

# 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.*

## **PARISH CONTACTS**

**Fr. John McSweeney (Parish Priest)**

**Fr. Abraham Kunnatholy CMI (Asst Priest)**

**Postal Address:** PO Box 354, Blackheath NSW  
2785.

**Phone:** (02) 4787 8540

**Office Hours:** 10pm-3pm Thursday

**After Hours Emergency Number: 0490 814 284.**

*Calls only; no texts please.*

For all Office matters, call (02) 4787 8540

**Parish email address:**

[blackheath@parracatholic.org](mailto:blackheath@parracatholic.org)

**Parish website:**

[sacredheartblackheath.org.au](http://sacredheartblackheath.org.au)

**Parish Facebook:** [Sacred Heart Parish](https://www.facebook.com/SacredHeartParish)

[Community Blackheath](https://www.facebook.com/CommunityBlackheath)

## **MT VICTORIA VIGIL MASS**

**Vigil Mass at 6.00pm**

## **MEGALONG VALLEY MASS**

**4pm (every third Friday of the month).**

## **BLACKHEATH MASSES**

**SUN: 9:30am. WED: 6:30pm.**

**THU: 9:00am. SAT: 9:00am until 1st Sun of  
Advent. Mt Vic: 6pm Sat**

## **FIRST FRIDAY**

**Mass, Adoration and Reflection: 6:30pm.**

## **SECOND FRIDAY**

**Friday Fiesta: (Will recommence in 2022).**

## **CONFESSION**

**WED: 6:15pm**

## **UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS PARISH MASSES**

**SAT: 9:00am Katoomba.**

**SAT: 5:00pm Leura (Vigil)**

**SUN: 8:00am Wentworth Falls**

**SUN: 10am Katoomba**

**Sun: 5:00pm Leura**

## **BULLETIN ITEMS:** Please contact the Parish

Office on Wednesday or Thursday during

office hours on 4787 8540 or email black-

heath@parracatholic.org

## **SACRED HEART CARE GROUP:** Helping

parishioners in times of need. Monica Bright

0420 937 690.

## **BLACKHEATH VINNIES Support: 0490 709 547**

**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)

## **Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B**

**24 October 2021.**

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

It is with great joy that we recommence face-to-face masses this weekend!

It has been very difficult over these past months, but our Faith and Prayer have sustained us. Now, we are more than ready to come together and celebrate our Liturgy in person!

Until 1st December there are some restrictions still in place for the unvaccinated among us: apart from personal prayer in the church and our masses, those who are not vaccinated may not attend meetings or visit the parish office.

Furthermore, those not vaccinated may not minister in our churches. Indeed, only those vaccinated may serve at the altar or take communion to the sick, even after 1st December. I realise this will impact some active parishioners, but we must protect the vulnerable.

When coming to mass, we need to use the QR code to sign in. If you don't have a smartphone, you will need to be signed in as a dependant by someone who has. Writing on a list is no longer the norm.

Furthermore, until 1st December, we must wear a mask in all church venues, as well as adhering to the 1 per 4 square metre rule. Please use the sanitisers provided upon entry.

With regard to the reception of Holy Communion: Communion will only be distributed on the hand. Please leave your mask on when receiving the host from the priest or minister, then take a few steps to one side, remove your mask and then receive the Lord. This process is now in place in order to reduce the possibility of the transfer of the highly contagious Delta Variant of the COVID-19 virus.

Congregational Singing is not permitted until after 1st December. Choir members must be fully vaccinated until this date.

These restrictions are difficult, but we need to think of our neighbour. As Pope Francis has consistently maintained, Christians need to do all we can to protect others, to protect the common good. Indeed, freedom is not an absolute! Our choices have consequences for us and for the community in which we live. Thus, let's do all we can to strive for the well-being of all!

## **Some other matters for Sacred Heart parish:**

There is a PPC meeting on Sunday 25/10 from 11am via Zoom.

Weekday masses will now only be Wednesday at 6:30pm. Saturday morning mass at 9am will continue until when and if the new weekend mass timetable (as proposed below commences on the First Sunday of Advent. After that time, there will only be Saturday morning mass at Katoomba at 9am. First Friday will continue as before, as well as Third Friday afternoons at 4pm in St Joseph's Church, Megalong Valley

## **Some other matters for St Mary of the Cross Parish:**

To simplify the process I have asked Hugh Jones, as Head of Liturgy, to maintain our liturgical rosters. Please use Hugh's email address for all communication surrounding



## WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

**Sunday 1.00pm -Virtual Cuppa and Sunday Gospel Sharing: Via Zoom**

### READERS:

24 Oct **1 St Reader**  
Connie Adams

**2 nd Reader**  
Pat Wicks

**Welcome/Intercession:**  
Paul Harris

### NEXT WEEK READERS:

31 Oct: **1 St Reader**  
N/A  
**2 nd Reader**  
N/A

**Welcome/ Intercession**  
N/A

### CHURCH CARE:

Noeleen Cliff and Marilyn Rowe

### FLOWERS:

Rosemary Kenny & Mary Batty

### COUNTERS:

**SERVERS: 24/10/21**

Grahame Adams

**Do you need help downloading Zoom?** Email the parish office and we will help you get started. Email: [blackheath@parracatholic.org](mailto:blackheath@parracatholic.org)

### Volunteers needed

The parishioners who would like to volunteer in readings and serving, please contact Pat Wicks on

0411 488 990

liturgical celebrations

The Adoration Chapel will recommence on Monday from 8am until 8pm Friday. I hope to purchase soon a glass-door tabernacle for added security for the Blessed Sacrament. (Please leave window and door open for heightened ventilation at this time! Masks must still be worn even here!)

I would like some feedback on proposed changes to mass times... I do think we need a Vigil Mass in Katoomba. It is the largest church and many tourists would make use of a vigil mass at 5:30pm. Leura still needs two masses, so I would propose an 8:30am Sunday morning mass as well as the 5pm Sunday evening.

Monday mass will move to 12 midday from 1st November, allowing the school to have another option for attendance; and also to allow workers in the upper mountains to come to mass during their lunch hour.

My friends, I realise there is a lot changing - but these changes need to be introduced so that Fr Abraham and myself can better minister to you all in the six church communities of the Upper Mountains.

God Bless you all as we move forward together in our shared faith in the Lord Jesus Christ!

### **Bpoint - A new way to contribute to the Parish using your credit card.**

During these long days of lockdown, the Parish really needs your support to allow us to continue to pay its ongoing bills. With the closure of all churches, we currently have no cash collections. Fortunately many of our parishioners use the Direct Bank Transfer option for our 2nd Collection. The funds raised continue to support our Parish during these difficult times.

For those who do not use Direct Bank Transfer, you will now have the opportunity to make contributions by credit card using Bpoint.

Bpoint is a new and easy way to contribute to both our 2nd collection (as noted above - funds raised are for our Parish) and also our 1st collection (funds raised are for the clergy of the Diocese). You will need a credit card (Visa or Mastercard only) and a mobile phone number.

Please follow this link and make your choice of option. You will be asked to show your name and mobile phone number: <https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/CATHOLICPARISHOFSACREDHEARTBLACKHEATH>

As an alternative to following the link, you can also use the attached QR Code, or you can click on the red 'Make a Payment' button on the first page of the Parish website.

And for those of you who do already contribute to the 2nd collection for the Parish using the Direct Transfer option, Bpoint now gives you a way of making a

1st collection contribution for the remuneration of the clergy.



### **October IS World Mission Month**

This week Catholic Mission will share the story of Churai\*, who having experienced much heartbreak in childhood, turned to the Mother and Babies Home run by the Good Shepherd Sisters in Bangkok when her partner cast she experienced rejection as an adult, abandoned by her partner and pregnant.

**Without this program, many vulnerable mothers like Churai will have nowhere to turn when they need love and care the most.**

Please give generously today to help continue this life-giving program by using the appeal envelope, going online at [catholicmission.org.au/thailand](http://catholicmission.org.au/thailand) or by texting 'GIVE' to 0488 854 436. Your gift will also help many other similar Church-run mission programs around the world.

freecall: 1800257296 or visit [catholicmission.org.au/thailand](http://catholicmission.org.au/thailand) Name and images altered to identity



protect

### **Virtual Cuppa and Sunday Gospel Sharing:**

There is interest in seeing how this gathering might continue into the future. Many have found the sharing and listening to be quite a gift. For THIS SUNDAY only, the gathering is at 1pm. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87683900980?pwd=UXlpYkhKUSSt5Qy81N2FpM05PS0RmQT09>

### **Parish Social Circle:**

With the reopening of the Churches, the group has decided to discontinue this gathering. Many thanks to Pat Drummond and Frances Huckstepp who hosted the event, there was always a good laugh and wonderful community spirit.

### **Vinnie's Christmas Cards**

Vinnie's Christmas cards will be available for purchase during November. Cards are in packs of 10 with a variety of images in each pack.

Cost is \$8 per pack.

### **Booking in for Mass:**

As the 4 square metre density rule applies booking in for Mass is essential.

For Mt Vic – please call or text Diane Stewart (0401 269 956)

For Blackheath – please call or text Brian Bright (0401 768 688)

The 10am Katoomba Sunday Mass will continue to be live streamed. Click the link below or search "St Canice's Katoomba Live YouTube" in your internet search engine.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHtj55ris-vGDQqCDN7mldNQ>

### **Young people of the Diocese – we are with you**

"I am with you always" Matthew 28:20. The Diocese has launched a new website in response to the mental health crisis impacting our young people. The website [parracatholic.org/withyou](http://parracatholic.org/withyou) contains links and information about services that can help young people whose wellbeing is suffering. Please share widely with young people and their families

### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY:**

23<sup>rd</sup> Rasa Blansjaar (1943)

24<sup>th</sup> Patricia Dee



### **Please Pray For the Sick and Their Carers:**

Andrew Krawczyk, Rae Freckelton, Patricia Dee, John Hanna, Barbara Grieves, Pat McCauley, Ray Wood, John & Marion Crowley, Maria Slater, Maria Johnson, Tatiana Schultz, Trennah Portelli, Alfred Milani.

**REST IN PEACE:** Patrick Burke, 1<sup>st</sup> Lily Hanna 2010, 3<sup>rd</sup> Philomena Drummond (d 1991 - Pat Drummond's mother) 5<sup>th</sup> Bernie Tierney (d 2007 - Father of Sue Gracey) 20<sup>th</sup> Jaroslav Zeeman (d 1999) - Betty's husband, Jerry) 25<sup>th</sup> Leslie Dee (d 2015) 25<sup>th</sup> Edna Bentick (d 2010), 26<sup>th</sup> Patricia Davies (d 2013 - Barbara Grieves sister), 26<sup>th</sup> Barry Roberts (2017) 27<sup>th</sup> Brenda Pateman (d 2013 - wife of Fred for nearly 49 years), 28<sup>th</sup> Andrew Harris

\*\*Throughout this liturgical year we have examined several aspects of our faith. We have pondered the history of our salvation, the merciful compassion of God, God's willingness to lead us out of the bondage of our addictions. We have meditated often and long on the person of Jesus, on his life and death, on the meaning of his sacrifice, on his resurrection, on his influence in our lives today. We have considered our own ongoing transformation as disciples of Jesus, baptised into his death and resurrection, commissioned to bring the news of his love to all those with whom we come into contact. We have reflected on all of these wonderful deeds of God, and now we must ask the question: What difference has it made?

Have we merely acquired some information about the biblical readings, about our religious ancestors, about the ministry of Jesus and the life of the early church? Or have our eyes really been opened; have we been enabled to leave behind whatever prevents us from living the Christian life fully, to abandon our exiles or the trappings of our former lives? Have we accepted more genuinely the Christian responsibilities that are ours as baptised followers of Christ, in our own personal lives, in our families, in our relationships with others, at the workplace? To what degree have we been transformed into Christ? How open have we become to the action of the Spirit in our lives? Have we been made a new creation? And do we recognise Christ in our midst?

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### **Australian Women Preach:**

This week's guest is **Jo Hart**, a teacher, educational leader and formation facilitator. She's a mum, a daughter, a sister, an aunty and a spouse. She is also one of the founders of Sophia Circle, a small group of women who invite other women to join them in exploring contemporary spirituality in our changing times. [www.australianwomenpreach.com.au](http://www.australianwomenpreach.com.au)

### **Alive in the Spirit Symposium:**

November 6 from 10am-3pm. This is a day of prayerful and practical action offering a fresh heart and fresh hope for our renewed communities to be Alive in the Spirit. If you would like to participate in this inspiring symposium contact Paul Harris for the registration link and password.

### **ANNIVERSARIES:**

25<sup>th</sup> Joseph and Rasa Blansjaar (m 1968)

## Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

### ENTRANCE

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice;  
turn to the Lord and his strength;  
constantly seek his face.

### First Reading

Jer 31:7-9

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

*I shall lead them back in mercy – both the  
blind and the lame.*

The Lord says this:

Shout with joy for Jacob!  
Hail the chief of nations!  
Proclaim! Praise! Shout:  
The Lord has saved his people,  
the remnant of Israel!  
See, I will bring them back  
from the land of the North  
and gather them from the far ends of earth;  
all of them: the blind and the lame,  
women with child, women in labour:  
a great company returning here.  
They had left in tears,  
I will comfort them as I lead them back;  
I will guide them to streams of water,  
by a smooth path where they will not stumble.  
For I am a father to Israel,  
and Ephraim is my first-born son.

### RESPONSE

The Lord has done great things for us;  
we are filled with joy.

### Second Reading

Heb 5:1-6

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

*You are a priest forever in the line of Melchizedek.*

Every high priest has been taken out of mankind and is appointed to act for men in their relations with God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins; and so he can sympathise with those who are ignorant or uncertain because he too lives in the limitations of weakness. That is why he has to make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people. No one takes this honour on

himself, but each one is called by God, as Aaron was. Nor did Christ give himself the glory of becoming high priest, but he had it from the one who said to him: You are my son, today I have become your father, and in another text: You are a priest of the order of Melchizedek, and for ever.

### ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death,  
and brought us life through his gospel.  
Alleluia!

### THE GOSPEL

Mk 10:46-52

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

*Master, grant that I may see.*

As Jesus left Jericho with his disciples and a large crowd, Bartimaeus (that is, the son of Timaeus), a blind beggar, was sitting at the side of the road. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout and to say, 'Son of David, Jesus, have pity on me.' And many of them scolded him and told him to keep quiet, but he only shouted all the louder, 'Son of David, have pity on me.' Jesus stopped and said, 'Call him here.' So they called the blind man. 'Courage,' they said 'get up; he is calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he jumped up and went to Jesus. Then Jesus spoke, 'What do you want me to do for you?' 'Rabbuni,' the blind man said to him 'Master, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has saved you.' And immediately his sight returned and he followed him along the road

### COMMUNION

We will ring out our joy at your saving help  
and exult in the name of our God.