

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. 165 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 MASSES

Next Mass : 16 May 2025 at 4.00pm .

BLACKHEATH MASSES

SUN: 9:30am.

WED: 9.00am

CATHOLIC PARISH OF UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS SUNDAY MASSES

SAT: 5:00pm Leura (Vigil)

SUN: 8:00am Wentworth Falls

SUN: 8.30am Lawson

SUN: 10.00am Katoomba

Sun: 5.00pm Leura

BULLETIN ITEMS: Please contact the Parish
Office on Thursday's during office hours on
4787 8540 or email

blackheath@parracatholic.org or at

Katoomba on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and

Fridays on 02 4782 2804. email

bluemountains@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)

Third Sunday of Easter Year C

4. 5 2025

MESSAGE TO PARISHIONERS

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

It is with great joy and hope for the future that I greet you all as the Parish
Priest of the brand new **Catholic Parish of the Upper Blue Mountains.**

Under the Patronage of Australia's first canonised saint, St Mary of the Cross
MacKillop, I welcome all seven church communities of the Upper Mountains
into this new pastoral undertaking in our beautiful part of the world!

Although some may feel sad, or even threatened, by this decision of our
Bishop and the Leadership of the Diocese, I want to assure everyone that each
church community will continue celebrating the Liturgy in the ways that suit
each congregation.

Indeed, over the next 6-12 months we will work TOGETHER to achieve the
best outcomes for all that this new opportunity offers us.

With a fantastic Ordained Ministry Team consisting of myself (resident in
Katoomba), Fr Peter Lamont (resident in Blackheath), Fr Jessie Balorio
(resident in Lawson), and Deacon Alan Skofic - we will do our best to serve
and work with you all as we continue to bring the Good News of the
Kingdom to the new Catholic Parish of the Upper Blue Mountains!

Let us also pray for the Cardinals in Conclave this week: under the guidance
of the Holy Spirit, may they choose the Pope we need for our time.

God Bless you all

Fr John

Please mute your mobile at Mass. Let's turn off the technology and turn on to God!



WHAT'S ON IN THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS THIS WEEK

SATURDAY 3 May

Mass 5.00pm Leura

Mass 5pm Lawson

Mass 6.00pm Mt Victoria

SUNDAY 4 May

8.am Wentworth Falls

8.30am Lawson

9.30 am Blackheath

10am Katoomba

5pm Leura

MONDAY 5 May

Mass 9.00am Katoomba

TUESDAY 6 May

Mass at 9.00am Leura

Meditation 10am Blackheath

Mass: 5pm Lawson

WEDNESDAY 7 May

Mass 9.00am Blackheath

Mass: 9am Lawson

Cuppas together 9.30-12.00

THURSDAY 8 May

Mass 9.00am Wentworth Fall

Mass: 9.30am Lawson

FRIDAY 9 May

Mass 12.00 noon Katoomba

SATURDAY 10 May

Mass 9 am Katoomba

Blackheath Community Kitchen Garden 11-1pm

Mt Victoria 3. 5.25

1 St Reader: Mary Ryan

2 nd Reader: Clive Kanes

Sunday 4. 5.25

1 St Reader: Monica Bright

2nd Reader: Brian bright

Welcome/Intercession: Pat Wicks

Server: Diane Stewart

Church Care: Julie & Lance Hodgkinson

Counters: Diane Stewart

Flowers: Julie Hodgkinson & David Buckley

Morning Tea: Monica and Brian

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.

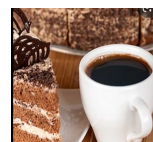


Cuppa's on Wednesday after 9am Mass

Cuppa's is on in the hall every Wednesday morning from 9:30. Join us for a warming coffee and fun conversation from 9:30-12:00.

Vinnies assistance is available during this time in the meeting room.

All welcome on Wednesdays!



SAVE THE DATE - Biggest Morning Tea 2025

Blackheath Parish & the Combined Churches of Blackheath & Mt Victoria will host a Biggest Morning Tea fundraiser on Thursday, 29 May 2025 between 10am - 12.30pm in the RSL sub-branch hall, Blackheath (2 Bundarra St).

Come for all or some of the time.

Join us for a delicious morning tea. This is a fundraiser to raise money for cancer research - bring your cash or card!



BCKG - Responding to the 'cry of the earth' and the 'cry of the poor.'

24 May 2025 will mark the 10th anniversary of Pope Francis' encyclical Laudato Si' – On Care for Our Common Home. ACI and the Diocese of Parramatta's Mission Enhancement Team (MET) invite you to a webinar with Sebastian Salaske-Lentern and Sue Martin, who will reflect on the ecological journey that Francis has taken us on in the past ten years.

Have we made enough progress in tackling the triple planetary crisis of climate change, pollution and biodiversity loss?

Please join Sebastian and Sue as we look at these issues and discuss these questions.

10 Years Since Laudato Si' – A Time for Hope or Despair?

Thursday 8 May, 7pm – 8pm AEST, via Zoom

Register <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/zgqNEs3Q7ag0N88embIDQ>

Sunday: 11.5.2025

1st Reader: Shane Young

2nd Reader: Ann Young

Welcome/Intercession: Frances Huckstepp

Server: Paul Harris/Patricia Davall

Morning Tea: Christa and David Buckley

Low Cost Counselling Services

Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains provides low cost and affordable counselling services for individuals seeking support. Whether you're looking for general guidance or assistance with specific challenges like grief, loss, or family matters, Catholic Care is here to help. Call Catholic Care on 8843 2500 for a friendly chat today.

Peace, Justice, Ecology:

24 May 2025 will mark the 10th anniversary of Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si' – On Care for Our Common Home*. ACI and the Diocese of Parramatta's Mission Enhancement Team (MET) invite you to a webinar with Sebastian Salaske-Lentern and Sue Martin, who will reflect on the ecological journey that Francis has taken us on in the past ten years.

Have we made enough progress in tackling the triple planetary crisis of climate change, pollution and biodiversity loss, or is it time to despair? What can give us hope for the path ahead in this Jubilee Year and beyond?

Join us on Thursday 8 May at 7pm – 8pm AEST on Zoom
Register on parracatholic.org by searching for:

10 Years Since Laudato Si' - A Time for Hope or Despair?

Nominations open for the 2025 Papal & Diocesan Awards

Nominations are now open for the 2025 Papal and Diocesan Awards, recognising individuals—both religious and lay—who have made outstanding contributions to the Catholic Church and its community. Do you know someone who deserves to be recognised? Nominations close at midnight on 31 May 2025. For more information or to submit a nomination, visit parracatholic.org/contribute/papal-diocesan-awards/

National Conference for Ecumenical and Interfaith Works – 'Walking Together': 30-31 May

The Bishops Commission for Christian Unity and Inter-religious Dialogue invites Catholics engaged in ecumenical and interfaith activities to a two-day conference exploring unity, dialogue, and synodality in today's Church. Marking 1700 years of the Nicene Creed and 60 years of *Nostra Aetate*, the event includes plenary sessions, workshops, and discussions. For details, contact Louise Zavone (Australian Catholic Bishops Conference): louise.zavone@catholic.org.au

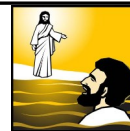
Happy Birthday May

4th Marilyn Rowe

13th Margaret Davis



***Today we concentrate on the different ways that the witness of the community of faith manifests the Lord – the apostolic witness of leadership and service that is accomplished by the various ministries within the church. While today's gospel singles out Peter as a leader within the community, in no way does this mean that such providential care for the church is the sole responsibility of authorised leaders. Rather, it is the responsibility of all the baptised.



In their teaching and preaching, the apostles moved from one understanding of God's presence and activity in the midst of the people to another. This new understanding had the death and resurrection of Jesus at its core. The light of the resurrection illumined their former religious convictions and aspirations, and they were undeterred in their commitment to spread this good news, this new word, this transforming light.

A martyr is a witness, one who is so committed, that that person is willing to suffer any consequence, even death, in order to be faithful. The apostles rejoiced that they had been found worthy of ill-treatment for the sake of the name of Jesus. The Lamb who is exalted is the one who was slain, and Peter is told that, like his master, he will pay for his commitment with his life. Even the psalm alludes to the suffering that must be endured by those who have chosen to be faithful. This kind of steadfastness has always been a persuasive witness.

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Ministry of Care Courses: 4- 25 June

Those who visit the sick and are involved in the Ministry of Communion to the Sick and Dying in Hospitals, Aged Care Facilities and in Homes are invited to attend this course on the Ministry of Care. It will be held every Wednesday evening at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre in Blacktown. Attend all 4 sessions to receive a certificate of completion or just attend the session(s) that interest you. Please visit parracatholic.org/events/OFW to reserve a spot. For enquiries, please contact ofw@parracatholic.org or 0488 000 211.

Happy Anniversary! May

6th Monica and Brian Bright (m 1978)

13th Pat and Carol Drummond (m 1972)



Please Pray For the Sick and Their Carers: Bern McPhee, Maria Cora, Josephine Burdett, Beverley Bateup, Anne Farindon, John Crowley, Maria Johnson, Trennah Portelli.

Recently Deceased: Joe Banasiak 16th April 2025

REST IN PEACE MAY: 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



Third Sunday of Easter Year C

ENTRANCE Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

First Reading.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (Acts of the Apostles 5:27-32. 40-41)

The high priest demanded an explanation of the apostles. 'We gave you a formal warning,' he said 'not to preach in this name, and what have you done? You have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and seem determined to fix the guilt of this man's death on us.' In reply Peter and the apostles said, 'Obedience to God comes before obedience to human beings; it was the God of our ancestors who raised up Jesus, but it was you who had him executed by hanging on a tree. By his own right hand God has now raised him up to be leader and saviour, to give repentance and forgiveness of sins through him to Israel. We are witnesses to all this, we and the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.' They warned the apostles not to speak in the name of Jesus and released them. And so they left the presence of the Sanhedrin glad to have had the honour of suffering humiliation for the sake of the name.

RESPONSE

I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

Second Reading .

A reading from the book of the Revelation (Revelation 5:11-14)

In my vision, I, John, heard the sound of an immense number of angels gathered round the throne and the animals and the elders; there were ten thousand times ten thousand of them and thousands upon thousands, shouting, 'The Lamb that was sacrificed is worthy to be given power, riches, wisdom, strength, honour, glory and blessing.' Then I heard all the living things in creation – everything that lives in the air, and on the ground, and under the ground, and in the sea, crying, 'To the One who is sitting on the throne and to the Lamb, be all praise, honour, glory and power, for ever and ever.' And the four animals said, 'Amen'; and the elders prostrated themselves to worship.

ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Christ is risen, the Lord of all creation;
he has shown pity on all people.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (John 21:1-19)

Jesus showed himself again to the disciples. It was by the Sea of Tiberias, and it happened like this: Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee and two more of his disciples were together. Simon Peter said, 'I'm going fishing.' They replied, 'We'll come with you.' They went out and got into the boat but caught nothing that night.

It was light by now and there stood Jesus on the shore, though the disciples did not realise that it was Jesus. Jesus called out, 'Have you caught anything, friends?' And when they answered, 'No', he said, 'Throw the net out to starboard and you'll find something.' So they dropped the net, and there were so many fish that they could not haul it in. The disciple Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord.' At these words 'It is the Lord', Simon Peter, who had practically nothing on, wrapped his cloak round him and jumped into the water. The other disciples came on in the boat, towing the net and the fish; they were only about a hundred yards from land.

As soon as they came ashore they saw that there was some bread there, and a charcoal fire with fish cooking on it. Jesus said, 'Bring some of the fish you have just caught.' Simon Peter went aboard and dragged the net to the shore, full of big fish, one hundred and fifty-three of them; and in spite of there being so many the net was not broken. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' None of the disciples was bold enough to ask, 'Who are you?'; they knew quite well it was the Lord. Jesus then stepped forward, took the bread and gave it to them, and the same with the fish. This was the third time that Jesus showed himself to the disciples after rising from the dead.

After the meal Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these others do?' He answered, 'Yes Lord, you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' A second time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He replied, 'Yes, Lord, you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Look after my sheep.' Then he said to him a third time, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter was upset that he asked him the third time, 'Do you love me?' and said, 'Lord, you know everything; you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep.'

'I tell you most solemnly, when you were young you put on your own belt and walked where you liked; but when you grow old you will stretch out your hands, and somebody else will put a belt round you and take you where you would rather not go.' In these words he indicated the kind of death by which Peter would give glory to God. After this he said, 'Follow me.'

COMMUNION: The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.