

HOLIDAY

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

**Psalm Response**

The Lord has done great things for us  
and we are filled with joy.

**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!  
The Lord is coming soon.

**Servers**

6 Dec Jan Roberts  
13 Dec Ray Wood

**Readers**

6 Dec 1st Reading Christine Helby  
2nd Reading Claire Maguire  
Intercessions Dominic Burke Family  
13 Dec 1st Reading David Buckley  
2nd Reading Christa Buckley  
Intercessions Patricia Dee

**Ministers of the Eucharist**

6 Dec Monica and Brian Bright  
13 Dec Grahame Adams and Diana Landsberg

**Counters**

6 Dec Marilyn  
13 Dec Laurie

**Morning Tea**

6 Dec Pamela Scott/Elizabeth Doolan  
13 Dec Rasa Blansjaar

**Church Care**

18 Dec Therese Gatt and Margaret Solomons



2ND SUNDAY OF Advent

**Second Sunday  
of Advent  
Year C**

**6th December 2015**

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.

**St Paul's Mt Victoria & St Joseph's Megalong Valley**

**Entrance Antiphon:** O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

**Communion Antiphon:** Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

**Feast Days for this week! 6th to 12th December**

6th St Nicholas, 4th C  
7th St Ambrose, c 340-397  
8th Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
9th St Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin, hermit, d1548  
10th St Gregory III  
11th St Damasus, Pope, 4th C  
12th St Agatha, Benedictine Nun/Missionary Aide d790

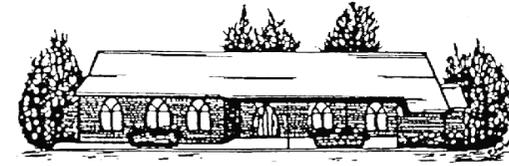


Next Week

**What must  
we do?**

Zep 3:14-18  
Psalm: Isaiah  
12:2-6  
Phil 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 respectfully acknowledge the Darug and Gundungurra people,  
the traditional custodians of the Blue Mountains' 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 **Office hours: Wed:** 1.00pm - 4.00pm  
**Parish House:** 4787 8811 **Thu:** 9.00am - 12.00pm  
**Parish Mobile:** 0428 878810 (Emergency only) **Fri:** 9.00am - 12.00pm  
**Parish Office:** 4787 8540 **Fax:** 4787 6143 All enquiries regarding Baptisms,  
**e-mail:** shbheath2@bigpond.com Marriages and sick calls - 4787 8811.

**Parish House:** 18 Inconstant Street, Blackheath. NSW 2785

**Sacred Heart Church:** 167 Wentworth Street, Blackheath.

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

<b>Blackheath - Mass</b>	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	Saturdays	9.30am
Healing Mass	1st Saturday of the month	9.00am
<b>Mount Victoria - Vigil Mass</b>	1st, 3rd and 5th Saturdays	6.00pm
<b>Megalong Valley - Vigil Mass</b>	2nd and 4th Saturdays	6.00pm

**Parish Pastoral Council** meets the 4th Sunday of each month (after 9.30am Mass).  
If you would like an issue discussed, please submit it in writing to Fr Bob or Diana  
Landsberg (Chair); David Buckley (Deputy Chair) or Dennis Doherty (Secretary).

**Sacred Heart Care Group:** 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](mailto:shbheath2@bigpond.com)

**ADVENT WREATH:** Second Sunday of Advent (Theme: "Proclamation") Advent is rich in symbols. The scriptures are filled with images of light, darkness, silence, waiting, fulfilment. The colour of the Season is violet, reflecting the penitential and reflective nature of the Church Season. This week I invite you to try and make available a little extra time to reflect on the scriptures we had at Mass today, or perhaps another scripture passage appropriate to this Season, and reflect on the contents of that passage - and the great gift that Jesus is for us.

**Week 2:** Lighting of two purple candles: From Isaiah we read, *"The people who walk in darkness have seen a great light." God of Salvation, help us give voice to the voiceless as we cry out in the name of your Son, Jesus.*"

As the candles are lit, we all say: *"Let these candles remind us that Jesus is coming."*

**"Christmas Vigil in the Forest":** This year we are better equipped to celebrate the Christmas Eve Vigil Mass (the children/family Mass) down in the forest area below Father Bob's house and garage. Limited seating will be provided for those who really need it, however, for the rest who attend, your own picnic rugs and/or fold-up chairs would be the answer. Lighting into the area where Mass is to be celebrated is already in situ, supported by a new special battery-operated PA system to magnify both the spoken voice and our choir. The Mass should be concluded before full darkness descends upon us so as to accommodate the needs of families with younger children. All we need is fine weather for that day and evening to enable this Mass to proceed. However, should the weather be inclement (bad), we will adjourn to the church as has been the case in past years. Here's hoping!

**VALE MALCOLM JACKSON:** Well known in local community circles, Mt Victoria resident, Malcolm Jackson, unexpectedly passed away earlier this week, leaving a shocked and devastated family behind. A Requiem Mass will be held for his remains this coming Thursday (10th December) at 11.00am here at Sacred Heart, Blackheath. Our very special condolences are extended to his family, relatives and friends. May his soul forever rest in peace. Amen.

**OTHER MATTERS:** Last Tuesday morning (7.30am) outgoing chair of our Parish Council, Diana Landsberg, and myself attended at Katoomba's Carrington Hotel, a publicity-orientated meeting of I.C.A.C as part of its "Outreach" programme to better inform regional communities of the range of services and purpose of this State Government body. As well, a senior representative of the Ombudsman's Office also gave us an insight into that operation. I certainly found this to be an interesting experience, though with limited relevance to the world in which we live and work.

**God bless! Father Bob**

 **Vinnies Christmas Appeal 13 & 20 December.** Your donation will restore hope.

**Collections week ending 29<sup>th</sup> November**  
1<sup>st</sup> Collection \$200.00 / 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection \$780.90  
Thank you!

**DWF Collection** last week totalled was \$685.00  
Many thanks!

**Parish Office Closure**

The parish office will **close** for the Christmas break from **18<sup>th</sup> Dec** and **re-open** on **Wed 20<sup>th</sup> Jan.**

**Have you visited the Sanctus Shop in Katoomba lately?**

Well, Christmas is a perfect time to do so as there are plenty of cards, 2016 calendars, beautiful Nativity sets, tree ornaments and gifts available for sale.

The address is shop 4, Katoomba Arcade, 147-151 Katoomba Street. Phone no. 4782 3133.

**~ CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR MASSES ~**

**SACRED HEART ~ BLACKHEATH**  
**Thursday 24th December**  
**Christmas Vigil - Family Mass**  
(in the forest, weather permitting)  
Carols from 6.30pm / Mass 7.00pm

**Friday 25th December**  
**Christmas Day**  
**Sacred Heart ~ Mass 9.30am**  
**St Paul's Mt Victoria ~ Mass 7.00am**

**Saturday 26th December (Sunday Vigil)**  
St Joseph's Megalong Valley ~ 6.00pm

**Sunday 27th December**  
**Sacred Heart Blackheath ~ Mass 9.30am**  
**28th, 29th & 30th December**  
*No weekday Masses at Sacred Heart Blackheath*  
**Thursday 31st December**  
Sacred Heart Blackheath ~ Mass 9.00am  
**Friday 1st January 2016**  
Sacred Heart Blackheath ~ Mass 9.30am  
**Saturday 2nd January 2016**  
St Paul's Mt Victoria ~ 6.00pm (Sunday Vigil)  
**Sunday 3rd January 2016**  
Sacred Heart Blackheath ~ Mass 9.30am

**Happy Birthday**  
*Julie Hodgkinson for 9th December*  
*Jan Roberts for 10th December*

**Reconciliation (Second Rite)**  
Wednesday 16th December  
7.30pm at Sacred Heart, Blackheath.

It's that time of the year! Thanks again to Sue Gracey for organising our **annual raffle**. We are now looking for donations of 'goodies' to fill the hamper, and there is a list on the notice board should you wish to note your donation preference. Raffle books are available after Mass, so please take some and sell tickets to EVERYONE you know. **Our Christmas hamper is the talk of Blackheath!**



**PHOENIX CHOIR: Christmas Concert**  
**"Vaughan Williams: Fantasia on Christmas Carols with excerpts from Bach's Christmas Oratorio and Handel's Messiah"**  
**TODAY at 3pm in the Hoskins Memorial Church, Lithgow.**  
Enquiries to Tim Kaye 0419 223 009  
Tickets at the door: Adult \$20 / Conc \$15  
Accompanied child - no charge.  
Book online at <http://www.trybooking.com>

**New Rosters for Liturgical Ministers**  
*are available at the back of the church.*

*Please pray for the sick and their carers:*  
**Michael Cooper; Nancy Edcell; Anne Farindon; David Finch; James Ford; Virginia Hayward; Ken Kirkham; Frank Mackrell; Lorraine McKelvie; Cathy Salier; Amber Simmons and Frances Slater.**

**Recently deceased**  
Please remember in your prayers, **John Statham**, who died on 23rd November. We pray that Marie and family find peace and comfort in the memory of John's love. (John was brother-in-law of Diane and Murray Stewart). Prayers are also requested for **Gordon Jaques** and his family. Gordon passed away last Thursday in Dubbo, aged 95. He was a dear friend of former Sacred Heart parishioner, Pat Finch. May John and Gordon enjoy the vision of God's glory forever. *R.I.P.*