

Today Am 7:12-15 ; Eph 1:3-14 ; Mk 6:7-13

Next week Jer 23:1-6; Eph 2:13-18; Mk 6:30-34

Psalm Response: Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, alleluia!
May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our hearts that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. Alleluia!

Servers
 11 July Server Pat Wicks
 18 July Server Grahame Adams

Readers
 11 July 1st Reader Connie Adams
 2nd Reader Frances Huckstepp
 Welcome/Intercessions: Adrian Carroll
 18 July 1st Reader Christa Buckley
 2nd Reader David Buckley
 Welcome/Intercessions: Paul Harris

Counters
 11 July Diane Stewart
 18 July Diane Stewart

Church Care
 Phil and Pat Wicks

Flowers
 July David Buckley

St Paul's Mt Victoria

Readers: 1st Reader N/A
 2nd Reader N/A

Entrance Ant:
As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

Communion Ant:
 The sparrow finds a home,
 and the swallow a nest for her young:
 by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.



FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B
11 July 2021

Life always depends on how we read the signs!

In today's Gospel Jesus tells the twelve apostles that they should embody three signs: simplicity of lifestyle, dependence on others and hospitality. These instructions are such a contrast to what most of us value today, where it is often the rich and powerful, the independent and the inhospitable who are thought to be the best leaders.

For Jesus, however, the one truly sent in his name is the one who knows that another's worth comes from who they are, not what they have. It doesn't matter whether we're rich or poor. It's the way we use our money for others which reveals whether our wealth possesses us or not.

For Jesus, being 'a rock and an island' was not a sign of strength but one of fear and despair. A strong Christian is the one who rejoices in our dependence on each other, and is always grateful for the interconnectedness of life.

For Jesus, making room for others, especially toward those in legitimate need and even when it makes a large claim on us, is a pre-eminent sign of his Kingdom.

The Christian life is about reading the signs of the times. May our Eucharistic signs of his presence amongst us, the bread and wine, change us today, to match it with the best in being simple in lifestyle, happily dependent and extravagantly hospitable with our time, talent and energy for the sake of the Kingdom of God.

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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.

Due to extension of lockdown and restrictions Sunday Mass will be Live Streamed from Katoomba:

If you would like to join the Sunday Mass live-stream from St Canice's Katoomba at 10am, please follow the link: facebook.com/bluemountaincatholic and click on the 'video' tab.

During this difficult time:

Please look out for each other and place a phone call to check in with someone who might need to hear a friendly voice. If you are feeling uncertain or worried, please reach out to someone.

You are not alone in feeling this way and there are people willing to listen and help where they can. Let us continue to pray for one another, the covid situation of our country and our world

AH Emergency Number: 0490814284
 Calls only; no texts please.
 For all **Office** matters, please call 02 4787 8540

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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'Keefe (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 Brothers and Sisters!

Every faithful person is called by God to serve God's people. Our Readings highlight this today.

The prophet Amos was a farmer from the southern kingdom of Judah who would never have been near the northern shrine of Bethel, let alone speaking God's Word to the priests there! But God had chosen him and gave him the words that needed to be spoken; and he obeyed the Lord.

A number of the Apostles were fishermen, who had no previous experience in proclaiming God's Truth as revealed by Christ; and yet, here they were proclaiming the Gospel in the Galilean countryside. Like Amos, they had been called by God (through Jesus) and they obeyed; they went where they were sent.

The Scriptures are full of examples where God takes the initiative and chooses those whom God wants, even if such people don't seem (from the human standpoint) to have the necessary qualities to be God's messenger. But God gives those He chooses the Power to launch out into the deep, and a Message to speak in season and out of season. And in this way any weaknesses or shortcomings are turned into good and used for good purposes. Paul said something similar last week: "For it is when I am weak, then I am strong".

And so, my friends, we stand in the tradition of Amos, the Apostles and St Paul: people chosen by God, not because they had the necessary qualities to be prophets and preachers, but because they were faithful and obedient. Each one of us - from the day of our Baptism - have been chosen to be prophets to our own age, to the contemporary world which is so in need of hearing Divine Truth. We are chosen and sent to proclaim the Good News. Let's allow the Spirit to envelope and strengthen us so that we never tire in proclaiming the Message of Christ in all its richness to those with whom we meet on a daily basis.

Let us continue to pray for each other as we enter another week of Lockdown. It is so important that we keep up our prayers for ourselves and those dear to us; but also for those who are struggling on many levels at this time.

May our gracious God continue to bless each and every one of you!

Fr John

SAVE THE DATE(s)

Sunday 25th July, 9.30am. Bishop Vincent will be here for the induction of Fr John as Parish Priest of Blackheath.

Dom Helder Camara Lecture:

Read Bishop Vincent's address, 'My hope for the Plenary Council', for the Dom Helder Lecture at Newman College, Victoria, on June 30.
<https://catholicoutlook.org/bishop-vincent-my-hope-for-the-plenary-council/>

ART & FASHION SALE

Your Social Committee is once again holding a FUNDRAISER. We are asking for donations of ART that you may no longer want. To make this event a success we really need these donations.

Please deliver to the Parish Hall on Sundays or if preferred ring Marilyn for pick up.

Marilyn's mobile 0414536601

Thank you.

Australian Women Preach:

Sr Catherine McCahill is a member of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan and currently serves on the leadership team. She preaches on this Sunday's Gospel. www.australianwomenpreach.com.au

Happy Birthday!

7th Christine Burke
7th Michelle Davis
10th Robyn Carroll



NAIDOC Week 4-11 July:

Every year, Catholics come together across Australia to acknowledge and celebrate the gifts of Australia's First peoples. This year is particularly important following the COVID 19 Pandemic and its impact on the ways in which we interacted and made contact with one another. The NAIDOC theme for 2021 – **Heal Country**. Today our world is in need of healing – environmentally, spiritually and socially. We must all come together as a global community to fight the injustices of inequality, racism and environmental damage. For more information go to the NAIDOC or NATSICC websites and <https://www.naidoc.org.au/get-involved/2021-theme>.

Working Bee

Saturday 17th July commencing at 8 am. Come and work with our maintenance team and help maintain our beautiful grounds.

Call Lance on 47878096 or John on 0407 288 957 for further information, or just turn up on the day.



Rest in Peace!

6th Annie Cecilia Smith (Kate Forbes' grandmother)
8th Alma Birrell (d 2015)
9th Cecily O'Brien



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

