

TODAY
 Is 50: 5-9
 Jas 2:14-18 ; Mk 8:27-35

Psalm Response: I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living..

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia!
 My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, which crucifies the world to me and me to the world. **Alleluia!**

Servers
 16 Sept Grahame Adams
 23 Sept Paul Harris

Readers
 16 Sept 1st Reader Frances Huckstepp
 2nd reader Claire Maguire
 Intercessions Christa Buckley
 23 Sept 1st Reader Patricia Dee
 2nd Reader Pat Wicks
 Intercessions John Woodward

Communion
 16 Sept Pat Wicks, Mary Roberts
 23 Sept Elizabeth Doolan, Graham Adams

Counters
 16 Sept Pamela Nash and John Tweedie
 23 Sept Julie & Lance Hodgkinson

Morning Tea
 16 Sept Pamela Nash
 23 Sept Claire Maguire

Church Care
 21 Sept Lance & Julie Hodgkinson

St Paul's Mt Victoria & St Joseph's Megalong Valley

Entrance Ant: Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

Communion Ant: How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

Feast Days of the Week (17 to 23rd September)
 17th Sept St. Robert Bellarmine, bishop, doctor
 18th Sept St. Joseph of Cupertino
 19th Sept St. Januarius, bishop, martyr
 20th Sept Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Paul Chong Hasang and companions, Martyrs
 21st Sept St. Matthew, apostle, evangelist
 22nd Sept VirginMary



Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B
 16th September 2018

When Peter answers Jesus' question he demonstrates the disciples' dawning awareness of Jesus' true identity. It is the first occasion that the disciples are called to own what they think about Jesus. However, when Jesus begins to spell out what being the Messiah reality means – persecution and death – Peter tries to convince Jesus that he doesn't need to go down that path. Jesus turns on Peter and snaps, 'Get behind me, Satan!' It is a reminder of the desert temptation Jesus had to face at the start of his ministry when he wrestled with what sort of messiah he was called to be.

Next Week:
 Wis 2:12, 17-20
 Jas. 3:16-4:3; Mk: 9:30-37

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
 20th John Crowley
 22nd Lindsay Inman

MARK YOUR DIARY

Flower and Plant Stall will be held on Sunday 7th October. More information to follow. As usual we will be looking for donations of cakes and plants

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, including those who may be with us today.

Blackheath	Sunday Mass	9.30am
Evening Mass	Tuesday	6.30pm
Morning Mass	Wednesday, Friday and Saturday	9.00am
	Thursday	8.00am
Benediction	2nd Saturday after 9.00am Mass	
Exposition	All other Saturdays after 9.00am Mass	
Reconciliation	Saturdays	9.30am
Healing Mass	1st Saturday of the month	9.00am
Mount Victoria	Vigil Mass (1st, 3rd and 5th Saturdays)	6.00pm
Megalong Valley	Vigil Mass (2nd and 4th Saturdays)	6.00pm

Administrator: Father Bob Sheridan **Parish Office:** 02 4787 8540
Parish House: 0455 104 994.
Parish Mobile: 0417 355 479 **Office hours:** Wed 1.00pm - 4.00pm
 (Emergency only) **Thu** 9.00am - 12.00pm
E-mail: shbheath2@bigpond.com **Fri** 9.00am - 12.00pm

Parish House: 18 Inconstant Street, Blackheath. 2785
Sacred Heart Church: 167 Wentworth Street, Blackheath.
St Paul's Church: 65 Great Western Highway, Mount Victoria.
St Joseph's Church: 1270 Megalong Road, Megalong Valley.

For Baptisms, Marriages and sick calls, please contact the Parish House.

Parish Pastoral Council meets the 4th Sunday of each month. If you would like an issue discussed, please submit it in writing to either Fr Bob; Diana Landsberg (Chair); John Barclay (Deputy Chair) or Patricia Dee (Secretary).

Sacred Heart Care Group (helping parishioners in times of need) call Monica Bright 4757 3943.

BULLETIN ITEMS: Please contact the Parish Office on Wednesday or Thursday during office hours on 4787 8540 or email shbheath2@bigpond.com

Website: <https://sacredheartblackheath.org.au/>

 Find us on facebook www.facebook.com/Sacred-Heart-Parish-Community-Blackheath-NSW-Australia-153850768029631/

CONFIRMATION DAY: Once again, after an absence of less than a month (26th Aug), we have with us to lead today's significant celebrations our own Parramatta Diocesan Bishop, Rt. Rev. Vincent Long Van Nguyen DD OFM Conv. Believe it or not, two years have passed since Confirmation and its full discipleship was last conferred on any of our children. However, today we welcome to Confirmation and full discipleship five local young people, they being – Alicia MALIFANT, Rachele Kate BISHOP-JONES, Lucas & Natalia TARANTO and Sophia SHEERE. We need to be reminded these major events in our Catholic spiritual life don't just happen by accident. Considerable preparation has been required throughout this year, both on the part of the young candidates involved, their tutors, parents and their families. Michelle DAVIS has co-ordinated the programme, while Chantelle BURKE and her 'team' carried out the necessary instruction. All involved have been volunteers. That makes them pretty special people in my book!

Confirmation is the last of the four Sacraments of Initiation to be received by our candidates, the other three Sacraments already received being Baptism, Reconciliation and First Communion.

We thank everyone involved in the preparation, organisation and conduct of this unique event in the lives of these five young persons, and pray that they may each live a loving and fulfilled life in Christ's way with the support of their caring families. Following Mass today, a special celebratory morning tea will be available in the parish hall. So come on down after Mass, take a few photos, enjoy the company, freshen-up with a cuppa and other light refreshments. Above all, though, take the time to congratulate the five latest additions to our Church and parish 'family' full membership. See you there!

POPE FRANCIS' COMMENT: On the 28th August this year, Pope Francis said – *“Is there anything that endures at all? Even love itself? Love is God's dream for us and for the whole human family”*. Please, never forget this!

VALE REV. FR. ERIC BURTON: An easy-going friend to me from my earliest days in the priesthood, Fr. Eric Burton entered semi-retirement shortly thereafter along with his life-long inseparable priest 'mate' Fr. Dave Scott (past parish priest of Winston Hills, now deceased)). Fr. Eric at the time of his death was Emeritus Parish Priest of Christ the King North Rocks, having many years earlier established that parish including construction of the superb parish church. He really did belong to that wonderful parish. Fr. Eric died on the afternoon of September 5 at Yennora aged 92 years. Born in 1925 and ordained 24 July 1950, Fr. Eric was a priest for over 68 years. He was awarded a Papal Honour at Parramatta Cathedral in April 2011. Fr. Eric Burton dedicated his entire life to Christ and his ever-expanding parish 'family' – us! His funeral is to be led by Bishop Vincent, and concelebrated with his brother priests including me at Christ the King Parish Church, North Rocks this Tuesday, 18th September, 2018 at 11.00am. Rest in Peace old friend, and if there is a golf course in heaven, I have no doubt that together you and Fr. Dave will put it to **the test!**

FATHER'S DAY POSTSCRIPT: I never fail to be surprised at the generosity we exhibit throughout each year at all various special collections in which we are involved. Father's Day this year is no exception! I have only just had confirmed that, despite the envelopes arriving a week late, we raised a whopping \$720.00. In the words of a one-time football announcer – I'm flabbergasted!!! Huge thanks to all who contributed!

SEMINARIAN VISITOR:

You may recall that a priest (Fr. Francisco) and a seminarian (Frater ACACIO) from East Timor were present at Bishop Vincent Long's pastoral Mass at Blackheath. While Fr. Francisco has returned to East Timor, Frater Acacio has spent a few days with us enjoying our hospitality, while seeing first-hand how this parish goes about its business. Frater Acacio will share this Mass with us today! So! Say g'day! God Bless! Fr. Bob

VINNIES DROUGHT APPEAL In response to the many generous and concerned communities hearing the call to reach out in the current drought crisis, especially to rural and farming communities, St Vincent de Paul have launched a drought appeal. Donations can be made on-line <https://www.vinnies.org.au/donate#> Donations are also accepted at the Vinnies shop in Waratah Street Katoomba.

Cosmology Spirituality Morning: The next Cosmology Spirituality morning will be held at the Good Samaritan Community House, 3 Valley Road, Wentworth Falls on Friday 21st September 10 am till noon. Chapter 6 “A Balm for all Wounds” of A New Harmony by Philip Newell will be our subject for discussion. Morning prayer and a time of silence as well as morning tea will be part of the program. New friends are very welcome. Enquiries Sr. Jacinta 4757 2290

The Diocese of Parramatta invites all married Couples, together with their families and guests, to attend the Diocesan Mass for Celebrating Wedding Anniversaries. Mass will be celebrated by Most Rev Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta on Sunday 28th October at 11am. A light lunch will follow at the Cathedral Parish Hall. This invitation is extended to all married couples to give thanks for their contribution to the Church through the faithful living out of their vocation. We give a Certificate of Blessing from the Bishop for those celebrating: 1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and for any year over 50 years. Please register your names and number of years married by contacting the Life Marriage & Family Office on 8838 3430/3460 or email lmf@parracatholic.org including also numbers attending for lunch.

You are warmly invited to our next Taize service this Sunday 16th September from 5-6 pm at Leura Uniting Church. The theme is 'Expressing gratitude for the gift of each day'. All are welcome at this special meditative time of singing, prayer and silence in the Taize tradition.



Please pray for the sick and their carers:

Barry Bowden, Barbara Grieves, John & Marion Crowley, Kevin Madden, Maria Slater, Frank McKrell, Marie Johnson and Trennah Portelli.