

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

Parish website:

sacredheartblackheath.org.au

Parish Facebook: [Sacred Heart Parish
Community Blackheath](#)

MT VICTORIA VIGIL MASS

Vigil Mass at 6.00pm

MEGALONG VALLEY MASS

4pm (every third Friday of the month).

18 Feb mass 4.00pm

BLACKHEATH MASSES

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

SAT: 9:00am

FIRST FRIDAY

Mass, Adoration and Reflection: 10 am.

SECOND FRIDAY

Friday Fiesta: (Will recommence in 2022).

CONFESSION

WED: 6:15pm before 6.30 mass

UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS PARISH SUN

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 blackheath@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)

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

30 January 2022

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ.

After everyone speaking highly of him at first, the next scene in Nazareth is not as uplifting as what we heard in the Gospel from Luke for last Sunday.

Today, Jesus challenges the people of his home town to think beyond the restricted categories of cultural religion and embrace his new vision of salvation for all! They were unable or unwilling to do so, and thus turned from praise to murderous intent.

Let us make certain that the cultural and human traditions of our Faith and piety are never allowed to muzzle or contain the proclamation of God's Truth to new generations!

Let us follow our Lord wherever He leads us, and never be afraid to jettison those things that weigh down and hold back the ever-new teaching of the Spirit of God.

'If anyone has ears to hear, let them listen to what the Spirit is saying to the (Church)'" (Rev3:6).

Having celebrated Australia Day, we will now recommence our full programme of liturgies and meetings:

1. In St Mary of the Cross parish, First Friday Mass at 12 noon will be followed by Adoration and Benediction; and the same for First Saturday mass at 9am.
2. In Sacred Heart parish, there will be a 10am mass on First Fridays.

As our children prepare for the return to school, let's hope and pray for a successful and enjoyable school year after the ups and downs of the previous two years.

God Bless you all

Fr John

This Weeks Readers : **30.1.2022**

1 St Reader: **Pamela Nash**

2 nd Reader: **John Tweedie**

Welcome/Intercession:

Marilyn Rowe

COUNTERS: 30.1.2022

Marilyn Rowe

SERVERS: 30.1.2022

Pat Wicks

CHURCH CARE:

Phil and Pat Wicks

FLOWERS:

Rosemary Kenny & Mary Batty

NEXT WEEK READERS: **6.2.2022**

1 St Reader: **David Buckley**

2 nd Reader: **Christa Buckley**

Welcome/ Intercession

Frank Portelli

Server: **Paul Harris**

Mt Victoria **29.1.2022**

1 St Reader: **Mary Ryan**


2 nd Reader: **Clive Kanes**

Readers for Mass:

Proclaiming the Word to the community is an essential ministry that forms an important part of the liturgy. God is present in the scripture readings that we hear. If you feel called to contribute in this way and join our reading roster, please speak to Pat Wicks (0411 488 990)

Bpoint - Parish contributions using your credit card.

Bpoint is an easy way to contribute to both our 2nd collection (funds raised are for our Parish) and 1st collection (funds raised are for the clergy of the Diocese). You 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.



Being a Covid Safe Parish:

We are following NSW Health mandates, Paramatta diocesan directions and our own parish decisions to keep our community safe and welcoming for all. Please remember to:

- + QR sign in
- + receive communion only in the hand
- + keep windows and doors open to assist with ventilation
- + wear a mask indoors (NSW Health mandate)
- + Please note: these conditions are subject to change without notice ++

Bishops Christmas Appeal – Catholic Foundation

Bishop Vincent, Parramatta Catholic Foundation and Catholic Care thank you for your kind hearted generosity and support for the Bishop’s Christmas Appeal. Our Parish Appeal raised \$1,450 which will help Catholic Care’s Houses to Homes to provide sanctuary for young mothers in crisis.

For anyone who hasn’t had a chance to donate. Please visit <https://yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/bishops-christmas-appeal/>

Thank you for your compassion and generosity and please continue to pray for the Diocesan ministries supported by Catholic Foundation, including Catholic Care’s Houses to Homes and the young women and children who find a safe haven in which to build better lives.

Vinnies Christmas Appeal

Despite the difficulties of operating during the Covid pandemic, our Blackheath Vinnies Conference has continued with its work to support those in need in our community. And once again we have been humbled by the overwhelming support received from members of our Parish to assist in the important Vinnies work. At our recent Parish Christmas Appeal, you helped us to raise the magnificent sum of \$3,179.65. Thank you so much!

John Tweedie

President

Blackheath Conference

During this difficult times.

Please lookout 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.

Parish Annual General Meeting:

We are still planning on holding the AGM on Sunday February 13 after Mass at approximately 10:30am.

Sacred Heart Church 120th Anniversary:

Thank you to all those who had a hand in our special celebration. We prayed for the many who couldn't be with us and enjoyed the company of those who could. A cake was cut, the parish song sung, and a slide show of past parish activities and people was shown. A display of memorabilia with a detailed booklet will remain on show this weekend. Paul Harris Chair, PPC

Synod of Bishops – Have your say: What would you say to Pope Francis if you had 10 minutes? Catholics across the world are invited to participate in a period of local consultation for the next international Synod of Bishops. Find out how to send your message at parracatholic.org/synod-of-bishops

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/UCHtj55risvGDQqCDN7mldNQ>

Australian Women Preach: This week's guest is **Sr Madalen** from the Benedictine Abbey at Jamberoo. Her Benedictine spirituality resonates within the perennial wisdom tradition and she is passionate about engaging in spiritual conversation which can explore the depths of our tradition and provide affirmation, encouragement and practical tips, for those engaged on the journey of contemplative spiritual exploration and practice. www.australianwomenpreach.com.au

Historic Celebration Calendar 1902-2022

To order calendar copies phone Julie Hodgkinson on **4787 8096** and arrange local delivery or postage. Share this slice of our parish history with family, friends and others in our community who may have an interest or connection. **Please help us sell our beautiful calendars!**

Happy Birthday

25th Patricia Frazer – (b 1931)

30th Jeremy Lillis (b 2006)



Happy Anniversary

28th Grahame & Connie Adams



****In the readings for this week we see the reaction of those who hear the word of God. Jeremiah was told that he had been called to be a prophet even before he was born. Yet he had to fight against the people to whom he was sent. Those who heard Jesus were first amazed at his words and then later sought to throw him off a cliff. We too are often quite resistant to the word of God.**



Neither Jeremiah nor Jesus recoiled from the implications of their call, regardless of the resistance they experienced. Instead, they entered even more deeply into the call to love. Lest he brood over his injuries, Jeremiah is reassured of God's protection. And, without aggressively demonstrating his strength when he was threatened with harm, Jesus exhibited patience and kindness. Both men bore and endured their bitter misfortunes. This is the image that is placed before us as an example for us to follow.

The call to discipleship is a call to live in the eschatological age of fulfilment inaugurated by Jesus. We can say with certainty that God calls us to a new way of living. We may chafe under the suffering that it could cause us, but we will not be left alone in our distress. As God was with Jeremiah so we can depend upon God to be with us in our need. We must remember that, however we do react, our response must be born out of love.

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GARAGE SALE 2022

We are postponing our annual garage sale from February until 2nd & 3rd April. The main reason is because of the increase of Covid throughout NSW.

With that in mind we feel it is impossible to expect workers and patrons to come together for the sale.

We will be having the event on the dates listed above and because of the new dates we are asking our wonderful parishioners to hold off on bringing donations to the hall at this stage.

Thank you for your contributions so far and please continue to clean out those cupboards, we will let you know when to resume bringing items to the parish hall.

Social Committee



Please Pray For the Sick and Their Carers:

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

REST IN PEACE: 11th Gerard Johnston, 14th Joyce Malkin (d 2012), 19th Roma Ziolkowski (2018),

20th Jan Roberts (2019), 20th Henry Columbine, 22nd Bridget Chan (d 2011), 28th Jean Walsh,

31st Trevor Drummond (d 2016 -father of Pat



Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

ENTRANCE

Save us, O Lord our God!
And gather us from the nations,
to give thanks to your holy name,
and make it our glory to praise you.

First Reading .Jer 1:4-5. 17-19

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

In the days of Josiah, the word of the Lord was addressed to me, saying,

‘Before I formed you in the womb I knew you;
before you came to birth I consecrated you;
I have appointed you as prophet to the nations.
So now brace yourself for action.
Stand up and tell them
all I command you.
Do not be dismayed at their presence,
or in their presence I will make you dismayed.
I, for my part, today will make you
into a fortified city,
a pillar of iron,
and a wall of bronze
to confront all this land:
the kings of Judah, its princes,
its priests and the country people.
They will fight against you
but shall not overcome you,
for I am with you to deliver you –
it is the Lord who speaks.’

RESPONSE I will sing of your salvation .

Second Reading 1 Cor 12:31 – 13:13.

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

Be ambitious for the higher gifts. And I am going to show you a way that is better than any of them.

If I have all the eloquence of men or of angels, but speak without love, I am simply a gong booming or a cymbal clashing. If I have the gift of prophecy, understanding all the mysteries there are, and knowing everything, and if I have faith in all its fullness, to move mountains, but without love, then I am nothing at all. If I give away all that I possess, piece by piece, and if I even let them take my body to burn it, but am without love, it will do me no good whatever.

Love is always patient and kind; it is never jealous; love is never boastful or conceited; it is never rude or selfish; it does not take offence, and is not resentful. Love takes no pleasure in other people’s sins but delights in the truth; it is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope, and to endure whatever comes.

Love does not come to an end. But if there are gifts of prophecy, the time will come when they must fail; or the gift of languages, it will not continue for ever; and knowledge – for this, too, the time will come when it must fail. For our knowledge is imperfect and our prophesying is imperfect; but once perfection comes, all imperfect things will disappear. When I was a child, I used to talk like a child, and think like a child, and argue like a child, but now I am a man, all childish ways are put behind me. Now we are seeing a dim reflection in a mirror; but then we shall be seeing face to face. The knowledge that I have now is imperfect; but then I shall know as fully as I am known.

In short, there are three things that last: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.

ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor
and freedom to prisoners.
Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 4:21-30.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Jesus began to speak in the synagogue, ‘This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.’ And he won the approval of all, and they were astonished by the gracious words that came from his lips.

They said, ‘This is Joseph’s son, surely?’ But he replied, ‘No doubt you will quote me the saying, “Physician, heal yourself” and tell me, “We have heard all that happened in Capernaum, do the same here in your own countryside.”’ And he went on, ‘I tell you solemnly, no prophet is ever accepted in his own country.

‘There were many widows in Israel, I can assure you, in Elijah’s day, when heaven remained shut for three years and six months and a great famine raged throughout the land, but Elijah was not sent to any one of these: he was sent to a widow at Zarephath, a Sidonian town. And in the prophet Elisha’s time there were many lepers in Israel, but none of these was cured, except the Syrian, Naaman.’

When they heard this everyone in the synagogue was enraged. They sprang to their feet and hustled him out of the town; and they took him up to the brow of the hill their town was built on, intending to throw him down the cliff, but he slipped through the crowd and walked away.

COMMUNION

Let your face shine on your servant.
Save me in your merciful love.
O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.