

TODAY
 Wis 18:6-9; Heb 11:1-2, 8-19;
 Lk 12:32-48

Psalm Response: Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Be watchful and ready: You know not when the Son of Man is coming. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Servers
 11 Aug Ray Wood
 18 Aug Pat Wicks

Readers
 11 Aug 1st Reader Elaine Jackson
 2nd Reader Basil Jackson
 Welcome/Intercessions Paul Harris
 18 Aug 1st Reader Breda Seamons
 2nd reader Barbara Grieves
 Welcome/Intercessions Patricia Dee

Communion
 11 Aug Fred Pateman & Carla Endean
 18 Aug Brian & Monica Bright

Counters
 11 Aug Marilyn Rowe
 18 Aug Laurie Noyes

Morning Tea
 11 Aug Pamela Scott/Elizabeth Doolan
 18 Aug George Commens

Church Care
 923Aug Marilyn Rowe & Noleen Cliff

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

Entrance Ant: 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.

Communion Ant: O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord, who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

Saints Days of the Week (11 Aug to 17 Aug)

11th	St Clare	Foundress
12th	St Jane Frances de Chantal	religious
13th	St Pontian	Pope, martyr
14th	St Maximillian Kolbe	priest, martyr
15th	The Assumption of the Blessed virgin Mary	
16th	St Stephen of Hungary	Christian King
17th	St. Frances Bizzocca	martyr



19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 11/8/19

Luke points out that the greatest gift we Christians have received is knowing that Jesus is the Messiah, the Christ. What a relief to know we do not have to shop around any more. From everyone to whom much has been given, however, much will be required and so knowing who Jesus is only goes halfway. Living out the reality of the Christian life is the other half. Today's Gospel teaches us that our Christian life should be marked by five characteristics, that we: willingly share with those in need; are ready to act justly; stay alert to the presence of God in the world; guard against those people or things that can rob us of our faith; not abuse others but live in peace. With or without a sense that Jesus is due back at any minute, the Christian life is meant to focus on the essentials. © Richard Leonard

Next Week:
 Jer 38:4-6. 8-10; Heb 12:1-4;
 Lk 12:49-53

PARENTS' ROOM: The Sacristy, which contains a few books and toys, is available for parents to use when young children are restless. We hope this makes it a little easier for you and your littlies.



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)	5.00pm
Megalong Valley	Vigil Mass (2nd and 4th Saturdays)	5.00pm

Administrator: Father Bob Sheridan OAM **Parish Office:** 02 4787 8540
Parish House: 47878811
Parish Mobile: 0417 355 479 **Office hours:** Wed 1.00pm - 4.00pm
 (Emergency only) **Thu** 9.00am - 12.00pm
E-mail: blackheath@parracatholic.org **Fri** 11.30am - 2.30pm

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 blackheath@parracatholic.org

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

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

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION: As with Christmas Day and every Sunday of the year, the Feast of Mary's Assumption is a HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION FOR EVERY CATHOLIC. This year next Thursday (15th August) is that day. Please note that deliberate failure to attend Mass on this day brings with it a mortal sin! Here at Blackheath's Sacred Heart Church there will be two Masses – the first to commence at 12.30pm, the second at 6.30pm. There will be NO 8.00am Mass this Thursday! Should you need transport, please let us know so that we can arrange for you to be picked up and returned home after either of those Masses.

The Assumption is the oldest feast day of Our Lady, but we don't know how it first came to be celebrated. Its origin is lost in those days when Jerusalem was restored as a sacred city at the time of Roman Emperor Constantine (c.285-337). By then it had been a pagan city for more than two centuries, ever since Emperor Hadrian (76-138) had levelled it around the year 135 and rebuilt it as Aelia Capitolina in honour of the pagan god Jupiter. For those two hundred years every memory of Jesus was obliterated from the city, and the sites made holy by Jesus' life, death and Resurrection became pagan temples. After the Church of the Holy Sepulchre was built in 336, the sacred sites began to be restored, and memories of his mother centred around the "tomb of Mary", near to Mount Zion and close to where the early Christian community had lived. On the hill itself was the "place of dormition", the spot of Mary's "falling asleep" (where she had died). This was the "Tomb of Mary" where she was buried. At that time the memory of Mary was being celebrated. Later, in the seventh century, that name was changed to the "Assumption of Mary", since there was obviously more to the feast than her dying. This proclamation also affirmed that Mary had been taken up, body and soul into heaven as there were no relics of Mary to be found. This fact dated all the way back to the Apostles themselves. Today, the Benedictine Abbey of the Dormition of Mary stands on that spot. With the proclamation in 1950 by Pope Pius XII, the Assumption of Mary was decreed to be a dogma of the Catholic Church. Thus the Assumption was declared to be a truth revealed by God.

VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK: Today we celebrate the close of National Awareness Week. On this day in particular we are invited to pray for all those aspiring to either the priesthood or religious life. Last Thursday we celebrated the Feast of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop. St. Mary is an inspirational model of what it means to say "yes!" to God. This week, right around our nation, we are also invited to pray for the priests and consecrated men and women who serve us, plus those whom God is calling to join their distinguished ranks.

MEETING WITH BISHOP VINCENT LONG: Last Wednesday afternoon I trekked to Parramatta for a meeting with our Bishop in relation to (I thought) a written report on the subject of Pastoral Associate. I spoke to the Bishop during a short break in between his meetings. The Bishop congratulated me on my receipt of the OAM, then told me he was retiring me from active duty in this parish and Diocese from the 1st January 2020. I was stunned! I had no idea that was coming! However, there you are! You are to have a new Administrator/Parish Priest to serve this great parish from the beginning of next year. As to what happens from this time re my involvement here, things will remain much as they have been, at least for the time being! Take care, everyone – you are very special to me!

God Bless! Fr. Bob

NEEDED, VOLUNTEERS. ~
We are having a HUGE clearance sale of donated items on Saturday and Sunday Sept 7 and 8. We will need helpers to set up on Friday Sept 6, and sell on Saturday and Sunday 7th and 8th Sept. Please keep these dates free as we NEED your help. Thanks

AN AFTERNOON FOR FAMILIES -
Sunday, 18th August 11 am to 3 pm, Mt Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa
Take some time out for your family in a beautiful environment. We'd love to see you there. To meet your family and have you meet ours. All noisy and crazy families are welcome :) No RSVP needed. If you need more info feel free to email families@schoenstatt.org.au

COSMOLOGY SPIRITUALITY MORNING ~ The next Cosmology Spirituality morning will be held at the Good Samaritan Community House, 3 Valley Road, Wentworth Falls on Friday 16th August 10 am till noon. The preparational reading is Chapter 6 of "The Way of the Wind" by Bruce Sanguin. There will be a time of silence in our garden. Morning tea will also be part of the program. New friends are very welcome. Enquiries Sr. Jacinta 4757 2290

Please pray for the sick and their carers:
Barry Bowden, John & Marion Crowley, Ron O'Brien, Shiela Kirkham, Maria Slater, Marie Johnson, Trennah Portelli, Pat Frazer, Tatiana Schultz & Elizabeth Farrar's sister Mary Rose.

✠ In Loving Memory ✠ 
15th Francis Doyle

You are warmly invited to our next **TAIZE SERVICE** on Sunday 18th August from 5 - 6 pm at Leura Uniting Church. The theme is 'Give peace to every heart'. All are welcome at this special meditative time of singing, prayer and silence in the Taize tradition. Taize services are held every third Sunday.

NATURE, SCIENCE AND THE BIBLE IN AUSTRALIA ~ The Blackheath History Forum is presenting religious historian Dr Meredith Lake discussing 'Nature, Science and the Bible in Australia' on Saturday August 17 at Blackheath Public School. Doors open at 3.30pm with afternoon tea, talk starts at 4pm. \$5 entry fee (free for those 18 and under). For more information, contact richard.white@sydney.edu.au or visit <https://blackheathhistoryforum.org.au>

MINISTRY OF COMMUNION TO THE SICK & DYING ~ Ongoing formation
Saturday 14 September 9:30AM – 2:00PM
INSTITUTE FOR MISSION 1-5 Marion St Blacktown RSVP 10 September REGISTER (02) 8838 3456 or annie.alimangoan@parracatholic.org
Morning tea and lunch provided

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION ~
On 10-12 August, the Missionaries of the Most Holy Eucharist will run a mission on Eucharistic Adoration in all three churches of Upper Blue Mountains parish, preaching at all the weekend Masses.
On Sunday at 11:00am in St Canice's Church Katoomba they will give a talk on "How to Adore" followed by guided Adoration ending with Benediction at 12:00pm. On Monday at 6pm in St Canice's Church they will give a guided Holy Hour "Adoration and the Saints".

Happy Birthday ! 
10th Marie Johnston turned 90
11th Phil Wicks

Thanksgiving envelopes for 2019/2020 have arrived and are available for collection at the back of the church. Thank you for your continued support of our Parish