

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

Parish website:

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: 18 August 2023 at 4.00pm

BLACKHEATH MASSES

SUN: 9:30am.

UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS PARISH SUNDAY 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

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

graham_beal@hotmail.com or Julie O'Keeffe

julesongodson@bigpond.com)

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

13 August 2023

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

Everyone can count the number of times God has saved our lives. I remember as a child my parents saved me from choking to death. On another occasion a friend saved me from drowning at Parramatta baths many years ago.

We can all relate to these experiences. Jesus is the one who saves us, physically and spiritually. He came to the rescue of Saint Peter in today's Gospel. In ancient Jewish belief, the sea was a symbol of evil. It was believed that all kinds of evil spirits inhabited the sea. The sea of Galilee was turbulent. Jesus walked on the water to remind us that He has authority over every power, natural or supernatural. Christ is in control. When Peter took his eyes off the Lord, he began to sink. We must always focus on Jesus, and place our trust in Him.

May the Lord bless us, and let us place our hope in Him

God Bless you all.

Fr Peter Lamont



WHAT'S ON IN THE UPPER MOUNTAINS THIS WEEK

SATURDAY 12 August

Mass 5.00pm Mt Victoria. (Liturgy of the Word)

SUNDAY 13 August

9.30 am Blackheath

MONDAY 14 August

Mass 9:00am Katoomba

TUESDAY 15 August

Mass 9.00am Leura
Confession after mass

WEDNESDAY 16 August

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

THURSDAY 17 August

Mass 9.00am Wentworth Falls

FRIDAY 18 August

Mass 12pm Katoomba
Mass 4.00pm Megalong

SATURDAY 19 August

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

Mt Victoria Saturday Mass 12 August at 5.00pm

Please note that Liturgy of the word will be celebrated at Mt Victoria on Sat 12 August at 5.00pm. No mass this evening.

Mt Victoria 12 August 2023

1 St Reader: Peter McAuley
2 nd Reader: Carla Eden

Sunday 13 .8.2023

1 St Reader: Eve McDonnell
2nd Reader: Mary Roberts

Welcome/Intercession: Adrian Carroll

Server: Ray Wood

Church Care: Lance and Julie Hodgkinson

Counters: Pamela and John

Flowers: Julie Hodgkinson

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.

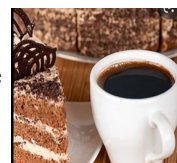


Mass and Morning tea

Wednesday

9am Mass is followed by morning tea from 9:30 until 12 noon in the parish hall. Join us for an uplifting morning of prayer, good company, conversation, and warming coffee.

All welcome!



Fr John's 40th Anniversary Celebrations

On the 20th August we will celebrate Fr John's 40th Anniversary of his ordination after the 10 am mass at Katoomba.

Please bring a plate of food to share on this celebration .

Also there is a raffle of 3 beautiful paintings ,tickets will be sold after each mass and will be drawn on the 20th August .

Liturgical Ministry Formation Course

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence in September. This is formation for anyone interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or mary.gale@parracatholic.org or visit our website to download an enrolment form at <https://officeforworship.org.au/>

No Morning Tea 13th Aug 2023

There will be no Morning Tea in the Church Hall this morning 13 August 2023 due to lack of staff. This is a first for our Morning Tea Team. It is obvious we need a few more volunteers to keep this excellent Parish initiative going. Can you help?

Contact

Karen Hayward on 0419 123 744, or Pamela Nash on 0417 485 592.



Please note that there will be mass at Blackheath at 6.00pm on Monday

14th August to celebrate The Assumption of the Blessed Mary.

Sunday: 20. 8.2023

1 St Reader: Pamela Nash

2 nd Reader: John Tweedie

Welcome/Intercession: Paul Harris

Server: Pat Wicks

Morning Tea: Christine and Dominic

Praying with Pope Francis

August – For World Youth Day

We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives.

ACTIVE4VOCATIONS

Alongside fun and fitness, a special group of Diocese of Parramatta Holy Spirit Seminarians, priests, parishioners, and faith communities are set to bring faith to Sydney's annual City2Surf fun run - and [you're invited to join our team to get #Active4Vocations!](#)

With the aim of raising awareness for Catholic vocations and funds for our Holy Spirit Seminarians' education and formation, our [Parramatta Catholic Foundation #Active4Vocations](#) team will walk, stroll, jog, and run in the iconic 14km City2Surf fun run from Hyde Park to Bondi Beach on Sunday 13 August 2023

ART & FASHION SALE 2023

When: October long weekend Saturday 30th Sept & Sunday 1st October

Time: Saturday 11am – 4pm
Sunday 9 am – 3 pm

Where: Sacred Heart Parish Hall
165 Wentworth Street, Blackheath

Cost of entry: Saturday & Sunday \$5 per person
(which includes a glass of Champagne or Juice & nibbles)

IF YOU HAVE ANY ARTWORK or HIGH END FASHION THAT YOU COULD DONATE TO THIS FUNDRAISER IT WOULD BE MOST WELCOME. PLEASE LEAVE IN MEETING ROOM OR RING MARILYN ON 0414536601



Nine-Week Novena for the Diocesan Synod

All are invited to pray a Nine-Week Novena for the Diocesan Synod. The Novena will begin the week of Sunday 13 August and conclude the week of Sunday 8 October in the lead-up to the Synod Assembly: Friday 13 to Sunday 15 October. You are invited to pray once a week as a parish community, with your family, ministry groups or during personal prayer. More information: <https://parracatholic.org/synod2023/>

Happy Birthday August

6th Maree Crawford
10th Adrian Carroll (1954)
10th Marie Johnston
11th Phil Wicks



*** Although divine power is manifested in dramatic ways, it is also present in what is unassuming. Traces of God can be seen in the delicacy of a violet, in a cool summer breeze, in the blush of innocence, in the fiery eyes of justice. Every one of us lives in the midst of God, breathes the breath of God's life, and is constantly touched by the exquisite artistry of God's creativity. Life itself is a mountain experience of God.



As wonderful as life may be, it can also be very frightening at times. There are misunderstandings and rancour, jealousy and vindictiveness, greed and a hunger for power. Our personal lives can come unravelled and we can feel that we are genuinely 'at sea'. Every human being is tossed about by the exigencies of life. It is at times like these that we need faith in Jesus. Even though we do not recognise him, he is there in the midst of our chaos. Having the power of God, he is the definitive champion of all chaos, and so he is able to allay our fears and calm the sea.

A true experience of God, whether it be within the ordinariness of life or one of life's tribulations, is both transformative and effusive. It is a reality that cannot be contained; it must be proclaimed. Disciples must be ready to do what they can in order that the good news of God's revelation be made known to others.

© Dianne Bergant CSA

Building Safe Parishes Together in 2023: An Update from the Office for Safeguarding

Face – To – Face Training at the parish of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop's Katoomba.

The date for the 2023 face-to-face session:

Saturday 28th October 2023.

Start from 10.00am – 3.00pm Finish.

Please contact the Parish Office to register for the Face-to-Face Training.

Volunteers across the Diocese are asked to participate in this training to ensure our parishes are inclusive and safe for children and adults at risk. We are very grateful for the commitment already demonstrated within the Parish by those who have already completed their 6 points of Safeguarding training online. If you completed this in 2021 you are now ready to renew this training.

or you can complete the training independently on our online training platform if you wish. You can start these modules at any time and complete them at your own pace. You can sign up on the platform by clicking on this link: <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au>

If you do have any questions about the Safeguarding Training, please email me directly at maria.kervin@parracatholic.org.

Please Pray For the Sick and Their Carers: Duncan Hayward, John Barclay, Leashy Dowling, Noeleen 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 August: 2nd Chris Commens, 5th Joseph Tassanyi (d 2022), 6th Madge Carey (d 2009 - Monica Bright's mother), 7th Flo Gillette, 7th Dellas Holmwood (d 2013), 15th Francis Doyle, 23rd Barry Bowden (2019), Barbara Hodgkinson (2019), 26th Wladyslaw Ziolkowski (d 2006 – Marjanna Gilchrist's father), 28th Ian Maguire (d 2015 - husband of Claire), Marion Crowley



Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

ENTRANCE

Look to your covenant, O Lord,
and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever.
Arise, O God, and defend your cause,
and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

First Reading

A reading from the first book of the Kings (1 Kings 19:9.11-13)

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

RESPONSE

Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans (Romans 9:1-5)

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ – it is the truth – my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
I hope in the Lord,
I trust in his word.
Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (Matthew 14:22-33)

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord,' he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

COMMUNION

The bread that I will give, says the Lord,
is my flesh for the life of the world.