

Catholic Parish of Blackiriars



Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



VERITAS



Issue 04
18 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
Jacquie Cortese
Jim Smith

Email:
watson@cg.org.au
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www.cg.org.au/watson

Facebook:

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

Fourth Sunday of Advent



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 - Cf. Isaiah 45: 8

Drop down dew from above, you heavens,
and let the clouds rain down the Just One;
let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

FIRST READING

First reading - Isaiah 7:10-14

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

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.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 23(24):1-6

Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

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.

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.

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.

Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

SECOND READING

Second reading - Romans 1:1-7

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

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

Cont...peace.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Gospel Acclamation - Matthew 1:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

A virgin will give birth to a son;
His name will be Emmanuel: God is with us.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Gospel - Matthew 1:18-24

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

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.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Communion Antiphon is NOT recited when hymns are sung.

Communion Antiphon - Isaiah 7: 14

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son;
and his name will be called Emmanuel.

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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.



"GOD IS WITH US"



When I was a child I would get really excited when it came to December because December meant Christmas and Christmas meant presents. Times change. As I got older the real meaning of Christmas hit home. Christmas as the name suggests has Christ as its focus, nothing more nothing less. Christ is the true 'present' he is a present which

will be ours always, because through our baptism we belong to him always. Our readings today suggest this, that everything is pointing to the coming of the Christ child.

Isaiah tells us about the sign by which we will know that God is with us "the maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son, whom she will call Emmanuel - God with us. The blessed Virgin Mary is that virgin as we well know, and it is she who, in lovingly obeying the will of the eternal father gives to us God's Christmas present, his son.

Paul too points out that the "Son of God" took flesh, that is became incarnate. Yet another reference to what we are about to celebrate this week.

Matthew, sketches the foretelling of Jesus' birth to St Joseph. This presentation of scripture acts as a parallel to the annunciation story. Just as Mary was told about her role in the economy of salvation, so Joseph here is alerted to the new duty he must assume in God's plan. In this episode we receive more details concerning this mysterious child, he is no less than the God-man, Jesus Christ present in the womb of the virgin by the power of the Spirit.

Fundamentally our celebration this week is centred on the work of the Holy Trinity in the work of our redemption. God will stop at nothing to get us to come back to him, even losing his own son, letting him be lost in the morass which is our broken and evil world. What we are about to celebrate is not so much the birth of a baby but about a God becoming human being. Emmanuel, God is with us.

This is at the heart of our religion. God is not just a God up there but a God with his feet placed firmly on the earth. He is a God who toils with us, walks with us, shares our sufferings and our joys. Do not think for a moment God does not understand our way of life, he does because he has a human nature, in the god who is also man - Jesus Christ. But it does not stop there. Jesus Christ is the revealer of the triune god. It is Jesus who is the final word concerning God. When the father spoke the word, which is his son, and sent him to live among us so as to raise us to be partakers of the divine nature, the father exhausted himself in telling us about the nature of God. In Christ we see how God acts. It is important then to get to know the essence of Christ's work in the world and we do that primarily through being attentive to the scriptures and to the teaching of God's instrument of salvation in the world, the church.

As we ponder this Sunday the appearance of God among us as true God and true man let us always

Cont...remember that it is in receiving him in his Eucharistic disguise that we can come to relish more eagerly the importance of the incarnation. Indeed the word was made flesh and dwelt amongst us and gave himself to us so as to commune with him till he comes again.

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



Archbishop's Office
GPO Box 89
Canberra ACT 2601

Thursday, 15th December 2022

To Members of the Blackfriars Parish, Watson ACT

At the 2022 Provincial Chapter Dominican Friars of the Province of the Assumption made the regretful but necessary decision, in light of the declining numbers of Friars, to advise Archbishop Prowse that, after 60 years of service to Blackfriars Parish in Watson ACT, they would need to withdraw their commitment to the parish. Archbishop Christopher was advised in November 2022 that the Dominican Friars would be ceasing their service in Canberra on the Feast of the Christ the King 2023 (26 November).

The Dominican Friars and the Dominican Sisters accepted Archbishop Eris O'Brien's invitation to come to Canberra in the early 1960s, establishing Blackfriars Priory and Signadou Teachers College as well as undertaking the pastoral responsibilities for the Watson Parish. In the various ministries filled, the work of both Priory and College, together with the service of individual Friars and Sisters, the Dominican Congregations have not only served the growing Canberra community but have fundamentally shaped the nature of the Catholic Church in the Archdiocese for over 60 years.

Archbishop Christopher and Fr Dominic recognise the profound disappointment of many people, especially those in the Parish of Watson at this news. We have committed to ensuring the transition is as smooth as possible and look forward to celebrating the achievements that have been made and appropriately farewelling the Friars from Canberra next year.

Archbishop Christopher Prowse
Catholic Archbishop
of Canberra and Goulburn

Fr Dominic Murphy OP
Prior Provincial
Dominican Province of the Assumption

The Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn
55 Franklin Street, Forrest ACT 2603 | 02 6239 9811 | information@cg.org.au | www.cgcatholic.org.au

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.

ARCHBISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL

The Archbishop's Christmas Appeal for 2022 will be conducted as a leaving collection this weekend and again have the funds raised split.

- Our support will continue for the ecumenical Christmas Bowl appeal and its work in Ukraine, Syria, Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe and assisting Congolese refugees in Kenya.
- Contributions will be made to support Diocesan projects within the Dioceses of Otukpo, Nigeria, Africa, Tamarassery, India and Bougainville in PNG. Within Bougainville, our contribution will support the expansion and overhaul of St Joseph's College, Mabiri, to meet and manage the needs of an envisioned increase in students, many of whom, must board away from home.
- Other international endeavours will include support towards: projects focused on helping the poor within the La Salette Matha Province in India; and further student assistance for those in need at Bethlehem University in the Holy Land.

MACKILLOP HOUSE

CatholicCare Canberra and Goulburn extends sincere thanks for your support during 2022. In particular we thank you for your donations and financial support for MacKillop House for Homeless Women. Your generosity has enabled work to be implemented at MacKillop House including an upgrade to our Security system and the commencement of refurbishing for 25 single bedrooms. May Christmas bring many blessings for you and your loved ones. May you keep safe in 2023 and enjoy a better year. God bless, and warm thanks. Sr Noelene Quinane (Noelene.quinane@catholiccare.cg.org.au)

VOLUNTEERS FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES

Acolytes and readers are needed for the Christmas Masses please sign up on the sheet in the foyer if you are able to help.

HELP WITH TRAVEL TO MASS

Can you help? Elderly parishioner living in Kaleen is seeking transport to Mass on Sundays 5pm, Wednesday and Friday 5.30pm and on Christmas Day at 8am. If you can assist please contact the Parish office.

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**



Christmas Carols
Join us at St Joseph's Parish
O'Connor
Tuesday 20th December
at 7:30pm

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, Michelle Brotohusodo, Brian & Suzanne Brown, Fr Rafael Cabezon OP

RECENTLY DECEASED

Our recently Deceased: May they find peace and comfort in the embrace of the Lord.

Gabriel Savas

IN LOVING MEMORY

Paula Savas

BAPTISM

Evelyn & Myles Box

will be baptised this weekend.
May her life be filled with God's peace,
and her heart with God's love...
on this Baptism day and always.



BIBLE STUDY Verbum: Bible study for Young Adults (18-35)
Tuesday nights at 6.30pm in the Parish Office **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.*
Connect with women of all ages from the Holy Rosary Church and School community and grow in fellowship within the Blackfriars community. Send me your mobile number to Emily 0422 815 680 to connect.

ROSTER / 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