

*Isaiah 43:16-21 A new deed
Philippians 3:8-14 Christ my prize
John 8:1-11 Not condemned*

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord has done great things for us and we are filled with joy.

Gospel Acclamation:

Glory to you, O Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ.
With all your heart turn to me,
for I am tender and compassionate.
Glory to you, O Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ.

Servers

25 Mar Diane Stewart
1 Apr Ray Wood

Readers

25 Mar	1st Reading	Frances Huckstepp
	Ps/Intercessions	David Ridoutt
	2nd Reading	Mary Duggan
1 Apr	1st Reading	Wayne Evans
	Ps/Intercessions	Terry Beaver
	2nd Reading	Catherine Beaver

Ministers of the Eucharist

25 Mar Ray Wood and Pat Leeder
1 Apr Heather Carroll and Diana Landsberg

Children's Liturgy

25 Mar Frances Huckstepp
1 Apr Julie Hodgkinson

Counters

25 Mar Irene
1 Apr Barbara and Charles

Morning Tea

25 Mar Carroll Family
1 Apr Mignon Dwyer

Church Care

30 Mar Noleen Cliff and Mary Kingston
6 Apr Sue Gracey and Barbara Grieves



5th Sunday of Lent

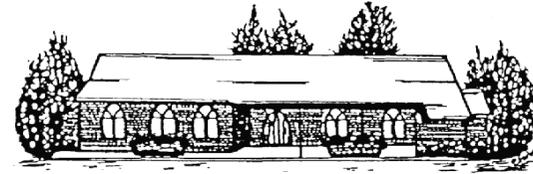
Today's gospel contrasts the legalism and mercilessness of the scribes and Pharisees with the mercy and delicacy of Jesus towards the sinful woman. Jesus does not enter into their game of shaming and condemning her. He remains bent down, writing in the sand, and does not even look up at her until her accusers have departed, themselves shamed. Today's society continually demands harsher punishments. Does this reflect Jesus' attitudes?

Next Week: Father, forgive them *Isaiah 50:4-7; Psalm 21 Philippians 2:6-11; Luke 22:14-23:56*

Please pray for **William Malcolm Durbin**, aged 3, who is very ill. His brother, Alexander Morad Durbin, will be baptised here on 7th April.

Vigil and Requiem Mass for **Bishop Patrick Murphy** will be held at Corpus Christi Cathedral, 263 Mona Vale Road, St Ives. Vigil Mass: 7.30pm on 26th March. Funeral Mass: 11.00am on 27th March. Prayers are requested for his eternal rest.

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	9.30 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
Mount Victoria - Mass	1st Friday of month	7.00 pm
Megalong Valley - 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



PROJECT COMPASSION:

This week we meet Y Re from the Central Highlands of Vietnam. Like many minority ethnic women she received a low level of education. She left school at ten years old to help her family grow enough food.

Y Re is participating in a special credit program supported by Caritas to provide loans and offer workshops to help women arrange their finances. Your donation will allow communities to become self-reliant and look forward to a more productive future. Sincere thanks for your generosity.

The Social Justice Group.

Reconciliation

March 29:	Thursday (this week) 7.00pm	First Rite of Reconciliation <i>(Fr Bob Sheridan from Katoomba will come to our Parish.)</i>
April 7:	Easter Saturday 10.00am	Second Rite of Reconciliation

Holy Week and Easter Liturgies

April 1:	9.30am	Passion (Palm) Sunday <i>(Weather permitting, we will gather in the backyard of the Parish House and process into the church.)</i>
April 4:	7.30pm	Chrim Mass, St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta
5:	Holy Thursday 7.30pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper (Blackheath)
6:	Good Friday 10.00am	Stations of the Cross (Blackheath)
	10.00am	Prayer Service (Megalong Valley)
	3.00pm	Celebration of the Lord's Passion
7:	Holy Saturday 7.30pm	Easter Vigil
8:	Easter Sunday 9.30am	Sunday Eucharist

St Vincent de Paul Society is desperately seeking two people to work every second Thursday for three hours in the Food Bank at Katoomba. If you can help in this very worthwhile activity please speak to Catherine or Terry after mass or ring 4787 1224. *Terry Beaver*

Two 'candle holders' into which canisters are placed and approximately seven dozen oil canisters are available. They are 4cm in diameter and about 17cm tall. Previously used at St Patrick's Cathedral. If you are interested contact Fr Wim on wim@stpatscathedral.com.au or ph 8839 8420 or leave a message at the office on 8839 8412.

Please note:
As **Good Friday** falls on the first Friday of the Month there will be no Mass at Mt Victoria.

Today Fr Kevin Bates will be offering our mass for Sr Colleen's mother, **Rosa Holohon**, who died on 25 January, 2007.



Happy Birthday
Maria Cora for 26th March
Ray Wood for 28th March

EASTER SUNDAY CAKE

STALL: All donations of cakes, biscuits, jams, pickles and items suitable for the craft stall will be very welcome. Food items to have a list of ingredients attached. It would be appreciated if all items are wrapped and priced ready for sale.

Many thanks to all those who attended the St Patrick's Day Dinner. It was a fun night and greatly enhanced by your presence and sense of celebration.

We are very grateful, also, to **Pat and Rosemary McArdle** for the wonderful entertainment - it certainly made the night special and happy.
The Social Committee

Today during our mass our **Catechists will be commissioned.** It is with great pride and appreciation that we recognise them for their wonderful work in our State schools.

A VOCATION VIEW: Lent is six weeks of being serious about forgiveness and knowing we are loved. Who will step forward to tell of God's great love for us?

Reflection

by Dianne Bergant CSA

Lent ends on a note of wonder. In the face of all the mighty works that God has already performed for the people, God promises something even more magnificent.

Throughout this season we have reflected on the marvels that God accomplished in the lives of the people, cutting a covenant with Abraham, leading the people out of bondage, revealing God's own personal name, bringing them into a land that is bursting with life. Now God says: You haven't seen anything yet. The first reading proclaims that something new is about to appear. In the gospel, this new thing unfolds before our eyes. Here we see Jesus neither rejecting the law nor changing it. Instead, he shows that the law, as good as it might be, serves something higher. He shows that the mercy and compassion of God exceed the authority of the law. Once again we see that the readings of Lent are less concerned with mortification and penance than they are with divine graciousness and our response of joy and thanksgiving.

Paul is not satisfied with the blessings of the past. In fact, he considers them rubbish when compared with knowing and being united with Christ. Life with Christ transforms us from people who are caught in sin, to women and men who have been forgiven. Life in Christ is the new thing that God has fashioned for us. God is the one who creates something new; we are the ones who are re-created.

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