

Today Rv 11:19; 12:1-6, 10; 1 Cor 15:20-26; Mt 6:25-34 Lk 1:39-56

Next week Jos 24:1-2, 15-18; Eph 5:21-32; Jn 6:60-69.

Psalm Response:
The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.

Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Mary is taken up to heaven, and the angels of God shout for joy. Alleluia!

Servers

8 Aug	Server	N/A
15 August	Server	N/A

Readers

8 Aug	1st Reader	N/A
	2nd Reader	N/A
	Welcome/Intercessions: N/A	
15 Aug	1st Reader	N/A
	2nd Reader	N/A
	Welcome/Intercessions: N/A	

Counters

8 Aug	N/A
15 August	N/A

Church Care
Phil and Pat Wicks

Flowers
August David Buckley

St Paul's Mt Victoria

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

Entrance Ant:

A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon beneath her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.

Communion Ant:

All generations will call me blessed, for he who is mighty has done great things for me.



**The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
15 August 2021**

In the Western church this feast celebrates the assumption of Mary into heaven; in the East it commemorates her dormition or her falling asleep. The readings invite us to reflect on the role that she plays in the mystery of our redemption. Whatever we honour in Mary in some way points to her son.

Over the centuries devotion to Mary has been expressed in forms taken from the culture out of which it developed. Sometimes she is pictured as a humble peasant girl. At other times she is depicted as a queen robed in gold of Ophir who rules from heaven. Probably the most familiar pose is that of a mother with her child. Perhaps the most dramatic of these themes is that of the celestial woman from the vision found in the Book of Revelation. It is because of the cosmic significance of Jesus that this tradition has been applied to Mary.

Though the first reading depicts a cosmic woman, the gospel reading characterises Mary as a simple peasant woman intent on offering service to another. However, the words that are placed in her mouth are words of prophetic challenge. She announces the great reversals of God's good news. The greatness of Mary is a reflection of the greatness of the Son of God whom she bore. He was the firstfruits of salvation. He was the victor who won the kingdom. Her part in this victory was to bring him to birth and into maturity.

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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.

From this week Sunday 25 July 2021 Mass will be livestreamed on YouTube not Facebook. The reason being that you need to have a Facebook account to watch the masses through Facebook, whereas YouTube is available to anyone with internet and either a phone or computer.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHtj55risvGDQqCDN7mldNQ>

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!

As we celebrate the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary this weekend we are reminded that the Doctrine of the Assumption speaks to us of Mary receiving the totality of the Resurrection in imitation of her Son; and it says that where she, the highest honour of our race has gone, we hope to follow. St Paul reminds us in the Second Reading that 'Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of all who have fallen asleep'. And this Truth is at the heart of today's celebration.

It is the ancient Tradition of the Church in both the East and the West that the Resurrection experience was gifted to the Mother of the Lord immediately after her death. Although no biblical texts exist for this Tradition, it is certainly in keeping with the thrust of Paul's Teaching. And, after all, the Scriptures do not contain the totality of God's Revelation, for to say otherwise would be to restrict the omnipotence of God!

I would like us to reflect today on three aspects of the life of Our Lady:

Mary remained faithful to the Gospel of her Son; Mary followed the Lord in all things; and Mary strove to live a good life and care for her neighbour.

In this she is an example for all of us... if we imitate her, then our destiny to be with her Son will become a reality.

We must imitate Mary in her perfect discipleship; we must strive to be like Mary in her holiness; and, like Mary we must do all we can to be faithful to God's will.

And one day we will shout aloud with Mary our Mother:

"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and my spirit exults in God my saviour"!

My friends, I trust you are continuing to do your best in these continuing days of Lockdown. I look forward to that day when we can gather together in person once again and celebrate the Liturgy, rejoicing in our shared faith in the Lord Jesus. In the meantime let's do our best to keep in contact with God through prayer, imitating our Lady and all the Saints in their good works.

May God continue to keep you all in the palm of his hand... God Bless Fr John

Virtual Cuppa:

Virtual Cuppa and Sunday Gospel Sharing:
This Sunday at 11am, join a parish Zoom session to share thoughts upon the Sunday Gospel and fellowship with a cuppa!

Join Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 929 7436 1459 Passcode:
c0uww7

Do you need help downloading Zoom? Email the parish office and we will help you get started.
blackheath@parracatholic.org

One Heart, Many Voices Conference 2021:

This virtual conference gives the opportunity of participants to hear keynote speakers, engage in specialised workshops, creative sessions and prayer. September 1-3.
<https://2021.mohmv.com.au>

Australian Women Preach: is a podcast series by Christian women from across all denominations preaching the Gospel with theological insight and relevance to our daily lives. This week, The Feast of the Assumption, Natalie Acton, Director of Operations for the Sisters of the Good Samaritan is guest presenter.
<https://australianwomenpreach.com.au>

Home Ground Online:

HOME Ground is a schedule of new and pre-existing online gatherings to support the well-being and connection of people of our Diocese each evening for the next few weeks. Check out the schedule via the diocesan website: <https://parracatholic.org/homreground/>

For Blackheath Vinnies support phone
0490 709 547

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

Sacred Heart Parish Online Competition

The raffle will be drawn on Friday 20th August at 10.30am by Fr John at Katoomba. All winners will be notified personally.

The video of winners will be posted on the Sacred Heart Facebook site on the same day.

The following week the results of the winners will be posted in the parish bulletin.

Thanks again for your support.
Marilyn Rowe
Social Committee

Please remember in your prayers John Tweedie's mum, Theodosia Tweedie, who passed away peacefully on Wednesday night. She was fondly known as Theo. May she rest comfortably in the care of our Lord.

Fan the Flame –

Towards Plenary Assembly One October 2021
"His mercy reaches from age to age" Luke 1:39-56
God is asking us to refrain from putting barriers and obstacles in the way of God's mercy reaching the least, the lost and those who feel excluded, especially those who do not yet know the love of God. God is asking us to be a Church that walks together and does not leave anyone behind. (Humble, Healing and Merciful – Discernment Paper p. 6)
www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fanthefflame/

Rest in Peace!

15th Francis Doyle

