

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

Responsorial Psalm:

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.

Servers

2 Dec Ray Wood
 7 Dec Pat Leeder (Mt Victoria)
 9 Dec Pat Wicks

Readers

2 Dec 1st Reading Gerard Nolan
 Ps/Intercessions Wayne Evans
 2nd Reading Carol Drummond
 7 Dec 1st Reader Catherine Beaver
 2nd Reader Terry Beaver
 9 Dec 1st Reading Le Gras Family
 Ps/Intercessions Le Gras Family
 2nd Reading Le Gras Family

Ministers of the Eucharist

2 Dec Heather Carroll and Michelle Davis
 9 Dec Diane Stewart and Sr Lyn

Children's Liturgy

2 Dec Julie Hodgkinson
 9 Dec Carroll Family

Counters

2 Dec Barbara and Bill
 9 Dec Christa and David

Morning Tea

2 Dec Anne-Marie Bland
 9 Dec Cathy Cavanagh

Church Care

7 Dec Pat and Phil Wicks
 14 Dec Gatt Family

Happy Anniversary

Fiona and Wayne Evans for today
 Lex and Melanie Dignam for 3rd December

**First Sunday of Advent
Year A**

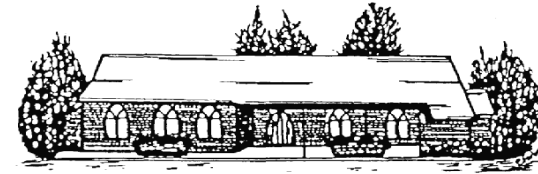
Isaiah invites us to climb the mountain of the Lord so that we may walk in the ways of peace and justice. This call to a change of life challenges us to let go of the things that hinder our response to God's love in our lives. Then we will be refreshed in spirit, and so be alert and ready to meet Christ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

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

Happy Birthday
Gregory Hodgkinson
 for 3rd December
Tony Bland
 for 6th December

Next Week: Prepare for his coming *Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 71 Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12*

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



This season of Advent

The present season is one of particular importance. It is a sacred season. As the Holy Spirit says, it is the time of the Lord's favour, the day of salvation, peace and reconciliation. The patriarchs and prophets longed and prayed and yearned with all their hearts for this time...And the Church has always kept this season in a special way. So, we too must continue to celebrate it fittingly, giving praise and thanks to the eternal Father for the mercy he has shown us in this mystery of the coming of his Only-begotten Son.

St Charles Borromeo (1538-1584)

Dearest Blackheathens!

I was very, very moved and humbled by the love and kindness and thanks you gave to me last Sunday on my last visit for Mass after all these years. I was feeling very sad and thankful at the same time. We have shared some marvellous moments over these years and your friendships and love I will continue to hold in my heart with great joy. I felt a bit lost for words when it came to speaking about my farewell moment there, so wanted to pop you this note to echo what I felt on Sunday. The painting is beautiful and thanks to each of you for your prayers, your most kind gifts and beautiful sentiments expressed in the cards I received. The spread was wonderful, cakes, sponges, hot things, sandwiches etc, etc, etc, - it was a real feast. Thanks to all of you who helped all that happen.

I felt very loved and want you to know that I love you much in return.

Until we catch up again, wherever and however, may our God hold us all gently and guide us well.

Kevin Bates sm



Thank you to the Parish community for your thoughts, prayers and beautiful flowers following the loss of my father. *Sr Lyn.*

Liturgy Meeting for Christmas

This Tuesday, 4 December in the Parish House at 7pm.

Mass at Mt Vic this Friday, 7 Dec at 7pm. All welcome.

The Blackheath Conference of St Vincent de Paul will meet on Tuesday, 4 December at 3.30pm in the Meeting Room.

'Parish Music Ministry'

You are invited to attend a  Christmas Get Together at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta on Tuesday, 11 December.

The evening will begin at 7pm with sung evening prayers (Vespers) in the Chapel, followed by Champagne and Canapés in the Cathedral Hall where we will share aspects of our Ministry, compare notes, discuss ideas and make plans for 2008 and beyond. The evening will finish at 10pm.

Dress: Casual

RSVP by 4 December

Ph 8839 8433 or music@stpatrcathedral.com.au (Please advise your name and parish represented for name tags.)

Thank You

to everyone who helped make Fr Kevin's Morning Tea such a wonderful occasion – the cooks for all the delicious food, the servers who helped share the goodies around, the washer/cleaner uppers and, of course, everyone who came along and made it such a special tribute to Kevin. We shall miss him!!

(Christa Buckley)

MEN'S BREAKFAST SATURDAY 8 DECEMBER

Our last Breakfast for the year will be on Saturday, 8 December, commencing at 8am. As always, great food and great company! Our guest speaker will be **Gerard Nolan**.

Gerard has titled his talk:

"A tapestry of thought on the Mass as a central activity of the life of the Parish".

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 on Sunday 9 December.

(We will assemble at 5.50pm.)

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

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Carols in the Hall begin at 6.30pm.


Be part of the joy of the Festive Season.

We will practice our 'Carols in the Park' selection of songs for 30 minutes after mass on Sunday 9th December. 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.*



### Christmas Raffle

~HAMPER~

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

### Celebrating the Family

~December 9~

After a wonderful day last year, once again we are offering a Kindy Liturgy during the 9.30am Mass.

You can leave your pre-school children in the Parish Hall from 9.20am onwards where they will be supervised and entertained with some fun Christmas activities.

Your primary school aged children have the opportunity to reflect and discuss the Sunday Scripture Readings at their Children's Liturgy.

A leader will invite the children to go with her to the meeting room for the first part of Mass and we will come together for a Special Family Blessing. Then, we hope you will join us for a Family Picnic at Blackheath Pool Park (BYO lunch), games for all the family and you may decide to take the family for a swim.

**If you can assist in any way or have ideas to share, Sr Lyn would love to hear from you! Invite family members, friends and neighbours!**