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Baruch 5:1-9 **Glory of God**
Philippians 1:3-6.8-11 **Pray with joy**
Luke 3:1-6 **Prepare a way**

Response to the Psalm:

We are filled with joy
for the Lord has done great things for us.

Gospel Acclamation:

Change your lives, he's coming.
The one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.
Change your lives, he's coming.
The Lord is coming soon. Alleluia, Alleluia!

Servers

6 Dec Michelle Davis
13 Dec Bill Grieves

Readers

6 Dec 1st Reading Robyn Burns
Ps/Intercessions Kevin Burns
2nd Reading Peter Ticehurst
13 Dec 1st Reading Monica Bright
Ps/Intercessions Anthony Gilchrist
2nd Reading Brian Bright

Ministers of the Eucharist

6 Dec Monica and Brian Bright
13 Dec Heather Carroll and Carla Edean

Children's Liturgy

6 Dec Elaine Phillips
13 Dec Anne Broomfield

Counters

6 Dec Monica
13 Dec Judith and Frank

Morning Tea

6 Dec Claire Maguire
13 Dec Jan Roberts

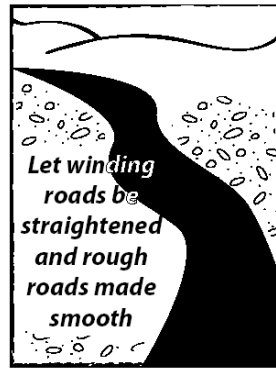
Church Care

11 Dec Noeleen Cliff and Mary Kingston
18 Dec Julie Hodgkinson

Please pray for those who are ill: 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

Two lovely black male kittens (domestic short hair) now available. Ph 4787 8343

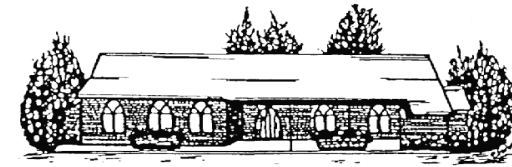


**Second Sunday of
Advent Year C**

There are times when
we can feel crushed and
everything seems dismal.
Today, God tells us to
look to him and see the
wonders he is preparing
for us. God asks only
that we turn to him, and
from that perspective we
shall see and experience
with joy the glory of his
salvation. For our part,
we need to prepare our
hearts to recognise
God's coming.

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

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>

Blackheath - Mass	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
Mount Victoria - Vigil Mass	1st and 3rd Saturdays	6.00pm
Megalong Valley - Vigil Mass	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

CHRIST AND CHRISTMAS

As we enter the final few weeks leading to Christmas, as Catholics it is a good time to reflect on all that Christmas means to us and for us - a time for us to get our perspectives sorted out both in relation to CHRIST-MAS and the wider festive season surrounding this event.

The 25th December, Christmas Day, is that day when "in memoriam" (where we take time out of the equation) we celebrate the actual event of Christ's birth. Christ is God in human form while still retaining his Divine nature. He is the "Word" who came to teach us and show us by the life he lived our way home to our Creator Father. He is our Saviour, both physical and spiritual. We owe him all that we are and have. That cost him his human life, so freely given by him in the most extraordinary and diabolical way. Christmas Day is when we celebrate his arrival among us to eventually carry out his life-saving work - to save us from the forces of evil and ourselves. It is a day of great celebration, of homage paid to him by us, of gratitude and thanks for his life-saving actions to come, and of our responsive love for our God, through Jesus, for making this possible because of his (God's) infinite love for each of us. That is what Christmas Day is for us!

Ironically, the 25th December in pagan times was the feast of the sun god - called "Birthday of the Sun". We Christians 'took' it over about the middle of the fourth century, and now here we are in great danger of once more returning this extraordinary and unique Christian Feast Day of CHRIST-MAS to the 'pagans' for their Godless festive purposes. Be aware! Be careful that our motivations do not lead us away from the real meaning and purpose of Christmas.

God Bless! Fr. Bob

DWF Collections: Thank you for your generosity over the last two weeks. Our collections totalled \$769. The money collected will help support the ministries of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Parramatta.

CHURCH CARE GROUP: A new roster is about to be drawn up for the following six months. If there are any changes, please let Mary Kingston know. Once again, thank you to all who have helped during the year.

Feast Days for this week! (6th December to 12th December)

Sunday	St Nicholas
Monday	St Ambrose c 340-397
Tuesday	Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Wednesday	St Peter Fourier
Thursday	St Gregory III
Friday	St Damasus
Saturday	Our Lady of Guadalupe



Glass Jars Needed

Please check at home if you have any spare wide-mouthed glass jars to donate to Vinnie's (large Moccona Coffee jars would be perfect). The jars will be filled with homemade German Christmas biscuits and included in the Vinnie's hampers. Contact Catherine or Terry on 4787 1224.



DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

December 12 at 9.30am we will hold our Discernment Meeting for the Parish Pastoral Council. Those recommended will also attend the prayerful process. We ask for your prayers.

December 13 is our AGM for our community. All are welcome to attend after our Sunday Eucharist. Peace and blessings, Monica Bright.

Happy Birthday

Tony Bland ~ Today
Julie Hodgkinson ~ 9th December
Laechlan Gilchrist ~ 10th December
Jan Roberts ~ 10th December

~Parish Working Bee~

Friday 18 December: 5pm - 7pm
Saturday 19 December: 7am - 9.30am
Please help to tidy up the grounds so they look their best for Christmas.

Father Mac's Heavenly Puddings



(Helping local and overseas charities)
Father Mac's Famous Heavenly Puddings available in 800gr or Family Size 1.6kg.
Fax: (02) 9349 2146, Phone: 9349 3066,
Mob: 0419 243 285. Delivery arranged.

~ ECUMENICAL ADVENT FESTIVAL ~

This year's Advent Festival will be celebrated in an Australian context. As this gathering is a preparation for the celebration of Christmas, it will consist of song, readings, poems, O antiphons, sharing of Christmas stories and customs with a special morning tea. It will be held at the Good Samaritan Community House, 3 Valley Rd, Wentworth Falls on Friday, 18th December, from 10am till noon. This is a welcome to all to come and bring your friends. Enquiries: Sisters Therese & Jacinta 4757 2290.

CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLE

Small books of tickets are available today. There is also a list of suitable items needed on the notice board.
Fund Raising Committee



It is not to the palaces of kings or the courts of rulers that the Word of God comes but to John in the wilderness.

It is John who is intent in discerning in solitude the will of God, open to God's calling and prompt to act when called. The Word of God had come to John once before, when he was in his mother's womb, when he leapt for joy in prophecy of his future role as the precursor of Jesus. It was his leaping that revealed to his mother that Mary was the mother of her Lord.

The Word of God will come to John once again, this time to be baptised by him. And, again, John will know — 'I should be baptised by you, you the Lamb of God.'

Lord, grant us a spark of the fire that so illuminated and inflamed John so that we may know you. And give us a delight in that solitude of a detached heart.

- from Daily Prayer online