



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

◆ FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT ◆ YEAR A ◆ 22 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 1st Friday of each month.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Despite all of the excitement associated with eschatological fulfilment, despite all of the assurance we have that it will be an experience of peace and abundant life, the mystery for which we long requires the risk of faith. Despite all of the times that we have celebrated the Nativity, we still do not have full comprehension and understanding. Still we are invited to enter deeply into the event that is before us. Will we step into a life of deeper faith and commitment, or will we merely participate in the external celebration of the feast? Only we can decide, and only we will really know the decision that we make.



The circumstances of our lives influence the way we live out our faith. As Christians, we are called to devote ourselves to the service of Christ. Our primary commitment must be to Christ and to the way of being human that he has shown us. We must be committed to what enriches life and not to what diminishes it. We must be committed to the good of people and not to the hoarding of things. We may not be official heralds of the gospel, but we proclaim our faith in the way we live our lives, in the kindness with which we treat others, in honesty of our business transactions. We proclaim the gospel when we stand for justice, when we forgive those who have offended us, when we show compassion to those who suffer. As we step into the eschatological age, we are called to recommit ourselves to genuine Christian living.

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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

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

Message from Fr Stephen: Please see enclosed letter.

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.

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.

Christmas Appeal: Thank you to parishioners, and especially to St Therese's School, for their generous donations to the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal.

2020 Rosters: We had hoped to have rosters available late December, however, due to many delays within the process beyond our control, this will not be possible. We ask that each volunteer simply repeat the December roster during January. Sorry for the inconvenience. 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.

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>

Passionist Family Group Movement: Limited copies of Newsletter Summer 2019/2020 are available at the church entrance.

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.

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.

Life-Giving Gifts: Life-Giving Gifts are a range of gift options representing the life-changing projects Catholic Mission supports around the world. By purchasing a Life-Giving Gift, you will have an interesting and meaningful gift for your loved one, while also supporting those in need. Purchase a gift today! Freecall 1800 257 296 or visit www.catholicmission.org.au/gifts


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

Summer School: 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

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

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	Carols	To be advised
		6:00PM	St Therese's Church New Lambton	Mass	To be advised
		10:00PM	Corpus Christi Church Waratah	Mass	To be advised
Wednesday 25 December (Christmas Day)	7:30AM	9:15AM	Corpus Christi Church Waratah	Mass	To be advised
		11:00AM	St John's Church Lambton	Ordinariate Mass	To be advised

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: Kevin Fuge, Sandra Ogrodnik, Veronica Franks, Compofranco Sebastiano, Fr Edmund McGrath, Fr Thomas Michael Purcell, Fr Patrick Murtagh, Fr Norman Andrew Withnell, Fr Thomas Quigley.

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: Vocations from God are not always clear. Not all of us are like Joseph who had an angel appear to him saying: "Take Mary as your wife, and fear not." 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

1 Jan: The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

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. The Committee is in recess during January.

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 (except January) in Lambton Parish Centre at 10:00AM. Next gathering is Monday 27 January 2020. 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 Parish House New Lambton on Thursdays at 10:30AM. New members welcome.

ROSTERS	LAMBTON	WARATAH	NEW LAMBTON	WARATAH
21/22 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	Derrell Ellevsen Melene Horton	Graham Alexander & team
Musician	Naomi Smith Suzanne Ryan	Judy Nolan	Bronwyn Melville & United in Song	Marc Grimer
Readers	Dennis Carroll Rita Bergin	Joyce Norris Vili Pifeleti	Ben Frize	Fiona Duque Anna Hill
Prayer of the Faithful	Emma Conserdyne	Paul Rosser	Kaylese Maretich	John Hill
Procession of the Gifts	Volunteers	Pifeleti family	Volunteers	Johanna & Alison Soo
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Mary Ann Seskus Assunta Baran Ann Gunn	Tim O'Brien Karina Movigliatti Mary Nesbitt	Duilio Rufo Margaret Shafren Barbara Strang	Marianna Nadalin Jenny Payne Johanna Soo
28/29 December 2019	Saturday 5:00PM	Sunday 7:30AM	Sunday 9:15AM	Sunday 5:30PM
Flowers / Sacristy	Diana Dolan	Jenny Payne	Barbara Strang	
Liturgical Assistant	Joseph Patti	Tim O'Brien Pat Campbell	Stephen & Alison Morris	Graham Alexander Laurel Movigliatti
Greeters	Pam Howland & Team	Pat Campbell	Derrell Ellevsen Meleme Horton	Graham Alexander & Team
Musician	Naomi Smith Suzanne Ryan	Judy Nolan	Sr Janice Duggan	Alison Llewellyn
Readers	Ann Gunn Pam Howland	Mary Tobin Paul Weber	Peter Hill	Joy Hatherall Laurel Movigliatti
Prayer of the Faithful	Jodie Kelly	Elizabeth Buckles	Clare Paff	Johanna Soo
Procession of the Gifts	Volunteers	Paul & Sonia Charlton	Volunteers	Johanna & Alison Soo
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Peter Michel Cecilia Pique-Lira Gwen Fuge	Chris Capper Mary Montgomery Karina Movigliatti	Duilio Rufo Margaret Shafren Barbara Strang	Marianna Nadalin Jenny Payne Johanna Soo
ROSTER CONTACTS	Ann Gunn M 0407 571 197	Pat Campbell P 02 4968 3322	Joy Loas 02 4952 2664	Laurel Movigliatti 0407 938 204

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The Fourth Sunday of Advent symbolizes Peace with the "Angels Candle" reminding us of the message of the angels: "Peace on Earth, Good will toward men."



FIRST READING

Is 7:10-14

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The virgin will conceive.

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".'

The Word of the Lord.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 23:1-6. R. see vv 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

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Jesus Christ, a descendant of David, is the Son of God.

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. 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.

The Word of the Lord.

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

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus was born of Mary, the betrothed of Joseph, a son of David.

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.

The Gospel of the Lord.