

Isaiah 11:1-10 Justice and peace
Romans 15:4-9 Be tolerant and friendly
Matthew 3:1-12 Prepare for his coming

Responsorial Psalm:

No. 62 - Refrain only

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

9 Dec Pat Wicks
 16 Dec Wayne Kelly

Readers

9 Dec 1st Reading Le Gras Family
 Ps/Intercessions Le Gras Family
 2nd Reading Le Gras Family
 16 Dec 1st Reading Brian Bright
 Ps/Intercessions Marjanna Gilchrist
 2nd Reading Monica Bright

Ministers of the Eucharist

9 Dec Diane Stewart and Sr Lyn
 16 Dec Anthony Gilchrist and Julie Hodgkinson

Children's Liturgy

9 Dec Carroll Family
 16 Dec Bettina Le Gras

Counters

9 Dec Christa and David
 16 Dec Robyn and Kevin

Morning Tea

9 Dec Cathy Cavanagh
 16 Dec Carroll Family

Church Care

14 Dec Gatt Family
 21 Dec Noline and Kevin Phelps



**Second Sunday of
 Advent ~ Year A**

John the Baptist exhorts us to make ourselves ready for the coming of Christ by preparing our hearts and minds to receive him.

We are asked to reconsider our values. Do we act with justice and integrity?

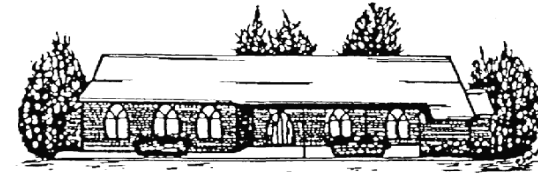
Deep in our hearts we know when we do not live up to these ideals. Advent is an opportunity to reassess our lives, turn to the Lord, and prepare for his coming.

Next Week: Persevere in faith
Isaiah 35:1-6,10; Psalm 145
James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11

Please pray for those who are ill: David Ridoutt, Irene Peacock, Les Thomas, and Travis Kingston.

Prayer Book Launch: You are all warmly invited to the launch of Sister Jacinta Shailer's new book, *Wildflower Journey Prayers*, a David Lovell Publication. This book combines Jacinta's colourful photography of wildflowers and landscapes with a week's morning and evening prayers on the theme of creation. The launch will be held on Sunday 16th December at 3 p.m. at 'Maria Tal', 2 Victoria Street, Wentworth Falls (off Valley Road). Sister Veronica Hoey sgs will launch the book and afternoon tea will be served. There will also be an exhibition and sale of enlarged, framed photos and photographic cards from the book. You and your friends will be most welcome. Enquiries: 4757 2290.

SACRED HEART PARISH



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

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.

All enquiries regarding Baptisms, Marriage and sick calls to the Parish House.

~ Pastoral Director ~ Sister Lyn Eastmure O.P. ~

Parish House 4787 8811 Fax: 4787 6143
 Parish Office 4787 8540 email: shbheath2@bigpond.com

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

Blackheath - Mass	Sunday	9.30 am
Liturgy of the Word and Communion Service	Wednesday	9.00 am
Praying the Gospel	Wednesday	9.30 am
Praying the Rosary	Thursday	2.00 pm
Prayer of the Church	Friday	9.00 am
Christian Meditation (one hour)	Tuesday (4787 7098)	7.00 pm
Meditative Prayer Service (one hour) using Scripture and Taizé music	4th Saturday of month	2.00 pm
Mount Victoria - Mass	1st Friday of month	7.00 pm

Parish Pastoral Council meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month. If you would like an issue discussed, please submit it in writing to either Sr Lyn, David Buckley (Chair), Monica Bright (Deputy Chair) or Chris le Gras (Secretary).

Bulletin Items: please contact Kate by 7.00pm Thursday - phone 4787 8520 or email sacred.heart.bulletin@gmail.com

Dear Friends,

Signing Up For Life. How does it feel to sign a petition or a contract? In baptism we signed up for life – for new life in Christ. Jesus through his death and resurrection offers us a wonderful new freedom, calling us to live our lives to the full. ... our challenge in our waiting for Jesus Christ is to “stay awake”. Where have you or our community been sleeping on the job? How can an understanding of our baptism help us to stay awake? Called and Gifted: Advent Resource Diocese of Wollongong, 2007.

Blessings Lyn.

WORKING BEE

**Friday Evening,
14th December, 6 - 8pm and
Saturday, 15th December 7 - 9am.**

Many thanks to the intrepid few who braved the wet weather at the last Working Bee. A lot was achieved. However, due to continued wet weather, the grass and weeds have grown even faster.

We now need a major effort to prepare our grounds for the Christmas Celebrations, to show visitors and locals alike, that Sacred Heart, Blackheath is not unloved.

The following is a list of jobs that need attention, either on the Friday evening or Saturday; or if you may not be available at those times, during the week:

(Choose the job that suits you.)

Church Area:

Garden weeding, Cleaning drains, lawn mowing, hedge trimming, clearing driveways and paths.

Hall Area:

Lawn mowing, clearing paths.

House Area:

Lawn mowing, hedge trimming.

Lower block area:

Removal of fallen branches.

Celebrating the Family

Today we especially welcome our young families. Your pre-school children can enjoy activities in the parish hall for the duration of this Mass. As usual your primary school children may like to attend Children's Liturgy. They will be invited to go to the meeting room after the Opening Prayer and will rejoin us at the Procession of Gifts.

I would like to thank Carol and those who are working with our children this morning. Weather permitting you are welcome to the Blackheath pool area for a picnic.



Happy Birthday

Julie Hodgkinson
for Today

Lachlan Gilchrist
for 10th December

Jan Roberts
for 10th December

George Commons
for 13th December

Renee Crawford
for 13th December

Katie Robb
for 14th December



Father Mac's Heavenly Puddings

Delivery arranged
To place your order:
Tel: (02) 9349 3066
Fax (02) 9349 2146
Mob: 0419 243 285

Christmas Timetable

18 December, Tuesday:

7.30pm Sacrament of Reconciliation (2nd Rite)

24 December, Monday:

7.00pm Carols
7.30pm Christmas Vigil
Children's Mass

25 December, Tuesday:

9.00am Carols
9.30am Mass

Christmas Raffle Hamper

A list for suitable items for the Hamper is on the notice board and small books of tickets are available.

Thank You.

Christmas concert



*Celebrate the spirit of
Christmas with
Noel! Noel!,
a concert by the
Australian
Brandenburg
Orchestra at 7pm
on 12 December in
St Patrick's Cathedral.
Bookings: 9328 7581.
Brochures available in the
church foyer.*

There will be a practice for children participating in the Christmas Eve Mass with Pat Drummond and Sr Lyn on Saturday 22 December, 3-4pm at the Church. All children of all ages are welcome.



See noticeboard:

CIS Catholic Institute for theology and ministry:
January Summer School Program
Living As Joy: New Years Eve Workshop - Mulgoa

The **World Youth Day Cross & Icon** will be the focus of a program of activities at Mt Schoenstatt, Mulgoa, on the weekend of 15-16 December. The program includes the Blaze Youthfest and all-night Vigil on Saturday, and a Family Day on Sunday. Details: www.parra.catholic.org.au



Blackheath Community Carols

You're especially invited to join our Church group singing outside the Community Hall entrance in Memorial Park from

6.00pm to 6.20pm TODAY!

(We will assemble at 5.50pm.)

Free family fun in the park 4.30pm - 6.30pm.

Carols in the Hall begin at 6.30pm.

Be part of the joy of the Festive Season.

Come along ... Sing along!

We will practice our 'Carols in the Park' selection of songs for 30 minutes after mass TODAY. We need as many singers as possible... so, bring in your cuppa and have a sing-a-long with us in the church. The songs are

Aussie Jingle Bells; The North Wind; Christmas where the Gum Trees Grow; Star Child; Freedom is Coming; O Holy Night; Coventry Carol and Christmas in the Scrub.

Recently deceased:

Mass will be offered today for the repose of

Katica Basic,

Ana Tokoli's sister, who passed away recently. May she be at rest in the arms of her loving God.

Please remember in your prayers those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

✠**Rosalie Sandor**

13th December;

✠**Maria Naraj**

14th December.