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Isaiah 2:1-5 **The days to come**
Romans 13:11-14 **Wake up now**
Matthew 24:37-44 **Stay awake**

Psalm Response:

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

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.

ROSTERS

Servers

28 Nov Pat Wicks
5 Dec Ray Wood

Readers

28 Nov	1st Reading	Robyn Burns
	Intercessions	Frances Huckstepp
	2nd Reading	Kevin Burns
5 Dec	1st Reading	Carmel Vanny
	Intercessions	Barbara Smith
	2nd Reading	Frances Huckstepp

Ministers of the Eucharist

28 Nov Anthony Gilchrist and Diane Stewart
5 Dec Diana Landsberg and Elizabeth Giddey

Children's Liturgy

28 Nov Carroll Family
5 Dec Fiona/Wayne Evans

Counters

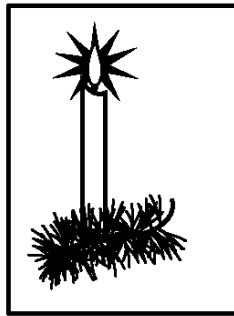
28 Nov Robyn and Kevin
5 Dec Louise and Laurie

Morning Tea

28 Nov Michelle Funnell
5 Dec Carmel Vanny/Barbara Smith

Church Care

3 Dec Phil and Pat Wicks
10 Dec Michelle Funnell and Tony Perriam



**First Sunday of Advent
Year A**

Isaiah invites us to climb the mountain of the Lord so that we may walk in the ways of peace and justice. This call to a change of life challenges us to let go of the things that hinder our response to God's love in our lives. Then we will be refreshed in spirit, and so be alert and ready to meet Christ when he comes, even unexpectedly.

Next Week:

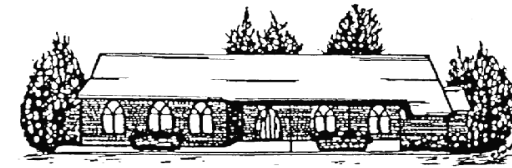
Prepare for his coming
Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 71
Romans 15:4-9; Matt 3:1-12



Feast Days for this week! (28th November to 4th December 2010)

Sunday 28th	St James of the March - Priest (1391-1476)
Monday 29th	St Saturninus, Bishop & Martyr (d257)
Tuesday 30th	St Andrew - Apostle - Feast
Wednesday 1st	St Eligius, Bishop - (590-660)
Thursday 2nd	St Bibiana - Virgin & Martyr (d362)
Friday 3rd	St Francis Xavier - Priest - (1506-1552) - Memorial
Saturday 4th	St John Damascene - Priest & Doctor - (676-749) Optional Bl. Mary Frances Schirvier, Founder - (1819-1876)

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.

Parish Priest: Father Bob Sheridan

Parish House: 4787 8811	Parish Office hours:
Parish Mobile: (24 hrs/7 days) 0428 878 810	Wednesday: 12.00pm - 4.00pm
Parish Office: 4787 8540	Thursday: 10.00am - 2.00pm
Fax: 4787 6143	All enquiries regarding Baptisms, Marriages and sick calls, ph 4787 8811.
email: shbheath2@bigpond.com	

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 Fr Bob or Michelle Davis (Chair), Marjanna Gilchrist (Deputy Chair) and Diane Stewart (Secretary).

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

Bulletin Items: Please contact the Parish Office on Wednesday or Thursday during office hours on 4787 8540 or email shbheath2@bigpond.com

ADVENT

And so another church year has ended and today, with the onset of Advent, we commence a new church year. Year A (Sundays) and Year 1 (weekdays) provide the Scriptural readings for this New Year.

As you look around this morning, you will see that we have a new Advent wreath and a Jesse Tree located in the church.

Elsewhere in this bulletin, you will see a prayer for us to share each Sunday of Advent when prior to the beginning of Mass we light one of our four candles which form part of the Advent Wreath. The Jesse Tree represents the genealogy of Christ and at the Christmas Eve children's mass, figurines made by the children themselves will be placed by them on that tree. These figurines will depict aspects of life in the Old Testament from creation to the birth of Jesus. The Jesse Tree gets its name from the book of Isaiah - "There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots."

DWF (Diocesan Works Fund)

Last week's DWF collection raised \$451.00, a disappointing amount considering that our quota for this period is \$1795.00. For those who were unable to contribute last week, envelopes are placed on the pews to make such a contribution today should you so desire. Please keep in mind that your contributions to the DWF support many different ministries and support services within the Diocese which are a benefit to us all.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Just a reminder to you that the Annual General Meeting of our Parish Pastoral Council will be held in the Parish Hall immediately after today's 9.30am Mass. A streamlined format is being introduced to make this necessary event more interesting and enjoyable for all who attend. A sausage sizzle is part of the planned program.

FR KEVIN BATES

It's great to once again share time and Eucharist with Fr Kevin who has accepted our invitation to be with us on this first day of Advent and to address us in relation to our Parish hymn in the hall following Mass as part of this year's AGM program. Fr Kevin has also agreed to be principal celebrant and homilist at this mass. Unfortunately, he has to leave us by 12 noon because of outstanding appointments elsewhere. We take this opportunity on behalf of all parishioners to thank Fr Kevin for his attendance here today and we extend to him our every good wish for the upcoming Christmas - New Year season.

Blessings! Fr. Bob

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

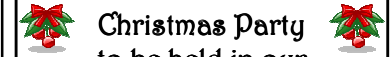
We would like to thank all who purchased our craft goodies from The Trading Circle for the Good Shepherd Sisters. Special thanks to Father Bob for inviting us to share our wares again last Sunday. We raised \$1900.00. For a small community, this is tremendous and illustrates the generosity of our special Sacred Heart Community.

Peace and blessings, Mon Bright.

First Week of Advent

Adults: O Jesus Christ,
Emmanuel, come and dwell with us.
Desire of all nations;
Gift to every generation,
Come, make your home with us.

Children: All nations,
everybody, is waiting for you.
The people of Australia
are waiting for you.
The people of Blackheath community
are waiting for you...
Jesus, come to us.



Christmas Party
to be held in our
Parish Hall
Friday, 10th December,
commencing at 6.30pm.
Cost is only \$5.00 p.p.

Your Social Committee hope that you can come along and join in the fun - Christmas carolling, lucky door prizes, plus more!!! Please see the list on the notice board. We need you there - after all, a party is not a party without people.

Historical Context - The Advent Wreath

One of the major symbols of the Advent season is the wreath. The encircling wreath is symbolic of God without beginning or end and the green foliage represents our hope in God. There are usually five candles in the wreath, a central white candle representing the light of Christ that came into the world and then four outside candles that are usually purple and rose coloured. The first candle is generally symbolic of Hope and Expectation. The third candle - the rose or pink candle - celebrates the Joy that is anticipated in the coming of Christ. The progressive lighting of the candles marks the journey towards the Nativity.

- from Liturgyhelp online

CHRISTMAS - NEW YEAR MASS TIMES:

Blackheath: Christmas Vigil (Children's Mass) (preceded by Carols from 7.00pm)	7.30pm
Christmas Day (preceded by Carols from 9.00am)	9.30am
Mt. Victoria: Christmas Day	7.00am



Please note that there will be no Christmas Day Mass at St Joseph's in the Megalong Valley. Nor will there be any Sunday Vigil Mass on Christmas Day Evening. However, there will be a special **Reconciliation** available from 7.00pm on **Tuesday, 14 December**, at Blackheath.

As normal, there will be a 9.30am Mass on Sunday morning at Blackheath.

PARISH OFFICE - CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS:

The Parish office will be closed for holidays from Thursday, 23rd December, 2010 re-opening on Thursday, 20th January, 2011. Any urgent matters, please phone the parish mobile on 0428 878 810.