

# 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. Peter Lamont (Asst Priest)**

**Postal Address:** PO Box 354, Blackheath NSW

**2785. 156 Wentworth Blackheath**

**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](mailto:blackheath@parracatholic.org)

**Parish website:**

[sacredheartblackheath.org.au](http://sacredheartblackheath.org.au)

**Parish Facebook:** [Sacred Heart Parish](https://www.facebook.com/SacredHeartParishCommunityBlackheath)

[Community Blackheath](https://www.facebook.com/SacredHeartParishCommunityBlackheath)

## **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 June 2023 at 4.00pm**

## **BLACKHEATH MASSES**

**SUN: 9:15am.**

## **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](mailto: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 [grahambeal@hotmail.com](mailto:grahambeal@hotmail.com)  
or Julie O'Keeffe [julesongodson@bigpond.com](mailto:julesongodson@bigpond.com)

## **Pentecost Sunday Year A**

**28 May 2023**

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

This Sunday is Pentecost Sunday.

The disciples come out from their room, where they were closed in for fear of the Jews and they engage with everyone they meet outside, speaking the language of the person to spread the Gospel of Christ, the coming of the Kingdom of God.

This passage is for us, the Church today. We need to really believe in God, not that God exists, but that God will take care of us no matter what difficulties arise and so leave our fears behind.

Freed from fear we can go out to build relationships with all those we meet.

These relationships are bonds between God and the world. We are the bond because we are in Christ.

But to be effective we need to build our relationship with Christ. We need to be in Christ and Christ in us. We don't operate alone, we only function through Him, with Him and in Him. Through Christ we attain the Spirit which gives us understanding, frees us from fear and let's us use the gifts that the second reading talks about to build relationships with people.

So, as we pray, contemplate and seek Christ in our lives let's not forget that our faith is not a private faith. We seek unity with Christ so as to bring about unity of all of humanity with Him. We seek to bring the Spirit into the world through us uniting the world to Christ. That's our mission, our vocation.

May God bless you all

Deacon Alan.

## **SAVE THE DATE:**

All 5 Saturdays of July Fr John will offer another Bible study. "An Introduction to the Gospel of Matthew". It will be held once again at St Bonaventure's Leura from 3—4.30 pm. All Welcome

**MOBILE PHONE REMINDER** – *Kindly ensure that your mobile phone is turned off when you attend Mass. A ringing phone can be quite off-putting to other Mass attenders and to the priest celebrating Mass. If, on the rare occasion you have an urgent need to answer a phone call that could arrive during Mass, please have your phone on silent and go outside to take the call.*



## WHAT'S ON IN THE UPPER MOUNTAINS THIS WEEK

### SATURDAY 27 May

Mass 6.00pm Mt Victoria.

### SUNDAY 28 May

Pentecost

9.15am Blackheath

### MONDAY 29 May

Mass 9:30am Katoomba

### TUESDAY 30 May

Confession 4.45 - 5.00pm Leura

Mass 5.15pm Leura

### WEDNESDAY 31 May

Mass 9.30am Wentworth Falls

Cuppa's together: 9.30 - 12.00pm

Blackheath Community Kitchen-Garden 10-12pm

### THURSDAY 1 June

Mass 5.15pm Leura

### FRIDAY 2 June

Mass 12pm Katoomba

### SATURDAY 3 June

Mass 9am Katoomba

Confession 9:30am Katoomba

Blackheath Community Kitchen-Garden 11-1pm

Confession 4:30-4:45pm Leura

Mass 5.00pm Mt Victoria

### Please note:

Saturday Vigil Mass at Mt Vic will go back to 5pm from Saturday 3 June through to September.

Mt Victoria 27.05.2023

1 St Reader: Diane Stewart

2 nd Reader: Maria

Sunday 28.5.2023

1 St Reader: John Tweedie

2 nd Reader: Pamela Nash

Welcome/Intercession: Paul Harris

Server: Diane Stewart

Church Care: Phil and Pat Wicks

Counters: Pamela and John

Flowers: Julie Hodgkinson

Morning Tea: Christine and Dominic

### 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.

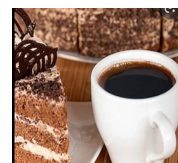


### **Morning tea on Wednesday -all welcome!**

Warm up on these colder mornings with a good coffee, good company and good cakes from 9:30am until 12 noon in our parish hall.

Sharing our warm hospitality and welcoming parish community through Cuppa's Together!

Our church is open from 9:00-1:00pm on a Wednesday morning for private prayer, with access through the side door facing the hall.



### SAVE CALVARY HOSPITAL

There is a petition to the Members of the ACT Legislative Assembly to reverse a decision of the ACT government to compulsorily acquire Calvary Hospital in Canberra. This removes the ownership and management from Calvary Health Care – a Catholic operator – and gives the ownership to the government-run, non-faith-based Canberra Health Services instead. To find out more about the implications of this decision and to sign the petition please visit: [www.savecalvary.com.au](http://www.savecalvary.com.au)

Over 60 people were involved in the **Mountains Deanery Listening Consultation for the Diocesan Synod** on last Saturday evening. It started with a warm welcome of soup, tasty food and friendly socialising before meeting for the consultation. The structure of small groups of 5 and the emphasis on respectful listening gave everyone time to be heard.

Below was the most powerful, reflective tool; the choice of the short but hope filled scripture that we all had time to pray about before listening to each other.

*Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert Isaiah 43:19.*

We were further encouraged by **Bishop Vincent** to join in to help make **new plans** for all of us in our Diocese through this synodal or sharing together process

With wonderful organisation from the Parramatta Diocesan team, generous hospitality from St. Columba's Catholic College and energetic support from all of the Deanery Council Members, many participants had a good encounter in this listening and consultative event.

**But it's not over yet!** We have a chance to be involved in further listening consultation groups or by putting in our own personal submission. Maureen Ryan (Deanery Chair)

Please see video recap t☺ <https://fb.watch/kGUmr23Huf/>

Sunday: 4.06.2023

1 St Reader: Monica Bright

2 nd Reader: Brian Bright

Welcome/Intercession: John Tweedie

Server: Ray Wood

Morning Tea: Karen and Margaret

### **Please note:**

**Saturday Vigil Mass at Mt Vic will go back to 5pm from Saturday 3 June through to September and Mass at Blackheath will revert to 9.30 the same weekend.**

## **Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal for Aboriginal**

### **Catholic Care.**

Please give generously [yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal](http://yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal) or scan the QR code. Thank you for being a Good Samaritan to our First Nations people.



### **Safe Parishes Week: 5 – 11 June**

From 5 to 11 June, we celebrate our third Safe Parishes Week in the Diocese. Safe Parishes Week is a tangible reminder of our shared commitment to having a zero tolerance of abuse across our Diocese. The Safeguarding team are presenting a Training Festival of mandatory and elective face to face modules at Bishop Bede Heather Centre in Blacktown. Please contact your Parish Office or [maria.kervin@parracatholic.org](mailto:maria.kervin@parracatholic.org) for the full Safe Parishes Week Training Program.

### **Invitation to Register for CPR Training: 5 June**

You are invited to register for an accredited CPR Course being offered by Surf Life Saving NSW. This is being offered as FREE course to the Parishes of the Diocese as part of a project being offered by The University of Sydney, Westmead Applied Research Centre. The course runs for 2.5 hours and will be presented at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown, on Monday 5 June from 4pm. Please contact the Parish Office for information on how to register for the venue of your choice.

Bishop Vincent will be having a Convocation Mass on Pentecost Sunday, 28 May, at St Patrick's Cathedral at 11 am. All are Welcome!

### **Free Community Women's Circle, Blackheath**

Come together with other local women and enjoy a guided meditation, creative arts and writing activities and a friendly cuppa, all in a warm and welcoming environment. The Sacred Heart Parish Hall will be hosting a FREE twice monthly Community Women's Circle, starting Thursday June 8th from 10-12, then every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month. Weaving, card making, and a variety of art mediums are just some of the activities that will be on offer. No skills are necessary, but you might leave with a new skill you didn't know you had! This group is for women of all ages and stages of life, so why not gift yourself a little timeout, where filling your cup is a priority, and switching off from the world outside, a bonus. Please call 8843 2545 to register your interest or email Sally at

[sally.butler@ccss.org.au](mailto:sally.butler@ccss.org.au)

### **Introduction to the Bible**

Saturday May 27 from 3:15pm-4:30pm at Leura

Join Father John McSweeney for the final session of this series this Saturday afternoon

as he speaks about the time of Jesus and ways of interpreting Biblical scriptures.

The conversation begins at 3:15pm until 4:30pm at St Bonaventure's church

on the corner of Railway Parade & Hartley Esplanade.

\*\*\*Pentecost celebrates the fullness of the Spirit and the great gathering of nations. It brings the Easter season to its conclusion. The Risen Lord has been exalted to his rightful place next to God and he has sent his Spirit to fill the earth with God's power. The world is charged with divine energy; it needs but a spark to ignite it with life and with excitement. This vitality explodes into the extraordinary. Tongues are loosed and speech overflows its linguistic constraints; charismatic gifts flood the valleys of human habitation; barred doors are burst open and frightened hearts are calmed. The Spirit of the Lord fills the whole world.



Once again we gather together for one reason, only to discover that God has gathered us for another. Through the Spirit of God, we are reconciled to each other and then together we spend ourselves for the common good. Through the Spirit of God the world is renewed, the community is revitalised, and we come to know the mysterious yet all pervasive peace of Christ.

The Spirit has been poured forth and works wonders wherever human hearts are open to its promptings. The earth is renewed each time rivalries are resolved, distinctions are recognised as merely expressions of diversity, peace is restored, comfort and solace are offered, and forgiveness is granted. We are immersed in the vigour of the Spirit of God. All we have to do is open ourselves to it and the reign of God will be born in our midst. © Dianne Bergant CSA

### **21 DAYS BACK TO GOD.**

Journalist Bob Cameron has written a deeply personal account of his return to the Church. Titled *21 Days Back to God – After 40 Years of Running Away*, his book is an inspiring step-by-step spiritual guide for others considering the pilgrimage of return. It is \$18.95 per copy at [coventrypress.com.au/index.php?route=common/home](http://coventrypress.com.au/index.php?route=common/home) Or ordered from Catholic bookstores such as: [orders@paulinebooks.com.au](mailto:orders@paulinebooks.com.au) and [sanctuscatholicgifts@gmail.com](mailto:sanctuscatholicgifts@gmail.com)



Diocesan Synod Consultation: Bishop Vincent is inviting all people of God to contribute to shaping how the Diocese of Parramatta responds to the call to be a more synodal church into the future.

Fundamental Question and Accompanying Questions: [https://parracatholic.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/The-Fundamental-and-Accompanying-Questions\\_v2.pdf](https://parracatholic.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/The-Fundamental-and-Accompanying-Questions_v2.pdf)

### **ANNIVERSARIES:**

31st Diane and Murray Stewart (m 1975)



**Please Pray For the Sick and Their Carers:** David Buckley, Duncan Hayward, John Barclay, Leashy Dowling, Noleen 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 :** 9th Percy Potts, 10th Kathleen Columbine (d 1966), 12th Leonard Kirkham (1976), 14th Dawn (Pauline Florence) Sheridan – (d 1997 – Fr Bob's wife), 15th Ken Austin (d 2014), 23rd Frank Mackrell, 25th Lorenzo Fusina, 26th Thea Ellis, 27th Rosemary Davis (d 2009 – Mother of Michelle Davis), 29th John Pye MSC (d 2009 aged 102 - Carmel Vanny's uncle), 30th Geoff Cliff





## **Pentecost Sunday Year A**

### **ENTRANCE**

The love of God has been poured into our hearts  
through the Spirit of God dwelling within us, alleluia.

### **First Reading**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 2:1-11)

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

### **RESPONSE**

Lord, send out your Spirit  
and renew the face of the earth.

### **Second Reading**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians (1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13)

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

### **Sequence**

Holy Spirit, Lord of light,  
From the clear celestial height  
Thy pure beaming radiance give.

Come, thou Father of the poor,  
Come with treasures which endure;  
Come, thou light of all that live!  
Thou, of all consolers best,  
Thou, the soul's delightful guest,  
Dost refreshing peace bestow;  
Thou in toil art comfort sweet;  
Pleasant coolness in the heat;  
Solace in the midst of woe.  
Light immortal, light divine,  
Visit thou these hearts of thine,  
And our inmost being fill:  
If thou take thy grace away,  
Nothing pure in man will stay;  
All his good is turned to ill.  
Heal our wounds, our strength renew;  
On our dryness pour thy dew;  
Wash the stains of guilt away:  
Bend the stubborn heart and will;  
Melt the frozen, warm the chill;  
Guide the steps that go astray.  
Thou, on us who evermore  
Thee confess and thee adore,  
With thy sevenfold gifts descend:  
Give us comfort when we die;  
Give us life with thee on high;  
Give us joys that never end.

### **ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful  
and kindle in them the fire of your love.  
Alleluia!

### **Gospel**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (Jn 20:19-23)

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me,  
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,  
they are forgiven:

for those whose sins you retain,  
they are retained.'

### **COMMUNION**

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit  
and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.