

We acknowledge the Dharawal people, traditional owners and custodians of this place. They are part of the world's oldest living human culture, deserving of our deepest respect. May we walk gently on this land.



**ST MARY'S
TOWERS**
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MARRIAGES and BAPTISMS
by appointment

SUNDAY MASSES in the Church

9am each Sunday
6pm every 1st Sunday [at Menangle]
5pm every 3rd Sunday for
Youth/Young families

WEEKDAY MASS/PRAYER
in Jenkins Chapel

Monday: 5pm Prayer; 5.15pm Mass
Tues-Sat: 7am Prayer; 7.15am Mass

ALL WELCOME

TODAY WE CELEBRATE:
1st SUNDAY of ADVENT
YEAR C : 29 NOVEMBER, 2009

What are the things in your life which
distract you from the Gospel?

What are some of the strategies which make
it easier to be attentive to the important
things in life?

DID YOU KNOW?

The circle of the Advent wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul, the everlasting life found in Christ, and God's unending love for us. The evergreen leaves represent growth and our hope of eternal life. The four candles mark the four weeks before Christmas, with one more candle lit each Sunday during Advent. Traditionally three candles are purple with the candle for the third Sunday, the Sunday of rejoicing, being rose. We rejoice because we will have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when our preparation will be half over and we are close to Christmas.

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK...

Todd McRae, Sue Gay, Christine Sullivan, Trish Coleman, Peter Naughton, Daphne O'Brien, Kerrie Berger (Pat Cagney's sister) Hazel Wood [Jude Flippence's mother - battling cancer] Doug Moseley [Heather's brother-in-law] Lois Martin, Brian Selem, Bill Penn, Leo Hill, msc, Frank Dineen msc who will have open heart surgery Dec 15.

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK:

1st:\$159.54; 2nd: \$105.75
Young Peoples' Mass: \$105.65
Thank you for your generosity.

**Bishop Peter's Pastoral Letter:
Our Journey Ahead - planning
together in Christ's love for the
Diocese of Wollongong.** Available
next week in the diocesan magazine
'Journey'.

LITURGY MEETING IN PREPARATION FOR CHRISTMAS
Wednesday, Dec 2, 2pm in front parlour - ALL WELCOME

prayers for lighting of Advent candles

*Today we begin the new liturgical year in the church, Advent, which is a four-week season of preparation for Christmas. Advent has a past, a present and a future dimension. It is a time to reflect on the coming of Christ: * into human history as a small baby, *at the end of time and *into our own lives each day.*

WEEK ONE : Theme : HOPE

Celebrant: May this light remind us of Jesus
who is the true Light of the world.
Let us call upon him who is coming.
We await, for he is:

All: God from God,
light from light,
true God from true God.
Amen.

