

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).

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-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C 25 September 2022.

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

St Paul in today's second reading encourages Timothy (and, by extension, all of us) to 'fight the good fight of the faith'.

And we will do this if we listen to the Prophet Amos in our first reading and the parable of Jesus in the Gospel, and then take to heart the message of the Scriptures.

To be a true follower of Jesus Christ demands that we not only confess our failings but that we also admit that there are times when we overlook the poor person at our gate and forget the 'ruin of Joseph' in our midst.

In other words, we do not always respond to the need in front of our very eyes, preferring to avoid that which is uncomfortable and may make us change our direction towards the Lord and his Message of salvation.

These 'sins of omission' are just as great as the sins that we commit through our selfishness and short-sightedness.

Let us make certain that this week we reflect on our actions or lack thereof, and come back to the Lord and His Way with all our hearts and minds. Let us ask forgiveness not only for the bad we have done but the good we have failed to do!

1. We pray for Rebecca and Benjamin who will be married in St Bonaventure's Church this coming Wednesday. May the Lord bless their commitment to each other in the Sacrament of Matrimony.

2. Finance Committee Meeting for UBM Parish this Wednesday evening; and PPC for Sacred Heart Parish this coming Thursday evening.

3. There will be a Deanery Pastoral Council Meeting at Lawson this coming Saturday morning.

4. I am in the planning stage of having a training session for present and future Readers and Senior Servers. Hopefully we can have these in the second half of October or early November. I would like to take our ministers through the various responsibilities of these two important liturgical ministries. Please email me with suggested times / days, so I can organise an acceptable time for everyone to attend.

Finally, my friends, don't forget that next Sunday morning (2/10) DAYLIGHT SAVING commences. Don't be late for mass!!

God bless you all

Fr John

This Weeks Readers : 25.09.2022

1 St Reader: Eve McDonnell

2 nd Reader: Frances Huckstepp

Welcome/Intercession:

John Tweedie

COUNTERS: 25.09. 2022

Pamela and John

SERVERS: 25.09 2022

Alan Skofic

CHURCH CARE:

Lance and Julie Hodgkinson

FLOWERS:

Rasa Blansjaar

NEXT WEEK READERS; 2. 10. 2022

1 St Reader: Brian Bright

2 nd Reader: Monica Bright

Welcome/ Intercession

Paul Harris

Server: Pat Wicks

Morning Tea Servers 25.09.2022

Christa Buckley / Connie Adams

2.10.2022

Karen Hayward / Margaret Solomons

Mt Victoria 24.09.2022

1 St Reader: Diane Stewart

2 nd Reader: Maria

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.”

Community Kitchen Garden (CKG): We are grateful for a donation of \$100 towards our picnic table and seats to go under the Gum in the bottom corner of our patch. Anyone who would like to contribute to this, please let me know. We have recently received some donated hoses and also some paving bricks for the floor of a shed we will get, if we are successful in our application for a grant through the NSW Community Grants scheme. With our strawberry bed planted out last Saturday, our next projects are to plant out the berry patch (raspberries and boysenberries) and to start work on a winding path through the centre of the CKG. Working Bees are on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays (11-1pm) and the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays (10-12pm). Brian Bright (0401 768 688

CONTACT DETAILS.

The office staff are endeavouring to update parish details for our parishioners,

If you have not already done so could you please fill out the yellow form which are located inside the church and leave in basket inside the church on the pew near the door.

Thank you for your assistance. Parish Staff

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 Dr Ruth Mathieson**. Ruth was an adjunct lecturer in New Testament Studies at St Barnabas College in Adelaide for ten years and was awarded a university medal for her PhD entitled *Dress Code for Heaven? Exploring the Textures of the Parable of the Royal Wedding Feast* (Matthew 22:1-14). She was ordained 25 years ago and is the mother of two young adult children. 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.

Heading into the last week of this year's Season of Creation

- **Conversation** on the 2021 Social Justice Statement, *Cry of the earth*, *Cry of the Poor* and the *7 Laudato Si goals*. Come along and explore possibilities of the statement and goals for our church sites and parish on **Saturday 24 September from 2:00-3:30** in our church hall
- **Parish picnic brunch in the forest** tentatively planned for October 2 has been postponed and a new date will be advised soon. This gives us time to enjoy the buzzy **Plant, Craft and Cake stall on that day** and wonderful morning tea after Mass.
- **Camping trip from Friday, September 30 - Sunday, October 2.**

Where? Amidst the beautiful bush setting at Wooglemai Catholic Bush Retreat, Oakdale.

What? Includes a number of optional activities to engage in fun, creative and prayerful ways with creation and our Creator.
Cost is \$20 for individual campers, \$40 for camping couples and \$50 for family groups. May be particularly suitable for young people and young couples/families. For more information and to register: <https://www.epiphanypilgrimage.org/season-of-creation-camping-trip.html>

Formation Opportunities: For a range of interesting and informative formation opportunities from the Diocese's "Mission Enhancement Team" (MET), sign up to their newsletter at met@parracatholic.org or the link <https://pfparra.org.au/#footer>

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.

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)

****Both the reading from the prophet Amos and the gospel narrative pointedly condemn the lifestyles of the rich. It is not wealth itself, but the complacency and the disregard for others that it too frequently generates, that is denounced. Biblical covenant is a communal concept. It emerges from a society that insists on mutual responsibility. Today's readings invite us to consider the covenant bond we have with others. How do we measure up?**

The fundamental image of God reveals mercy and compassion. However, we cannot disregard the fact of judgment. Amos pronounces a woe against his own people; Abraham declares that there is an unbridgeable chasm between the saved and the condemned. Paul speaks here of the appearance of the Lord Jesus Christ who will bring judgment when he comes. Judgment will be determined not primarily in terms of our obedience to law, but in view of our fidelity to covenant commitment.

Righteousness is a covenant term. It is a quality of God that is shared with us by means of our covenant bond. Paul admonishes Timothy, and us, to pursue this righteousness, along with devotion, faith, love, patience and gentleness. Some of these virtues focus on our relationship with God, but most of them are directed toward our relationship with others. Those who are less fortunate are our sisters and brothers. If we take lightly our covenant obligations and allow them to languish at our gates, we will have only ourselves to blame when we find ourselves facing the harsh judgment of God.

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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!



PLANT, CAKES AND CRAFT STALL 2 OCT 2022.

All contributions of potted plants, Cakes, and craft items gratefully accepted. Please make this a fundraising bonanza.



Happy Birthday

22nd Lindsay Inman

25th Marlene Nguyen

26th Claire Maguire (b 1946)

30th Chantelle Burke (b 2003)



Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

ENTRANCE

All that you have done to us, O Lord,
you have done with true judgement,
for we have sinned against you
and not obeyed your commandments.
But give glory to your name
and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

First Reading

A reading from the prophet Amos (Am 6:1. 4-7)
The almighty Lord says this:
Woe to those ensconced so snugly in Zion
and to those who feel so safe on the mountain of Samaria.
Lying on ivory beds
and sprawling on their divans,
they dine on lambs from the flock,
and stall-fattened veal;
they bawl to the sound of the harp,
they invent new instruments of music like David,
they drink wine by the bowlful,
and use the finest oil for anointing themselves,
but about the ruin of Joseph they do not care at all.
That is why they will be the first to be exiled;
the sprawlers' revelry is over.

RESPONSE

Praise the Lord, my soul!

Second Reading

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to Timothy (1 Tm 6:11-16)
As a man dedicated to God, you must aim to be saintly and religious, filled with faith and love, patient and gentle. Fight the good fight of the faith and win for yourself the eternal life to which you were called when you made your profession and spoke up for the truth in front of many witnesses. Now, before God the source of all life and before Jesus Christ, who spoke up as a witness for the truth in front of Pontius Pilate, I put to you the duty of doing all that you have been told, with no faults or failures, until the Appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, who at the due time will be revealed by God, the blessed and only Ruler of all, the King of kings and the Lord of lords, who alone is immortal, whose home is in inaccessible light, whom no one has seen and no one is able to see: to him be honour and everlasting power. Amen.

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 16:19-31)

Jesus said to the Pharisees: 'There was a rich man who used to dress in purple and fine linen and feast magnificently every day. And at his gate there lay a poor man called Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to fill himself with the scraps that fell from the rich man's table. Dogs even came and licked his sores. Now the poor man died and was carried away by angels to the bosom of Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried.

'In his torment in Hades he looked up and saw Abraham a long way off with Lazarus in his bosom. So he cried out, "Father Abraham, pity me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames." "My son," Abraham replied "remember that during your life good things come your way, just as bad things came the way of Lazarus. Now he is being comforted here while you are in agony. But that is not all: between us and you a great gulf has been fixed, to stop anyone, if they wanted to, crossing from our side to yours, and to stop any crossing from your side to ours."

'The rich man replied, "Father, I beg you then to send Lazarus to my father's house, since I have five brothers, to give them warning, so that they do not come to this place of torment too." "They have Moses and the prophets," said Abraham "let them listen to them." "Ah no, father Abraham," said the rich man "but if someone comes to them from the dead, they will repent." Then Abraham said to him, "If they will not listen either to Moses or to the prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone should rise from the dead."

COMMUNION

By this we came to know the love of God:
that Christ laid down his life for us;
so we ought to lay down our lives for one another.

'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.