

TODAY

Wisdom 12:13.16-19 God is lenient
Romans 8:26-27 God knows
Matthew 13:24-43 Sower's patience

**Response to the Psalm:
Lord, you are good and forgiving.**

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia! (6x)

Servers

20 July Diane Stewart
27 July To be advised

Readers

20 July	1st Reading	Carmel Vanny
	Ps/Intercessions	David Buckley
	2nd Reading	Mary Duggan
27 July	1st Reading	TBA
	Ps/Intercessions	TBA
	2nd Reading	TBA

Ministers of the Eucharist

20 July Ray Wood and Sr Lyn
27 July TBA

Children's Liturgy

20 July Frances Huckstepp
27 July Carroll Family

Counters

20 July Monica
27 July Judith and Frank

Morning Tea

20 July Monica Van Horen
27 July Robyn Burns

Church Care

25 July Pat and Phil Weeks
1 Aug Gatt Family



The Kingdom
is like a tree
and the birds
shelter in its
branches

**Sixteenth Sunday
Year A**

Today Jesus gives us
another parable about
seed that is sown in
the ground.

The good seed comes up,
but to our dismay we
find that weeds have
been sown, too.

We all have a
mixture of what we
like, and what we
don't like in ourselves.
Jesus sees to the depths
of our being, is patient
with us, and knows and
blesses our efforts to
please him.

NEXT WEEK: Hidden treasure
1 Kings 3:5.7-12; Psalm 118
Romans 8:28-30;
Matthew 13:44-52

Please pray for those who are ill:
**Marjory Cowell, David Finch, Roger Johnstone,
Jennifer Holey, Travis Kingston, Cec O'Brien,
Irene Peacock, David Ridoutt and Marion Walker.**

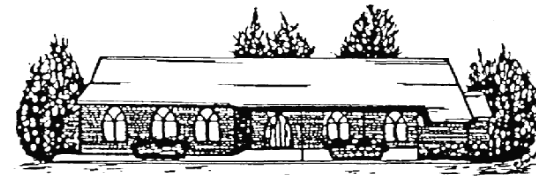


The Spirit expresses our plea

Prayer is a precious way of communicating with God; it gladdens the soul and gives repose to its affections. You should not think of prayer as being a matter of words. It is a desire for God, an indescribable devotion, not of human origin, but the gift of God's grace. As St Paul says, we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words.

St John Chrysostom (c.349-407)

SACRED HEART PARISH



Sacred Heart Church ~ Blackheath
Saint Paul's Church ~ Mount Victoria
Saint Joseph's Church ~ Megalong Valley

Our Mission Statement

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.

**All enquiries regarding Baptisms, Marriage and sick calls
to the Parish House.**

~ Pastoral Director ~ Sister Lyn Eastmure O.P. ~

Parish House	4787 8811	Fax:	4787 6143
Parish Office	4787 8540	email:	shbheath2@bigpond.com

Website: <http://www.keepersoftheflame.net/SacredHeartParish/index.html>

Blackheath - Mass	Sunday	9.30 am
Liturgy of the Word and Communion Service	Wednesday	9.00 am
Praying the Gospel	Wednesday	9.30 am
Praying the Rosary	Thursday	2.00 pm
Prayer of the Church	Friday	9.00 am
Meditative Prayer Service (one hour) using Scripture and Taizé music	4th Saturday of month	2.00 pm
Mount Victoria - Mass	1st Friday of month	7.00 pm

Care Group: Carmel Vanny (4787 8706) Michelle Funnell (4757 2638)

Parish Pastoral Council meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month. If you would like an issue discussed, please submit it in writing to either Sr Lyn, Monica Bright or Chris Le Gras.

Bulletin Items: please contact Kate by 7.00pm Thursday - phone 4787 8520
or email sacred.heart.bulletin@gmail.com

Dear Friends,

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Firstly, I would like to thank all the homestay hosts for opening up their homes to our Lithuanian pilgrims. The visit was an outstanding success and we will have many treasured moments to remember from the visit.

Secondly, a big thank you to all who helped with the preparation and organizing during the week for our guests. Everyone who participated in either the food preparation or the activities will agree that it was a truly memorable experience.

We are truly blessed to have so many wonderful parishioners in our parish.
Blessings, Sr Lyn.

WYD PHOTO GALLERY

The Diocese of Parramatta would like to receive photos and video footage of pilgrims from the diocese or Australian/overseas pilgrims staying in school venues or homestay within the diocese. Please ensure you have permission to photograph pilgrims and provide captions where possible.

Photos/footage can be uploaded via www.parra.catholic.edu.au/wyd2008 or send on CD/DVD to

Catholic Outlook, PO Box 6644, Parramatta, NSW, 2150 by Thursday, 24 July.

Let God work

When I was a child I was always kept in my place and became shy and withdrawn. For some reason I was angry. Many years later I was married and my wife and I had two lovely boys: James who was three and the baby who was one.

One day I was digging up an old tree in the backyard and James was helping me. The roots were deep and it wouldn't budge. I was furious, blew up and then sat down stewing. I looked up and saw James. He wasn't scared. He walked over to me and gave me the gentlest hug, which melted my heart on the spot. I thought, 'What on earth am I doing?'

After this I began questioning why I was so angry. I was working long hours and drinking a bit, but there was something else. It was my confidence. So I started doing lots of things that I had always wanted to do: woodworking, making shelves, cupboards, all sorts of things. Then I began restoring old furniture, which led to French polishing. Later I took up the guitar, and then the piano, and had singing lessons. But every now and then I still blow my top. Today at Mass our priest talked about faith and asked, 'How often do you leave God's good work unfinished because you are scared of what others think or say?' And I realised that my problem is still faith and confidence. It took a little boy to snap me out of it last time. The difference now is that God is in my life and he wasn't then. Well, maybe he was and was speaking through my son. I just couldn't see it then. (Michael) From **peoplespeak**

Spirituality:

an Aboriginal Perspective

Following the excellent talk of Eugene Stockton in May, the Interfaith group of the Leura Uniting Church has invited Chris Tobin, a Dharug man, to share his understanding of Aboriginal spirituality on **Saturday, 2nd August**. We will meet at an Aboriginal site on the corner of Queens Rd and Kangaroo St, Lawson at 10.30am. Chris will show us the site and talk with us, both in stories and from his experience. Afterwards, we will move to Wilson Park, Lawson (near the swimming pool) for lunch. The cost will be \$10.00 per person. Please bring your own lunch, and a chair or rug to sit on. Please also let me know if you plan to come, and if you need transport. In the event of rain we will meet in the hall at the Leura Church. Everyone welcome. This will be an enriching experience.
Alison Croft

SUPPORT FOR THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN SEPARATED OR DIVORCED

The Diocesan Solo Parents' Ministry regularly provides a venue and an opportunity for ongoing support and assistance for those who have been separated or divorced.

"Stepping Beyond" happens bi-monthly at the Diocesan Assembly Centre, 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown. The next such gathering will be on **Thursday, 24th July at 6.30 pm**.

The evening's focus question will be: *"How do you deal with someone who presses your buttons?"*

RSVP: Sr Eileen Quade: 9890 2968 or equade@bigpond.com

Sacraments of Initiation:

At our Eucharist today our children who are preparing for the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist will be presented with a copy of the Creed to complete their Initiation into the Church. At their Confirmation they will proclaim this Creed publicly for the first time. Let us all continue to pray for them and their families at this special time.

Diary Note: **Men's Breakfast Saturday 9th August**

Meditative Prayer Service using Scripture and Taizé music, next Saturday, **26th July** at 2pm for 1 hour in the Church. All welcome.

In Memoriam

Nikola Sandor ~ 22nd July
Bert Carlon ~ 23rd July

A Vocation View:

Good and evil exist together in the world. Pray that good may grow and take root in you like a mustard seed that, when full-grown, is the largest of plants. Take time to nurture good in our world. (Matthew 13:24-43)

Happy Birthday

Riley Kiehne for 26th July

The body of

Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati is now in Sydney!

Come and pray in the presence of Pier Giorgio's relics and be open to the special graces through his intercession! This is an historic event - it will probably never occur again in our lifetime, so come and receive the grace the Lord is offering us! Details on the Notice Board.