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Zephaniah 3:14-18 God's joy
Philippians 4:4-7 Our happiness
Luke 3:10-18 What must we do?

Responsorial Psalm:

Truly God is my salvation; I trust, I shall not fear.

Gospel Acclamation:

Change your lives, he's coming.
The one who is the light of the world is coming.
Change your lives, he's coming.
The reign of God is near! Alleluia, alleluia!
The reign of God is near.

Servers

17 Dec Wayne Kelly
24 Dec Diane Stewart

Readers

17 Dec 1st Reading Jane Nolan
Ps/Intercessions Ian Maguire
2nd Reading Claire Maguire
24 Dec 1st Reading Julie Hodgkinson
Ps/Intercessions Steve Gauci
2nd Reading David Buckley

Ministers of the Eucharist

17 Dec Norma Longmuir and Michelle Davis
24 Dec Norma Longmuir and Diana Landsberg

Children's Liturgy

17 Dec Anne Broomfield
24 Dec Frances Huckstepp

Counters

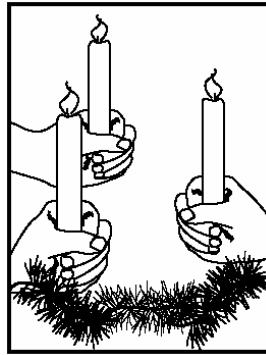
17 Dec Barbara and Bill
24 Dec Christa and David

Morning Tea

17 Dec Mignon Dwyer
24 Dec Christa Buckley

Church Care

22 Dec Therese Gatt and Margaret Solomons
29 Dec Michelle Funnell and Tony Perriam



**Third Sunday of
Advent Year C**

**Do we have a sense
of expectancy as we
await the coming of
the Saviour?
Will he find us doing
the works of justice
and love for one
another when he
comes, as John
exhorted the people
in his preaching?
If so, the Lord will
truly be in our midst
and exult and dance
for joy over us.
We, too, will rejoice
with him.**

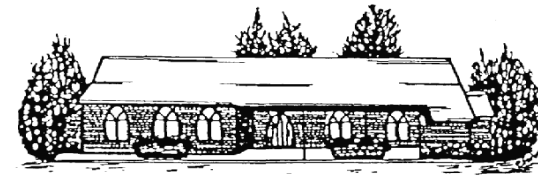
NEXT WEEK

Mother of the Lord
Micah 5:1-4; Psalm 79
Hebrews 10:5-10;
Luke 1:39-44



What must we do? Stay where you are. Find your own Calcutta. Find the sick, the suffering, the lonely, right where you are... Find them. Love them. Put your love for them into living action, and so become a channel of God's peace right where you are... Put love into everything you do, and you will be fulfilling your vocation. **Mother Teresa of Calcutta (1910-1997)**

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	9.00 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

“The Incarnation took place when God took on our humanity, when the Word became flesh and dwelt among us. This happened in Palestine under Roman occupation. Then as now and, in spite of all the hardships, we celebrate Christ’s birth, Emmanuel, God with us, giving us hope, joy, peace and love.

We are defiant. We are full of hope. We will continue to work for peace through justice.” Just One Year: ed Timothy Radcliffe OP DLT, 2006 p58-59.

Blessings, Lyn.

SPECIAL COLLECTION: TODAY

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 today 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

Please remember those who are sick and in need of our prayers, especially
Barry Leeder.

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.



Sr Lyn Eastmure
60 on 20th December
Robert Forbes
50 on 20th December
Charles Hodgkinson
for 20th December

Dominic Burke for 21st December
Sophie May Kerr for 22nd December

Attention Readers

A copy of *Break open the word 2007* is available for borrowing, if you are interested in purchasing your own copy, please see Sr Lyn.

Happy Anniversary Kerry & Paul Rapley for 18th December.

RCIA: This morning we welcome **Elaine, Marie and Ray Phillips** and **Ron Davis** into full membership with the Catholic Church. We join in prayer as we pray for the fullness of the Spirit and rejoice as they join us at the Eucharistic Table to receive the Body and Blood of Christ. We also offer our prayers and sympathy to Ron on the sudden death of his brother-in-law who was buried on Friday.

Sacrament of Penance – (Confession)
Monday, December 18th at 7.00pm:
Individual Rite of Reconciliation
Celebrant: Fr John Smith

Caritas Australia is, this year, offering gifts that will inspire and inform whilst also supporting your Global Family around the world. A gift to Global Family will support vital **Caritas Australia** water, food, security or health programs. You will receive a card that you can give to your loved ones which will include a message about how their present is supporting marginalised communities around the world.

LITURGY ROSTER FOR CHRISTMAS

24-Dec **Christmas Eve** Children's Mass
Server: Ray Wood
1st Reading: Pat Waters
Ps/Intercessions: Christa Buckley
Communion: Heather Carroll
& Michelle Davis

25-Dec **Christmas Day**
Server: Pat Leeder
1st Reading: Le Gras Family
Ps/Intercessions: Le Gras Family
2nd Reading: Le Gras Family
Communion: Diane Stewart & Anne Broomfield

Advent Evening Prayer

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

~Christmas Programme~

Sunday, 24th December

9.30am Mass 4th Sunday of Advent

Sunday, 24th December

7.10pm *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**



Free Christmas Lunch

The Katoomba Christmas Lunch is held each year by the Kinship at Christmas Foundation, a community group that provides a meal and some company on Christmas Day. There is **NO CHARGE**. There is

NO PREACHING. There are **NO STRINGS**. **Just a friendly get together for Christmas.**

Lunch will be served from 11.30am on Christmas Day at the Katoomba Civic Centre in Katoomba Street. Doors open at 10am for tea and coffee. Transport is available for those who have mobility problems.

For information contact 4787 7550.

The Foundation relies on the generosity of community members and sponsors - donations are appreciated. See you at Christmas.