



# Westmead Catholic Community **PARISH HEARTBEATS**

Official Weekly Bulletin of Sacred Heart Parish, Westmead

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

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

Fourth Sunday of Advent

20 - 21 December 2025

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**Drop down dew from above,  
you heavens, and let the clouds  
rain down the Just One;  
let the earth be opened  
and bring forth a Saviour.**

## FIRST READING

**Is 7:10-14**  
The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No', Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.' Then Isaiah said: 'Listen now, House of David: are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men without trying the patience of my God, too? The Lord himself, therefore, will give you a sign. It is this: the maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call Immanuel, a name which means "God-is-with-us".'

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Ps 23:1-6. R.v.7. 10**

**R. Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.**

1. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,  
the world and all its peoples.  
It is he who set it on the seas;  
on the waters he made it firm. **R.**
2. Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?  
Who shall stand in his holy place?  
The man with clean hands and pure heart,  
who desires not worthless things. **R.**
3. He shall receive blessings from the Lord  
and reward from the God who saves him.  
Such are the men who seek him,  
seek the face of the God of Jacob. **R.**

## SECOND READING

**ROM 1:1-7**

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures. This news is about the Son of God, who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ.

**Is 45:8**

To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Mt 1:23**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**A virgin will give birth to a son;  
his name will be Emmanuel:**

**God is with us. Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL

**Mt 1:18-24**

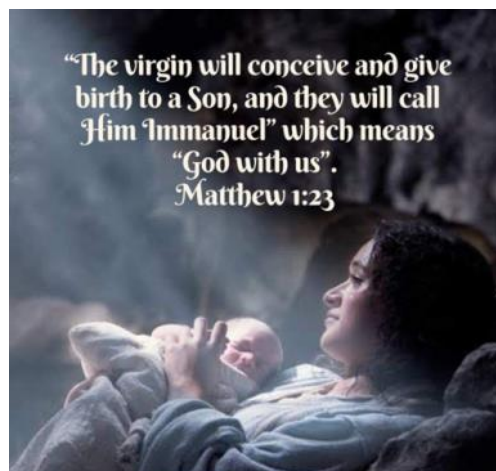
This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**Is 7:14**

**Behold, a Virgin shall conceive  
and bear a son;**

**and his name will be called Emmanuel.**



## 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

<b>20 / 21 December</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>	
<b>24 / 25 December</b>	<b>Nativity of the Lord</b>	<b>Solemnity with Octave</b>
26 December	St Stephen	Feast
27 December	St John, apostle	Feast
<b>27 / 28 December</b>	<b>Holy Family of Jesus, Mary &amp; Joseph</b>	
<b>16 - 24 December</b>	<b>Dawn Parish Mass</b>	<b>5.30am</b>
<b>24 December - 2 January</b>	<b>Parish Office Closed</b>	

## 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](http://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](mailto: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**  
To reach those in need by Christmas packaging & delivery of hampers will take place by SVDP volunteers this weekend - **20/21 December**, The parish office cannot distribute late hamper donations or gifts.

The Parish staff, and I would like to thank everyone for their generous gifts and well wishes for Christmas and the New Year. Also, a special thank you to the parishioners who helped prepare our Christmas liturgies and volunteered to ministry. Your support will help to make our celebrations extra special!

*Fr Walter*

**Altar Floral donations for Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord**

**Chandran Family**



## CHRISTMAS MASS PROGRAM

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



WISHING YOU  
A BLESSED  
HOLIDAY SEASON



## WEEK 4 ROSTERS—WEEKEND MASS

Please notify Fr Walter you are in attendance

**EMoE - 27 / 28 December**

6:00pm: A. Enriquez

8.00am: T. Vo

9:30am: G. Vicente

**Readers - 27 / 28 December**

6:00pm: I. Liew / J. Braganza

8.00am C. Burke / S. Turaka

9.30am: M. Kastoun / J. Paul

**Junior Altar Servers - 27 / 28 December**

6:00pm: M. Liew / J. Braganza

8.00am: J. Kingston

9.30am: J. Benedict / D. D'Souza

**Senior Altar Servers - 27 / 28 December**

6:00pm: P. Sicat

8.00am: J. Chandran

9.30am: F. Benedict

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

## BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH



**Celebrant:**

As we begin our celebration of the fourth Sunday of Advent let us prepare to light the last candle on our Advent wreath, representing **LOVE**. As Advent draws to a close we pause to pray for faith that opens our lives to the Spirit of God.

**Leader:** Come Lord Jesus, hope of the prophets and desire of all nations.

**All: Come! Lead us back to you.**

**Leader:** Come Lord Jesus, Son of God, born of the Virgin Mary.

**All: Come! Take flesh in us.**

**Leader:** Come Lord Jesus, source of grace and hope for peace.

**All: Come and save us, delay no longer.**

*(The final violet candle is lit)*

**Celebrant:**

God, our Emmanuel your eternal Word took flesh on our earth when the Virgin Mary placed her life at the service of your plan. Lift our minds in watchful hope to hear the voice which announces his glory and open our minds to receive the Spirit who prepares us for this coming. We ask this prayer through Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen**

## NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: 27/28 DECEMBER

HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

1ST READING: SIR 3:2-6, 12-14

2ND READING: COL 3:12-21

GOSPEL: MT 2:13-15, 19-23

