



Westmead Catholic Community PARISH HEARTBEATS

Official Weekly Bulletin of Sacred Heart Parish, Westmead

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'The sacred heart of Jesus is an open heart...' St Teresa of Kolkata

Second Sunday of Advent

7 - 8 December 2024

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.*

FIRST READING

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'. Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them. Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory. For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PS 125. R.V.3

**R. The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.**

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
it seemed like a dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs.
2. The heathens themselves said:
'What marvels
the Lord worked for them!'
What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad.
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.
Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap.
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back,
full of song,
carrying their sheaves.

IS 30:19, 30

SECOND READING

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare the way
of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah: A voice cries in the wilderness; Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

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

PHIL 1:3-6. 8-11

LK 3:4. 6

LK 3:1-6

BAR 5:5; 4:36

PARISH CONTACTS

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Parish Priest

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Parish Primary Schools:

Sacred Heart Primary

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Principal: Elizabeth Devlin

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Westmead Hospital Chaplain

Fr Domingo Barawid MI

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MASS TIMES - Parish Church

Saturday: 6:00pm (Vigil)

Sunday: 8:00am & 9:30am

Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri, Sat: 9:00am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 5:00pm to 5:30pm

BAPTISMS

1st Sundays or by arrangement

MARRIAGES & FUNERALS

By arrangement with the Parish Priest
(min 6 months notice for weddings)

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

By arrangement with the Parish Priest

The Westmead Catholic Community acknowledges the Burrumattagal people of the Darug nation, traditional custodians of the land on which we gather, recognising elders past & present. We aim to be an inclusive faith community, welcoming people of all ages, races, creeds, genders, orientations, marital status & cultures.



R. PREPARE THE WAY

PARISH DIARY DATES

7 / 8 December	Second Sunday of Advent	
9 December	Immaculate Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary	Solemnity
13 December	St Lucy;	14 December St John of Cross
14 / 15 December	Third Sunday of Advent	Memorial/s
16 - 24 December	Dawn Parish Mass	5.30am
	<i>(no 9am Daily Parish Mass during this novena)</i>	
11 December	No 9am Daily Parish Mass	
24 December - 3 January	Parish Office Closed	


ANNOUNCEMENTS

The parish office will be closed for Christmas from 24 December 2024 - 3 January 2025 and operate on reduced hours during January 2025. For matters of importance during this time email: office@sacredheartwestmead.com.au or telephone: 9635 9262 to leave a message.

At Sacred Heart Westmead, **Baptism** is celebrated on the first Sunday of the month at 11am. Please contact the parish office to book for 2025.



CHRISTMAS MASS PROGRAM

Dawn Masses	December 16 - 24	5.30am	
	<i>(no 9am Mass during this period)</i>		
Christmas Eve, Dec 24	Mass with Nativity	6pm	
	Midnight Mass	12am	
Christmas Day, Dec 25	Christmas Day Masses	8am & 9.30am	
New Years Day, Jan 1	New Year's Day Mass	9am	

We are looking for volunteers for Christmas Mass Altar Servers, EMoE, Musicians & Readers

Please complete the sign – up sheets in the church to volunteer to assist at mass this Christmas.



No 9am Daily Parish Mass Wednesday, 11 December – due to school Masses. **& 16 to 24 December** – due to 5.30am Novena

Dates and eligibility requirements for the **Parish's 2025 Sacramental Program** will be published in our parish bulletin & on our website early in the New Year - www.sacredheartwestmead.com.au. Enrolment Forms will be available:

Eucharist - March 2025 Confirmation - June 2025 Penance - September 2025

A special thank you to the parish family who have generously donated a new Christmas tree for our church. Also, to those parishioners who helped prepare our Church and grounds for the celebrations this Christmas season; Joe & Andre for setting up the Christmas lights and Vijay & Brian for setting up the crib.

Fr Walter



St Vincent de Paul Society Appeal

The SVDP Annual Christmas Appeal will be held as a retiring collection on the weekend of 14 / 15 December. Your donation will make a difference to the Christmas story of many families, so please give kindly.

St Vincent de Paul - Christmas Tree

To reach those in need by Christmas packaging & delivery of hampers will take place by SVDP volunteers the weekend of **14/15 December**

- all donations **must please** be left under the tree by the **morning of 15 December**

The parish office is unable to distribute late donations or gifts.



WEEK 3 ROSTERS—WEEKEND MASS

Please notify Fr Walter you are in attendance

EMoE - 14 / 15 December

6:00pm: S. Sutherland

8.00am: J. Nealon

9:30am: M. Kastoun

Readers - 14 / 15 December

6:00pm: *volunteer required* / F. Cadeaux

8.00am: M. Schinella / *volunteer required*

9.30am: P. Alexander / R. M. Regi

Junior Altar Servers - 14 / 15 December

6:00pm: T. Fraser / W. Fraser

8.00am: *volunteer required*

9.30am: G. Vicente/ L. Vicente

Senior Altar Servers - 14 / 15 December

6:00pm: P. Sicat

8.00am: D. Howse

9.30am: N. Emmanuel

If you are unable to attend your rostered date, please arrange a swap with another minister.

BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH



Celebrant:

As we gather round the Advent wreath and prepare to light the second candle, representing peace, we pray that nothing may hinder us from receiving Christ with a sense of hope and peace.

Leader: Prepare a way for the Lord!

All: Make his paths straight!

Leader:

Let every valley be filled in!

All: Let every mountain and hill be laid low!

Leader:

Straighten the winding pathways, make the rough roads smooth!

All: That all people may see the saving power of our God!

(Second violet candle, representing peace, is lit.)

Celebrant:

God of power and mercy, open wide the doors of our hearts in welcome to the Lord, our Emmanuel.

Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy and peace so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when he comes in glory for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

All: Amen

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: 14/15 DECEMBER

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

1ST READING: ZEPH 3:14-18

2ND READING: PHIL 4:4-7

GOSPEL: LK 3:10-18

