

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: 16 Sept 2022**

BLACKHEATH MASSES

**SUN: 9:15am.
WED: 6:30pm.**

FIRST FRIDAY

Mass, Adoration and Reflection: 10 am.

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 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)

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C 18 September 2022.

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

Today's parable from the Gospel of Luke has many difficult concepts, such that many biblical scholars and theologians find it problematic.

Nevertheless, I believe there are (at least) 3 points that deserve our reflection from the Word of God for this 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C):

1. As Catholic Christians we have a wholesome and integrated approach to the Christian Way of living. Not for us a strict Puritanism that divorces world and religion. We are not afraid to raise monies to further our Christian goals by means of raffles, fetes, house, etc. It is done so that the Gospel's Truth may reach all people. Nevertheless, our first priority is always the Lord!

2. We *must* use money to help bring about Justice and peace in our world. The Scriptures see the basic cause of all oppression and injustice in the world flowing from the greed of humanity. As the Prophet Amos declares: "Listen to this, you who trample on the needy and try to suppress the poor people of the country... The Lord swears it.... 'Never will I forget a single thing you have done'".

3. Finally, we cannot serve two masters. GOD IS OUR ONLY MASTER. We must always examine our intentions to see where our true goal resides: in the intention to follow Christian principles even at the risk of loss of money or of power; or the intention to follow the 'fast buck' or the 'road to power' even at the expense of our Christian Faith!

As the Lord reminds us: "You cannot be the slave both of God and of money".

In the coming week, let's reflect on the Word of God as it speaks to us today.

1. Congratulations to all who received the Sacrament of Confirmation last Thursday evening! And our heartfelt thanks to Mary Gale and Maureen Ryan for their great leadership of the Sacramental Programmes in the Upper Mountains parishes.

2. As next Thursday (22/9) is The National Day of Mourning for Queen Elizabeth II, Mass will be at St Canice's at 10am. It will be a Requiem Mass for Her Majesty.

3. We pray for Erin and Ben who will be married at St Joseph's, Megalong Valley, this coming Saturday.

God Bless you all

Fr John

This Weeks Readers : 18.09.2022

1 St Reader: David Buckley

2 nd Reader: Christa Buckley

Welcome/Intercession:

Pat Wicks

COUNTERS: 18.09. 2022

Marilyn Rowe

SERVERS: 18.09 2022

Paul Harris

CHURCH CARE:

Lance and Julie Hodgkinson

FLOWERS:

Rasa Blansjaar

NEXT WEEK READERS; 25. 09. 2022

1 St Reader: Eve McDonnell

2 nd Reader: Frances Huckstepp

Welcome/ Intercession

John Tweedie

Server: Alan Skofic

Mt Victoria 17.09.2022

1 St Reader: Fran Leighton

2 nd Reader: Elizabeth Giddey

“The Spirit of Christ is the Spirit of missions. The nearer we get to Him the more intensely missionary we become.”
Henry Martyn

Change of Mass times at Blackheath:

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

Change of mass Times Mt Vic.

From 3rd Sept -6.00pm

Katoomba Perpetual Adoration Chapel:

Open weekly Monday 10am through to Friday 6pm. If you would like a rostered holy hour each week or to be on the temporary fill in list, please contact Catherine on 0420 337 033 to register your details.

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 ++

Nespresso Coffee and a Cuppa every Sunday after mass at the Hall

We now have a coffee machine for the price of a gold coin, sit and enjoy our made to order coffee. Espresso, De cafe, Cappuccino and Flat white.

Sit and enjoy a chat after mass every week with a cup of Tea/Coffee



Timor support

“The people of the Blue Mountains have been terrific supporters of the East Timorese for over twenty years now. The needs in that fledgling nation are still high in the areas of health and education. There is another opportunity to continue this support in the annual **TREK for TIMOR** event in October. Unfortunately owing to fire damage land slip damage to the walking tracks around Katoomba, the event again will be held **virtually!** This was quite successful last year.

All you need to do is to follow the link

<https://trek-for-timor-blue-mountains.raisely.com/> All the information you need is there. You can financially support other walkers or pledge to walk 10, 25 or more kilometres over the month of October . You can sponsor a walker or simply donate there.”

PRAYER VIGIL for CREATION via ZOOM Thursday 22 at 7:30pm

Pope Francis calls us all to celebrate this Season of Creation to “reaffirm our personal vocation to be stewards of creation, to thank God for the wonderful handiwork that he has entrusted to our care, and to implore his help for the protection of creation.” You are invited to join this prayer vigil via zoom for a time of gratitude, prayer, song and reflection. Have a gift of creation in front of you and a candle nearby to light at the beginning of the vigil. Join Zoom Meeting for Prayer Vigil

<https://marists-org-au.zoom.us/j/68921501718?pwd=YTFsUEFaSDZucmhWM0JJdUtmLzZVZz09>

Meeting ID: 689 2150 1718

Passcode: 662863

Annual Parish Assembly (Annual General Meeting):
To be held after Sunday morning Mass on **November 27**.
Could all ministry leaders submit their report to the Secretary (Adrian Carroll) by 1 Nov.

Australian Women Preach: This week's guest is **The Reverend Canon Emerita Dr Colleen O'Reilly AM**. Colleen is an Anglican priest in the Diocese of Melbourne, having been ordained in 1995. She has been Vicar of two parishes and Chaplain to Trinity College in the University of Melbourne. She remains in parish ministry as a locum priest.
www.australianwomenpreach.com.au

Parish Pastoral Council Formation Session: With the release of the new Handbook for Parish Pastoral Councils, Alison from the Diocese *Mission Enhancement Team (MET)*, will lead a session to break open this document for all parishioners interested in or involved with the PPC. Saturday **October 29** time to be confirmed. Further information from Paul or Julie.

POETRY and PLATE

Saturday September 17

Church hall, 167 Wentworth Street Blackheath

2:00-3:30pm

Bring along one or two poems about **NATURE** and **CREATION** (they can be your own writing or others you love!) to read and share with the group. After the reading of each poem there is an opportunity to reflect, comment, delve or simply enjoy! Bring copies of poems as handouts if you like with the source acknowledged. Contributing a small plate of food for sharing for afternoon tea would be appreciated. Invite friends and neighbours to this lovely afternoon.

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.

PLANT, CAKES AND CRAFT STALL . All contributions of potted plants, Cakes, and craft items gratefully accepted. Please make this a fundraising bonanza.



****We are creatures of this world.** We are made of it and we are totally dependent upon it for our very existence. We require its air, its water, its food, its heat. We need it for covering and for shelter; we need it to stimulate our minds and our spirits. Therefore, our use of its phenomenal resources cannot in itself be immoral. What is questionable is the character of our use.



There are many circumstances that contribute to the complexity of these matters. The merchant in the passage from Amos is not faulted because he was prosperous. Nor is the steward in the gospel criticised for putting resources aside for future use. But how much does a person need when there are others who are really needy?

We live our lives on the horns of a dilemma. We have the right to use and to enjoy the marvels of our world, but we cannot do this free of responsibility to each other and to the world itself. We are not called to disown the world. It is impossible for us to do that, because of our total dependence upon it. But we are called to live in it gently, using what we need and sharing what we can. We must make decisions as trustworthy stewards of the household of God, not like the man in the gospel who was only concerned with his own well being. We must serve God, not mammon.

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Cuppa's Together every Wednesday in our hall from 9:30-12:00. Come along for a shared morning tea and good company. Enjoy excellent plunger coffee and delicious home-made cakes. Daily newspapers are available for a read. Bring a neighbour and drop in for a cuppa on Wednesday morning!



Community Kitchen-Garden Update: The berry patch is currently a work in progress in our garden beside the hall. Next on our agenda is to connect the donated water crate to the downpipe off the toilet block closest to the garden. If you would like to donate any of the following items towards the garden, they would be really welcome: tools such as maddock, hand trowels, garden fork etc; manure of any kind; hay or similar mulch; pavers for floor of future shed & green house; Monetary donations towards a picnic table under the gumtree in the lower lefthand corner of the block would also be most welcome. Contact: Brian 0401 768 688

Church Toilet Cleaning.

Are you able to spare a couple of hours every few weeks to go on a roster for the cleaning of our toilets? If so, please contact John Tweedie on 0407 288 957.

Happy Birthday

19th Basil Jackson (1928)

20th John Crowley

22nd Lindsay Inman



Please Pray For the Sick and Their Carers:

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

REST IN PEACE: 1st Lily Hanna 2010, 3rd Philomena Drummond (d 1991 - Pat Drummond's mother), 5th Bernie Tierney (d 2007 - Father of Sue Gracey), 8th Ray Thomas, 10th Mary Kingston (d 2016), 15th Elsie Carroll (d 2010 - Adrian's mother), 25th Ivan Naraj , 5th Aug Joseph Tassanyi(d 2022)



Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

ENTRANCE

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.
Should they cry to me in any distress,
I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever

First Reading

A reading from the prophet Amos (Am 8:4-7)
Listen to this, you who trample on the needy
and try to suppress the poor people of the country,
you who say, ‘When will New Moon be over
so that we can sell our corn,
and sabbath, so that we can market our wheat?
Then by lowering the bushel, raising the shekel,
by swindling and tampering with the scales,
we can buy up the poor for money,
and the needy for a pair of sandals,
and get a price even for the sweepings of the wheat.’
The Lord swears it by the pride of Jacob,
‘Never will I forget a single thing you have done.’

RESPONSE

Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.

Second Reading

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to Timothy (1 Tm 2:1-8)

My advice is that, first of all, there should be prayers offered for everyone – petitions, intercessions and thanksgiving – and especially for kings and others in authority, so that we may be able to live religious and reverent lives in peace and quiet. To do this is right, and will please God our saviour: he wants everyone to be saved and reach full knowledge of the truth. For there is only one God, and there is only one mediator between God and humankind himself a man, Christ Jesus, who sacrificed himself as a ransom for them all. He is the evidence of this, sent at the appointed time, and I have been named a herald and apostle of it and – I am telling the truth and no lie – a teacher of the faith and the truth to the pagans.

In every place, then, I want the people to lift their hands up reverently in prayer, with no anger or argument.

ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor,
to make you rich out of his poverty.
Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (Lk 16:1-13)

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘There was a rich man and he had a steward who was denounced to him for being wasteful with his property. He called for the man and said, “What is this I hear about you? Draw me up an account of your stewardship because you are not to be my steward any longer.” Then the steward said to himself, “Now that my master is taking the stewardship from me, what am I to do? Dig? I am not strong enough. Go begging? I should be too ashamed. Ah, I know what I will do to make sure that when I am dismissed from office there will be some to welcome me into their homes.”

‘Then he called his master’s debtors one by one. To the first he said, “How much do you owe my master?” “One hundred measures of oil,” was the reply. The steward said, “Here, take your bond; sit down straight away and write fifty.” To another he said, “And you, sir, how much do you owe?” “One hundred measures of wheat,” was the reply. The steward said, “Here, take your bond and write eighty.”

‘The master praised the dishonest steward for his astuteness. For the children of this world are more astute in dealing with their own kind than are the children of light.

‘And so I tell you this: use money, tainted as it is, to win you friends, and thus make sure that when it fails you, they will welcome you into the tents of eternity. The one who can be trusted in little things can be trusted in great; the one who is dishonest in little things will be dishonest in great. If then you cannot be trusted with money, that tainted thing, who will trust you with genuine riches? And if you cannot be trusted with what is not yours, who will give you what is your very own?

‘No servant can be the slave of two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second, or treat the first with respect and the second with scorn. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money.’

COMMUNION

I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.

‘Walking with Wisdom Series’ (in person or via Zoom), 4 x Thursdays, 6-27 October 2022, 10am-12.30pm. This series offers a time to explore the depths of wisdom in our own heart, to recognise wisdom in the encounter with another ... to dwell in the Heart of Contemplation. Led by spiritual directors Carole Carmody rsm and Julie Adam. Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation, Rear 41 Stanhope St, Malvern VIC. Cost \$30 per session or \$100 for the series. Book and pay via www.heartoflife.melbourne, email office@heartoflife.melbourne, or tel (03) 9890 1101.