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*Acts 1:1-11 Taken to heaven*  
*Ephesians 1:17-23 God's infinite power*  
*Luke 24:46-53 Joy of the Ascension*

**Responsorial Psalm:** God mounts his throne to shouts of joy, a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
Go and teach all people my Gospel.  
I am with you always even to the end of time.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**Servers**

20 May Wayne Kelly  
27 May Michelle Davis

**Readers**

20 May 1st Reading Brian Bright  
Ps/Intercessions Marjanna Gilchrist  
2nd Reading Monica Bright  
27 May 1st Reading Robyn Burns  
Ps/Intercessions Kevin Burns  
2nd Reading Carol Drummond

**Ministers of the Eucharist**

20 May Anthony Gilchrist and Jan Roberts  
27 May Pat Waters and Norma Longmuir

**Children's Liturgy**

20 May Carol Drummond  
27 May Anne Broomfield

**Counters**

20 May Robyn and Kevin  
27 May Louise and Laurie

**Morning Tea**

20 May Jan Roberts  
27 May Bettina Le Gras

**Church Care**

25 May Therese Gatt and Margaret Solomons  
1 June Michelle Funnell and Tony Perriam



**ASCENSION**  
**Year C**

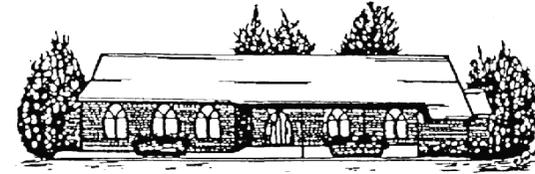
Today's feast is integral to the paschal mystery of Christ. His glorification is achieved through his passion, death, resurrection and ascension. Having come from the Father, he completes the cycle by returning to the Father. His disciples are to continue preaching repentance for the forgiveness of sins in Jesus' name. They are to be his witnesses to the ends of the world through the power of his Spirit.

Please pray for those who are recovering from surgery: **Monica Bright** and **Norma Carlon**.

***It may seem strange that Jesus' followers after his Ascension went back to Jerusalem full of joy.***

Didn't they feel the grief of parting? However, they would have been happy for his sake that he had gone to his Father. They trusted in his promise of the Holy Spirit, and they even hoped that he would return soon. Anyway, they had abundant reasons for their joy. So, too, do we, even though we may not regard the Second Coming as imminent. Do we reflect often enough on the meaning of the Ascension? We would be happier and more evidently joyful than we are. Christ is now where we, one day, hope to be also. Come, Lord Jesus. (from Daily Prayer online)

# 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>

<b>Blackheath</b> - Mass	Sunday	9.30 am
Liturgy of the Word and Communion Service	Wednesday	9.30 am
Praying the Gospel	Wednesday	10.00 am
Praying the Rosary	Thursday	2.00 pm
Prayer of the Church	Friday	9.00 am
Christian Meditation (one hour)	Tuesday (4787 7098)	7.00 pm
Meditative Prayer Service (one hour) using Scripture and Taizé music	4th Saturday of month	2.00 pm
<b>Mount Victoria</b> - Mass	1st Friday of month	7.00 pm
<b>Megalong Valley</b> - Liturgy of the Word	1st Friday of month	9.00 am

**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, David Buckley (Chair), Monica Bright (Deputy Chair) or Chris le Gras (Secretary).

**Bulletin Items:** please contact Kate Forbes by Thursday - phone 4787 8520 or email D\_P\_I@telpacific.com.au

*Dear Friends,*

*It is wonderful to be home again! I arrived here on Tuesday afternoon and am still experiencing a little jet lag. Already, I have received enthusiastic welcomes from a number of parishioners!! - thank you. An enormous thank you to everyone in continuing the parish ministry and administration so smoothly and well.*

*Blessings of happiness and peace, Lyn.*

**Today is Jubilee Sunday**, a day when churches around Australia are remembering our brothers and sisters in impoverished countries who are perishing under the crushing weight of international debt payments to wealthy creditors.

**2007 is a Sabbath Year**, seven years since the successful Jubilee 2000 movement. Jubilee Australia continues to address the economic injustice of the debt crisis. The Philippines owes Australia \$235 million. The country pays more in interest on its national debt than on all social services combined. But poverty is rising and half of the country survive on less than \$US 2 a day.

Visit [www.jubileeaustralia.org](http://www.jubileeaustralia.org) for more information, or call Jubilee Australia on (02) 9299 2215.

*Congratulations to  
Melanie and Lex Dignam  
on the birth of their daughter  
Annabel Teresa  
on 9<sup>th</sup> May. We will also  
celebrate her baptism this  
morning during our Eucharist.*

**A meeting will be held for  
all our Scripture Teachers**  
(Blackheath, Mt Victoria and  
Megalong Valley)  
on Wed 23 May at 1.30pm in  
the Parish Meeting Room.

**Mass is being offered today for  
LORENZO FUSINA, on the  
4<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death.**

**Reflection** by Dianne Bergant CSA

The Feast of the Ascension is really a kind of liminal moment in the Easter season. It is a time between times; a moment when we have left one place, but have not yet arrived at a second. While the narratives that describe the Ascension fit well into the unfolding story of redemption, the feast celebrates the exaltation of Jesus. The readings allow us to focus on this theological point while we commemorate a turning point in the life of the church. We do this by considering the enthronement of Christ in the heavens and the new body of Christ on earth. Many of the Easter accounts have directed our attention to the appearances of Jesus which were intended to strengthen the Christians' belief in his bodily resurrection.

Today we stand awestruck, watching Jesus ascend into the clouds of heaven, there to be throned at the right hand of God. Today is a day to be overwhelmed by the reality of the divinity of the one whom we have known in his humanity. Christ who ascended into heaven in his body carries on what he began on earth through his new body, the community of believers. He teaches through its apostles and evangelists. He ministers through its prophets and pastors. We have not been left alone; we have his power, the same power with which he performed marvels when he walked the earth. We have not been left alone; we have each other. Together we make up the new body of Christ.

*(from Liturgyhelp.com)*

**Diocesan Works Fund:** Today we have the DWF collection which, as you are aware, enables many organisations of the Dioceses to minister to those greatly in need. Our quota is \$1473.00. You will find envelopes on the seats. Please give as generously as you can.

**National Sorry Day:** Next Sunday, May 27, marks the 40th Anniversary of the ballot that acknowledged the First People of this land, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, as citizens of their country. Up until that time they had only been acknowledged as being a certain percentage of the population.

Take a moment to reflect,  
and put yourself in the shoes of  
Australian Indigenous people prior to 1967...

Their ancestors had successfully lived in the country  
for thousands of years before Europeans came

and took over the land ...

How would you feel if that had been you, your family and your race?

Spend some quiet time with this question ...

Listen to the God of compassion ...

Take another moment to honour  
the heroes and heroines of the Indigenous community  
whose courage, belief and faith helped them to fight for citizenship.

Although 80 000 people signed a petition asking for this, it took ten years of campaigning before a reluctant federal government finally put the question of changing the Constitution in May 1967, receiving a resounding 'Yes!' from the people of Australia.

**10th Annual Mt DrUITT Walk and Concert for Reconciliation  
Saturday 26 May**

Concert and BBQ at 12 noon with the Sorry Day Ceremony at 1.20pm  
Walk commences at 2pm at Mt DrUITT Town Square  
(between Westfield Shopping Centre and the Library)  
Information - Office of Roger Price, Member for Chifley, on 9625 4344

**Happy Birthday**  
*Anthony Gilchrist*  
for 23 May  
*Alison Cater*  
for 24 May  
*Karen Cliff*  
for 26 May



**BLUE MOUNTAINS REFUGEE SUPPORT GROUP  
Hypothetical - Advance Australia - Fair?**

Sunday, 24 June at 2pm  
Wentworth Falls School of Arts  
**Conducted by Fr Frank Brennan**

with an eminent panel.  
Please see the notice board or Bern McPhee.