

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: 20 April 2023 at 4.00pm

BLACKHEATH MASSES

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

CONFESSION

WED: 6:15pm before 6.30 mass

UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS PARISH SUN MASSES

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 Graham Beal. beal@hotmail.com or Julie
O'Keeffe julesongodson@bigpond.com)

Easter Sunday of the Passion of the Lord. 9 April 2023

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed!

With the Christian communities throughout the world we celebrate this great Feast of Resurrection once again.

We rejoice that the Resurrection of Christ speaks to us all of our future: alive with our Creator God for all eternity.

We have walked with Christ from his triumphant Entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday through the difficult days of His Passion and Crucifixion. And now we witness the Empty Tomb and hear the words: "He is not here. He is Risen"!

As we celebrate Easter 2023 let us acknowledge those Christian communities in our world that are suffering war, persecution and injustice: let us join our prayers with theirs for a world that is peaceful and just, a world without intolerance and condemnation, a world where unconditional love in imitation of God's Love for all prevails.

On behalf of Fr Abraham, Deacon Alan and Jaclyn Skofic, and our Secretary, Christine Burke, may I wish you all a Blessed and Happy Easter celebration with family and friends.

God Bless you all!

Fr John

Next Sunday, 16th April, we will thank Fr Abraham for his nearly 3 years ministry in our upper mountains Parishes.

After the 9:15am Mass at Blackheath there will be a special morning tea in Sacred Heart Hall.

And after the 10:30am Mass at Katoomba there will be another celebratory morning tea in St Canice's Hall.

If you haven't yet had a chance to put something in the special collection basket to give a gift to Fr Abraham, feel free to do so this weekend.





WHAT'S ON IN THE UPPER MOUNTAINS THIS WEEK

SATURDAY 8 April

7.00pm Vigil Mass Blackheath

SUNDAY 9 April

9.30am Easter Mass Blackheath

MONDAY 10 April

Mass 9:30am Katoomba

TUESDAY 11 April

Confession 4:45-5:00pm Leura

Mass 5:15pm Leura

WEDNESDAY 12 April

Mass 9.30am Wentworth Falls

Cuppa's together: 9.30 - 12.00pm

Blackheath Community Kitchen-Garden 10-12pm

6.30pm Blackheath No Mass

THURSDAY 13 April

Mass 5.15pm Leura

FRIDAY 14 April

Mass 12pm Katoomba

SATURDAY 16 April

Mass 9am Katoomba

Confession 9:30am Katoomba

Blackheath Community Kitchen-Garden 11-1pm

Confession 4:30-4:45pm Leura Mass and 6.00pm Mt Victoria

Mt Victoria 8.04.2023

1 St Reader: No Mass

2 nd Reader:

Sunday 9 .4 .2023

1 St Reader: Mary Roberts

2 nd Reader: Connie Adams

Welcome/Intercession: Pat Wicks

Server: Paul Harris

Church Care: Lance and Julie Hodgkinson

Counters: Marilyn Rowe

Flowers: David Buckley

Morning Tea: No morning Tea

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.



Cuppa's Together! Every Wednesday 9.30 - 12 pm

Help us promote this opportunity for support and connection by telling your neighbours, new people into our town and anyone you know who would enjoy a chat.



Invitation to a Free CPR Training

You are invited to attend an accredited CPR training session hosted by the Diocese of Parramatta on behalf of FirstCPR. The training will be conducted by Surf Life Saving NSW.

Details of the session are as follows:

Time: **10:00am – 12:30pm**

Date: **Saturday, 13 May 2023**

Venue: **St Thomas Aquinas Parish**, 168 Hawkesbury Rd, Springwood NSW

Please arrive at least 15 minutes earlier.

Places are limited, if you wish to attend

kindly register your interest here, <https://redcap.sydney.edu.au/surveys/?s=CA84KKR7PLE83WNE>

SACRED HEART BLACKHEATH

HOLY WEEK & EASTER

SERVICES

HOLY Thursday: 7.00pm

Good Fri Stations of the Cross:10.00am

Good Friday: 3.00pm

Easter Vigil 7.00pm

Easter Sunday: 9.30am

Sunday: 16 .4.2023

1 St Reader: Mary Roberts

2 nd Reader: Connie Adams

Welcome/Intercession: Pat Wicks

Server: Paul Harris

Morning Tea: Christine and Dominic

Easter message 2023

Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Bishop of Parramatta, has released his video message for Easter 2023.

You can view on:

YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=33IB11hZSWo>

CYP Good Friday Night Walk: 7 April

Young people are invited to join Catholic Youth Parramatta and Bishop Vincent for the annual 21km Good Friday Night Walk from Blacktown to the Cathedral. For more information and to register visit <https://parracatholic.org/goodfridaywalk/>

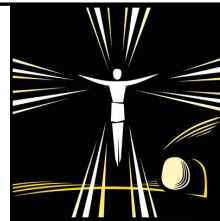
Easter Offertory

Alleluia! He is risen

Please scan to Give and support our parish's ministry and pastoral care or use the Easter envelopes on the pews



***Easter is the season of mystagogical catechesis, that instruction that unpacks the hidden mystery of the experience of the sacraments of initiation received or renewed at Easter. The readings of each Sunday concentrate on some aspect of this mystery.



The central theme of this Sunday is newness of life in Christ. This newness is not without its historical context. It burst forth first in the resurrection of Christ, and then through the preaching of the first Christians.

The readings testify that if we die with Christ, we will appear with him in glory; if we cast out the old yeast, we will be fresh dough. And when this wondrous transformation takes place, everything is new; everything is fresh. To what newness are we called? To what must we die in order to rise transformed? What old yeast of corruption must be cast out in order that we might be fresh dough? At Easter we renew our baptismal vows. What is it that we really renounce? Ours is a world of violence, of prejudice, of indifference. Too often we harbour feelings of anger and resentment, of selfishness and disdain. Easter proclaims that Christ has died and has risen; with him we die to all of the wickedness in our lives and in our world, and we set our hearts on higher things, on sincerity and on truth.

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Thank You for Supporting our Holy Spirit Seminarians

Bishop Vincent, Parramatta Catholic Foundation, and our Holy Spirit seminarians thank you for your kind-hearted generosity and support for our future priests. Our Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal will help our Holy Spirit Seminary to support the faithful men who have answered God's call to become priests for His people. For anyone who hasn't had a chance to donate, please visit yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal or scan this QR code.



Sunset gathering Good Friday

New location: Mt Piddington at Mt Victoria

Ample parking, good road conditions and great view!

Sunset time is 5:47pm, last light is 6:12pm

Gathering from 5:00pm. BYO chair or blanket and coat.

Collecting the Water for the Easter Vigil

Holy Saturday at 1:30pm

Meet at the **end of Bundarra Street** from where we hike about **1km down to the creek.**

Please wear a **hat** and **sturdy walking shoes or boots** and bring **container/s** to carry water from the creek.

Greet the Easter Dawn on Easter Sunday morning.

Prayer and Reflection

Gather at the end of Hathill Rd, just before the dirt road begins to Anvil Rock

if you are on the dirt road you have gone too far

First light time is 5:51am, sunrise is 6:16am

Meet at 5:45am for a short walk, experience the silence and darkness fading

as first light heralds the arrival of this new glorious day!

Wear a warm coat, supportive shoes and bring a torch

'Catalyst for Renewal' Reflection Morning

Santa Maria Hall, Lawson 9:30am-12:30pm

Saturday April 15

"The Continuous Thread of Mysticism in our Christian Tradition"

Presented by Sr Patty Andrew osu

PLANT, CAKES AND CRAFT STALL EASTER SUNDAY.

All contributions of potted plants, Cakes, and craft items gratefully accepted. Please label any baked goods with a full list of ingredients. Any enquiries to Pamela Nash 0417 485 592 or Julie Hodgkinson



Happy Birthday April: 13th Fr John's 65th Bday, 11th Heidi Lamerton, 15th Francesca Huckstepp



Please Pray For the Sick and Their Carers: John Barclay, Leashy Dowling, Noeleen Cliff, Sue Gracey, Joe Blansjaar, Elizabeth Curran, Andrew Krawczyk, Patricia Dee, Pat McCauley, John Crowley, Maria Johnson, Tatiana Schultz, Trennah Portelli,

REST IN PEACE April: 1st Ken Cullen, 2nd Edna Moran, 2nd Mathew Walker, 2nd Pope John Paul II (2005), 4th Roma Ward (2007), 11th Michael Hanna (d 2012 – Fr Paul's brother), 11th Barry Leeder (2015), 12th Mary Hart (d 2014), 12th Andrew Ziolkowski (d 1994 – Marjanna Gilchrist's only sibling), 14th Una Woods, 15th Terrence Bucknel (2018), 16th Lila Anthony, 17th Daisy Lillian Perriam (d 2010), 18th Kenneth Vandenberg (2018), 19th Mary Edna Forster (d 2016 -aged 94



Easter Sunday Year A.

ENTRANCE

The Lord is truly risen, alleluia.
To him be glory and power
for all the ages of eternity, alleluia, alleluia.

First Reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 10:34. 37-43)

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

RESPONSE This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad.

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians (Col 3:1-4)

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

SEQUENCE

Victimae Paschali Laudes

Christians, to the Paschal Victim

offer sacrifice and praise.

The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb;

and Christ, the undefiled,

hath sinners to his Father reconciled.

Death with life contended:

combat strangely ended!

Life's own Champion, slain,

yet lives to reign.

Tell us, Mary:

say what thou didst see
upon the way.

The tomb the Living did enclose;
I saw Christ's glory as he rose!

The angels there attesting;
shroud with grave-clothes resting.

Christ, my hope, has risen:
he goes before you into Galilee.

That Christ is truly risen
from the dead we know.
Victorious king, thy mercy show!

ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;
let us feast with joy in the Lord.
Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (Mt 28:1-10)

After the Sabbath, and towards dawn on the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala and the other Mary went to visit the sepulchre. And all at once there was a violent earthquake, for the angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled away the stone and sat on it. His face was like lightning, his robe white as snow. The guards were so shaken, so frightened of him, that they were like dead men. But the angel spoke; and he said to the women, 'There is no need for you to be afraid. I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said he would. Come and see the place where he lay, then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has risen from the dead and now he is going before you to Galilee; it is there you will see him." Now I have told you.' Filled with awe and great joy the women came quickly away from the tomb and ran to tell the disciples.

And there, coming to meet them, was Jesus. 'Greetings,' he said. And the women came up to him and, falling down before him, clasped his feet. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers that they must leave for Galilee; they will see me there.'

COMMUNION

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia;
therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread
of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.