

Catholic Parish of Blackiriars



Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



VERITAS



Issue 03
11 December 2022
Year A

HOLY ROSARY CHURCH

Parish Priest

Fr Mannes Tellis OP

(To contact Please Text)
0414 396 532

Dominican in residence
Br Francis McKinnon OP

Holy Rosary Church
Cnr Phillip Avenue &
Antill Street, Watson ACT

Postal Address

PO Box 900, Dickson
Telephone: Ph. 6248 5925

Office Hours -

Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday, Friday
9am to 12.30pm

Office Staff

Jacque Cortese
Jim Smith

Email:

watson@cg.org.au

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www.facebook.com/Holy-Rosary-Parish-Watson

Mass Times

Monday - NO Mass

Tuesday & Thursday
8.00am

Wednesday & Friday
5:30pm

Saturday - 9:00am
Vigil - 5:pm

Sunday - 8:00am, 10:00am,
5:00pm

Reconciliation

Saturday
4pm - 4.45pm

Adoration - Holy Hour

Friday's 6pm - 7pm

Pray the Rosary

Before 10am Mass on Sundays

ACU MASS - 12pm Wednesday

If you are in Urgent need of a Priest
out of office hours call - 6248 8253



PARISH BULLETIN - DEADLINE for notices is
NOON TUESDAY

Please contact the office Ph. 6248 5925
or Email: watson@cg.org.au

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Entrance Antiphon - Philippians 4: 4-5

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.
Indeed, the Lord is near.

FIRST READING

First reading - Isaiah 35:1-6,10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

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.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 145(146):6-10

Lord, come and save us.

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,

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.

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.

Lord, come and save us.

SECOND READING

Second reading James 5:7-10

A reading from the letter of St James

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

Cont...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.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Gospel Acclamation - Isaiah 61:1 (Luke 4:18)

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

GOSPEL

Gospel - Matthew 11:2-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

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.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Communion Antiphon is NOT recited when hymns are sung.

Communion Antiphon - Cf. Is 35: 4

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.
Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

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2ND RITE OF RECONCILIATION

Regional 2nd Rite of Reconciliation for
Advent

Wednesday 14 Dec 7:30
at St Brigid's Church Dickson

GAUDATE SUNDAY

Rejoice, again I say rejoice
our entrance antiphon boldly proclaims.

But what are we really rejoicing about? Why does St Paul exhort us to rejoice? I think often happiness and joy are emotions we feel we must have, and if we don't "feel" particularly joyful or happy we can't be truly Christian. But Christian joy is not a matter of just "feeling" a certain way. To be happy at all times in the common sense of the word is an impossibility, sometimes we just naturally experience depression, worry, concern, anxiety-these are natural and normal expressions of our human condition and are not in any way contrary to Christian joy.

So what are we to rejoice in? Well our joy is to be found in faith and hope. Christian joy is grounded not in a feeling but in the fact that the promise of salvation and life eternal has truly been given to us in the event of God becoming man which is what we are about to celebrate soon. Our hope is more clearly the humble expectation that the saving work of the child of Bethlehem will be applied to us. These factors, namely faith and hope are made concrete in Jesus Christ becoming man. They are present and real regardless of how we "feel" on any given day.

So don't worry be happy! Fundamentally Paul's exhortation to be happy is founded on the hope that is given in Christ Jesus, but it is also a pointer to us that true happiness can only ever be found in the life of God. Our happiness rests in God because simply we are made for life with God. Our yearning for deep abiding happiness will not come from earthly things because earthly possessions are transitory and, we, though partly subject to corruption in the body are, nevertheless, immortal and only an infinite happiness can truly suit us. Yes, we should delight in earthly creation, but creation itself only points to its maker-the supreme good, which is God.

Interestingly Paul's exhortation to be happy also goes hand in hand with gratitude "and for all things give thanks to God" Pauls teaches. Our happiness comes from all the things God gives us. Ultimately the things that God gives us are meant for our eternal happiness, and the only way we can thank God for the things of this life is to pray, hence Paul's desire for us to "pray constantly."

So then may the God of peace and true joy make you perfect and holy; and may you be kept blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our lord Jesus Christ-as both babe in the manger at Bethlehem and as the compassionate judge at the end of time.

God love you all. You're all in my prayers.
Fr Mannes OP

ADVENT APPEAL FOR UKRAINE

Supporting the work of Mudra Sprava, a Patriarchal Charitable Foundation in Ukraine. Their three focus areas: Evacuation of people from frontline territories; Food packages and Shelter. If you would like to make please use the QR Code, the Parish banking Details Reference: Ukraine or place your cash donation in an Envelope marked Ukraine Appeal in the Collection Box. Alternatively if you Would like to make a Credit Card donation please contact the office.



MAKE YOUR
HEARTS FIRM
BECAUSE THE COMING
OF THE LORD
IS AT HAND

EDGY JOY

Fr David Rocks OP encourages us not to lose hope during this time of waiting, but to rejoice in the coming of the Saviour.

Rejoice! This is the instruction we are given at the beginning of Mass today. We are well and truly into the Advent mood now and this instruction comes to put our Advent preparations into context. But what do we have to rejoice about? The Gospel presents us with the rather odd figure of John the Baptist. The Lord proclaims that no greater man than he has been born. It's clear that John the Baptist has much to rejoice about. What entitles him to this great honour? John the Baptist was on the edge. His diet and his dress sense were weird, his living environment less than desirable. These things matter little to John. He was quite clear about his mission, and that was his sole focus. He was tasked with preparing the hearts of the people to receive the great joy of the Messiah. He preached to them a clear message of repentance, that they must turn away from sin so that they can recognise him when he comes. He gave them a baptism of repentance, a symbol of their liberation from the slavery of sin, which made them ready to greet their Redeemer. People flocked to him to listen and to be baptised. He fulfilled his task with great zeal and passion.

In today's gospel, he is making contact with the Lord from prison, for he has heard the Lord's actions. The authorities have locked him away, for the message he preaches terrifies them. Yet John is someone who cannot be imprisoned because it is impossible. Yes, you can lock him up. But you cannot imprison someone who has truly repented with a full heart. Even though John cannot see the Lord face to face, he is able to recognise him through the thick walls of a prison. The words conveyed to him by the Lord most certainly would make John rejoice.

Repentance is a huge problem for us because it demands we examine every aspect of our lives. There are lots of areas where we are simply not ready for repenting. It's painful for us to break free from patterns of sin that seem to give us comfort and make us happy. We think we will miss them and suffer without them. There are lots of things in our lives that we don't want to admit are sinful, and sometimes when we look at the extent of our sinfulness we can become disheartened, and think that repentance is pointless. It is, however, necessary if we desire to receive our Saviour.

Reflecting on all these things over the last few weeks of Advent, we might be getting a little bogged down in it all. That's why the Church tells us to rejoice. There's no doubt that the gospel is demanding, but we have the great joy of God's grace and the fellowship of each other spurring us on to true repentance. We have the great comfort of God's mercy which means we don't need to languish in slavery to sin. We're right on the threshold of our complete happiness. We're on the very edge of true joy.

This Sunday reminds us that, like John the Baptist, we're on the edge. We need to edge our way closer to true repentance because that's where we find our joy. Our salvation is a work in progress. Let's continue through Advent to encourage each other in prayer both to repent and rejoice.

GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH CREATION

'Reading the Bible, we discover right from the first page that God speaks to us. He speaks to us as he gives life to creation: the heavens, the earth, light, water, living things, man and woman, everything exists by his word. His word gives meaning to all things, rescuing them from chaos. For this reason nature is an immense book in which we can see with ever fresh wonder the traces of divine Beauty.'

Pope John Paul II, 2002

NORTH CANBERRA NATIVITY FESTIVAL

9th to 12th DEC: MULTICULTURAL NATIVITY EXPO

200 Nativity scenes from 45+ countries, showcasing diverse cultures that embrace the Christian story: from the Occupied Palestinian Territories to the Amazon rain forests, from India to the Inuits of the Canadian Arctic. An entrée to family discussion on the true meaning of Christmas.

Fri 9th: 12 noon to 5pm - **Sat 10th & Sun 11th:** 10am-7pm

Mon 10th: 9am-5pm - St Margaret's Hall, Hackett.

Contact: Keith at linard.keith@gmail.com.

Sat 10th - Sun 11th Dec: CHRISTMAS CONCERT, SAUSAGE SIZZLE & CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Sat & Sun 10am-7pm: Exhibition 200 nativity scenes

Sat 5.30pm: Looking Glass Percussion Concert

Sun 6.30pm: Community BBQ free & open to all.

Sun 7.30pm: Carols by Candlelight

Venue: St Margaret's - Holy Cross, Hackett

Contact: **Tim Watson** at rector@holycrosshackett.org.au

Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/northcanberranativityfestival

PYX

PYX. Some years ago members of the Parish Dominicare group assisted with visitations to parishioners who could not attend Mass. Those members were provided with a Pyx to enable Communion to be provided to the parishioner being visited. If any parishioners who were involved with those visitations still has a PYX please return it to the Sacristy or Office as soon as possible.

WEEKLY ENVELOPES

Weekly Envelopes: To assist our counters please put your envelope in the Second Collection Boxes and only use the envelope dated the current Sunday. We do not need envelopes for previous or future dates to come.

ADVENT BOOKS

There are Wollongong Advent Books available from the Parish Office cost \$5.00. Contact the office if you wish to purchase one.

DONATIONS TO PARISH & PRIESTS

Parish details to contribute to the Planned Giving.

Bank details - Account Name: Blackfriars Parish Watson
BSB: 062786 - A/C : 000013341 - Reference: Name

Priests details to contribute to the First Collection.

Details - Account Name: Dominican Fathers Watson
BSB: 083 347 Account number: 97 310 5044

Reference: Your Name - Donation

DONATIONS TO ST DOMINICS GARDEN CAN BE MADE USING THE PARISH BANKING DETAILS ABOVE BANK DETAILS - REFERENCE GARDEN

ATM inside: Atonement, Truth, Mercy.

MASS CANCELLATIONS

Fr Mannes will be on retreat from the 19th Dec to the 23rd Dec. Mass on Tuesday 20th, Wednesday 21st, Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd and Adoration will be cancelled.

No 9:00am Mass Christmas Eve.

PRAYERS

In Your Prayers please remember those in our community who are ill: Mary Martin, Anne Corver, Barbara Wilson, Mimma Gia, Philip Bailey, Una Bell, Veronica Cornelly, Rosa Maria Santos, Ursula Ramsay, Beth Delos Santos, Peter Catlin, Sue King, June Pollard, Fr Ellis Clifford, Joe Schimizzi, Awny El-Ghitany, Una Ford, Elizabeth Webster, Terry Stephens, Pamela Sandy, Maureen Blood, Anthony Parsonage, Lily Copeland, Neville Caulfield, Maggie McKeon, Alphonsa Bankovsky, Dennis McKeon, Gabe Savas, Michelle Brotohusodo, Carmel Slammon, Suzanne Brown, Fr Rafael Cabezon OP

BIBLE STUDY Verbum: Bible study for Young Adults (18-35) Tuesday nights at 6.30pm in the Parish Office a group of young adults from around North Canberra come to study the scriptures and pray. **On break at the moment.**

PRAY THE ROSARY Sunday Mornings prior to 10.00am Mass the Rosary will be recited. Please join in.

CRAFT GROUP meets noon - 4.00pm in the Parish Centre on Wednesdays.

DOMINICAN LIBRARY will open **Saturday** mornings, 9.30am - 12.00 noon in the Parish Centre. All welcome.

BLACKFRIARS MEDITATION GROUP meets on Thursday evenings in the 7.30pm Parish Centre. Enquiries John Jarvis 6296 2001 or Michael Flynn 6257 1038 - www.wccm.org

WEEKLY READER FORMATION - Formation sessions are on Wednesday evenings. These sessions provide reflection on the Scripture readings for the following Sunday. All parishioners are invited. - Meet in the church Office.

HOLY ROSARY WOMEN'S FAITH CIRCLE *WhatsApp Group.* By joining the group you can connect with women of all ages from the Blackfriars (Holy Rosary Church) Parish and School community and grow in fellowship within the Blackfriars community. Send me your mobile number to Emily 0422 815 680 to connect.

ROSTER 17 / 18 December

Saturday 5.00pm - Acolyte - M. Tran
Reader - L. Dowling

Sunday 8.00am - Acolyte - Volunteer
Reader - E. Smith / J. Smith
D. P. - N. Clarke / T. Klekner

Sunday 10.00am - Acolyte - L. Kim
Reader - V. Wilson / P. McDonald
D. P. - J. Kim

Sunday 5.00pm - Acolyte - P. Tran
Reader - M. Proctor
D. P. - C. Bailey

THE MARIAN MOVEMENT OF PRIESTS invites you and your friends to THE 16th ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S EVE PRAYER VIGIL
Where: St Brigid's Church Time: 8.00pm
Date: Saturday 31st December 2022
Exposition from 8.00pm until Benediction just before Midnight. For further inquiries: Judy & Joe Mewburn 6254 6202.