



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 B ◆ 6 DECEMBER 2020 ◆

PARISH OFFICE

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

OFFICE HOURS

Monday: 9:00AM to 3:30PM
Tuesday: 9:00AM to 3:00PM
Thursday: 9:00AM to 3:30PM

PARISH STAFF

Parish Administrator: Fr Sabu Adimakiyil
02 4956 1953
Email: sabu.adimakiyil@mn.catholic.org.au
Assistant Priest: Fr Camillus Nwahia
Shortland Presbytery: 02 4955 9364
0469 829 125
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Parish Secretaries: Mrs Liza Ruitenbach
Ms Justine Atkinson
Office Assistant: Ms Johanna Soo

SCHOOLS

ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL LAMBTON

Principal: Ms Annie Duggan
Street Address: Dickson Street LAMBTON NSW 2299
Postal Address: PO Box 8 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
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Website: www.waratah.catholic.edu.au

ST THERESE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEW LAMBTON

Acting Principal: Ms Kaylene Maretich
Street Address: Burke Street NEW LAMBTON 2305
Postal Address: PO Box 321 New Lambton 2305
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LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

Sunday Mass Celebrations

Sunday Mass

Saturday: 5:00PM Lambton
Sunday: 7:30AM Waratah
Sunday: 9:15AM New Lambton
Sunday: 5:30PM Waratah

Weekday Mass

Monday: 7:00AM Waratah
Tuesday: 7:00PM New Lambton
Wednesday: 7:00AM Lambton
Thursday: 7:00AM Waratah
Friday: 7:00AM Lambton
Saturday: 8:00AM New Lambton

Bookings are no longer essential to attend Mass, however people will still need to sign in as they enter the church. The maximum capacity for each church, under the new 2m square rule is Lambton 76, Waratah 150 and New Lambton 180. We have no choice but to turn people away if we exceed capacity. Please stay at home if you are experiencing any flu-like symptoms. Please consider staying at home for your own health and safety if you are 65 years or over, have pre-existing health conditions, or have a compromised immune system.

Pastoral Visitation

If you would like a priest to visit your home, please enquire by phone or email at the Parish Office. If you know someone who would like a visit, please encourage them to contact us.

Dispensation

All members of the Church of the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle, except priests, continue to be dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass. Those who are unable to attend are encouraged to keep Sunday holy through the use of the resources still available on the [Diocese website](http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/news-events/covid-19-update) and at www.mn.catholic.org.au/news-events/covid-19-update.

Sunday Mass Celebration

Bishop William (Bill) Wright continues to celebrate Mass every Sunday at 9:30AM live streamed from Sacred Heart Cathedral Mass via <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream/>. Mass can be viewed at a later time via the same link. Please share the link with family and friends, and gather to pray as a spiritual community at this time.

Mass on TV

Mass for You at Home is broadcast at 6:00AM every Sunday on Channel 10 (WIN), or on Catch Up TV at 10 play.

Mass Intentions

Mass Intentions are available for anyone upon request. Simply contact the parish secretaries with your intentions. If you have names of sick, deceased or anniversaries for the bulletin, and Mass, these need to be in relatively early to make the bulletin. Remember you need the person's or family's permission for publication.

Welcome

As we reopen our churches for Mass, parishioners are asked to observe the following which will be in force until further notice. We thank you for your cooperation.

Arrival

- ✓ Please arrive fifteen (15) minutes early
- ✓ Maintain physical distancing at all times
- ✓ Use hand sanitiser provided
- ✓ Lambton: Only attend if you have a confirmed booking
- ✓ Sign in upon entry
- ✓ Pick up a bulletin

Entry

- ✓ Enter from the main entry only
- ✓ There will be no Holy Water
- ✓ Select your seat as directed by the signs
- ✓ You are welcome to wear a mask, as recommended by the NSW Government. You are encouraged to bring your own, however, disposable masks will be available

Mass

- ✓ Congregational singing is suspended until further notice. A group of up to five (5) singers may sing together in a large well-ventilated space, facing forward and not towards each other, maintaining physical distancing of 1.5 metres between each singer, and must be 5 metres from the congregation and not above the congregation
- ✓ There can be Presentation of the Gifts under the guidance of the priest
- ✓ The Sign of Peace will be given by a smile, nod or a wave
- ✓ When receiving Communion maintain the required 1.5 metres physical distance in a single line
- ✓ Communion Host will only be placed in the hand, not the tongue
- ✓ There will be no Chalice

After Mass

- ✓ Take home any bulletins that you handle
- ✓ Contributions to the 1st and 2nd Collections may be left in collection baskets near the church exit as you leave
- ✓ Observe physical distancing as you leave, and refrain from socialising on the church grounds
- ✓ We need two (2) volunteers per church to disinfect the churches after each Mass

◆ SACRAMENTS ◆

ANOINTING AND VIATICUM

Pastoral Care of the Sick and Dying continues with appropriate care and precautions being observed. Visits to the sick and dying, and the celebration of Viaticum, are possible and permissible provided any necessary health and hygiene guidelines are followed. However, communal celebrations of the Anointing of the Sick are not to take place, either in parishes or other places, e.g. aged care facilities.

BAPTISM

The celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism is possible under the current Public Health Order, though liturgical adaptations are required.

Parish Baptism Preparation programs are suspended for the duration of the current circumstances. Pastors are strongly urged to be pastorally supportive of those members of the faithful who are seeking to celebrate Baptism and to accommodate the genuine concerns of parents as far as possible.

Baptisms may legitimately be delayed or deferred in the current circumstances.

COMMUNION MINISTRY TO THE SICK

We are considering the possibility of taking Communion to the Sick to include our Extraordinary Ministers in November. However, this will depend on the circumstances at the time. Communion to the Sick is currently limited to the priests.

FUNERALS

The celebration of funerals is possible under the current Public Health Order, subject to the general requirements around physical distancing, the capacity of church buildings and the provisions of the COVID-19 Safety Plans, both general and funeral specific, for your church building.

Liturgical adaptations are required in the current circumstances.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Third Sunday of Advent

First Reading: Is 61:1-2. 10-11
 Responsorial Psalm: Lk 1:46-50. 53-54. R. Is 61:10
 Second Reading: 1 Thes 5:16-24
 Gospel Acclamation: Is 61:1 (Lk 4:18)
 Gospel: Jn 1:6-8. 19-28

MARRIAGE BOOKINGS

The celebration of weddings remains possible under the current Public Health Order, subject to the general requirements around physical distancing, the capacity of church buildings, and the provisions of the COVID-19 Safety Plan, both general and wedding specific, for your church building. The maximum number of guests at a wedding held in a church building is the lesser of the number of persons that is equivalent to one person per 2 square metres of space in the building, or 300 persons.

These revised limits also apply to gatherings immediately before or immediately after the wedding itself.

PENANCE

The celebration of the Sacrament of Penance is possible.

Celebrations of the First Rite of Reconciliation can take place with appropriate care and precautions.

The communal celebration of the Sacrament of Penance, that is, the Second and Third Rites of Reconciliation, should not take place.

Priests are exhorted to honour any reasonable request to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Parents enquiring around the Sacramental Program are advised that this year's program is suspended until further notice.

Excerpts from [Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle COVID-19 Pandemic Event – Advice, Guidance and Instructions to Parishes](#). Anyone without internet who would like a copy can request one from the Parish Office.

FEAST DAYS

8 Dec: Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 25 Dec: Nativity of the Lord
 26 Dec: Saint Stephen, The First Martyr
 27 Dec: Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
 28 Dec: The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

◆ LITURGY OF THE WORD ◆

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



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. 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.

The Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God in the highest) is not said.

FIRST READING

Is 40:1-5. 9-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
Prepare the way for the Lord.

'Console my people, console them'
says your God.

'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem
and call to her
that her time of service is ended,
that her sin is atoned for,
that she has received from the hand of the Lord
double punishment for all her crimes.'

A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness
a way for the Lord.

Make a straight highway for our God
across the desert.

Let every valley be filled in,
every mountain and hill be laid low,
let every cliff become a plain,
and the ridges a valley;
then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed
and all mankind shall see it;
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

Go up on a high mountain,
joyful messenger to Zion.
Shout with a loud voice,
joyful messenger to Jerusalem.

Shout without fear,
say to the towns of Judah,
'Here is your God.'

Here is the Lord coming with power,
his arm subduing all things to him.
The prize of his victory is with him,
his trophies all go before him.
He is like a shepherd feeding his flock,
gathering lambs in his arms,
holding them against his breast
and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8

(R.) Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace,
peace for his people.

His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land. (R.)

2. Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven. (R.)

3. The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps. (R.)

SECOND READING

2 Pt 3:8-14

A reading from the second letter of St Peter
We wait for new heavens and a new earth.

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, 'a day' can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up.

Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

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

Mk 1:1-8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark
Make straight the paths of the Lord.

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah:

Look, I am going to send my messenger before you;
he will prepare your way.

A voice cries in the wilderness:
Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight,

and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Bar 5:5; 4:36

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

HOMILY

By Richard Leonard

During Advent, Daniel went to his mother demanding a new bicycle for Christmas. 'Danny, we can't afford it', she said, 'so write a letter to Jesus and pray for one instead.' 'Dear Jesus, I've been a good boy this year and would appreciate a new bicycle. Your friend, Daniel.' Now Danny guessed that Jesus really knew he was a brat so he tore it up and tried again. 'Dear Jesus, I've been an OK boy this year and I want a new bicycle. Yours truly, Daniel.' Danny knew this wasn't true either so he tore it up and tried again. 'Dear Jesus, I've thought about being a good boy so may I have a new bicycle? Daniel.'

Finally, Danny thought better of making these false claims and so ran to the Church. He went inside and stole a small statue of Mary and ran out the door. He went home, hid it under his bed and wrote this letter. 'Jesus, let's face it, I've broken most of the Commandments; tore up my sister's doll and lots more, I'm desperate. I've got your mother Mary, if you ever want to see her again, give me a bike for Christmas. You know who.'

There is a little bit of Danny in all of us.

We often think that we can bargain with God to get the best possible deal out of life. The problem with this bargaining image is that it cannot be reconciled with a Christian faith which believes in Advent. The bargaining image of God is the furthest thing from the mind of the writers of today's readings – Isaiah, Psalm (84) 85, St Peter and St Mark.

These scriptures remind us that God has not held back one thing in his love for us. By becoming one with us in our flesh, God has done everything he can to assure us of his saving love. He has shown us all what can be shown about how to live lives of sacrifice, justice and love and how to transform our world for better.

The image of us 'doing a deal' with God is so prevalent in our theology and prayer that we can find ourselves lapsing into it all the time. 'If you make me well, God, I will lead a better life.' 'I will return to Sunday Mass if I pass my exams.' 'I will raise my children Catholic if I have a fine day for my wedding.' This is all dreadful stuff. And the Church has to take some responsibility for this and correct it.

The scriptures tell us from the beginning of time to the preaching of John the Baptist, to the life, death, resurrection of Jesus Christ and to the continuing work of the Holy Spirit among us today, that we have a God who risked everything so that we might know love and life in this world and in the next. We hold and proclaim, in season and out of season, a God who emptied himself of power and might and came to us as a baby.

That's not the profile of a deal-doer. It's the portrait of a lover.

So this Advent let's not ransom ourselves to a benevolent dictator. Let's ask for anything we need with confidence that God has heard our words and so sent love itself in Jesus Christ our Lord.

© Richard Leonard SJ

REFLECTION

By Dianne Bergant

In the wilderness God's salvation comes to a broken people. In the midst of what is seemingly an impossible situation, hope emerges with vigour. In this context, hope is an openness to surprise, the surprise that God is in no way limited to the imaginings of human minds and the consequences of human history. This is the kind of hope that is proclaimed in the wilderness by John; it is the kind of hope that trusts that from the impossible, God can work a new creation.

There is something of a time warp in Christianity. What is future is made present. The prophetic oracle announces the future as if it is already happening. This sense of the future-present prompts new ways of living. As the future takes root in human lives, the present is transformed into a new creation and the Day of the Lord appears.

God's future comes through the wilderness into the broken city and inspires a broken-hearted people. The contrite heart is a broken heart, an emptied-out heart, a hope-filled heart. It is a heart that is unencumbered by the past and that lives currently in the passing of time and the fragility of being alive. The contrite, broken heart can be filled only by what is promised in the future. This is the paradox of Advent. In the middle of the wilderness, God works the impossible in those whose hearts are ready for the surprise of hope.

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REFLECTION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

By Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

Waiting for Christmas is hard. It is hard to wait for anything. But it is especially frustrating to wait for something when you don't know how long it will take or what is holding it up – for example, driving along on a busy highway and coming upon a traffic jam that cannot be explained. As far as you can see there is no accident, no construction, no reason for all four lanes to be at a standstill. But if you have been in such a situation long enough, you might have seen what sometimes happens. Sooner or later people start trickling out of their cars to talk to one another. They start getting acquainted and cracking jokes. Suddenly the waiting doesn't seem like such torture. Why? Because people begin to comfort one another.

How does attitude affect waiting and even pain? How does comfort affect attitude?

When have you been comforted by a friend or a family member? What words helped? What actions helped? What did he or she try to do for you? Have you ever been able to be of comfort to another? What have you done or said? What happened?

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PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Light a Candle

Light a candle to symbolize the Light of Christ and Light of the World.



Introduction: Brothers and sisters, let us bring our prayer before God who shows kindness to all who fear him.

1. That nothing will hinder the Church from receiving Christ with joy. Let us pray to the Lord.
2. That basic rights and respect for human persons be established in all nations. Let us pray to the Lord.
3. That those who daily live with anger and disharmony will find peace and unity. Let us pray to the Lord.
4. That those who are sick will be comforted by the Good Shepherd. Let us pray to the Lord.
5. That this community will repent of its sins and prepare for the coming of the kingdom. Let us pray to the Lord.
6. That those who have died will dwell in the house of God. Let us pray to the Lord.

Conclusion: God of justice and peace, your prophets challenge us and confront our complacency. Hear our prayer and teach us to heed the words of John the Baptist and prepare the way of the Lord. We ask this in Jesus' name.

All: Amen.

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WE REMEMBER

Please Pray for

Sick: Derek Orrin, Robert Watson, Donna Collins, Elizabeth Mary Oates, Bernadette Coffey, Michael Payne, Fred Stanwell, Sheila Bell, Paul Mowbray, Shelley Smith.

Recently Deceased: Jim Butler, Gregory Charles Carmody.

Anniversaries: Frank and Maria-Teresa Patti, Peter and Fay Baran, Fr Harry Hughes, Fr Lachlan Larkin, Fr Thomas Joseph O'Sullivan, Fr Michael John Fitzgerald.

Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and may light perpetual shine upon them. + May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen



During this time "Intentions" for publication may be submitted by email (or phone) by midday Monday each week ahead. Reminder that you need the person or family's permission to enable us to publish names.

PRAYER

In Thanksgiving

My God, from my heart I thank you for the many blessings you have given to me. I thank you for having created and baptised me, and for having placed me in your holy Catholic Church; and for having given me so many graces and mercies through the merits of Jesus Christ. And I thank you, dear Jesus, for having become a little child for my sake, to teach me to be holy and humble like you; and for having died upon the Cross that I might have pardon for my sins and get to heaven. Also I thank you for all your other mercies, most of all for those you have given me today.

READERS ROSTER

READERS ROSTER	LAMBTON	WARATAH	NEW LAMBTON	WARATAH
	Saturday 5:00PM	Sunday 7:30AM	Sunday 9:15AM	Sunday 5:30PM
October	Diana Dolan	Elizabeth Buckles	Sr Maureen Torpey	Laurel Movigliatti
November	Emma Conserdyne	Teleisia Lolohea	Noel Franks	Elizabeth Buckles
December	Peter Dolan	Mary Tobin	Joy Loas	Helen Clough
ROSTER CONTACTS	Ann Gunn 0407 571 197	Pat Campbell 0411 341 209	Joy Loas 02 4952 2664	Laurel Movigliatti 0407 938 204

UPDATE

Under the current Public Health Order, our church buildings are able to be opened for both the public celebration of the liturgy and for private prayer and meditation.

The opening of our church buildings is dependent on the availability of a COVID-19 Safety Plan for the building, and the registration of the church as a COVID-19 Safe business.

Last updated on 23 October 2020, the Public Health Order has set the number of persons who can be present in our church buildings at any one time to be the lesser of:

- (a) The number of persons that is equivalent to one person per 4 square metres of space in the building, or
- (b) 300 persons.

A VOCATION VIEW

The cry of the people: "Lord, let us see your kindness". Who will prepare the way of the Lord coming to us today? For more information regarding Vocations phone 02 4979 1112 or email vocations@mn.catholic.org.au.



These limits apply to all services conducted in our church buildings and include having them open for private prayer.

Anyone in a church building for the purposes of engaging in work at the request of, and on behalf of, the Parish is excluded from the limit.

A full copy of the Public Health Order can be found on the NSW Legislation website via www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/information/covid19-legislation.

See page 1 for the maximum capacity of each of our churches.

PARISH NEWS

St Vincent De Paul Appeal: Our annual Christmas Appeal will continue this weekend and next weekend – 6 and 13 December. Collection boxes will be available when you exit from each of the churches. Please give generously.

Cards and Calendars: St Vincent de Paul Christmas cards and 2021 calendars are now available for sale.

- Pack of 10 Cards \$5
- Calendars \$20

Reconciliation Service: In preparation of the Christmas season, reconciliation will be held at 7:00PM:

- Tuesday 15 December at Corpus Christi Waratah
- Wednesday 16 December at St Therese's New Lambton

Christmas Mass Bookings: As we are expecting large attendances at Christmas Mass, we ask that you book beforehand by phoning the Parish Office.

Christmas Rosters: Christmas Mass "sign-up" sheets are available at each church. Registered volunteers, please sign up by this Sunday.

Advent Program: The parish has a limited number of Daily Reflection Books. If you are interested in purchasing a book for personal reflection they are still available at the Parish Office. Books cost \$7.00. We are happy to post a copy to you.

Daily Mass Books: Due to COVID-19 safety measures, the new Daily Mass book weekday Cycle 1 will not be available in the Churches during 2021. Instead, we are offering those who attend weekday Mass a personal copy. There is a limited, but generous, number of these available to our parishioners at the low cost of \$10.00 this year. Non-Parishioners may purchase a book at the normal price of \$25.00. Once you have a book please ensure you write your name inside the cover and always take it home with you.

Parish Office: The office is open and working within the required guidelines. Most enquiries can be met over the phone or via email, including baptism and marriage bookings. If you do need to come in please use hand sanitiser provided, sign the visitors book and observe physical distancing. For funerals, please contact the Funeral Directors who will contact our Priests.

Parish Venues: We are sorry to advise that all our parish venues still remain CLOSED TO ALL GROUPS until further notice. Anyone needing to gain access at any venue, please contact Fr Sabu. This is to ensure our children, our most vulnerable, our parishioners, and our staff are protected and to ensure our Parish complies with our legal obligations.

Masks: Masks (\$10.00) and ear savers (\$2.00) are on sale at the Parish Office. Proceeds go towards the Bell Tower Appeal. Thank you to our volunteers who provide these.

2021 Volunteer Rosters: We are currently working on new rosters for 2021 and hope to have them available late December. Our grateful thanks to all who volunteered during 2020 and those who are continuing. If you do not wish to continue on a roster in 2021, please let the Parish Secretary know. Please note that if you have not completed registration then you will not be included in the 2021 rosters.

Volunteer Registrations: The Diocese is implementing a new system whereby the number of checks and balances required to register for volunteer ministries more accurately reflects the degree of autonomy and authority associated with the role in question. This means that for many ministries the registration process is now more relaxed. We are currently reviewing all pending volunteer registrations with this in mind.

**Meeting of Extraordinary Ministers
of Holy Communion to the Home
Friday 18 December, 4:00PM at Lambton Hall**

Weekly Bulletin: Our weekly bulletin is available via email subscription triparish@mn.catholic.org.au. In an effort to reach those not yet able to come to church, paper copies are available for collection at 3 locations – Lambton Church verandah, Waratah Presbytery verandah, and New Lambton Parish House front door. Please consider dropping a copy into the letter box of a neighbouring parishioner who may not have email or internet, or is not back at church yet. Please contact the office if you need assistance.

Catholic Weekly: Catholic Weekly is now available at the church entrance.

Aurora Magazine: [Aurora](#), the official magazine of the Diocese. The November issue is now available at the back of the church or by subscription.

PARISH GROUPS, TEAMS AND COUNCILS

Parish Pastoral Council: The next Parish Pastoral Council meeting will be Tuesday 23 February 2021, 5:30PM at Parish House New Lambton.

DIOCESE NEWS

Modern Slavery Webinar: The *Diocesan Social Justice Council* invites you to a free Modern Slavery Webinar on Wednesday 9 December at 11:00AM – 12:30PM. For more information visit <https://mnnews.today/media/2859555/modern-slavery-flyer.pdf>. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/modern-slavery-what-do-you-know-tickets-127966187311>


Sacred @ Seven: You are invited to celebrate the next Sacred @ Seven on Wednesday 9 December at 7:00PM at St Therese's New Lambton. This holy hour of adoration is organised by the *Diocesan Council for Ministry with Young People*. Bishop William (Bill) Wright will celebrate. Refreshments afterwards.

Praying the Gospels this Advent: You are invited to join the Advent online - Praying the Gospels group - reflecting on the Gospel using Lectio and Visio Divina. This group was established at the beginning of Church closures and is still going strong and growing in number and meet each Wednesday at 5:00PM until 5:45PM via Zoom at <https://mncatholic.zoom.us/j/92777151360> Password: Prayer

Christian Formation Course 2021: The Christian Formation Course (CFC) is a face-to-face learning experience that allows participants to explore their life's journey and their faith within the Catholic Tradition. All who complete the Course are awarded a diocesan Certificate in Christian Formation. If you would like to enrol in the Christian Formation Course in 2021 go to: <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/adult-faith-formation/christian-formation-course/>

Caritas Global Gifts: Looking for meaningful Christmas presents? Give a Global Gift. These cards will bring hope and joy to the world's most vulnerable and smiles to your loved ones. Global Gifts can be purchased at <https://globalgifts.org.au/#buy>

South East Asia Crisis: With your help, and with our church and NGO partners on the ground, Caritas Australia can provide vital support to those affected by this and other disasters as part of our Asia Emergency Appeal. Donate today at www.caritas.org.au or by calling 1800 024 413 toll free.

<p>2020 Christmas Mass Times</p>	DATE	TIME	CHURCH	SERVICE		
	Thursday 24 December (Christmas Eve)		5:00PM	St John's Church Lambton		Mass
			6:30PM	St Therese's Church New Lambton		Children's Mass
			6:30PM	Corpus Christi Waratah		Mass
			10:00PM	St Therese's Church New Lambton		Mass
		Friday 25 December (Christmas Day)		8:00AM		Corpus Christi Church Waratah
			9:15AM	St Therese's Church New Lambton		Mass

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JUNIOR WORDSEARCH

Clear a path for the Lord

Is 40:3-5
Ps 85:8-9, 10-11, R. v.8
Mk 1:1-8

X L I S T R A I G H T P T B A
I E H O L Y S P I R I T F B Z
M P O V O I C E I G M F A Z G
N S N H S J W T J R C R O W D
K S E F W F G X Z A F I H C O
X L E R E A K B G S R O A D T
P I G U U K F N F S T S X D M
E M P S O R R Y E H V R A M R
Z V P R E P A R E O T Y A N R
A C N D E S E R T P M R T M Q
B A P T I S T S M P J W M D G
J O R D A N B P N E O C P L G
F X H I O C T M A R D Z S F M
H U G Q V U I L S S Y B D Q B
B X J M O U N T A I N K F W Z

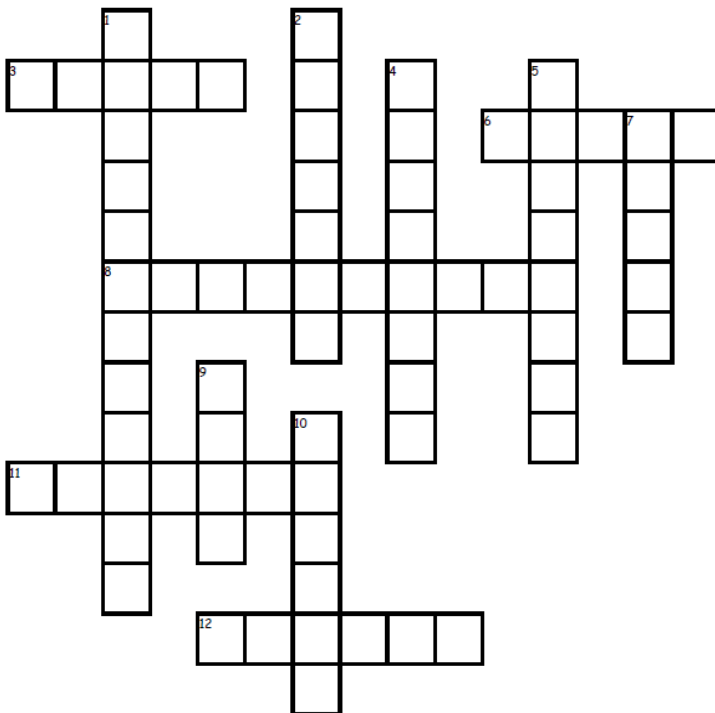
Try to find these words:

- Baptist
- crowd
- desert
- grasshoppers
- Holy Spirit
- Jordan
- mountain
- prepare
- road
- sorry
- straight
- voice

CROSSWORD

Clear a path for the Lord

Is 40:3-5
Ps 85:8-9, 10-11, R. v.8
Mk 1:1-8



Across

- 3: what we say when we apologise
- 6: what you hear when someone speaks
- 8: John told the people God would baptise them with the H___ S_____ (two words)
- 11: to get ready
- 12: John the Baptist baptised people in this river

Down

- 1: John ate these insects
- 2: John the _____ baptised people in the Jordan River
- 4: the opposite of crooked
- 5: a very high piece of land
- 7: a large group of people
- 9: a pathway used by vehicles
- 10: a hot and sandy place

Make a straight path for the Lord



2nd Sunday of Advent, Year B

The prophet Isaiah wrote:

"I am _____ my
_____ ahead of you,
who will _____ your way;
the _____ of one _____ out
in the _____:
'Prepare the _____ of the _____,
make his paths _____'"

crying
straight
way
voice
sending
prepare
wilderness
messenger
Lord



What are three things you can do to be ready for Jesus during this second week of Advent?

John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus by telling people to turn back to God and baptising them. He wore clothes made from camel's hair and wore a leather strap around his waist. For food he ate grasshoppers and wild honey. Draw a picture of John baptising someone in the Jordan River.

