

CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS

# Sacred Heart Church

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)

Fr. Jessie Balorio (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](mailto:blackheath@parracatholic.org)

Parish website:

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

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

## CATHOLIC PARISH OF UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS SUNDAY MASSES

SAT: 5:00pm Leura

SAT: 5pm(June-Aug) 6pm(Sept-May) Mt Vic

SAT: 5pm Lawson

SUN: 8:00am Wentworth Falls

SUN: 8.30am Lawson

SUN: 9.30am Blackheath

SUN: 10.00am Katoomba

Sun: 5.00pm Leura

## MEGALONG VALLEY MASS

Mass: 3rd Friday of the month

Next Liturgy of the Word: 18 July 2025 at 4.00pm .

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

[blackheath@parracatholic.org](mailto:blackheath@parracatholic.org) or at Katoomba on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays on 02 4782 2804. email

[bluemountains@parracatholic.org](mailto:bluemountains@parracatholic.org)

[Community Blackheath](#)

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

## 16th Sunday in Ordinary Times Year C

20.7 .2025

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

Has God changed His mind between the time of Abraham and the time of Christ?

In the first reading we hear how Three Men came by Abraham's encampment, but notice Abraham refers to them in the singular and addresses them as "My Lord", a title reserved in the Jewish Scriptures for God. So, Abraham is visited by God, the Trinity, and he orders a feast to be prepared, and it is a feast because three bushels of flour is approximately 60kg of flour and a calf is killed. This is a celebration for the entire camp in honour of their guest, God Himself. For his efforts Abraham is told that in their old age Sarah and he will have a child, and it will be a boy.

But in the Gospel Jesus tells Martha not to worry about serving and being a good hostess.

Is there a contradiction in what is being asked for by God?

No.

Because if we look at the Psalm, we see what will enable a person to live on the mountain, that is in closeness to God. It's a purity of heart. A single mindedness which drives people to do what is most important in each circumstance. A single mindedness or purity of heart that allows a person to discern what is the best thing to do.

The letter to the Colossian's reinforces this by saying that it's all about the mystery of Christ amongst us which is our "**hope of glory: this is the Christ we proclaim, this is the wisdom in which we thoroughly train everyone and instruct everyone, to make them all perfect in Christ**". The purity of heart relies on this desire to merge into the consciousness of Christ, the single mindedness of doing the Father's will. This is the Wisdom of God that will guide us to our glory, us reflecting the love and mercy of God into the world around us.

Because ultimately each of us has a personal relationship with God and like in any relationship we must be ready to give, but also to receive. Abraham gave and was open to receive, Martha was too caught up in giving, missing out on what was being offered to her.

Likewise, we too must not get too carried away with what we will do and give. We must sometimes pause and look at what is being offered and accept it so that we do what God wants the way God wants it done, not our way.

Deacon Alan

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 MOUNTAINS THIS WEEK

### SATURDAY 19 July

Mass 5.00pm Leura

Mass: 5.00pm Lawson

Mass 5.00pm Mt Victoria

### SUNDAY 20 July

8.am Wentworth Falls

8.30am Lawson

9.30 am Blackheath

10am Katoomba

5pm Leura

### MONDAY 21 July

Mass 9.00am Katoomba

### TUESDAY 22 July

Mass at 9.00am Leura

Meditation 10am Blackheath

### WEDNESDAY 23 July

Mass: 9.00am Blackheath

Cuppas together 9.30 – 12.00

### THURSDAY 24 July

Mass: 9.00am Wentworth Falls

### FRIDAY 25 July

Mass: 9.30am Lawson

Mass 12.00 noon Katoomba

### SATURDAY 26 July

Mass 5.00pm Leura

Mass; 5pm Lawson

Mass 5.00pm Mt Victoria

Blackheath Community Kitchen Garden 11-1pm

Mt Victoria 19. 7. 25

1 St Reader: Diane Stewart

2 nd Reader: Carla Edan

Sunday 20. 7. 25

1 St Reader: Julie Hodgkinson

2nd Reader: Frances Huckstepp

Welcome/Intercession: Eve McDonnell

Server: Patricia Darvall

Church Care: Marilyn and Paul Rowe

Counters: Pamela and John

Flowers: Julie Hodgkinson & David Buckley

Morning Tea: Christa and David Buckley

### 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.

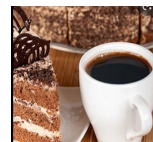


### **Cuppa's on Wednesday after 9am Mass**

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!



**RCIA:** For all enquiries regarding joining on coming back to the Church please contact Deacon Alan via the Parish office.

### **WORKING BEE on Saturday 19 July from 8am**

Please come along and help Lance and John look after our wonderful grounds. Please bring a hat, sturdy shoes or boots and garden gloves (also eye and ear protection if using mower or similar equipment).

Please call John on 0407 288 957 for further information and to advise if you will be coming.



### **Wrapped in Love – A Homelessness Week Memorial Service**

**DATE:** Friday 8 August 2025

**TIME:** 6:30pm–7:30pm

**VENUE:** St Patrick's Cathedral Forecourt, 1 Marist Pl, Parramatta

You can find more information at [parracatholic.org/events/homeless-memorial-service](http://parracatholic.org/events/homeless-memorial-service)

Together, let us honour and remember those who have died while experiencing homelessness or hardship, through ecumenical prayer, reflection and a spirit of compassion. Whether you want to commemorate a friend or stand in solidarity, all are welcome.

Building on [last year's inaugural service](#), this heartfelt gathering is hosted by the Diocese of Parramatta's Mission Enhancement Team, St Patrick's Cathedral Social Justice Group, Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains, Heaven on Earth Ministry, Parramatta Mission, St Merkorious Charity, St Vincent de Paul Society (Vinnies) NSW, The Salvation Army (Salvos) Parramatta, Thread Together and Wesley Mission.

Sunday: 27.7.2025

1st Reader: John Tweedie

2nd Reader: Pamela Nash

Welcome/Intercession: Ann Young

Server: Ray Wood

Morning Tea: Pamela and Kristan

### **The Mass & More**

This video is produced by the Dominican Fathers.

Highly recommended viewing as it explains the theology and logic behind Catholic practices, the Sacraments and the Mass.

<https://tanbooks.wistia.com/medias/2ln3fnbdqg>

### St Canice's Primary Schools Offer Fee Discounts

St Canice's School is our Parish school. It will be fee-free from 2026, enabling all families to consider it as an educational option.

It has two goals:

- to instil into our students the Gospel values of respect and compassion for all

- to provide our students with an excellent education, with a strong emphasis on literacy and numeracy.

Please support our school and encourage enrolment among family and friends. Our door is always open during school hours. All enquiries welcome via the office, email at [stcanices@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stcanices@parra.catholic.edu.au) or by phone on 02 47806800.

### JUBILEE YEAR 2025 PILGRIMAGE TO ROME

25 September - 4 October.

Cross the Holy Door in Rome. Celebrate the Jubilee Year 25 September - 4 October 2025 visiting holy places in Rome, Lanciaio (Eucharistic Miracle), Assisi, Pompei, Montecassino and the Amalfi Coast. Open to all, it will be extra special for those involved in teaching the faith as it coincides with the Jubilee of Catechists.

Enquiries: [pp@mibp.org.au](mailto:pp@mibp.org.au) or text 0417 259 617.

### Parish Discussion group

An informal discussion group meets every last Saturday each month (currently) at **Sacred Heart Church Hall, Blackheath**. Topics explored draw on documents promulgated by the Church - the aim being to contribute to our ongoing formation as people of God. The next meeting will be **3:00-4:30pm, 26 July**. At this meeting we will be looking at **Parts V and VI of Pope John Paul's apostolic letter on suffering, Salvifici Doloris** ([https://www.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/apost\\_letters/1984/documents/hf\\_jp-ii\\_apl\\_11021984\\_salvifici-doloris.pdf](https://www.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/apost_letters/1984/documents/hf_jp-ii_apl_11021984_salvifici-doloris.pdf)).

If you weren't able to attend previous meetings, don't let that hinder you participating in our upcoming meeting. Discussion is inclusive, informal and free flowing. Let me know if you need a Zoom link.

Contact Clive Kanes via: Blackheath Parish  
<[blackheath@parracatholic.org](mailto:blackheath@parracatholic.org)>

### BISHOP VINCENT PRESENTS: A conversation with Mauricio López on "How is the Future of the Amazon, a Future for All?"

The Diocese of Parramatta invites you to a conversation with one of Latin America's most dynamic Catholic lay leaders. Mauricio López Oropeza's experience in the Amazon Synod and Synod on Synodality will shape his talk which encompasses ecology, Indigenous rights, migration and living out the vision of synodality today with our new Pope, Leo XIV.

**DATE: Wed 23 July 2025**

**TIME: 6:00pm – 9:00pm**

**VENUE: St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, 1 Marist Pl, Parramatta. LIVESTREAM option available.**

Registration is essential: [parracatholic.org/events/bishop-vincent-presents-mauricio-lopez-23-july](https://parracatholic.org/events/bishop-vincent-presents-mauricio-lopez-23-july)

### Catalyst for Renewal Series

Saturday, July 19, is the next presentation in our Catalyst-for-Renewal series.

**Peggy Goldsmith** and **Joy Connor** are giving us a wonderful opportunity to hear of how the challenge is met to serve those on the margins by the Wellspring Community of Australia....it will be a truly eye-opening event.

**Tea/Coffee provided. Entry by donation COVID-19 Safe Space. Booking NOT required** For more information: [carol.len.thankyou@icloud.com](mailto:carol.len.thankyou@icloud.com)

You are warmly invited. Len & Carol Teodori-Blahut

**SAVE THE DATE:** Afternoon Tea to celebrate Sr Jacinta Shailer

Date: Friday 15 August (Sr Jacinta's 98th Birthday)

Time: 2-4pm

Location: Sacred Heart Church Hall

Before Sr Jacinta leaves the Blue Mountains, you are invited to gather as a community to celebrate, give praise and offer gratitude for Sr Jacinta's ministry among us. For enquiries phone 0474774009

### Happy Birthday July

10th Robyn Carroll

19th Christa Buckley



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

**Recently Deceased:** Betty Zeeman 5th July 2025

**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), 20th 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)



## **Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C**

**ENTRANCE** See, I have God for my help.  
The Lord sustains my soul.  
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart,  
and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

### **ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Happy are they who have kept the word with a generous heart  
and yield a harvest through perseverance.

Alleluia!

### **First Reading.**

A reading from the book of Genesis (Genesis 18:1-10)

The Lord appeared to Abraham at the Oak of Mamre while he was sitting by the entrance of the tent during the hottest part of the day. He looked up, and there he saw three men standing near him. As soon as he saw them he ran from the entrance of the tent to meet them, and bowed to the ground. 'My lord,' he said, 'I beg you, if I find favour with you, kindly do not pass your servant by. A little water shall be brought; you shall wash your feet and lie down under the tree. Let me fetch a little bread and you shall refresh yourselves before going further. That is why you have come in your servant's direction.' They replied, 'Do as you say.'

Abraham hastened to the tent to find Sarah. 'Hurry,' he said, 'knead three bushels of flour and make loaves.' Then running to the cattle Abraham took a fine and tender calf and gave it to the servant, who hurried to prepare it. Then taking cream, milk and the calf he had prepared, he laid all before them, and they ate while he remained standing near them under the tree.

'Where is your wife Sarah?' they asked him. 'She is in the tent,' he replied. Then his guest said, 'I shall visit you again next year without fail and your wife will then have a son.'

### **The Gospel**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (Luke 10:38-42)

Jesus came to a village, and a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. She had a sister called Mary, who sat down at the Lord's feet and listened to him speaking. Now Martha who was distracted with all the serving said, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister is leaving me to do the serving all by myself? Please tell her to help me.' But the Lord answered: 'Martha, Martha,' he said, 'you worry and fret about so many things, and yet few are needed, indeed only one. It is Mary who has chosen the better part; it is not to be taken from her.'

### **COMMUNION:**

The Lord, the gracious, the merciful,  
has made a memorial of his wonders;  
he gives food to those who fear him.

### **RESPONSE**

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

### **Second Reading .**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians  
(Colossians 1:24-28)

It makes me happy to suffer for you, as I am suffering now, and in my body to do what I can to make up all that has still to be undergone by Christ for the sake of his body, the Church. I became the servant of the Church when God made me responsible for delivering God's message to you, the message which was a mystery hidden for generations and centuries and has now been revealed to his saints. It was God's purpose to reveal it to them and to show all the rich glory of this mystery to pagans. The mystery is Christ among you, your hope of glory: this is the Christ we proclaim, this is the wisdom in which we thoroughly train everyone and instruct everyone, to make them all perfect in Christ.