

Catholic Parish of Blackiriars

Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



VERITAS



Issue 06

27 December 2020

Year B

The Holy Family Jesus, Mary & Joseph

HOLY ROSARY CHURCH

Parish Priest

Fr Mannes Tellis OP
(To contact Please Text)
0414 396 532

Assistant Priest

Fr Rafael Cabezon OP

Dominican in residence
Br Francis McKinnon

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

Postal Address

PO Box 900, Dickson
Ph. 6248 5925

Office Hours -

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

Office Staff

Jacquie Cortese
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Email:

watson@cg.org.au

Website:

www.cg.org.au/watson

Facebook:

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

Mass Times

Monday - NO Mass
Tuesday & Thursday
6:45am

Wednesday & Friday
5:30pm

Saturday - 9:00am
Vigil - 5:pm

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

Reconciliation

Saturday 12pm-12.30pm
and 4pm-4.30pm

Adoration - Holy Hour

Tuesday 12 Noon - 1:00pm

Pray the Rosary

First Saturday each month 3.30pm

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



**If you are feeling unwell please DO NOT come to church.
Please scan the QR Code & record your name, alternatively please write
your name and contact number on the register provided.
PLEASE sanitise your hands on entering the foyer or parish centre.
Please DO NOT return your bulletin to the basket, if you are not taking
it home put it in the bin.**



SECOND READING

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead; and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back to Isaac from the dead.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The shepherds went in haste,
and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant
lying in a manger

FIRST READING

First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3

A reading from the book of Genesis

The word of the Lord was spoken to Abram a vision, 'Have no fear, Abram, I am your shield; your reward will be very great'.

'My Lord,' Abram replied 'what do you intend to give me? I go childless.' then Abram said, 'See, you have given me no descendants; some man of my household will be my heir.' And then this word of the Lord was spoken to him, 'He shall not be your heir; your heir shall be of your own flesh and blood'. Then taking him outside he said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

The Lord dealt kindly with Sarah as he had said, and did what he had promised her. So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the time God had promised. Abraham named the son born to his Isaac, the son to whom Sarah had given birth.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

In the past God spoke to our fathers
through the prophets;
now he speaks to us through his Son.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord - observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord - and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said:

'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised;
because my eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared for all the nations
to see, a light to enlighten the pagans
and the glory of your people.'

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected -

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples.

O sing to him, sing his praise;
tell all his wonderful works!

Be proud of his holy name,
let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice.

Consider the Lord and his strength;
constantly seek his face.

Remember the wonders he has done,
his miracles, the judgements he spoke.

O children of Abraham, his servant,
O sons of the Jacob he chose.

He remembers his covenant for ever,
his promise for a thousand generations,
the covenant he made with Abraham,
the oath he swore to Isaac.

The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

GOSPEL

Cont...and a sword will pierce your own soul too - so that the Secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.’ There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem. When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God’s favour was with him.

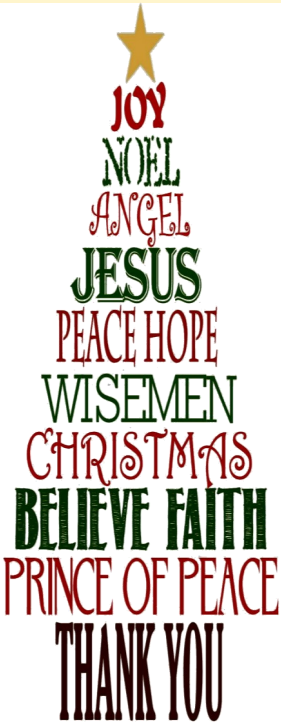
COMUNION ANTIPHON

Our God has appeared on the earth,
And lived among us.

QR CODE - CHURCH CAPACITY

Please make sure you arrive before the start of Mass to register either by scanning our QR CODE with your mobile phone AND leaving your name on the register or writing your name and telephone number on the register. Our capacity has increased but we are still required to record numbers.

THANK YOU



Fr Mannes, Fr Rafael, as members of the Parish Team would like to thank all parishioners for your generosity and help during the year. We have a huge list of people to acknowledge. ‘Thank You’ to members of the Parish Finance Council. ‘Thank You’ to the Acolytes, Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Musicians & Choir, School of Religion Catechists, Counters & Collectors, Social Function, Pastoral Care, Flower Ladies, Maintenance, St Vincent de Paul, Altar Linen / Sacred Vessel Carers, Prayer & Reflection Groups, Sausage Sizzlers, and all the other quiet achievers who contribute to the life of our wonderful Parish!

**We share with you the glory, the wonder,
the miracle of this Beautiful Holy Season.**



WEDDING

We pray for



Maria Jose De Amorim Oliveira and Christopher Widdowson who will be married this weekend. May their lives be filled with happiness and their hearts be filled with love forever.

HOLY WAITING

*The Feast of the Holy Family,
fr Dominic Ryan OP explains*

the significance of Jesus Christ's family life.

The Feast of the Holy Family is connected to Christmas. At Christmas what we’re celebrating is the beginning of God’s final move in the history of salvation. The world is to be redeemed through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Christ isn’t just a human being, though, Christ is also truly divine: Christ is fully and truly human and fully and truly God. Therefore, if it’s Christ’s death and resurrection that will redeem us and Christ is both human and divine, then in order for this to happen God had first to come into the world as a human being and that’s what we celebrate at Christmas. But at the risk of stating the obvious, because Christ was both human and divine Christ was different to us all of us. Christ was different to us in virtue of his humanity because he was perfect in holiness and he didn’t sin and we shouldn’t forget this when we reflect on our own frailties. But Christ was also different to us in virtue of his divinity and to understand the Feast of the Holy Family that’s where we need to focus our attention.

In virtue of his divinity Christ could do things we couldn’t do and Christ’s age made no difference to that. Thus, for example, St Luke describes Christ going to the Temple whilst still a child, sitting among the Masters of the Law and teaching them. That would be extraordinary behaviour by any normal standard but not so in the case of Christ because he was divine. Indeed, from the moment he became Incarnate Christ was perfectly equipped to teach us and bring us to our salvation. Instead, however, he chose to live with his family and wait until later in his life to begin his public ministry. So given the urgency of Christ’s work what was going on? Well it’s quite common to undergo a period of preparation before undertaking a task. That preparation necessary can vary. It might include a formal period of instruction or it might just be a case of waiting for the right moment- perhaps until we’re old enough to do whatever it is we want to do. And that’s what’s happened here. Christ waited until adulthood to begin his mission in order to make what he had to say more plausible for us. And the place where he waited was among his family. Nor is this insignificant; after all one of the key functions of a family is to provide a warm and loving space in which children can mature and ultimately go out from to find their own place in the world.

So that’s one reason why the Holy Family were important. But it’s not the only one. Because unlike a normal child Christ didn’t need to spend time preparing for adult life he just did so for our benefit, to make our acceptance of his message easier. That’s not to say however that the time Christ spent waiting for adulthood and the start of his mission was wasted. Rather Christ used that time to live under God’s law as it was at that time, just as any Jew of his time would have had to do also. Thus we find St Luke telling us about Christ being circumcised, named and presented in the Temple, all as the Law required.

Now none of this was necessary for Christ, Christ could have achieved his goals without it. Rather the point of choosing to live under the Law is to connect Christ’s mission with God’s earlier revelation of himself in the Old Testament. God only has one plan of salvation, it’s revealed to us in the Old Testament and then it’s perfected and completed by Christ the Word made flesh who dwelt among us.

Of course, the context in which Christ lived under God’s Law was that of his family, the Holy Family. It’s there that Christ took the Law to himself, so that subsequently he could perfect it, and it’s there that Christ’s first move in offering a

HOLY WAITING

Cont...definitive and complete sacrifice to his Father were made. Now given that we share in this sacrifice through our incorporation into Christ at our baptism and that Christ's first move in offering that sacrifice occurred in the Holy Family, then the Holy Family cannot but be important to our faith. Let's pray today then that our reflection on the Holy Family will deepen our appreciation of Christ and his atoning sacrifice.

<http://english.op.org/torch>

ENCOUNTERS

Some encounters leave us with a sense of having experienced the divine. It might not immediately be obvious but we go away from having met someone with the same sort of awe and reverence that Simeon has when he encounters the infant Jesus. So moved is he that he articulates that which only becomes obvious to so many others much later in Jesus' life: here is the Messiah, the Saviour promised to the Jewish people.

Simeon was able to discern a lot about the baby carried in the arms of Mary and Joseph. I was able to detect something of that same holiness and capacity for selfless leadership in my brief contact with Bishop Joe and Fr Gerard.

On a weekend when we celebrate the family, and the example set by Jesus, Mary and Joseph, let us not forget the faithfulness evidenced in the testimony of Simeon. The example of devoted servants of God, from the New Testament gospel of Luke, through to Church leaders and missionary priests, remind us what we can each aspire to. Like Simeon, when the time comes, may we recognise Christ in others.

David McGovern editor@churchresources.com.au

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

The title 'Mother of God' was first used by Saint Elizabeth at the Visitation, 'And whence is this to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me,' (Luke 1:43). Found in early liturgical prayers, according to Saint Cyril (5th century), this term 'Mother of God' (in Greek, *Theotokos* means 'bearing God') was familiar to the early Church. It was employed by Saint Ignatius of Antioch (c.90) and Saint Athanasius (c.373) and finally sanctioned at the Council of Ephesus (431). 'Mary has a special role in the Catholic Church. After Christ, Mary is the most important figure in heaven. As one who has experienced the resurrection of the body, Mary is also very close to us as we live our life here on earth. Catholics do not worship Mary but give her due honour because of her role in bringing Jesus Christ to birth.'



FAMILY LIFE

Family life is always a challenge, and our ancestors had advice about how to make it work. Though many cultural values were different, we realize how family life was interwoven with faith. We don't know much about Jesus' family, but we hear today that they followed traditional Jewish laws.

We tend to think of them as so different from our own families; but, like us, they would have struggled to understand what they were being called to.

We are more alike than we think.



SOCIAL DISTANCING

Please check the notice board in the foyer for Covid 19 rules for the Church.

In Your Prayers please remember those in our community who are ill:

Alexia Harris, Maria Martiniello, Greg O'Neill, Moya McGrath, Carol Hallam, Mary Martin, Barbara Wilson, Anne Corver, Ursula Ramsay, Edith Jensen, Frank Zobec, June Pollard, Philip Bailey, Fr Ellis Clifford, Mimma Gia, Awny El-Ghitany, Rosa Maria Santos, Margaret Sullivan, Zelma McManus, Elizabeth Webster, Joe Schimizzi, Bob Hackett, Elsie Laughton, Paul Neddrie, Pamela Sandy, Beth Delos Santos, Terry Stephens, Maureen Blood, Anna Linard, Bernard Druett, Mary Lou Pentony, Marion Bolin

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

Elizabeth Tisdell, Mary Bogue, Corazon Ronas

BAPTISM

Felipe Luiz Yanes ~ Miragaya

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



PARISH

PARISH GROUPS ARE NOW IN RECESS UNTIL JANUARY 2021
WATCH THIS SPACE

PARISH BULLETIN - DEADLINE for notices is NOON TUESDAY
Ph. 6248 5925 or Email: watson@cg.org.au

PARISH OFFICE

The office will be close on Wednesday 23rd December
and reopen on Monday 4th January.

For any inquires during office closure please call
0448 737 700.

Fr Mannes will be on holidays from 28th December -
18th January and on Retreat from 19th January - 23rd
January.

Fr Rafael will be caretaker priest during this time.

ROSTER 2 / 3 January 2021

Saturday 5pm

Acolyte / Server	M. Tran	
Readers	J. de Riva O'Phelan	

Sunday 8am

Acolyte / Server	J. Smith	
Readers	N. Clarke	G. Thompson

Sunday 10am

Acolyte / Server	H. Beasley	
Readers	M. Fitzgerald	K. McCluskey

Sunday 5pm

Acolyte / Server	L. Kim	
Readers	K. Watson	