



The Catholic Community of HOLY TRINITY PARISH BLACKBUTT NORTH



St John the Evangelist Church
Dickson Street Lambton Est. 1873



Corpus Christi Church
Platt Street Waratah Est. 1917



St Therese's Church
Royal Street New Lambton Est. 1954

◆ SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT ◆ YEAR A ◆ 8 DECEMBER 2019 ◆

THIS WEEK'S LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Monday: 7:00AM Waratah
Tuesday: 7:00AM New Lambton
Wednesday: 7:00AM Lambton
Thursday: 7:00AM Waratah
9:30AM Lambton [School Mass]
Friday: 7:00AM Lambton
Saturday: 8:00AM New Lambton

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday: 5:00PM Lambton
Sunday: 7:30AM Waratah
9:15AM New Lambton
11:00AM Lambton [Ordinariate Mass]
5:30PM Waratah

RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 8:30AM New Lambton
4:30PM Lambton

EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION

Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament will follow 7:00AM Mass on 1st Friday of each month.

PARISH OFFICE

Street Address: 58 Victoria Street
NEW LAMBTON NSW 2305
Phone: 02 4979 1365
Email: triparish@mn.catholic.org.au
Website: www.holytrinityblackbutt.org.au
Facebook: www.facebook.com/holytrinityblackbuttnorth

OFFICE HOURS

Monday: 9:00AM to 4:00PM
Tuesday: 9:00AM to 4:00PM
Thursday: 9:00AM to 4:00PM

PARISH STAFF

Parish Administrator: Fr Stephen Hill
Lambton Presbytery: 02 4956 1953
Emergency Only: 0474 303 261
Email: stephen.hill@mn.catholic.org.au

Assistant Priest:
Waratah Presbytery: 02 4979 1366

Parish Secretaries: Mrs Liza Ruitenbach
Ms Justine Atkinson

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Today's readings are like Chaucer's Canterbury Tales. The biblical authors sketch profiles of individuals after whom we can model our lives as we embark on our pilgrimage to eschatological fulfilment. Isaiah depicts the righteous messianic king; Paul provides us with a glimpse of Jesus, the one who ministers to all; and Matthew describes John the Baptist, the prophet who prepared for the Advent of Christ.

The gifts Isaiah attributes to the messianic king are the same gifts that we receive with the anointing of the Spirit: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord. The image of the messianic king may have been fulfilled in Jesus, but it is also offered to us as a model after which we can pattern our lives.

Paul declares that Christ came for all. Just as the Canterbury tales describe pilgrims of all backgrounds and characters, so our companions on the pilgrimage come from diverse circumstances. Since the invitation was extended to all, we are expected to welcome all. Some of Chaucer's characters were quite unpleasant, but they were part of the group. Many of the people to whom Jesus ministered were quite unpleasant, but this did not deter him. His example is set before us today.

John the Baptist lived a life of radical self-denial, but he did not require this of others. He preached repentance or change of heart, not a rejection of the circumstances of life. He called for a return to righteousness, to relationships rooted in honesty and respect. He condemned presumption and arrogant reliance on one's religious origin, complacency and the shirking of responsibility, disinterest in the welfare of others. © Dianne Bergant CSA



SCHOOLS

ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL LAMBTON

Principal: Ms Annie Duggan
Street Address: Dickson Street LAMBTON NSW 2299
Postal Address: PO Box 111 LAMBTON NSW 2299
Phone: 02 4952 1423
Email: admin@lambton.catholic.edu.au
Website: www.lambton.catholic.edu.au

CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL WARATAH

Principal: Ms Julie Mulhearn
Street Address: Platt Street WARATAH 2298
Postal Address: PO Box 63 WARATAH 2298
Phone / Fax: 02 4968 3220 / 02 4968 3833
Email: admin@waratah.catholic.edu.au
Website: www.waratah.catholic.edu.au

ST THERESE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEW LAMBTON

Principal: Mr Duilio Rufo
Street Address: Burke Street NEW LAMBTON 2305
Postal Address: PO Box 321 New Lambton 2305
Phone / Fax: 02 4957 4922 / 02 4952 1637
Email: admin@newlambton.catholic.edu.au
Website: www.newlambton.catholic.edu.au

WELCOME TO NEW PARISHIONERS

If you are new to our Parish, we invite you to complete a 'Census Form' available from the Parish Office.

Thinking of becoming Catholic? Please speak with one of our Priests.

Thinking of becoming Catholic through the Ordinariate? Are you an Anglican? Are you married to an Anglican? Do you know an Anglican who may wish to become Catholic through the Ordinariate? The Ordinariate brings the traditional English way of worship that has contributed so much to English-speaking faith and culture into the Catholic Church. Anyone can become Catholic through the Ordinariate. Please contact Fr Stephen for more information. E hunter@ordinariate.org.au or P 02 4956 1953.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Annual Retreat: Fr Stephen will be away on annual retreat from Monday 9 December to Monday 16 December.

St Vincent de Paul Appeal: Our parish will conduct its annual St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal on this weekend (Saturday 7 and Sunday 8 December 2019). Envelopes are available on your seats. Please give generously.

Cards and Calendars: As from this weekend our Christmas Cards and Columban Calendars are available for purchasing at the main entrance of Lambton and Waratah churches.

- Pack of 5 Cards: \$5.00
- Calendars: \$10.00

All proceeds support St Vincent de Paul.

End of Year School Masses:

- St John's Lambton - Thursday 12 December at 9:30AM

CHRISTMAS ROSTERS

We aim to finalize Christmas Mass rosters by mid December. A volunteers sign up sheet is now available at main entrance of each church for any volunteers wishing to participate in Ministry during Christmas Masses. Please list your availability or contact your roster contact person before **Sunday 8 December**.

2020 Rosters: We are currently working on new rosters for 2020 and hope to have them available late December. Our grateful thanks to all who volunteered during 2019 and those who are continuing.

Volunteer Registrations: A reminder for those who wish to continue their ministry/ministries, and have not yet completed their Volunteer registration forms, that 31 December 2019 is the closing date to do so. If you would like assistance completing the forms, please visit the parish office between 10:00AM and 4:00PM on any Monday.

Parish Office Closures in December: Please note that the office will be closed this Tuesday 10 December, and between Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

Parish Pastoral Council: The new Parish Pastoral Council has recently been appointed. Members are Susan Bowring-Miller, Paul Rosser, Elizabeth Buckles, Diana Dolan and Joy Loas.

Caring Group Christmas Cards and Lunch: Friday 13 December. Cards from 10:00AM until midday, followed by a light lunch. If not available for cards, you are more than welcome to come to lunch. RSVP Coral P 02 4957 5338.

Mater Bell Completion Appeal: Please see fliers at church entrance for information on the latest developments of the Mater Bell installation. We are seeking your help to raise \$15,000 of the \$50,000 in estimated costs. Donations can be either sent by cheque earmarked 'Mater Bell' to the Parish Office or placed by envelope marked 'Mater Bell' on the second collection.

Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: This very special ministry is a direct collaboration with the Priest, which assists him in the task of distributing Holy Communion to the faithful, especially for our Sunday Masses, but also for hospital and nursing home ministry. If you believe you may have a calling to this ministry, please see Fr Stephen.

Catholic Weekly: The Catholic Weekly is available from the church entrances every week for \$2.00.

DIOCESAN NEWS AND EVENTS

Diocesan Website <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au>

Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF): This is a national gathering of Catholic young people established by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC). It exists to provide young people with opportunities to deepen their relationship with Jesus, be empowered to be disciples in the world today and encounter and celebrate the vitality of the Church in Australia. Please pray for our young people who are currently attending the festival in Perth.


Simbang Gabi: In preparation for the Solemnity of the Lord's birth, novena Masses will be celebrated at 7.15pm from 15 December to 23 December at Sacred Heart Cathedral, 841 Hunter Street Newcastle West. The Christmas Novena Masses, also known as Simbang Gabi to Filipinos, is a long tradition brought by the Spanish Friars in the Philippines in 1669. They are in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Expectant Mother of God, and serve as a preparation for the commemoration of the Birth of Our Lord and Saviour. All are welcome. Supper follows each Mass.

Pilgrimages: For information on various pilgrimages available see fliers at back of church.

National Prayer Campaign: People across the country are encouraged to pray for the gift of rain. Resources and information at www.catholic.org.au/drought

PLENARY COUNCIL

<https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/>

2019 Christmas Mass Times 	DATE	TIME	CHURCH	SERVICE	CHOIR PRACTICE
	Tuesday 24 December (Christmas Eve)	5:00PM	5:30PM	St John's Church Lambton	Carols
		5:30PM	St Therese's Church New Lambton	Mass	<i>To be advised</i>
		6:00PM	St Therese's Church New Lambton	Carols	<i>To be advised</i>
		10:00PM	Corpus Christi Church Waratah	Mass	<i>To be advised</i>
Wednesday 25 December (Christmas Day)	7:30AM	9:15AM	Corpus Christi Church Waratah	Mass	<i>To be advised</i>
		11:00AM	St Therese's Church New Lambton	Mass	<i>To be advised</i>
			St John's Church Lambton	Ordinariate Mass	

Mobile Phones: For the convenience of all kindly turn off your mobile phones before entering the Church.
Notices for the Parish Bulletin: Notices need to be in writing [especially Mass requests for Deaths, Anniversaries and Sick List] including your name [as the person permitting the request] and they need to be lodged **by Tuesday** for publication. Please print clearly to avoid information being misrepresented.
Church Notice Boards: If you wish to place a notice on the church notice boards please contact the Parish Office.

WE REMEMBER

Please Pray for:

Sick: Fred Stanwell, Sheila Bell, Robert Watson, Paul Mowbray, Maureen Ashlett, Gary Herschel, Shelley Smith.

Recently Deceased: Eileen Burwood.

Anniversaries: Costantino Francesca, Fr Lachlan Larkin, Fr Thomas Joseph O'Sullivan, Fr Michael John Fitzgerald, Fr Michael Matthews, Fr Patrick O'Leary.

Mass Intention Envelopes: Envelopes for intentions are available from the churches and can be placed on the collection plates. Notifications for publication need to be in to the office early Tuesday morning.

SACRAMENTS IN HOLY TRINITY PARISH

Anointing of the Sick: For hospitalized and homebound parishioners, it is very important that you contact the Parish Office to receive Anointing of the Sick or Communion, otherwise, we might not know of your need.

Baptism: Baptisms take place on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays of the month and are held between St John the Evangelist Lambton, Corpus Christi Waratah, and St Therese's New Lambton. Bookings are made through the Parish Office. Baptism Preparation Sessions are essential and are held on the last Thursday of each month at Parish House New Lambton. An Information leaflet is available at the Church entrance.

Note: Changes to the schedule may apply seasonally.

Communion for the Sick: Bringing Communion to a sick person links them with the community of the Church and nourishes them with the body of Christ. A parish minister or member of the parish family may be designated by the priest for this ministry.

Confirmation/Eucharist: In our Diocese, the Sacramental Program is Parish/Family based and enquiries are made via the Parish Office.

Marriage: By appointment. A minimum of 6 months' notice is required. For information, please contact Parish Office.

A Vocation View: Isaiah says: "The earth shall be filled with knowledge of the Lord." Who taught you knowledge of the Lord, and who are you teaching today? For more information regarding Vocations contact 02 4979 1112 or vocations@mn.catholic.org.au.



FEAST DAYS

9 Dec: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

25 Dec: The Nativity of the Lord

26 Dec: Saint Stephen, the First Martyr

27 Dec: Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist

28 Dec: The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

29 Dec: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

5 Jan: The Epiphany of the Lord

PARISH GROUPS, TEAMS AND COUNCILS

Children's Liturgy: This is held every 9:15AM Sunday Mass at St Therese's Church New Lambton. Children between 4 (preschool) and 12 (primary school) years old are invited to attend.

Parish Finance Committee Meeting: The Committee meets on the 1st Thursday of the month from 7:00PM until 8:30PM in the Parish Hall at Lambton. Next meeting will be 2 January 2020.

Liturgy Team: The next meeting is to be advised.

New Lambton Caring Group: This group meets on the 1st Friday of every month (except January) at 10:00AM at New Lambton Parish House. The next meeting will be 7 February 2020. A 'Cards and Friendship Morning' is held on the 2nd Friday of every month (except January). The next meeting will be 14 February 2020.

Pureflame Youth: This is a High School Youth Ministry, which gathers fortnightly except school holidays, for music ministry. Enquiries: Ellen M 0407 513 813

St John's Ladies Group: This group meets fortnightly for a cuppa and chat on a Monday in Lambton Parish Centre at 10:00AM. Next gathering is Monday 16 December. Newcomers welcome.

St Vincent de Paul Society: The Waratah Conference meets every Monday at the Parish Hall Waratah from 5:30PM until 6:30PM; and at St Therese's on Thursdays at 10:30AM. New members welcome.

ROSTERS	LAMBTON	WARATAH	NEW LAMBTON	WARATAH
7/8 December 2019	Saturday 5:00PM	Sunday 7:30AM	Sunday 9:15AM	Sunday 5:30PM
Flowers / Sacristy	NO FLOWERS	NO FLOWERS	NO FLOWERS	
Liturgical Assistant	Joseph Patti	Tim O'Brien Pat Campbell	Stephen & Alison Morris	Graham Alexander Laurel Movigliatti
Greeters	Pam Howland & Team	Pat Campbell	Clare Paff Derrell Ellevsen	Graham Alexander & team
Musician	Naomi Smith Suzanne Ryan	Anne Morris	Sr Janice Duggan	Marc Grimer
Readers	Leanne Skinner Margaret Wheeler	Vili Pifeleti Paul Rosser	Peter & Angelina Dolan	Anna Hill Joy Hatherall
Prayer of the Faithful	Assunta Baran	Mary Tobin	Peter Hill	Laurel Movigliatti
Procession of the Gifts	Volunteers	Paul & Sonia Charlton	Volunteers	George & Joy Hatherall
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Peter Michel Ann Gunn Mary Ann Seskus	Tim O'Brien Karina Movigliatti Mary Nesbitt	Ben Frize Joy Loas Mark Horton	Marianna Nadalin Jenny Payne Johanna Soo
14/15 December 2019	Saturday 5:00PM	Sunday 7:30AM	Sunday 9:15AM	Sunday 5:30PM
Flowers / Sacristy	FLOWERS	FLOWERS	FLOWERS	
Liturgical Assistant	Joseph Patti	Tim O'Brien Pat Campbell	Stephen & Alison Morris	Graham Alexander Laurel Movigliatti
Greeters	Pam Howland & Team	Pat Campbell	Meleme Horton Clare Paff	Graham Alexander & Team
Musician	Naomi Smith Suzanne Ryan	Judy Nolan	Bronwyn Melville & United in Song	Greg Smith
Readers	Chris Boyle Kirsten Bui	Paul Weber Elizabeth Buckles	Noel Franks	Johanna Soo Dennis Carroll
Prayer of the Faithful	Georgia Callaghan	Teleisia Lolohea	Joy Loas	Helen Clough
Procession of the Gifts	Volunteers	Marianna Nadalin Maria Biruski	Volunteers	John & Anna Hill
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Gwen Fuge Cecilia Pique-Lira Rita Bergen	Tim O'Brien Chris Capper Mary Montgomery	Deanne March Greg Ptolemy Duiilio Rufo	Graham Alexander Anna Hill Laurie Movigliatti
ROSTER CONTACTS	Ann Gunn M 0407 571 197	Pat Campbell P 02 4968 3322	Joy Loas 02 4952 2664	Laurel Movigliatti 0407 938 204

Disclaimer: Unless otherwise stated, the advertisements placed in this newsletter are by independent third parties who have no legal relationship with the Diocese. The activities or services of the advertisers are not supervised or controlled in any way by the Diocese. The Diocese is not in a position to endorse the advertisers or the services provided and makes no representation about such matters. Accordingly, the Diocese cannot accept any responsibility for the advertisers or the activities or services that are the subject of these advertisements.

The Second Sunday of Advent symbolizes Faith with the "Bethlehem Candle" reminding us of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.



FIRST READING

Is 11:1-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
He judges the poor with justice.

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.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17. R. cf. 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. (R.)
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. (R.)
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. (R.)
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. (R.)

SECOND READING

Rom 15:4-9

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans
Christ, the hope of all people.

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.

The Word of the Lord.

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

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.

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.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

