

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 5.00pm (June-August)
6.00pm (Sept-May)

MEGALONG VALLEY MASS

4pm (every third Friday of the month).
Next mass: 19 August 2022

BLACKHEATH MASSES

SUN: 9:15am.

WED: 6:30pm.

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: 10.30am Katoomba

Sun: 5.00pm Leura

BULLETIN ITEMS: Please contact the Parish
Office on Tuesdays 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)

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

7 August 2022.

Abundance of Graces the greater the Demand of Sacrifices
19 C Ordinary Sunday

Though Salvation history starts with the story of creation, the fall of Adam and Eve and the promise of the saviour, its immediate growth can be seen in the creation of Israel as the chosen people of God. And the love of God to humanity expressed in God's choice for a people as his own and God's oath to Abraham and his descendants and their faith in the God who created them and protected them, and the incarnation of Our Lord mark the milestones in salvation history. In other words, it's faith in the promise or oath of God that became the cornerstone for the salvation history. This aspect of faith is reflected in the first reading from the book of Wisdom.

The second reading from the letter to the Hebrews we read, "faith is the realisation of what is hoped for, and evidence of things not seen. By faith Abraham obeyed when he was to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; though it was only a promise, he went out not knowing where he was to go." And it was faith in the promise of God that made him sojourn in the promised land as in a foreign country. It's faith in the promise of God that made Abraham ready to sacrifice the son whom he got in his old age.

In the gospel Jesus is telling the disciples not to be afraid and father in heaven is pleased to give them the kingdom. And he is assuring them that they should not hesitate to sell their belongings and give it away to the poor. And he tells them that this in turn will fetch them the money bags that will not get exhausted for one's journey into the heavenly kingdom.

Jesus reminds them to gird their loins and light their lamps to receive their master anytime. He warns them against any lethargy even when master is late to come. He tells them that they should not let their watchfulness or preparedness go slacken.

Last Sunday we were told not to be tied to the material riches and today Jesus is telling that the disciples should have right faith in the promise and the call of the lord so that they can give up everything for the kingdom of heaven. He tells them that as in the case of Abraham they should be ready to believe in his promise of the heavenly kingdom.

Jesus tells them that they who have received much will be demanded of more. And Jesus is placing the spiritual above the material here. For the life of the disciple is not a life after the material wealth, that is why he tells them to sell what you have and give it to the poor to pursue the promise of the kingdom of heaven. And the sacrifice demanded to follow the spiritual is also higher. So let us ask the lord the graces to fix our goal in the kingdom of heaven and deepen our faith to pursue it with passion.

Fr (Dr) Abraham Kunnatholy CMI
Asst Priest @Blue mountains & Blackheath Parishes.

This Weeks Readers : 7.08.2022

1 St Reader: Eve McDonnell

2 nd Reader: Frances Huckstepp

Welcome/Intercession:

Paul Harris

COUNTERS: 7.08.2022

Pamela & John

SERVERS: 7.08.2022

Pat Wicks

CHURCH CARE:

Phil and Pat Wicks

FLOWERS:

Julie Hodgkinson

NEXT WEEK READERS; 14. 08. 2022

1 St Reader: Eve McDonnell

2 nd Reader: Frances Huckstepp

Welcome/ Intercession

Paul Harris

Server: Pat Wicks

Mt Victoria 6.08.2022

1 St Reader: Diane Stewart

2 nd Reader: Maria

Please note :

There will be a mass for the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary at Katoomba on the 15.8.22 at 6.30pm

Change of Mass times at Blackheath:

Sunday Mass at Sacred Heart Blackheath now commences at 9:15am

Please note that on Sunday 14 Aug 2022 at 11.30am in St Canice's hall there will be an information session about Fr John's Holy Land Pilgrimage.

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:

- + receive communion only in the hand (parish decision)
- + keep windows and doors open to assist with ventilation (health guideline)
- + you are encouraged to wear a mask indoors (parish decision)
- ++ Please note: these conditions are subject to change without notice ++

CALLING FOR SOUP.

Members of our Parish are contributing to a soup kitchen operated by the Uniting Church, Govett's Leap Road, Blackheath.

Originally the kitchen was intended to operate 2 Mondays a month from 11am to 12 noon, during winter. Demand has been so great that it will now operate every Monday until the end of August.

Our Parishioners' contribution has been 2 soups each Monday. If you can contribute a soup or soups please contact Karen Hayward ph.0419123744, Pamela Nash 0417485592 or Margaret Groenwegean (UC) 0414788796.

Delivery by 10am to Uniting Church Hall unless you require an alternative pick up. You are also welcome to stay, come help or just enjoy the hospitality

Can you undertake an Overseas Mission?

Our sister churches in Africa, Asia and the Pacific are requesting Australian Catholics to join them to build the skills of those in their community who have had less opportunity than ourselves. Please consider these [Mission opportunities abroad](#).

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference provide support. [Palms Australia](#), who have prepared Australian Catholics for global mission since 1961, will ensure accommodation and a living allowance is provided to you during your time away. [Enquire online](#) or **Ph: 0422 742 567** to find out about a placement to engage your skills.

You can also [Register](#) for a Webinar on **Monday August 1st at 7:00 pm** to talk directly with a Palms' partner community in Timor Leste and two Australians recently posted to work with them. Invite your friends. **The stories will inspire**

2023
15
DAYS

The Holy Land Experience

12 NIGHTS / 15 DAYS. DEPARTS SAT 7th JANUARY 2023

Dead Sea (2 nights) • Sea of Galilee (4) • Haifa • Mt Carmel • Mt Tabor • Cana • Nazareth • Mt Beatitudes • Jerusalem (6) • Masada • Bethlehem

Optional 2 night Wonders of Petra Extension

For further information about this pilgrimage with our PP Fr John please contact the parish office for a copy of full brochure including booking details, pricing and itinerary. Email: bluemountains@parracatholic.org



Accompanied by
FR JOHN MCSWEENEY
And Harvest Rep
MONICA MANSOUR

Short Course offerings from the Diocese Mission Enhancement Team (MET):

August: Scripture with Dr Laurie Woods.

September: Evangelisation with Maddy Forde.

October: Sacraments with Sr Mary Louise Walsh.

October: Marriage and Natural Fertility with Karin Abrams and Catherine Bourne.

For more details contact the MET at met@parracatholic.org

World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation

Pope Francis has published his message for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, celebrated on September 1, in which he invites us to take advantage of the 2022 Season of Creation to cultivate our ecological conversion and to pray together in the great cathedral of creation. He also speaks of the upcoming COPs on climate and biodiversity and asks world leaders to take concrete actions. Pope Francis message for this prayer day and the Season of Creation, an ecumenical period that unites Christians to pray and take action for our common home can be read in full on this link:

<https://laudatosimovement.org/news/message-of-his-holiness-pope-francis-for-the-celebration-of-the-world-day-of-prayer-for-the-care-of-creation> Our parish will be celebrating both the World Day of Prayer and the Season of Creation over the month of September with a variety of activities and opportunities. If you wish to be involved with the planning of this creative, reflective and joyful time please see Paul Harris or Julie O'Keefe.

**In the middle of Ordinary Time we discover a theme normally associated with the end of the liturgical year and the season of Advent – vigilance in anticipation of the return of the master. This vigilance demands that we live lives of faith. We do not know when God will open the door of our existence and call us into a deeper realisation of the sacred dimension of life itself. Vigilance is a characteristic of a Christian at all times, for all times. We must be ever vigilant.



While we live in the expectation of the coming of God in the future, we also live now in the presence of God. This means that God is present with us now, as a companion in our lives. It also means that this presence is the context within which our lives unfold. However, until all things are brought to fulfilment, we live in this presence by faith. Faith and hope are intimately joined. As believers we are called to trust in the promises of God, even when what is promised seems impossible.

We are assured that we will be blessed, but we can never be sure of the exact nature of the blessing. In faith, we put our trust in God and then carry out our responsibilities. In faith we wait for the Lord, who is our help and our shield, not really knowing under what guise he will come to us. Faith is both the cost of living as a disciple and the reward.

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Vinnies Food Pantry:

Parishioners are invited help stock our Vinnies food pantry by placing non-perishable items in the basket by the main door of each of our Churches. The items are distributed by our Vinnies team to those in need in our community. Thank you for your generosity.

Australian Women Preach:

This week's guest is **Rev Dr Christine Redwood**. Christine is the Lead Pastor at Seaforth Baptist Church. In 2011 she was the preaching intern for Morling College and works there as an adjunct lecturer.

www.australianwomenpreach.com.au

2022 Faith in Marriage Seminar: 12 August

Guest speaker Robert Haddad will discuss "Living marriage, living faith, ideas to inspire your children" at the Faith in Marriage Seminar hosted by the Diocese of Parramatta's MET - Marriage team. The seminar will be held on Friday 12 August at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown, from 7.30pm. The event is free, but booking is required. Free parking is available in the lower ground car park and on neighbouring streets. Please register your attendance to (02) 8838 3460 or marriage@parracatholic.org

Maintenance Volunteers Needed:

Are you able to spare a couple of hours a month to help assist with the maintenance of our church buildings and grounds? Please contact John Tweedie 0407 288 957

Happy Birthday

6th Maree Crawford

9th Pamela Nash



ANNIVERSARIES:

4th Julie and Lance Hodgkinson (1979)



Please Pray For the Sick and Their Carers:

Joe Blansjaar, Elizabeth Curran, Fred Paton, Andrew Krawczyk, Patricia Dee, Barbara Grieves, Pat McCauley, Ray Wood, John & Marion Crowley, Maria Johnson, Tatiana Schultz, Trennah Portelli,

REST IN PEACE: 2nd Chris Commens ,6th Madge Carey (d 2009 - Monica Bright's mother),7th Flo Gillette

7th Dellas Holmwood (d 2013), 15th Francis Doyle. 23rd Barry Bowden (2019), Barbara Hodgkinson (2019)

26th Wladyslaw Ziolkowski (d 2006 – Marjanna Gilchrist's father), 28th Ian Maguire (d 2015 - husband of Claire)



Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

ENTRANCE

Look to your covenant, O Lord,
and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever.
Arise, O God, and defend your cause,
and forget not the cries of those who seek you .

First Reading

A reading from the book of Wisdom (Wis 18:6-9)
That night had been foretold to our ancestors,
so that,
once they saw what kind of oaths they had put their trust in,
they would joyfully take courage.
This was the expectation of your people,
the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies;
for by the same act with which you took vengeance on our
foes
you made us glorious by calling us to you.
The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in se-
cret
and this divine pact they struck with one accord:
that the saints would share the same blessings and dangers
alike;
and forthwith they had begun to chant the hymns of the
fathers.

RESPONSE

Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own .

Second Reading

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews (Heb 11:1-2, 8-12)
Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or
prove the existence of the realities that at present remain
unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commend-
ed.
It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a
country that was the inheritance given to him and his de-
scendants, and that he set out without knowing where he
was going. By faith he arrived, as a foreigner, in the Prom-
ised Land, and lived there as if in a strange country, with
Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same
promise. They lived there in tents while he looked forward
to a city founded, designed and built by God.
It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the
age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that
he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Be-
cause of this, there came from one man, and one who was
already as good as dead himself, more descendants than
could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the
grains of sand on the seashore.

ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Be watchful and ready:
You know not when the Son of Man is coming.
Alleluia!

Gospel.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (Lk 12:35-40)

Jesus said to his disciples: 'See that you are dressed for action
and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to
return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as
he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master
finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on
an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in
the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those
servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this,
that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar
would come, he would not have let anyone break through the
wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of
Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

COMMUNION

The bread that I will give, says the Lord,
is my flesh for the life of the world.