



# 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

◆ THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT ◆ YEAR A ◆ 15 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  
**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 1<sup>st</sup> 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

Half way through Advent we pause for a moment to celebrate Gaudete Sunday, a Sunday for rejoicing. Isaiah paints a picture of regeneration. The desert that once seemed to be dead is now bursting with life; eyes that lacked sight, ears incapable of capturing and holding sound, limbs without strength, and tongues devoid of speech are all given new life. There will be no death in that age of fulfilment, no limitations, no mourning. As we move deeper and deeper into the reality of God's presence in our midst, we will discover the meaning of true fulfilment.

John the Baptist is a standard for judging the privilege of entering here and now, the kingdom of heaven. He was the herald of the coming of Jesus, the one who prepared for him, but John himself died before the death and resurrection of Jesus opened the flood gates of the eschatological tide. By comparison, even the least in the kingdom of God is far greater than this prophetic herald. John also serves as a model of patience in suffering. His circumstances teach us that moving toward eschatological fulfilment is not without cost.

Just as Matthew presents us with the example of John the Baptist, so James describes the patience required of those who await the age of fulfilment. That age of fulfilment will dawn in its time; all we can do is discharge our responsibilities regardless of how demanding they might be, and wait for that day patiently, convinced that it will come in God's due time.

*© 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 is away on annual retreat until Tuesday 17 December.

**Cards and Calendars:** 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.

**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 Schools**

To all our teachers and students in our Parish Schools, we wish you, and your families, a happy, holy and safe holiday. School resumes on Tuesday 28 January 2020.

**End of Year Parish Office Closures:** Please note that the office will be closed between Christmas Day and New Year's Day. We will reopen on Thursday 2 January 2020.

**Parish Financial Update:** Please see insert for an update on the Parish's financial situation. Thank you to everyone who has helped to improve our position and build confidence in our future.

**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.

**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>

**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.

**Summer School is coming:** A week long summer camp/retreat for young Catholics 16-35. From 13 to 19 January 2020, at the new location of Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville. Visit [www.summerschool.org.au](http://www.summerschool.org.au)


**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](http://www.catholic.org.au/drought)

**2020 Catechists Mass:** An annual celebration of the wonderful work of catechists, on Saturday 22 February at 2:00PM, Sacred Heart Cathedral, Newcastle West. Celebrate the ministry of Special Religious Education, Sacraments of Initiation, RCIA and Children's Liturgy.

**PLENARY COUNCIL**

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

2019 Christmas Mass Times 	DATE	TIME	CHURCH	SERVICE	CHOIR PRACTICE
	<b>Tuesday 24 December</b> <b>(Christmas Eve)</b>	5:00PM	5:30PM	St John's Church Lambton	Carols
		5:30PM	St John's Church Lambton	Mass	<i>To be advised</i>
		5:30PM	St Therese's Church New Lambton	Carols	<i>To be advised</i>
		6:00PM	St Therese's Church New Lambton	Mass	<i>To be advised</i>
		10:00PM	Corpus Christi Church Waratah	Mass	<i>To be advised</i>
<b>Wednesday 25 December</b> <b>(Christmas Day)</b>	7:30AM	9:15AM	Corpus Christi Church Waratah	Mass	<i>To be advised</i>
		9:15AM	St Therese's Church New Lambton	Mass	<i>To be advised</i>
		11:00AM	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:** Ken Harvey, Kath Short and family, Sr Mary Britt OP.

**Anniversaries:** Ronald James Petherbridge, Fr Christopher Dowling OP, Fr Dermot Heffernan.

**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 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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:** "As your models in suffering hardships and in patience, friend, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord." (James 5:10) A vocation is responding to the call of God. For more information regarding Vocations contact 02 4979 1112 or vocations@mn.catholic.org.au.



## FEAST DAYS

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 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month from 7:00PM until 8:30PM in the Parish Hall at Lambton. Next meeting will be 2 January 2020.

**Liturgist Team:** The next meeting is to be advised.

**New Lambton Caring Group:** This group meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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
<b>14/15 December 2019</b>	<b>Saturday 5:00PM</b>	<b>Sunday 7:30AM</b>	<b>Sunday 9:15AM</b>	<b>Sunday 5:30PM</b>
<b>Flowers / Sacristy</b>	FLOWERS	FLOWERS	FLOWERS	
<b>Liturgical Assistant</b>	Joseph Patti	Tim O'Brien   Pat Campbell	Stephen & Alison Morris	Graham Alexander   Laurel Movigliatti
<b>Greeters</b>	Pam Howland & Team	Pat Campbell	Meleme Horton   Clare Paff	Graham Alexander & Team
<b>Musician</b>	Naomi Smith   Suzanne Ryan	Judy Nolan	Bronwyn Melville & United in Song	Greg Smith
<b>Readers</b>	Chris Boyle   Kirsten Bui	Paul Weber   Elizabeth Buckles	Noel Franks	Johanna Soo   Dennis Carroll
<b>Prayer of the Faithful</b>	Georgia Callaghan	Teleisia Lolohea	Joy Loas	Helen Clough
<b>Procession of the Gifts</b>	Volunteers	Marianna Nadalin   Maria Biruski	Volunteers	John & Anna Hill
<b>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</b>	Gwen Fuge Cecilia Pique-Lira Rita Bergen	Tim O'Brien Chris Capper Mary Montgomery	Deanne March Greg Ptolemy Dulio Rufo	Graham Alexander Anna Hill Laurie Movigliatti
<b>21/22 December 2019</b>	<b>Saturday 5:00PM</b>	<b>Sunday 7:30AM</b>	<b>Sunday 9:15AM</b>	<b>Sunday 5:30PM</b>
<b>Flowers / Sacristy</b>	NO FLOWERS	NO FLOWERS	NO FLOWERS	
<b>Liturgical Assistant</b>	Joseph Patti	Tim O'Brien   Pat Campbell	Stephen & Alison Morris	Graham Alexander   Laurel Movigliatti
<b>Greeters</b>	Pam Howland & Team	Pat Campbell	Derrell Ellevsen   Melene Horton	Graham Alexander & team
<b>Musician</b>	Naomi Smith   Suzanne Ryan	Judy Nolan	Bronwyn Melville & United in Song	Marc Grimer
<b>Readers</b>	Dennis Carroll   Rita Bergin	Joyce Norris   Vili Pifeleti	Ben Frize	Fiona Duque   Anna Hill
<b>Prayer of the Faithful</b>	Emma Conserdyne	Paul Rosser	Kaylese Maretich	John Hill
<b>Procession of the Gifts</b>	Volunteers	Pifeleti family	Volunteers	Johanna & Alison Soo
<b>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</b>	Mary Ann Seskus Assunta Baran Ann Gunn	Tim O'Brien Karina Movigliatti Mary Nesbitt	Dulio Rufo Margaret Shafren Barbara Strang	Marianna Nadalin Jenny Payne Johanna Soo
<b>ROSTER CONTACTS</b>	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 Third Sunday of Advent symbolizes Joy with the "Shepherd's Candle" reminding us of the Joy the world experienced at the coming birth of Jesus.



## FIRST READING

Is 35:1-6, 10

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah**  
*God himself will come and save us.*

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult,  
let the wasteland rejoice and bloom,  
let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil,  
let it rejoice and sing for joy.

The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it,  
the splendour of Carmel and Sharon;  
they shall see the glory of the Lord,  
the splendour of our God.

Strengthen all weary hands,  
steady all trembling knees  
and say to all faint hearts,  
'Courage! Do not be afraid.'

'Look, your God is coming,  
vengeance is coming,  
the retribution of God;  
he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
the ears of the deaf unsealed,  
then the lame shall leap like a deer  
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy,  
for those the Lord has ransomed shall return.

They will come to Zion shouting for joy,  
everlasting joy on their faces;  
joy and gladness will go with them  
and sorrow and lament be ended.

The Word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 145:6-10. R. see Is 35:4

**(R.) Lord, come and save us.**

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,  
who is just to those who are oppressed.  
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,  
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. (R.)

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,  
who raises up those who are bowed down,  
the Lord, who protects the stranger  
and upholds the widow and orphan. (R.)

3. It is the Lord who loves the just  
but thwarts the path of the wicked.  
The Lord will reign for ever,  
Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)

## SECOND READING

Jas 5:7-10

**A reading from the letter of St James**

*You also must be patient; do not lose heart, the Lord's coming will be soon.*

Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring rains! You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Is 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;  
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

Mt 11:2-11

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

*Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?*

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'

As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

