



Westmead Catholic Community PARISH HEARTBEATS

Official Weekly Bulletin of Sacred Heart Parish, Westmead

Parish Office: 14 Ralph Street, Westmead 2145 NSW Telephone: 9635 9262

Email Address: office@sacredheartwestmead.com.au Website: www.sacredheartwestmead.com.au

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

Second Sunday of Advent

6 - 7 December 2025

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Is 30:19, 30

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

Is 11:1-10

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse, a scion thrusts from his roots: on him the spirit of the Lord rests, a spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit of counsel and power, a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. (The fear of the Lord is his breath.) He does not judge by appearances, he gives no verdict on hearsay, but judges the wretched with integrity, and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land. His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless, his sentences bring death to the wicked. Integrity is the loincloth round his waist, faithfulness the belt about his hips. The wolf lives with the lamb, the panther lies down with the kid, calf and lion cub feed together with a little boy to lead them. The cow and the bear make friends, their young lie down together. The lion eats straw like the ox. The infant plays over the cobra's hole; into the viper's lair the young child puts his hand. They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy mountain, for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters swell the sea. That day, the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples. It will be sought out by the nations and its home will be glorious.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17. R.V.7

R. Justice shall flourish in his time, And fullness of peace for ever.

1. O God, give your judgement to the king, to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgement.
2. In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails. He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to the earth's bounds.
3. For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless. He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor.
4. May his name be blessed for ever and endure like the sun. Every tribe shall be blessed in him, all nations bless his name.

SECOND READING

ROM 15:4-9

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing your name.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lk 3:4. 6

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

GOSPEL

MT 3:1-12

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said: A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

BAR 5:5, 4:36

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

PARISH CONTACTS

(02) 9635 9262

www.sacredheartwestmead.com.au
www.facebook.com/Sacred-Heart-Westmead

Parish Priest

Rev Fr Walter Fogarty PP

Email: frwalter

@sacredheartwestmead.com.au

Parish Administrator

Virginia Knight (Tuesday - Thursday)

Email: office

@sacredheartwestmead.com.au

Sacramental Coordinator

Anne Monahan (Friday)

Email: sacraments

@sacredheartwestmead.com.au

Parish Primary Schools:

Sacred Heart Primary

Telephone: 8633 4500 Fax 9893 7415

Principal: Natalie Mifsud

Assistant Principal: Jodie Smith

Mother Teresa Primary

Telephone: 8841 2600 Fax 9687 5893

Principal: Julianne Regan

Assistant Principal: Katherine Stennett

Westmead Hospital Chaplain

Fr Domingo Barawid MI

Tel: (02) 8890 6037; Pager: 8512

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday & Friday: 9.30am - 4pm

Wednesday & Thursday: 10am - 3pm

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 Burramattagal 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.

PARISH DIARY DATES

6 / 7 December	Second Sunday of Advent	
8 December	Immaculate Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary	Solemnity
13 December	St Lucy	Memorial
13 / 14 December	Third Sunday of Advent	
16 - 24 December	Dawn Parish Mass	5.30am
	(no 9am Daily Parish Mass during this novena)	
13 December	No 9am Daily Parish Mass	(power outage/tree removal)
24 December - 2 January	Parish Office Closed	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dates and eligibility requirements for the **Parish's 2026 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 2026 Confirmation - June 2026 Penance - September 2026

The parish office will be closed for Christmas from 24 December 2025 - 2 January 2026 and operate on reduced hours during January 2026. 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 2026.



St Vincent de Paul - Christmas Tree
Parishioners can support the work of SVDP by choosing a coupon and donating suitable gifts, or non perishable grocery items for hampers. To reach those in need by Christmas packaging & delivery of hampers will take place by SVDP volunteers on the weekend of **20/21 December** - and all donations **must please** be left under the tree by the **morning of 20 December**.

The parish office cannot distribute late hamper donations or gifts.



St Vincent de Paul - Christmas Appeal
The SVDP Annual Christmas Appeal will be held as a retiring collection on the weekend of 13 / 14 December. Your donation will make a difference to the Christmas story of many families, so please give kindly.

If you are interested in volunteering in **2026**, please complete a **Commitment to Ministry** form available to download from website or in the Church; or contact the Parish Office if you can assist. **New roster begins February 2026**



CHRISTMAS MASS PROGRAM

Dawn Masses	December 16 - 24	5.30am
	(no 9am Mass during this period)	
Christmas Eve, Dec 24	Mass with Nativity	6pm
	Midnight Mass	12am
Christmas Day, Dec 25	Christmas Day Masses	8am & 9.30am



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.



Due to a scheduled power outage & tree removal, there will be no daily 9am parish mass on Saturday 13 December 2025. The Vigil Mass will be held as usual.



WEEK 2 ROSTERS—WEEKEND MASS

Please notify Fr Walter you are in attendance

EMoE - 13 / 14 December

6:00pm: O. Nagel
8.00am: P. Vo
9:30am: M. D'Souza

Readers - 13 / 14 December

6:00pm: A. Pinto / A. Pinto
8.00am L. Eid / P. Alvares
9.30am: A. Sutanto / J. D'Souza

Junior Altar Servers - 13 / 14 December

6:00pm: A. Esterado / J. Braganza
8.00am: J. Kingston
9.30am: G. Vicente

Senior Altar Servers - 13 / 14 December

6:00pm: J. Nagel
8.00am: D. Howse
9.30am: L. Vicente

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: 13/14 DECEMBER

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

1ST READING: Is 35:1-6, 10

2ND READING: JAMES 5:7-10

GOSPEL: Mt 11:2-11

