

TODAY

2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14,16 **David's house**
Romans 16:25-27 **Give glory to God**
Luke 1:26-38 **You will bear a son**

Psalm Response

I will sing forever of the goodness of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

By the power of the Spirit,
Mary will give birth to a Son called Jesus.
By the power of the Spirit, Emmanuel is near!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Emmanuel is near.

ROSTERS

Servers

18 Dec Michelle Davis
25 Dec Michelle Davis

Readers

18 Dec 1st Reading David Buckley
Intercessions Pat Wicks
2nd Reading Christa Buckley
25 Dec 1st Reading Ron Davis
Intercessions Carla Endean
2nd Reading Barbara Smith

Ministers of the Eucharist

18 Dec Monica and Brian Bright
25 Dec Brian and Monica Bright

Children's Liturgy

18 Dec TBA
25 Dec TBA

Counters

18 Dec Barbara and Bill
25 Dec Marilyn

Morning Tea

18 Dec Christa Burke
25 Dec No Morning Tea on Christmas Day

Church Care

23 Dec Noleen Cliff and Mary Kingston
30 Dec Julie Hodgkinson



**4th Sunday of Advent
Year B**

18th December 2011

The longing for the
Promised One
fed Israel's faith down
the centuries after the
promises made to
Abraham.

This echoed in Mary's
heart, yet when the angel
announced that his
path led through her,
she was deeply disturbed.

The angel's response
to her questions
reassured Mary, who
declared herself
'the handmaid of
the Lord.

Let it be done to me.'

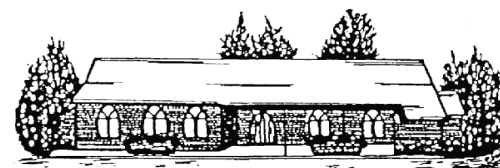
Next Week: **Our Saviour born** Isaiah 9:1-7; Psalm 95 Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14

Feast Days for this week: (Sunday 18th - Saturday 24th December)

Sun 18th St Gatian, Bishop of Tours (3rd Century)
Mon 19th St Anastasius, Pope (d404)
Blessed Urban V, Pope (1310-1370)
Tue 20th Sts Abraham, Isaac & Jacob (OT Fathers)
Wed 21st St Peter Canisius, Priest, Doctor (1521-1597), optional
Fri 23rd St John of Kanty, Priest (1390-1473), optional
Sat 24th Christmas Eve
Sts Adam & Eve - Progenitors of human race



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	22nd 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

Gospel Reflection (Lk 1:26-38)

We have reached the final Sunday in the season of Advent - a time of preparing ourselves to recognise and celebrate Christ's presence in the world, both historically and in an ongoing, timeless way. This week's gospel account of the Annunciation is an ideal culmination to this season as we recall Mary's emphatic 'Yes' to all that was being asked of her. At the end of the Advent season of reflection and preparation to recognise Christ's presence in the world and in our lives, what better response could there be than to simply say, 'Yes'?

In a world that is driven by selfishness and the drive to push one's self ahead of others, Mary's selfless act stands as a challenge to our modern society. Even in her own time, Mary's decision must have been an enormously difficult one - one that had the potential to bring great shame on herself and Joseph. Yet, her decision is made swiftly and in faith. She trusts God absolutely and gives her life over into God's hands. That is perhaps the supreme act of faith; to say 'Yes' to God so completely that you are prepared to hand over direction and control of your own life.

Few of us tend to be visited by angels who lay out God's plan for us as clearly as Gabriel did for Mary. For most of us, it is a challenge to discern God's desire for us; to realise what it is that we are called to do and then give ourselves fully to that call. In the hustle and bustle of life, it is difficult to hear anything that God may be trying to ask of us. Perhaps the example of Mary's 'Yes' is a reminder to be still enough to hear the question in the first place!

-Liturgyhelp online

Christmas Liturgy Roster

~ Christmas Eve Vigil Mass ~

Server: **Jan Roberts**

Eucharistic Ministers:

Monica & Brian Bright

Readings and Intercessions:

Children & Young People

~ Christmas Day Mass ~

Server: **Diane Stewart**

Awaiting volunteers for Readers and Eucharistic Ministers.

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.



Priest Supply for Sunday Mass during Fr Bob's absence

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

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 93493066
Mob 0419 243285 Fax (02) 93492146
Delivery arranged.

Happy Birthday

Robert Forbes ~ 20th December
Charles Hodgkinson ~ 20th December
Dominic Burke ~ 21st December
David Bucklgy ~ 24th December

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.

In memoriam



~ **Travis Kingston** ~
13th December

May all who have died rest in the loving embrace of God.

Rosters for 25th Dec to 12th Feb 2012

are available for collection at the back of the church.

Please pray for:

*Iris Austin; Neal Evans;
Fr Frank Fletcher MSC;
James Ford;
Virginia Hayward;
Kenneth Kirkham;
Loretta Laird;
Ray Lee; Barry Leeder;
Lorraine McKelvie;
Irene Peacock;
Lee Piercy and his mother, Kellie; Jean Pye;
Fr Bob Sheridan;
Fr John Smith;
Cy Schreiber and
Roma Ziolkowski.*

Advent Chant

Composer: Phil Porter

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

Hail Mary, Gentle Woman

Composer: Carey Landry

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Hail Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with you.

Blessed are you among women and
blest is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners now
and at the hour of our death, Amen.

Gentle woman, quiet light,
morning star, so strong and bright,
gentle Mother, peaceful dove,
teach us wisdom, teach us love.

You were chosen by the Father,
You were chosen for the Son,
You were chosen from all women,
and for woman, shining one.

Gentle woman, quiet light,
morning star, so strong and bright,
gentle Mother, peaceful dove,
teach us wisdom, teach us love.

Blessed are you among women,
Blest in turn all women, too.
Blessed they with peaceful spirits
Blessed they with gentle hearts.

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

Vinnie's Christmas Cards on sale today.

Pack of 10 for \$5. See Laurie Noyes.

"Keep Christ in Christmas"