will be Holy mass at 10.00am at Sacred Heart Church.

Rest in Peace!

7th Mignon Spessot (2017) / 8th Leonard Kirkham / 11th Eric Noble

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



Fan the Flame

Towards Plenary Assembly One October 2021

'This is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many'
Mark 14:12-16,22-26

The Lord has redeemed all of us, all of us, with the Blood of Christ. And this Blood makes us children of God of the first class!

We all have a duty to do good. If we, each doing our own part, if we do good to others ... we will make that culture of encounter.
(Pope Francis Homily, May 2013)

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

Date Claimer – Sunday 20 June – YUM CHA lunch in Blackheath Parish Hall

As part of the Diocesan Journey ... Walking With Refugees and People Seeking Protection, we are organizing a YUM CHA style Chinese lunch – a Parish fundraiser in support of Blue Mountains Refugee Support Group. Preparation and cooking will be done by Ann (Pei Hong Lin) – mother of George. Blackheath Parishioners will recall raising the \$1250 needed to meet George's pre-school fees!

We then negotiated with Catholic Education Office to gain a place for George at St Canice's in Katoomba where he is now doing really well in Grade 3 – last week he gained the Principal's Gold Star Award. The Upper Mountains Parishes played an important part in the Diocesan Appeal to the Minister for Immigration to grant Ann and George permanent residency in Australia. Frustratingly, this matter is not yet resolved! A broad selection of delicious vegetarian and non-vegetarian dishes will be served!

We will be selling tickets from next Sunday – only \$25 per person – contact Christa (47875105) or Julie (47875974). Only limited number of seats available – so be sure to book in early!!