

# 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](#)

[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 July 2023 at 4.00pm

## BLACKHEATH MASSES

SUN: 9:30am.

## UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS PARISH SUN

MASSES

SAT: 5:00pm Leura (Vigil)

SUN: 8:00am Wentworth Falls

SUN: 10.00am 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'Keefe [julesongodson@bigpond.com](mailto:julesongodson@bigpond.com)

## 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

9 July 2023

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

Zechariah announces that Christ comes to us victorious.

In scriptures we must understand Israel to be the people of God, the ones who listen for His voice and do His will, and Jerusalem is the Church, the Bride of Christ, His body on earth made up of the people of God.

We are Jerusalem.

But notice, the victorious King is riding on a donkey. He is humble and He ushers in a Kingdom of peace, banishing wars. Not only wars between countries but hatred amongst people and wars within ourselves that cause us anguish, anxiety and pain.

In Romans St Paul tells how this reign of the King comes about, it's through living spiritual lives. Lives open to God so the Spirit which raised Christ from the dead can raise us to new life as well.

In the Gospel reading we hear Christ asking us to come to Him. He wants a relationship with us. He has become incarnate, the Second Person of the Trinity has humbled Himself to become true man. True God and True Man so that we can relate to Him. Now it's our turn to humble ourselves, let go of our desire for self-determination and let God rule our hearts, our minds and our souls. He will bring us peace and we will see that His burden is light and that He gives rest to our troubled psyche.

So, in this Sunday's Mass let us whole heartedly offer ourselves, our minds, our bodies, and our souls to the Father in union with Christ our Lord at the Consecration during which the sacrifice of Calvary is made truly present on the altar.

Deacon Alan.

Please mute your mobile at Mass.

Thank-you for your courtesy.



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

### SATURDAY 8 July

Mass 5.00pm Mt Victoria.

### SUNDAY 9 July

9.30 am Blackheath

### MONDAY 10 July

Mass 9:00am Katoomba

### TUESDAY 11 July

Mass 9.00am Leura  
Confession after mass

### WEDNESDAY 12 July

Mass 9.00am Blackheath  
Cuppa's together: 9.30 - 12.00pm  
Blackheath Community Kitchen-Garden 10-12pm

### THURSDAY 13 July

Mass 9.00am Wentworth Falls

### FRIDAY 14 July

Mass 12pm Katoomba

### SATURDAY 15 July

Mass 9am Katoomba  
Confession after mass  
Blackheath Community Kitchen-Garden 11-1pm

Mt Victoria 8 July 2023

1 St Reader: Diane Stewart

2 nd Reader: Maria

Sunday 9.7.2023

1 St Reader: David Buckley

2nd Reader: Christa Buckley

Welcome/Intercession: Frank Portelli

Server: Paul Harris

Church Care: Marilyn and Paul Rowe

Counters: Marilyn Rowe

Flowers: Davis Buckley

Morning Tea: Pamela and Marlene

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.



### **Food and Toiletries drive for Catholic Care Springwood**

During each weekend in July, we will be holding a food and toiletries drive for Catholic Care in Springwood, assisting them to support families in the mountains.

The food items we are collecting are weet-bix, tins of fruit and long-life milk.

The toiletries items are toothpaste, toothbrushes and soap.

Containers for the collection of these items will be out at the Saturday evening and Sunday morning masses throughout July. Thank you in advance for your wonderful support!

This is a Deanery initiative and will involve all six parishes in the Blue Mountains and Emu Plains over this year.

### **Parish Listening Consultation Sunday July 16.**

"Behold, I am doing a new thing" (Isaiah 49:13) is the theme Bishop Vincent has chosen for the Diocesan Synod to be held in October which will form the next Diocesan Pastoral Plan. You are invited to contribute your voice by making a personal submission on the Diocesan website [www.parracatholic.org/synod2023](http://www.parracatholic.org/synod2023).

We are also holding a parish Listening Consultation to make a parish submission, after Sunday Mass on July 16. This will involve reflecting upon the question 'What do you believe the mission of the Church is in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains?'. For further details or to register your attendance, please see or contact Paul Harris on 0411535316.

### **Shared Accommodation Available**

Lovely, fully furnished house in quiet street in Mt Victoria to share with one other person. Mature woman preferred.

Rent \$275pw and shared cost of all utilities.

Contact 0458 001 537 for more information.

Sunday: 16.07.2023

1 St Reader: Eve Mc Donnell

2 nd Reader: Mary Roberts

Welcome/Intercession: Adrian Carroll

Server: Diane Stewart

Morning Tea: Monica and Brian Bright

**Praying with Pope Francis during July  
For a Eucharistic life**

**We pray that Catholics may place the  
celebration of the Eucharist**

**at the heart of their lives, transform-  
ing human relationships in a very deep  
way and opening to the encounter  
with God and all their brothers and sisters.**

## SAVE THE DATE

On all 5 Saturdays of July Fr John Mc Sweeney will offer a Bible study: "An Introduction to the Gospel of Matthew".

It is being held at St Bonaventure's Catholic Church Railway Parade & Hartley Esplanade, Leura from 3—4.30pm All Welcome.

Having attended the first session last Saturday, I can assure all those interested that this Bible Study presented by Fr John will bring this familiar Gospel to life and it will be as relevant to our Church and each person's faith today, as it was on the day it was written. Each session can be attended individually. So, if a few are missed, each of the other sessions will be of value. Handouts are available. Maureen Ryan (Chair Blue Moun-tains Deanery Pastoral Council

## One Journey, Together

The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council (NATSICC) recently launched their website One Journey, Together- <https://indigenousvoice.church/>. It offers information and resources for Catholics to help them to better understand the upcoming referendum on the Voice to Parliament. At the heart of the upcoming Voice to Parliament Referendum is the recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, the world's oldest continuing culture, in the Australian Constitution. As Catholics, we have a responsibility to listen to the voices of First Australians and to work towards a more just and equitable society. Our mission is to educate and inform our fellow Catholics on this pivotal moment in Australia's history. NATSICC members have collated and created statements and resources – grounded in the principles of Catholic Social Teaching – to help you on your process of discernment. The Voice to Parliament Referendum provides all Catholics with a unique opportunity to come together as a community and draw upon our faith and moral grounding to make an informed decision.

## Community Kitchen Garden (CKG) News:

The CKG is a parish Social Justice and Evangelisation initiative. This last week our team of parish volunteers planted some new veggie seedlings and used the Grosse Lisse tomatoes we grew over summer/autumn to make a roast tomato and red capsicum soup for the Monday soup kitchen at the Blackheath Uniting Church. If you would like to help in this outreach program contact Brian (0401 768 688).

## Happy Birthday July

7th Christine Burke  
7th Michelle Davis  
10th Robyn Carroll



\*\*\*The readings for today engage us in a reflection on the nature of the Trinity, as well as the ways that we are enriched by each of the divine Persons. The gospel acknowledges the sovereignty of God. This is followed immediately by mention of the handing over of all things to Jesus, making him a kind of vice-regent of God. Paul speaks of the Spirit, clearly a divine reality, but different from Jesus and the one called God. According to Paul, this Spirit is the Spirit of Jesus and the Spirit of God, implying that somehow both Jesus and God claim the Spirit. It is this Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead, and it is this same Spirit who dwells in Christians.



The grace of this Triune God touches our lives in some ways that are tangible and other ways that demand faith. The most tangible manifestation of God is Jesus himself. God has been revealed to us through this Jesus. While Jesus was a tangible person, our accepting of him as the manifestation of God requires faith, and this faith is no easier today than it was at the time of Jesus himself.

The overriding disposition of these readings is humility. Jesus, the human manifestation of the divine, is meek and humble, and the true disciple is called to be humble. A second disposition is placed before us – grateful praise. In the psalm we praise and bless God; we extol God's holy name. In Jesus we have known the tender touch of God, and we are grateful.

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**Become a Catechist!** - Catechist training commencing in August at St Finbars, Glenbrook.

Sharing the gospel with students in our public schools is an important ministry at our parish. It may sound daunting but it is very rewarding spending time with young people sharing our faith. You'll be joining a supportive team and curriculum materials and ongoing training are provided. We'd love to see you there. To enquire/enrol speak to your Parish Catechist Coordinator Pat Drummond or email [ccd.training@parracatholic.org](mailto:ccd.training@parracatholic.org) with your details.

## Soup on Mondays

This Monday, July 10, Soup on Monday's is one year old! Join us for soup and cake to celebrate this significant day and year of

supportive outreach to our local community. Sincerest thanks to all from our parish who contribute

pots of delicious home-made soup weekly and to Pamela Nash for organizing the roster.

Soup on Mondays is open from 11:00-1:00pm in the Uniting church hall and all are welcome.

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

**Recently Deceased:** 15.6.23 Rasa Blansjaar, 29.6.23 David Harris

**REST IN PEACE July:** 1st James Keith Johnston, 5th Matthew Gregan, 6th Annie Cecilia Smith (Kate Forbes' grandmother)

8th Alma Birrell (d 2015), 9th Cecily O'Brien, 12th John Forster (d 2014 – aged 66), 18th Keith Malkin

18th Fr Alex Sciberras, 18th Ray Lee (d 2014), 19th John Briggs (d 2006), 20 Monica van Horen (d 2014), 22nd Nikola Sandor, 23rd Bert Carlon, 24th David Ridoutt (d 2009), 25th Jean Pye, 28th Eric Perriam (d 2007 – Tony Perriam's father)



## **14th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A**

### **ENTRANCE**

Your merciful love, O God,  
we have received in the midst of your temple.  
Your praise, O God, like your name,  
reaches the ends of the earth;  
your right hand is filled with saving justice

### **First Reading**

A reading from the prophet Zechariah (Zec 9:9-10)

The Lord says this:

‘Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion!

Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem!

See now, your king comes to you;

he is victorious, he is triumphant,

humble and riding on a donkey,

on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

He will banish chariots from Ephraim

and horses from Jerusalem;

the bow of war will be banished.

He will proclaim peace for the nations.

His empire shall stretch from sea to sea,

from the River to the ends of the earth.’

### **RESPONSE**

I will praise your name for ever,  
my king and my God.

### **Second Reading**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans (Rom 8:9.11-13)

Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him, and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

So then, my brothers and sisters, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.

### **ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;  
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.  
Alleluia!

### **Gospel**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (Mt 11:25-30)

Jesus exclaimed, ‘I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

‘Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.’

### **COMMUNION**

Come to me, all who labour and are burdened,  
and I will refresh you, says the Lord.