

**TODAY**  
 Wis 9:13-18; Phlm 9-10, 12-17;  
 Lk 14:25-33

**Psalm Response:** In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
 Let your face shine on your servant, and teach me your laws. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!.



**Servers**  
 8 Sept Paul Harris  
 15 Sept Michelle Davis

**Readers**  
 8 Sept 1st Reader Elaine Jackson  
 2nd reader Basil Jackson  
 Welcome/Intercessions Pat Wicks  
 15 Sept 1st Reader Claire Maguire  
 2nd reader Barbara Grieves  
 Welcome/Intercessions Paul Harris

**Communion**  
 8 Sept Brian & Monica Bright  
 15 Sept Elizabeth Doolan & Grahame Adams

**Counters**  
 8 Sept Cate Mitchell  
 15 Sept Barbara Grieves

**Morning Tea**  
 8 Sept Claire Maguire  
 15 Sept Rasa Blansjaar

**Church Care**  
 6 Sept Lance and Julie Hodgkinson

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

**Entrance Ant:** You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

**Communion Ant:** Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God;

**Saints Days of the Week (2 Sept to 7 Sept)**

2 Sept	Martyrs of September (French Revolution)
3 Sept	St Gregory the great pope, doctor
4 Sept	St. Hermione holy woman
5 Sept	St. Charbel Marinate martyr
6 Sept	St. Felix and Augebert martyred English men
7 Sept	St Regina martyr

**23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 8/9/19**

*Many of us carry crosses every day. For some it comes through mental, physical or spiritual ill health. For others it can be in our homes dealing with illness, dysfunction or violence. It can be in our places of employment where we are overworked, undervalued or bullied. Whatever our particular crosses may be we are one with all those who have 'gone before us marked with the sign of faith' and who found Christ in the midst of their suffering. This Gospel promises us that Christ walks beside us bearing the burden of the struggle. May this Eucharist give us eyes to see Christ present in our most difficult moments and make us more compassionate so we never add to the weight of another person's burden, but help carry it as best we can.*

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**Next Week:**  
 Ex 32:7-11, 13-14; 1 Tm 1:12-17;  
 Lk 15:1-32

**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.*

<b>Blackheath</b>	<b>Sunday Mass</b>	<b>9.30am</b>
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
<b>Mount Victoria</b>	<b>Vigil Mass</b> (1st, 3rd and 5th Saturdays)	<b>5.00pm</b>
<b>Megalong Valley</b>	<b>Vigil Mass</b> (2nd and 4th Saturdays)	<b>5.00pm</b>

**Administrator:** Father Bob Sheridan OAM **Parish Office:** 02 4787 8540  
**Parish House:** 4787 8811  
**Parish Mobile:** 0417 355 479 **Office hours:** Wed 1.00pm - 4.00pm  
**E-mail:** blackheath@parracatholic.org **Thu** 9.00am - 12.00pm  
**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) or John Barclay (Deputy Chair)

**Sacred Heart Care Group** (helping parishioners in times of need) Monica Bright 0420 937 690

**BULLETIN ITEMS:** Please contact the Parish Office on Wednesday or Thursday during office hours on 4787 8540 or email [blackheath@parracatholic.org](mailto:blackheath@parracatholic.org)

**Website:** <https://sacredheartblackheath.org.au/>  
[www.facebook.com/Sacred-Heart-Parish-Community-Blackheath-NSW-Australia-153850768029631/](https://www.facebook.com/Sacred-Heart-Parish-Community-Blackheath-NSW-Australia-153850768029631/)

**BISHOP'S COLLECTION FOR RETIRED & SICK CLERGY:** Last Sunday (Father's Day) was the proper day for the raising of funds from our community to be used for the benefit of our retired and sick clergy in the coming year. Should you have missed making a contribution last week for whatever reason, and still seek to make such a donation to this worthy cause, a fresh supply of envelopes is to be found on our pews today.

Last year, through your generosity, we collected \$195,000 for this purpose. The Foundation sincerely thanks you for those past donations and any you may choose to make today. While on that subject, would you please place the completed envelopes on the second collection.

If you wish, you can make on-line contributions at [csfparra.org.au](http://csfparra.org.au) using your credit card or direct transfer via eft to BSB 067 950 and Account No 001691 in the name of the CSF with reference to your name, and send e-mail to [csf@parracatholic.org](mailto:csf@parracatholic.org) with your details so we can send a receipt. Tax deductible receipts for those who request them will be sent by February 2020. Again, thank you for your generosity.

**CHILD PROTECTION SUNDAY:** Once again, today concludes that special week set aside for us each year to again highlight the need for us to focus particular attention towards the protection and safety of children and other vulnerable youth and adults within our community. I remember saying last year, and I repeat now, that when as a child I used to wander the streets, paddocks and playgrounds in complete safety. Perhaps at times I and my mates were a bit of a nuisance to the adults in our local area, particularly when our billy carts took over the streets to race. I remember collecting manure from nearby paddocks in the same billy carts and selling them door-to-door around the district (6d/sugar sack; 9d/corn sack). However, never was our safety at risk! Not so today! Children, whether ours or someone else's, are precious to everyone, and they are so innocent and vulnerable! Whoever they belong to, we need to be ever aware of any risky things that children may get themselves into, and to take remedial action whenever we can. We all carry that responsibility.

In 2016, following a proposal from the Pontifical Commission for the protection of Minors, The Holy Father established a "day of prayer and penance for the victims of sexual abuse, and to ask God for a greater awareness of the responsibility of members of the Church towards the underage people entrusted to them." Here in Australia, this second stated purpose is already a focus of Child Protection Sunday on the second Sunday of September each year. This decision was taken by the Australian College of Bishops' Conference as the day of prayer and penance for the victims of sexual abuse.

**TODAY IS ALSO MARRIAGE SUNDAY:** Daniel Fleming, from St. Vincent's Health, Australia and keynote speaker at a conference for Catholic parents in Manly, when asked about the future of families, said: "I think a lot of us operate out of a 'thin' version of Catholicism, one that emphasises this or that part of tradition and adds that to an otherwise normal life, but doesn't challenge us to dive into its depths and draw on its great richness. The Catholic Tradition provides us with a beautiful vision of what it means to be human and great guidance on what that vision means for how we live out our lives. However, it is a challenging vision. It is not popular to put faith and the vision for life it gives at the centre of things, and that makes it really hard for families. Don't forget, that in the Catholic Tradition, spirituality (our ongoing relationship with God) and ethics (the way in which we choose to live) are closely related as seen in the 25th Chapter of Matthew when Jesus is quoted as saying: "We have a beautiful faith tradition, which invites us into a beautiful life (marriage, family!). I think that's good news for all of us and our world!"

**MORE ON MY OAM:** As the presentation of this medal is to occur next Wednesday morning at Government House, Sydney, unfortunately, there will be no 6.30pm Tuesday Mass this coming week nor the next day's 9.00am Wednesday Mass. Sorry about that!

PS: Take a peek at this week's Catholic Weekly! God Bless! Fr. Bob

### SPRING SALE ~

We are having a HUGE Spring Sale of donated items on TODAY after Mass Thank you to all our helpers, and all who donated goods. COME AND BUY to raise money for our parish.



**SEASON OF CREATION ~** This is an ecumenical season dedicated to prayer and action for the protection of creation and the promotion of sustainable lifestyles.

The Creation Season ends on October 4, the feast day of St Francis of Assisi. The focus for 2019 is The Web of Life, revealing the Glory of God through features of our wondrous planet including oceans, flora, fauna, storms and the cosmos. A handout on our Oceans will be available for private prayer and reflection during the first week of the Season of Creation. <https://seasonofcreation.org/>

### Happy Birthday !

5th Diane Stewart  
8th Lance Hodgkinson  
12th Ron Walsh



### WHAT WILL BE YOUR LEGACY OF FAITH, HOPE AND CHARITY? ~

As God's stewards, we're entrusted to use the gifts we are given wisely for the greater good of our family, our faith community and God's kingdom. A gift in your Will is an enduring way to give thanks to God and share your blessings beyond your lifetime. During Include A Charity Week, we invite you - after providing for your loved ones - to consider a gift in your Will to our Parish, Parramatta Catholic Foundation or a Catholic ministry. Even the most modest gift will significantly advance our Church's works of faith, hope and charity for future generations. For information on remembering the Church in your Will: [your-catholicfoundation.org.au/giftsinwills](http://your-catholicfoundation.org.au/giftsinwills)

**COLUMBAN CALENDARS ~** Columban calendars are available for \$7.00 plus postage from :-

Email: [calendar@columban.org.au](mailto:calendar@columban.org.au)  
or Phone: (03) 9375 9475

### BISHOP'S COLLECTION FOR RETIRED AND SICK CLERGY ~

Thank you for your generosity in contributing to the Bishop's Collection for Retired and Sick Priests last weekend. with best wishes, Fr Wim

**DROUGHT RELIEF ~** 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 here - <https://www.vinnies.org.au/donate#!state=nsw&appeal=159>

### SILENT GUIDED RETREAT - "Remain In Me"

Would you like to spend a weekend away with God? Join us, for this weekend retreat run by Verbum Dei Missionaries, at Hartzler Park, Bowral, on 20-22 Sept. For more info email [verbundeisydney@gmail.com](mailto:verbundeisydney@gmail.com) or Maria: 0402 452 342

### Please pray for the sick and their carers:

Judith Macrell, John & Marion Crowley, Ron O'Brien, Shiela Kirkham, Maria Slater, Marie Johnson, Trennah Portelli, Pat Frazer, Tatiana Schultz, Elizabeth Farrar's sister Mary Rose & Ron Walsh.

### In Loving Memory

1st Lily Hanna 2010  
3rd Philomena Drummond  
5th Bernie Tierney  
8th Ray Thomas  
10th Mary Kingston (d 2016)

