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*Hosea 2:16-17,21-22 You will know Me
2 Corinthians 3:1-6 Covenant of the Spirit
Mark 2:18-22 New wine*

Responsorial Psalm: (sung)
The Lord is kind and merciful.
Gospel Acclamation: (sung) **Alleluia!**

Servers

26 Feb Michelle Davis
3 Mar Pat Leeder (Mt Victoria)
5 Mar Jan Roberts

Readers

26 Feb 1st Reading Robyn Burns
Ps/Intercessions Anne Broomfield
2nd Reading Kevin Burns
3 Mar 1st Reader Catherine Beaver
2nd Reader Terry Beaver
5 Mar 1st Reading Fiona Evans
Ps/Intercessions Elizabeth Giddey
2nd Reading Peter Ticehurst

Ministers of the Eucharist

26 Feb Julie Hodgkinson and Wayne Evans
5 Mar Monica and Brian Bright

Children's Liturgy

26 Feb Carol Drummond
5 Mar Susan Kerr

Counters

26 Feb Julie and Lance Hodgkinson
5 Mar Robyn and Adrian Carroll

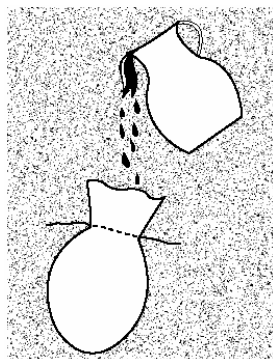
Morning Tea

26 Feb Anne-Marie Bland
5 Mar Cathy Cavanagh

Church Cleaning

3 Mar Peter and Jennifer Ticehurst
10 Mar Pat Waters and Phil Wicks

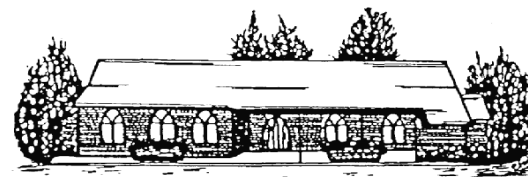
Youth Apostolate Parramatta: an invitation to all who are interested in ministry with young people to our first "Vision Youth Leadership Breakfast". An opportunity to enjoy a hot breakfast while connecting with others involved in youth leadership and exploring the unfolding VISION for youth ministry in the Parramatta Diocese. **Saturday 25th March. 8.30-10.30am. St Patrick's Cathedral Hall.** RSVP: March 15th. Youth Apostolate; 8838 3419 Email: youth@parra.catholic.org.au See Notice board for E-Bulletin for February 2006.



**Eighth Sunday
Year B
26 February 2006**

Today Jesus describes himself as the bridegroom. The metaphor of the bridegroom and bride recalls a rich biblical tradition, shown in today's reading from the prophet Hosea. In veiled terms Jesus is claiming his Messiahship and his relationship with his Father. He alludes to his coming passion and death when his disciples will fast and mourn. The old covenant will give way to the new.

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: shbheath@hermes.net.au

Blackheath

Mass Sunday 9.30 am
Liturgy of the Word and Communion Service Wednesday 9.00 am
Praying the Gospel Wednesday 9.30 am
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

Christian Meditation (one hour) Every Wednesday 7.00 am
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@telapacific.com.au

Dear Friends,

As we move towards Lent we often think of “giving up” something ... we might extend this to ‘taking on something new’ in the coming season. We could look anew at the traditional Lenten disciplines of fasting, almsgiving and prayer, and ponder that our fasting is useless if it does not remind us of our duty to the hungry. Almsgiving is meaningless, if it does not force us to confront the social structures that keep people poor. Prayer will not draw us closer to God, unless we open our hearts both to God’s love and to God’s challenge. (extracts from The Summit and Daily Prayer 2006)

Blessings, Lyn.

Come to the World Day of Prayer 1.30pm - Friday, March 3. Have you locked it into your diary? Have you invited your friends? As we are the hosts this year we are hoping that our local community will be well represented. Church women of South Africa, “The Rainbow Nation”, invite us “to take courage in our risen Lord who is the sign of all times, and the only source of our hope and joy.” In a world of racism, poverty, violence, war and HIV/AIDS... come and gather with our local churches and pray together with hope. Sr Judy Lawson, principal of Santa Sabina, and some Yr 12 students our guest speakers, will share their reflections on their visit to South Africa late last year. The Social Committee is asked to bring a plate for afternoon tea and anyone else is also welcome to do so, or if you are unable to be there, you may like to send something along.

To celebrate the launch of **Project Compassion** we will be flipping pancakes after Mass today. 4 pancakes for \$3 or 6 for \$5

Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent. Ashes will be distributed at both the 9.00am Liturgy of the Word and Communion Service and the 7.30pm Mass, this **Wednesday, 1 March.**

Dare to Dream is a collaborative project involving Catholic Vocations Ministry Australia (CVMA), NSW Vocations Network and Youth Ministry and Vocations Networks in the Diocese of Sydney, Parramatta and Broken Bay.

The Dare to Dream Team is offering 2 in-services on either March 9th (in Parramatta) or March 14th (Lidcombe) for those who work with young people, or are involved in guiding young people in understanding and discerning the vocation to which they are called. Input on the day will include:

- * The concept of vocation as God's call rather than a career choice;
- * A general overview of current theology and understanding of vocation;
- * An understanding of young people: their aspirations and how we, as Church, can respond to their needs;
- * An overview of Religious Life and priesthood in terms of Charism/Spirituality, community living, vows, and the value of these choices for the Church and the world today.

Brochure is on the noticeboard.



Project Compassion Sunday, February 26

Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or set of envelopes and give generously to the appeal this Lent. Your donations will allow Caritas Australia to reduce poverty and hunger in more than 50 countries around the world.

Today we welcome to the waters of Baptism, Jeremy Lillis, and pray that abundant blessings will overflow upon Collette and Sean, Connor and John Paul and upon this community.

St Patrick's Day Celebration: St Pat's night will be a night to celebrate 'the wearing of the green' - Irish songs and 'sing-a-long' and a bit of trivia for testing your Irish knowledge. Do you have a great Irish story or joke? Bring it along, you may get a chance to share it. We are planning a good fun Irish night. Please put your name on the list on the church porch. Come along, relax and enjoy what will be a great evening on Saturday, 18th March, from 7pm. BYO food and drink. Everyone is very welcome! \$5 single / \$10 Family

Happy Birthday
Owen Kelly for 28th February
Bettina Le Gras for 1st March



REFLECTION MORNING: The Sisters of Charity invite you to a morning of quiet reflection and prayer to be held on Saturday, 11 March from 10am to 12noon at their home, 227 The Mall, Leura. **Theme: Living restfully the spirit of our lives.** Enquiries: Sister Mary Maguire - 4784 2055

Please remember in your prayers those whose anniversaries occur at this time
✠ **Geraldine Drake** and
✠ **John Williams - 4 March**

St Vincent de Paul Blackheath Conference will meet this Tuesday 28 Feb at 3.30pm in the Meeting Room.

Life Explored: A Counselling Practice in Parramatta has a number of courses beginning soon. In addition most of the programmes are converted into an interactive format which can be used on computers running Windows. Use the website below for samples of the programmes.

- Mondays, beginning Feb 27, 6.30 - 8pm (5 weeks) Healing the child within (Fee 154.00)**
- Saturday, March 11, 10am - 1pm Be patient, I'm about to bloom (Fee 44.00)**
- Saturday, March 11, 2 - 5pm Dealing with difficult people (Fee 44.00)**
- Saturday, March 25, 10am - 1pm Anger management (Fee 44.00)**

If you are interested in more information about any of these programmes, please phone 9633 1789 or email: info@lifexplored.com.au See noticeboard for details.