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Baruch 5:1-9 God's desire
Philippians 1:3-6,8-11 Paul's prayer
Luke 3:1-6 Salvation dawns

Responsorial Psalm: Hymn No. 62 - A voice in the wilderness

Gospel Acclamation: Prepare ye the way of the Lord. (repeat)

ROSTERS

Servers

10 Dec Jan Roberts
17 Dec Wayne Kelly

Readers

10 Dec 1st Reading Elizabeth Giddey
Ps/Intercessions Peter Ticehurst
2nd Reading Fiona Evans
17 Dec 1st Reading Jane Nolan
Ps/Intercessions Ian Maguire
2nd Reading Claire Maguire

Ministers of the Eucharist

10 Dec Monica and Brian Bright
17 Dec Norma Longmuir and Michelle Davis

Children's Liturgy

10 Dec Family Sunday
17 Dec Anne Broomfield

Counters

10 Dec Robyn and Adrian
17 Dec Barbara and Bill

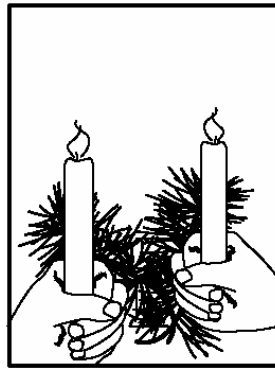
Morning Tea

10 Dec Carroll Family
17 Dec Mignon Dwyer

Church Care

15 Dec Julie Hodgkinson
22 Dec Therese Gatt and Margaret Solomons

Readers: All Ministers of the Word please note that 4 copies of 'Break Open the Word 2007' are available for borrowing. I encourage you to take a copy home with you the week before your rostered Sunday to reflect, pray and prepare for your proclamation of the Word and then return the copy for the next group. Should you be interested in receiving a copy of your own, please leave a message with Sr Lyn.



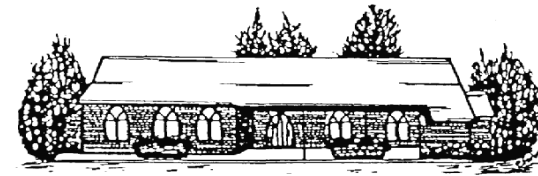
Second Sunday of Advent Year C

How are we to 'prepare a way for the Lord' this Advent? John the Baptist proclaimed repentance for the forgiveness of sins. Isaiah spoke of straightening paths and smoothing roads for the Lord's approach. What do we need to do in our world today as individuals and as a community? What sins do we need forgiven, what works of repentance do we need to make?

NEXT WEEK

What must we do?
Zephaniah 3:14-18; Psalm
Isaiah 12: 2-6
Philippians 4:4-7;
Luke 3:10-18

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

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|--|-----------------------|---------|
| 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 |
| Christian Meditation (one hour) | Wednesday | 7.00 am |
| | Friday | 4.30 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@telapacific.com.au

Dear Friends

Advent ... Waiting... "Why does the Lord delay? Why do the poor still have to go on crying out for justice two thousand years after the coming of Christ? ... One reason why God takes so much time is that he is not a god. Our God is not a powerful, celestial superman who might come ... like the cavalry galloping to our rescue. God comes from within, in our deepest interiority. He is, as St Augustine said, closer to us than we are to ourselves... There is a way to know if God is near or far away: everyone who is concerned about the hungry, about the naked, about the poor, about the disappeared, about the tortured, about the prisoner, about all the flesh that is suffering, will find God near. *Just one Year*, ed Timothy Radcliffe OP, DLT, 2006 p31 Oscar Romero. Blessings, Lyn.

Second Rite of Reconciliation and Solemn Evening Prayer

St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta, will be celebrating Solemn Evening Prayer and the Communal Rite of Reconciliation with Individual Confessions (2nd Rite) on Tuesday, 19th December, commencing at 7.30 pm. A Schola from the Cathedral Choir will assist in the celebration. All are welcome to attend and prepare for Christmas.

Advent Evening Prayer You are invited to pray the Prayer of the Church with Sr Lyn in the Parish House for the next two weeks on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 5.15pm. Please enter by the front door.

December Cosmology Gathering: The theme of this month's meditation will be "Expectant Summer Greening" and the discussion will centre round chapter ten in Fr Thomas Berry's book, *Dream of the Earth*, entitled 'A New Story'. In an atmosphere of Advent prayer we will gather from 10 am till noon on Friday 15 December at the Good Samaritan Community house, 3 Valley Road, Wentworth Falls. Enquiries: Sr. Jacinta 4757 2290

Christmas Liturgy Meeting:

Tuesday, 12th December at 7pm in the Parish House.



Happy Birthday

Lachlan Gilchrist for Today

Jan Roberts for Today

George Commens for 13th December

Rozee Crawford for 13th December

Ratiz Hodgkinson for 14th December

Ashlyz Crawford for 16th December

Father Mac's Heavenly Puddings

are produced in two sizes of 800gm and 1.6kg and are available by phoning 9349 3066
Fax: 9349 2146 Mob: 0419 243 285
Delivery arranged.



✠ Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:
Rosalie Sandor - 13th December
Maria Naraj - 14th December

Sacrament of Penance - (Confession)

Next Saturday, December 16, 5.30pm:

Second Rite of Reconciliation

Celebrant Fr John Frauenfelder.
Our candidates Elaine, Ray, Marie and Ron will join us.

Monday, December 18, 7.00pm:

Individual Rite of Reconciliation

Celebrant: Fr John Smith

You might not be familiar with the difference between Confession and what is often referred to as the Second Rite.

Confession (the First Rite) is a 'one to one' with the priest and is the only way of going to Confession that most of us knew growing up.

The Second Rite of Reconciliation - is designed "to emphasize the relation of the Sacrament to the Community. This rite places individual confession and absolution in the context of a (communal) celebration of the Word of God." (Rite of Penance)

Following the Word of God, we examine our lives in relation to the Word we have heard and in relation to the world around us - a communal examination of conscience. We then individually confess to the priest the main area(s) of sin in our lives, ask forgiveness and receive absolution. We conclude with a communal prayer of praise and thanksgiving.

SPECIAL COLLECTION: 17 DECEMBER

The Social Justice Group has embraced the idea proposed at our first meeting with Sr Libby Rogerson of adopting a refugee family in need of support by the parish. The family comes from St Michael's community at Blacktown South. They are a special Sudanese family who came as refugees in January of this year. Their Mum is a widow with four boys under the age of eight and the youngest is ten months.

We would be greatly appreciative of your support on Sunday, 17th December by contributing to a special collection for this special but very needy Sudanese family. We hope to make their Christmas and New Year one where they experience the compassionate heart of our God and the generous spirit of our Sacred Heart community. Your prayers for this family may be your gift and this alone would make your Advent preparation a special one. We thank you in anticipation. **Social Justice Group**

~Christmas Programme~

Sunday, 24th December

9.30am Mass 4th Sunday of Advent

Sunday, 24th December

7.00pm Carols

7.30pm Christmas Eve Family Mass

Children are invited to come dressed as angels, shepherds, sheep and kings or may like to be part of an Australian Christmas Story! - if so, contact: Julie Hodgkinson on 4787 8096.

Monday 25th December

9.10am Carols

9.30am Christmas Day Mass



St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal TODAY.

The 2007 Columban Calender is now available for \$6. Buy one of these great calendars and you will be helping our missionaries at the same time. This calendar also makes an excellent gift for family or friends.

Also, **Vinnie's Christmas Cards** are for sale at **\$2.50 per packet**.

Please see Laurie after Mass.