

TODAY

Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11 Good news
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 The Lord is coming
John 1:6-8,19-28 John, a witness

Psalm Response
My soul rejoices in my God.

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.



3rd Sunday of Advent

Year B

11th December 2011

Last Sunday, we were introduced to John the Baptist at the beginning of Mark's gospel. This week, we read the prologue of John's gospel, in which John the Baptist is presented as the immediate witness to Christ, the Light of the world. John the Baptist consistently rejects any focus on himself, instead pointing out Christ, the unknown one standing among us, in whom we are to believe.

Servers

11 Dec Jan Roberts
18 Dec Michelle Davis

Readers

11 Dec 1st Reading Barbara Smith
Intercessions Marilyn Rowe
2nd Reading Frances Huckstepp
18 Dec 1st Reading David Buckley
Intercessions Pat Wicks
2nd Reading Christa Buckley

Ministers of the Eucharist

11 Dec Anthony Gilchrist and Bill Grieves
18 Dec Monica and Brian Bright

Children's Liturgy

11 Dec TBA
18 Dec TBA

Counters

11 Dec Robyn and Adrian
18 Dec Barbara and Bill

Morning Tea

11 Dec Barbara Grieves
18 Dec Christa Burke

Church Care

16 Dec The Gatt Family
23 Dec Noeleen Cliff and Mary Kingston

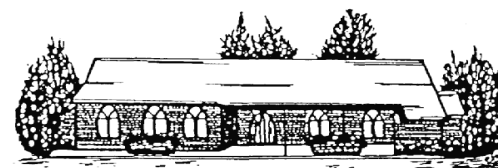
Next Week : **You will bear a son** 2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14,16; Ps 88 Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38

Feast Days for this week: (Sunday 11th to 17th December)

Sunday 11th St Damasus I, Pope (d384), optional
Monday 12th Our Lady of Guadalupe
Tuesday 13th St Lucy, Virgin & Martyr (d304), memorial
Wednesday 14th St John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor (1542-1591), memorial
Thursday 15th St Mary Di Rosa, Virgin (1813-1855)
Friday 16th St Adelaide of Burgundy, Queen (931-999)
Saturday 17th St John of Matha, Priest (1155-1213)



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 Mobile: 0428 878 810 (Emergency only)

Parish Office: 4787 8540 **Fax:** 4787 6143

e-mail: shbheath2@bigpond.com

Parish Office hours:

Wednesday: 12.00pm - 4.00pm

Thursday: 10.00am - 1.00pm

All enquiries regarding Baptisms,
Marriages and sick calls - 4787 8811.

Parish Address: 18 Inconstant Street, Blackheath. NSW 2785

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

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Sacred-Heart-Parish-Blackheath/153850768029631>

Blackheath - Mass	Sunday	9.30am
Evening Mass	Tuesday	6.30pm
Morning Mass	Wednesday, Friday and 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
Healing Mass	1st Saturday of the month	9.00am
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), Frances Huckstepp (Deputy Chair) and Diane Stewart (Secretary).

Sacred Heart Care Group: Carmel Vanny 4787 8706 or 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

Priest Supply for Sunday Mass during Fr Bob's absence

11 December	Fr Paul Maloney
18 December	Fr John Hogan
Christmas Eve	Fr Paul Hanna
Christmas Day	Fr Paul Hanna
1/8/15 January	Fr Paul Hanna

CHRISTMAS LITURGIES

Preparations are now in full swing for our Christmas Liturgies. To help with the planning of our Christmas Eve Vigil Mass, please see Julie Hodgkinson or phone her at home on 4787 8096 if you have children/young people who would like to be involved with readings, prayers or the Christmas Nativity play. We are trying to gauge how many children/young people may be present - so please let Julie know, especially, if you think they may be interested in taking an active role in the Mass.

Prayers are requested for: Iris Austin; Gabrielle Byrne; Marion Crowley; Neal Evans; Fr Frank Fletcher MSC; James Ford; Virginia Hayward; Kenneth Kirkham; Loretta Laird; Ray Lee; Barry Leeder; Lorraine McKelvie; Irene Peacock; Jan Pettit; Lee Percy and his mother, Kellie; Jean Pye; Fr Bob Sheridan; Fr John Smith; Cy Schreiber and Roma Ziolkowski.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLES: Remember to get your tickets for our fabulous Christmas Hamper Raffle. A separate raffle will also be held, with the lucky winner to receive a beautiful Christmas stocking made, and kindly donated, by Anne-Marie Bland.

MORNING CAPERS: Last Tuesday, we had our final get-together for the year at my place. We had 15 people attend and there was lots of Christmas cheer, together with good food and chatter. A few new people came along, and it was lovely to think that we can get together as a parish family and enjoy each other's company. Afternoon capers is not just for the elderly or the females of the Parish (as people may think), it's just a get-together with friends. Please think about it in the New Year and maybe come along first Tuesday of the month. Merry Christmas! *Marilyn*

The Second Rite of Reconciliation will be celebrated in the Parish on **Wednesday, 14 December, at 7.30pm.**

This Rite will be a celebration of forgiveness and healing for us as individuals, the community as a whole and for the world. It will consist of prayers, readings, reconciliation and healing. Our ordained celebrant will be Fr Paul Hanna.

Ecumenical Advent Festival

The Festival will consist of song and silence, readings and ritual. Guest musicians will be Ron Marks (trumpet) and Jane Elworthy (drums). There will be a DVD of a Nativity play by Japanese children.

A plate of finger foods would be appreciated for early lunch. It will be held at Good Samaritan Community House, 3 Valley Road, Wentworth Falls on Friday, 16 December, 10am till noon. All are welcome. RSVP: Srs Therese and Jacinta on 4757 2290

Father Mac's Heavenly Puddings (Helping local and overseas charities) Father Mac's Famous Heavenly Puddings available in 800gm or Family Size 1.6kg. Ph: (02) 9349 3066 Fax: (02) 9349 2146 Mob: 0419 243285. Delivery arranged.

FR BOB'S CHRISTMAS PRESENT

We would like to present Fr Bob with something special this Christmas from the parishioners. A basket will be available after Mass today if you would like to contribute. It will NOT be chocolates! A card will be available in the next few weeks for everyone to sign.

Happy Birthday George Commens for 13th December

Rosters for 18th Dec to 18th Feb 2012 are available for collection at the back of the church.

✠ In memoriam ✠
~ **Travis Kingston** ~
13th December
~ **Rosalie Sandor** ~
13th December
~ **Maria Naraj** ~
14th December

Vinnie's Christmas Cards on sale today. Pack of 10 for \$5. See Laurie Noyes. "Keep Christ in Christmas"

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Christmas Eve ~ Saturday 24 Dec ~ 7.00pm
We encourage children to come to the Christmas Eve Mass and take part in the Gospel Story. They may like to dress as a shepherd or an angel.
Christmas Day Mass ~ Sunday 25 Dec ~ 9.30am

Advent Chant

Composer: Phil Porter
(Used with permission, Word of Life International Licence No. 2201E)

Twilight then darkness, night falls and candles glow,
gently surrounding us - a new birth of hope.
Watching, waiting, awakening a new birth of hope.

Rejoice in the Lord

Rejoice in the Lord always, and again, I say, Rejoice!
Rejoice in the Lord always, and again, I say, Rejoice!
Rejoice, Rejoice, and again I say, Rejoice!

Let God's Dream Be Born

Composer: Kevin Bates sm
(Used with permission, Word of Life International Licence No. 2201E)

Open hearts and open minds give the spirit freedom.
Let God's dream be born in us.
Let God's dream be born.
Hearts that wonder at the word,
hear the word with freedom.
Let God's word be gently heard.
Let God's word be welcome.
Voice and hands that speak the word
give the word with freedom.
Let God's Truth be well explored.
Let God's Truth be spoken.
Mary, help of Christians,
hear our prayer that we might carry
the word with open hearts and hands,
enflesh the words for many.
Open hearts and open minds
break the bread of freedom.
Jesus, bread for all our needs,
break our heart gifts open.

Come, Lord Jesus, live in us. Come to life among us.
Let us breathe your Spirit free. Be the gift we carry.

Repeat Verse 1

Dulcie and Mick Davis would like to express their **sincere thanks to all their friends for the support and prayers offered for Louise** during the last few months.