

**T  
O  
D  
A  
Y**

*Jeremiah 33:14-16 Promised fulfilment*  
*1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2 Grow in love*  
*Luke 21:25-28.34-36 Stay awake*

**Response to the Psalm:**

To you, Lord, I lift up my soul, O my God.

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Stay awake, be ready. You do not know  
the hour when the Lord is coming.  
Stay awake, be ready. The Lord is coming soon.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! The Lord is coming soon.

**Servers**

29 Nov Ray Wood  
6 Dec Michelle Davis

**Readers**

29 Nov 1st Reading Mary Duggan  
Ps/Intercessions Carol Drummond  
2nd Reading Anne Broomfield  
6 Dec 1st Reading Robyn Burns  
Ps/Intercessions Kevin Burns  
2nd Reading Peter Ticehurst

**Ministers of the Eucharist**

29 Nov Bill Grieves and Michelle Davis  
6 Dec Monica and Brian Bright

**Children's Liturgy**

29 Nov Sarah Greene  
6 Dec Elaine Phillips

**Counters**

29 Nov Carla and Neil  
6 Dec Monica

**Morning Tea**

29 Nov Carla Endean  
6 Dec Claire Maguire

**Church Care**

4 Dec The Gatt Family  
11 Dec Noeleen Cliff and Mary Kingston



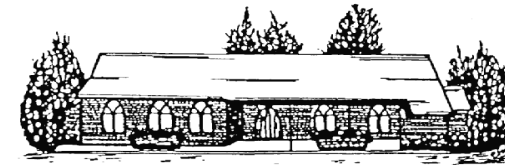
**First Sunday of Advent**  
Year C

If we live our lives with  
honesty and integrity,  
and with love for each  
other, we will not be  
overcome when  
everything seems to  
crumble around us.  
Saint Paul urges us  
to continue making  
progress in living  
good lives.

Perseverance in prayer  
will enable us to stand  
with confidence in the  
face of ill-fortune,  
for God comes to meet  
us even in our trials  
and difficulties.

Next Week: *Prepare a way*  
Baruch 5:1-9; Psalm 125  
Philippians 1:3-6.8-11; Luke 3:1-6

# SACRED HEART PARISH



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

We wish to acknowledge the Darug and Gundungurra people,  
the original custodians of this land.

**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.

Administrator: Fr Bob Sheridan Parish Office hours:  
Parish House: 4787 8811 Wednesday: 1.00pm - 5.00pm  
Parish Office: 4787 8540 Thursday: 10.00am - 2.00pm  
Fax: 4787 6143 All enquiries regarding Baptisms,  
email: shbheath2@bigpond.com Marriages and sick calls, phone 4787 8811.

Parish Address: 18 Inconstant Street, Blackheath NSW 2785

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

<b>Blackheath - Mass</b>	Sunday	9.30am
Evening Mass	Tuesday	6.30pm
Morning Mass	Wednesday, Friday & Saturday	9.00am
	Thursday	8.00am
Benediction	2nd Saturday after 9.00am Mass	
Exposition	All other Saturdays after 9.00am Mass	
Reconciliation	Saturday	9.30am
<b>Mount Victoria - Vigil Mass</b>	1st and 3rd Saturdays	6.00pm
<b>Megalong Valley - Vigil Mass</b>	2nd and 4th Saturdays	6.00pm

**Parish Pastoral Council** meets the 3rd Thursday of each month. If you would like an issue discussed, please submit it in writing to either Fr Bob, Monica Bright (Chair), Adrian Carroll (Deputy Chair) or Chris Le Gras (Secretary).

**Care Group** - Carmel Vanny (4787 8706) Michelle Funnell (4757 2638)

**Bulletin Items:** Please contact Kate Forbes by 7.00pm Thursday.  
Phone 4787 8520 or email [sacred.heart.bulletin@gmail.com](mailto:sacred.heart.bulletin@gmail.com)

**Please pray for those who are ill:** Christa Buckley; John Duggan;  
Bernadette Ellery; James Ford; Dominic and Lachlan Gilchrist; Rita Jenner;  
Roger Johnstone; Ray Lee; Kenneth Kirkham; Irene Peacock; Cecily O'Brien;  
Hugo Riggs; Cy Schreiber; Eric Tokoli and John Wilkinson.

**HOUSE SITTER:** Peace of mind while you are away to care for house, garden and pets. Available 2010. 1 month to 12 months. Contact Carmel - 0408 880 464

Please remember in your prayers  
Patricia Dee's dear friend, **John Brodie**, who passed away last Wednesday.

## ADVENT WREATHS

The Season of Advent commences this Sunday, November 29th. Advent is a special time for us to prepare for Jesus' birth on Christmas Day. During this season, many people like to have an Advent wreath in their homes to help them count the weeks of Advent. There is a lot of symbolism attached to the Advent wreath. It is in the shape of a circle to represent eternity. The evergreen of the wreath reminds us that the love of Jesus lives in us every day and will never end. The wreath is usually laid flat and on the inside of its circle are placed four candles - three violet and one pink. Sometimes a fifth (white) candle is also used and lit on Christmas Day. One violet candle is lit on the first Sunday of Advent, the second violet candle is added to the first candle on the second Sunday, the pink candle is added to the other two on the third Sunday (called 'Gaudete' Sunday - Latin for "rejoice") and the third violet candle is added to the other three so that all four candles are lit on the fourth Sunday. Since ancient times, the wreath has been a symbol of victory - in this instance, the victory of Christ over death and sin. So, go to it if you want to make this a special Advent in your home this year.

Here in our Blackheath Sacred Heart Church, after considerable discussion, we plan to introduce a more Australian flavour to our Advent "wreath". A suggestion has been accepted to suspend a night sky blue drape on the wall behind the altar, and each week place a star on the drape/curtain. These are to be so positioned as to present the Southern Cross once all are attached at Christmas. Canonically, this innovative idea is quite acceptable. Hope you like it!

## "COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS"

There is a campaign sponsored by the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales calling on mothers everywhere to pray for their children to "Come Home for Christmas". Sadly, too many of our children and grandchildren have become distant from their practice of the faith, and we feel unable to help.

To help reach out to these lapsed Catholics who no longer attend Mass or the Sacraments, we are asked to participate in a novena of prayer from December 12 to December 20 this year asking, through the intercession of St Monica, for the return of our families during the Christmas Season. However, if unsuccessful, we should continue to pray this prayer as long as it takes for the person concerned to listen and act on God's invitation. The prayer is:

*Dear Jesus, you see right into our hearts and you see pain there.*

*We come to bring our children to you.*

*We know that you love them infinitely more than we can do.*

*Please protect us and our families from the evil one and from all evil.*

*We know Lord that you have the victory,*

*So, we thank you now for your protection through the intercession of St Monica. AMEN.*

God Bless! Fr. Bob

**Change of Mass Time:** Please note that for Saturday 5th December only, Mass will be celebrated at 10am due to the 'Family Breakfast' being held at 8am.

## THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

We would like to thank you all for your generous contribution to our Christmas Stall. This has been the most outstanding result to date. We raised \$1,900 for the Good Shepherd Sisters to help women around the world to trade out of poverty. Many commented on the creative and colourful gifts for sale at such reasonable prices. I would especially like to thank Christa, David, Michelle, Tony, Mary and Brian for their wonderful support. Our grateful thanks to you all. *The Social Justice Group.*

Kelly Leonard from the Trading Circle wishes to convey to you all her grateful thanks for such generosity and loyalty over the past few years.

**Parish Office:** Please note the Parish Office will be closed from Thursday, 24th December, 2009 and will re-open on Wednesday, 13th January 2010.

## Men's Breakfast - With a Difference - Saturday, 5 December

The Gentlemen of the Parish have pleasure in inviting all parishioners (yes, Ladies, Girls and Boys) to attend our final Men's Breakfast for 2009. In the true Christmas spirit, we feel it only fair that everyone should enjoy the experience of Ken, Ron and Frank's sumptuous fry-up, as well as, Robert's porridge and Tony's East Timor coffee - not to mention the wonderful company of the guys! And, of course, we shall wash up! As always, we will have an outstanding **guest speaker** and on this occasion **Dr Joe Landsberg** will be addressing a topic well on the minds of all - **"Is all the hype about climate change justified?"** Please let Christa or David know if you will be attending by phoning them tonight on 4787 5105 or emailing David: david45@bigpond.net.au Being guys, we are early starters - breakfast is served at 8.00am.

## Happy Birthday

Majella Nolan for 1st December  
Gregory Hodgkinson for 3rd December

Happy Anniversary  
Stephen and Joanne Gauci  
for Today

~♥~

Happy 4th Anniversary  
Lex and Melanie Dignam  
for 3rd December

**VOCATION VIEW:** Make your decision to follow Jesus during THIS Advent Season. Delaying until "one" of these days is "none" of these days. Follow now.

## Feast Days for this week! (29<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> December 2009)

Sunday	St Saturninus, Bishop, Martyr (d257)
Monday	St Andrew, Apostle, Feast
Tuesday	St Eligius, Bishop (590-660)
Wednesday	St Bibiana, Virgin, Martyr (d362),
Thursday	St Francis Xavier, Priest (1506-1552), Memorial
Friday	St John Damascene, Priest, Doctor (676-749), Optional Blessed Mary Frances Schirvier, Founder (1819-1876)

