

Psalm response:
Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia! *Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.* Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia!

Servers
12 Feb Ray Wood
19 Feb Michelle Davis

Readers
12 Feb 1st Reading Monica Bright
2nd Reading Brian Bright
Intercessions Marilyn Rowe
19 Feb 1st Reading Claire Maguire
2nd Reading Pat Wicks
Intercessions Robert Forbes

Communion
12 Feb Elizabeth Doolan and Michelle Davis
19 Feb Ray Wood and Grahame Adams

Counters
12 Feb Marilyn
19 Feb Laurie

Morning Tea
12 Feb Connie Adams
19 Feb Pamela Nash

Church Care
17 Feb Sue Gracey and Barbara Grieves

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

Entrance Antiphon: Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

Communion Antiphon: They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

In memoriam: **Sarah Frazer ~ 15th February**
Gladys Gronlund ~ 16th February
Nancy Etccl ~ 16th February

Feast Days of the Week: Sunday 12th to Saturday 18th February 2017

12th St Saturninus & Companions, Martyrs (d304AD)
13th St Erminguild, Queen & Widow, Abbess (d703AD)
14th St Valentine, Priest & Martyr (d270) Sts Cyril, Monk (826-869) & Methodius, Bishop (827-883), Memorial
15th St Claude De La Colombiere, Priest (1641-1682)
16th St Onesimus, Martyr (d 1st Century AD)
17th Seven Founders of the Order of Servites, 13th Century, Optional
18th St Marie Bernadette Soubirous (1844-1879)



Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time—Year A

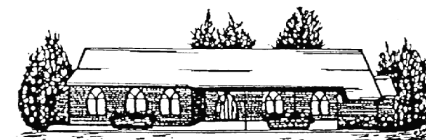
12th February 2017

Jesus cites several examples of the Law to demonstrate the way in which he has come to fulfil those teachings, rather than to abolish them. He reinterprets the teachings on killing, adultery, divorce and oath-breaking.

When there is an attitude of observing the very literal meaning of law, there is a tendency to look for loopholes wherever possible. This attitude had become the norm in Jesus' day. His reinterpretations are designed to challenge people to think about the law in a broader context and to take the law into their heart rather than looking for ways to get around it.



Sacred Heart Parish



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

We respectfully acknowledge the Darug and Gundungurra people, the traditional custodians of the land of the Blue Mountains.

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.

Parish Priest: Father Bob Sheridan **Office hours:** Wed 1.00pm - 4.00pm
Parish House: 02 4787 8811 Thu 9.00am - 12.00pm
Parish Mobile: 04 2887 8810 Fri 9.00am - 12.00pm
(Emergency only) For Baptisms, Marriages, & sick calls contact Parish House.
Parish Office: 02 4787 8540 **e-mail:** shbheath2@bigpond.com
Facsimile: 02 4787 6143

Parish House: 18 Inconstant St, Blackheath.
Sacred Heart Church: 167 Wentworth St, Blackheath.

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

Blackheath - Mass	Sunday	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

Parish Pastoral Council meets the 4th Thursday of each month. If you would like an issue discussed, please submit it in writing to Fr Bob or David Buckley (Chair); Adrienne Kitching (Deputy Chair) or Karen Hayward (Secretary).

Sacred Heart Care Group: 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

GARAGE SALE: What a week of relentless pressure for those involved, and it is not over until the sale ends this afternoon. At time of writing this report (Wednesday evening), we are about to organize and price all the goods that have been donated to us. All goods have yet to be displayed. What a job that will be! Huge thanks to everyone involved, the donors, all the volunteer workers and, of course, Marilyn (plus Paul) Sue and Patricia for planning, organising and conducting this massive parish money-making venture - our largest for this year. So, if you want to indulge in a last minute browse among the 'bargains', after Mass would be perfect for you.

DIOCESAN WORKS FUND (DWF): This year's first DWF appeal is to take place today, hence the envelopes arrayed in front of you in the pews. Please give generously to this fund as it helps numerous charitable activities within our Parramatta Diocese. A few of the ministries that the DWF supports include priests and religious training, Catholic Social Services, family support and youth activities. So, thank you in advance for your generosity. Please note that a second round of this collection will be available next week for those unable to contribute today. Please place the completed envelopes on the second collection plates.

NO MASS NEXT TUESDAY: Due to a full day seminar commitment at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta, there will be no 6.30pm Mass on Tuesday (14/2). I apologise in advance for my absence on this occasion.

BORING BLACKHEATH: Wednesday just passed, Martin - a local pest exterminator - responded to our request to investigate a sawdust presence near one of our pews. After inspecting every pew in the church, Martin found borers in four of our pews in three widely separated locations within the church. As a consequence, every pew in the place has been sprayed to kill off any or all infestations that might have existed. Of particular interest, is the fact that evidence of a borer presence was found in several places around the altar. That, too, has been sprayed. Finally, Martin would not accept any payment for his work, saying that it was a donation to Sacred Heart. I am now waiting for him to give me one of his business cards whose details, once received, will be made known to you through this Bulletin. His unsought generosity is certainly deserving of our support, I believe.

VALE REV. FR TIMOTHY CROWLEY: Yesterday (7/2), the Emeritus Parish Priest of St Bernadette's Lalor Park Fr Tim Crowley PP passed away in Rosebud, (VIC) after serving over 50 years in the priesthood - 23 years of which were given to our Lalor Park community. Fr Tim's death occurred after a short illness. His funeral is expected to be held this coming week at Lalor Park. Time to hang up your boots old friend! May you forever Rest In Peace in God's infinite love.

VALE "THE OUTLOOK": Have just received written advice from Bishop Vincent that the monthly Diocesan magazine - "The Outlook" - is to be retired permanently following the upcoming March edition. Its content is to be made available digitally. A copy of Bishop Vincent's email is to be found on our noticeboard.

ON PATRICK'S VISA STATUS: Elsewhere in this Bulletin you will find a separate item relating to Patrick's stay among us. Please pray for the success of his appeal!
God Bless! Father Bob

A small contribution towards Laudate Si' Pope Francis' Encyclical on the environment - bring your secateurs! The many agapanthus plants in our gardens have provided us with a wonderful visual display this year - both around and in our Church. But now, as the blooms wane, there are thousands of developing seed pods tempting our local birds - the end fate of many of these seeds of course - being pooped down in the Blue Mountains National Park - where we now have agapanthus invading fragile areas in our World Heritage wonderland. **If you have some spare time, please bring your secateurs along and help get rid of the many stems and seed pods - simply take them home and put them in your green bin.**

PROJECT COMPASSION 2017

We need helpers with this year's appeal ... PLEASE! This is our annual effort to support Caritas Australia - the Catholic Church's NGO supporting overseas and Australian Indigenous projects. This year's theme is **'Love your neighbour'** with a focus on projects in The Philippines, Timor-Leste, Kinchela Boys Home Aboriginal Corporation, Vietnam and Fiji. To open the Appeal we always celebrate **Pancake Sunday**.

For this we need: pancake mix, cooks and servers. We also need help disseminating the excellent material supplied by Caritas, preparing Sunday Liturgy throughout Lent and, of course, processing the generous donations.

If you are able to help out please contact Christa or David - 47875105, 0400208707; dbuckley45@bigpond.com

Happy Birthday
Betty Zeman 90 on 14th February
Monica Bright for 16th February

Thank you from the Epiphany Pilgrims!

The Epiphany Pilgrims extend their deepest gratitude and thanks to Fr Bob and the parishioners of Sacred Heart Parish for the warm welcome and support we received during the 2017 Epiphany Pilgrimage.

The 110km, 7 day journey through the Blue Mountains was a wonderful celebration of faith and a time of great blessing and much joy for all those involved. A special thank you to all those who joined us for prayer, Mass and Adoration along the way as well as those who assisted in a particular way by providing catering, transport and access to the Church and hall - we couldn't have done it without you. Finally, thanks to Fr Bob for supporting the pilgrimage and to you all for your prayers and encouragement. We look forward to seeing you again in 2018! If you'd like to find out more or see photos of the pilgrimage then go to www.epiphanypilgrimage.org or <https://www.facebook.com/epiphanypilgrimage/>

A Message of Appreciation from Patrick
When I started living in Sydney I struggled a lot with finding a church community where I was truly comfortable and accepted.

However, coming to Sacred Heart Parish I have found my peace and freedom. I have found people that accept me for who I am.

I have found people whose hearts are forever open and loving. I am extremely thankful to this church community for assisting me in my struggle to obtain a visa.

Despite all the adversities I have experienced I am blessed that I have every single person of this community in my life. I thank God every day for guiding me here and gifting me such wonderful friends.

Thank you for your support, prayers and guidance in the past months. Patrick

Addendum:

Let Your Light Shine ...over the past two Sundays, members of Sacred Heart Parish have certainly demonstrated a very practical application of last Sunday's Readings! Heartfelt thanks to the 108 parishioners and visitors who signed the petition we have sent to the Immigration Assessment Authority in support of Patrick's appeal against the decision by the Department of Immigration and Border Security to decline of his application for a Safe Haven Enterprise Visa.

Your continued Prayers are sought - to help ensure a successful outcome for Patrick. Thank You! David B

Happy Anniversary
Peter and Kate Grbanac for 17 February

New Youth Minister Role at La Salle Academy (LSA), Lithgow
Ideal for a gap student (accommodation provided in a lovely semi-rural setting). For position description, please contact Joanne Brown (Religious Education Co-ordinator—Mission) at LSA. 6354 5100

Please pray for the sick and their carers:
Barry Bowden; Madge Boylan; Margaret Clancy; John & Marion Crowley; Paul Kalmar; Kevin Madden and Philia Portelli.