

# Catholic Parish of Blackfriars

Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



## VERITAS



Issue 10

23 January 2022

Year C

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 OP

**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**

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[www.cg.org.au/watson](http://www.cg.org.au/watson)

Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/Holy-Rosary-Parish-Watson](https://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 12pm—12.30pm  
and 4pm—4.30pm

**Adoration - Holy Hour**

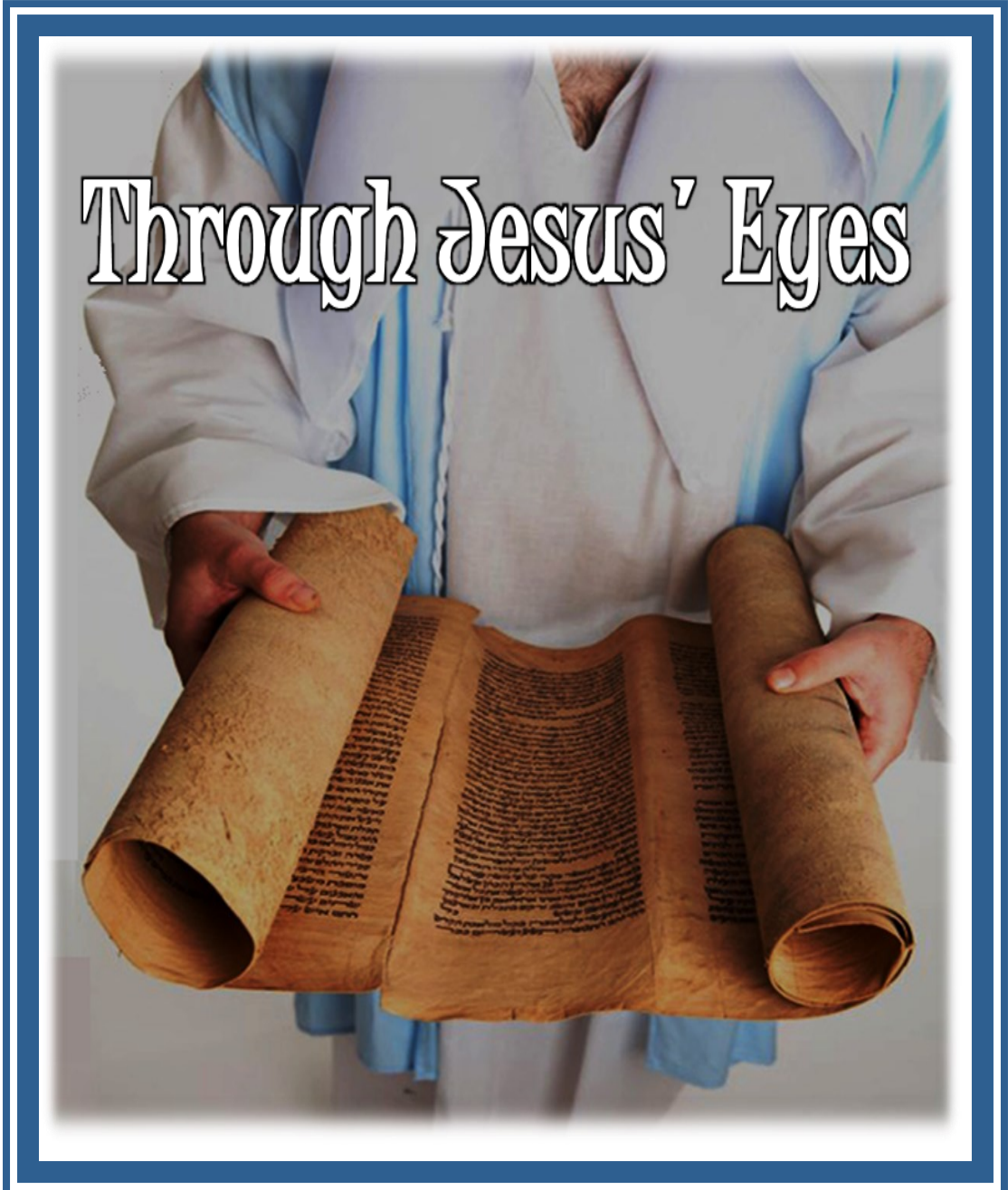
Starts - 01/02/2022 back  
Tuesday 12 Noon - 1:00pm

**Pray the Rosary**

Before 10am Mass on Sundays

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

## Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



# Through Jesus' Eyes

Face Masks are mandatory,  
and encouraged for those 12 years and over.

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**Entrance Antiphon: Cf. Psalm 95:1, 6**

O sing a new song to the Lord;  
sing to the Lord, all the earth.

In his presence are majesty and splendour,  
strength and honour in his holy place.

## FIRST READING

**First Reading: Nehemiah: 8:2-6, 8-10**

A reading from the book of Nehemiah

Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, consisting of men, women, and children old enough to understand. This was the first day of the seventh month. On the square before the Water Gate, in the presence of the men and women, and children old enough to understand, he read from the book from early morning till noon; all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden dais erected for the purpose. In full view of all the people - since he stood higher than all the people - Ezra opened the book; and when he opened it all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people raised their hands and answered, 'Amen! Amen!'; then they bowed down and, face to the ground, prostrated themselves before the Lord. And Ezra read from the Law of God, translating and giving the sense, so that the people understood what was read.

Then Nehemiah - His Excellency - and Ezra, priest and scribe (and the Levites who were instructing the people) said to all the people, 'This day is sacred to the Lord your God. Do not be mournful, do not weep.' For the people were all in tears as they listened to the words of the Law.

He then said, 'Go, eat the fat, drink the sweet wine, and send a portion to the man who has nothing prepared ready. For this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad: the joy of the Lord is your stronghold.'

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 18:8-10, 15**

**Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.**

The law of the Lord is perfect,  
it revives the soul.

The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,  
it gives wisdom to the simple.

The precepts of the Lord are right,  
they gladden the heart.

The command of the Lord is clear,  
it gives light to the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is holy,  
abiding for ever.

The decrees of the Lord are truth  
and all of them just.

May the spoken words of my mouth,  
the thoughts of my heart,  
win favour in your sight, O Lord,  
my rescuer, my rock!

## SECOND READING

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-30**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

Nor is the body to be identified with any one of its many parts. If the foot were to say, 'I am not a hand and so I do not belong to the body', would that mean that it stopped being part of the body?

If the ear were to say, 'I am not an eye, and so I do not belong to the body,' would that mean that it was not a part of the body? If your whole body was just one eye, how would you hear anything?

If it was just one ear, how would you smell anything? Instead of that, God put all the separate parts into the body on purpose. If all the parts were the same, how could it be a body? As it is, the parts are many but the body is one. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I do not need you,' nor can the head say to the feet, 'I do not need you.'

What is more, it is precisely the parts of the body that seem to be the weakest which are the indispensable ones; and it is the least honourable parts of the body that we clothe with the greatest care. So our more improper parts get decorated in a way that our more proper parts do not need. God has arranged the body so that more dignity is given to the parts which are without it, and so that there may not be disagreements inside the body, but that each part may be equally concerned for all the others. If one part is hurt, all parts are hurt with it. If one part is given special honour, all parts enjoy it.

Now you together are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it. In the Church, God has given the first place to apostles, the second to prophets, the third to teachers; after them, miracles, and after them the gift of healing; helpers, good leaders, those with many languages. Are all of them apostles, or all of them prophets, or all of them teachers? Do they all have the gift of miracles, or all have the gift of healing? Do all speak strange languages, and all interpret them?

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Gospel Acclamation: Cf. Luke 4:18**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
The Lord sent me to bring Good News  
to the poor  
and freedom to prisoners.  
Alleluia!

## AUSTRALIA DAY MASS

**Mass on Wednesday 26th January  
Australia Day will be held at 9.00am.  
There will be no 5.30pm Mass.**

## GOSPEL

### Gospel: Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Seeing that many others have undertaken to draw up accounts of the events that have taken place among us, exactly as these were handed down to us by those who from the outset were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word, I in my turn, after carefully going over the whole story from the beginning, have decided to write an ordered account for you, Theophilus, so that your Excellency may learn how well founded the teaching is that you have received.

Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout the countryside. He taught in their synagogue on the Sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read, and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written: The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has anointed me. he has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and to the blind new sight, to set the down trodden free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.

He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

### Communion Antiphon: Cf. Psalm 33:6

Look toward the Lord and be radiant;  
let your faces not be abashed.

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If you pulled a muscle in your back doing exercise you have done numerous times before you become aware of how all the parts of your body work together. Suddenly sitting, bending and reaching cannot be done automatically – you need to think of ways to mitigate the pain. The incident has become a reminder, if indeed after the pandemic another one is needed, of inter-connectedness. Just as your body parts work together seamlessly until something goes wrong, society also relies on people working together. For example, if we need to go to hospital we expect care from medical experts but medical staff need to be well enough to go to work, and for that they require people to take care of themselves as much as possible and proactively work to restrict the spread of COVID. In the second reading on Sunday (1 Cor 12:12-30), St Paul writes of this very thing. 'Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts is a single unit . . . so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised . . . and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.'

***Words do have power to heal us, to set us free,  
to restore our sight, to give us comfort,  
if we but hear the master's voice.  
Put away your earbuds, turn off the noise,  
listen with an inner stillness  
and you will hear the word of everlasting life.***

## CONSIDERING OUR COMMON HUMANITY

### Third Sunday of Ordinary Time

*Fr Aelred Connelly OP calls us to give witness to the Lord's favour and peace in a world riven by division.*

The first reading from the prophet Nehemiah gives us a lively account of the public proclamation of the Book of the Law in the assembly by Ezra, the scribe: Ezra read from the Lord God, translating and giving the sense, so that the people understood what was read.

The people were told not to weep or be mournful, but to rejoice: The joy of the Lord is your stronghold. This is reinforced in the responsorial psalm: The law of the Lord revives the soul... The precepts of the Lord... gladden the heart... The command of the Lord... gives light to the eyes.

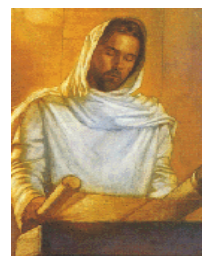
This understanding of the Law of God is that of a life-giving word, not a dead letter, but something alive and active.

We see this coming to its fulfilment in the beginning of the public ministry of Jesus in today's gospel reading from Luke, where he gets up in the synagogue in his home town of Nazareth and reads from the prophet Isaiah: The Spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has anointed me. He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives, and to the blind give new sight, to set the downtrodden free, and to proclaim the Lord's year of favour. He then says: This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.

This proclamation of the gladness of God come to dwell amongst his people in the Word made flesh surely must be at the heart of our preaching as an Order of Preachers. As the community or communities, of the followers of Jesus grows, a clear account of the whole story from the beginning has been given to us by Luke so that, like Theophilus, we may learn how well founded is the teaching we have received.

We see this at work in the community at Corinth in today's second reading from Paul's first letter to them about the body of Christ of which they are apart: Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink. Nor is the body to be identified with any one of its many parts... Now you together are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it.

This is a life-giving unity, not a dead uniformity. It respects and indeed rejoices in "the accounts of the events that have taken place among us, exactly as these were handed down to us by those who from the outset were eyewitness and ministers of the word" as Luke reminds us in the introduction of his gospel. As an Order of Preachers we have to be ministers of the word in our place and time just as those in Corinth – one body with many parts. Paul will go on in his letter to remind us of the love that binds us together and has to be at the heart of our preaching. Such charity is sometimes lacking in our dealings with each other as believers, especially in the social media!



**Cont...**We are much in need of words of hope and encouragement especially for those who struggle with difficulties in their life and in their faith. The Spirit needs to lead us back to consider once again the words of Jesus in today's gospel: he has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives, and to the blind new sight, to sit the downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.

Perhaps what we need most, especially in the public domain, is a conversion from a shrillness and hardness of heart to a discerning and compassionate spirit. I think this is crucial to finding a way forward both within and out with the believing community in dealing with issues arising in Church and State at present and into the foreseeable future.

There will be much discussion and debate over "Brexit" and many other things, as this new year wears on. We have in the past year commemorated the centenary of the end of what was called "The war to end all wars". Our prayer and our hope is that a consideration of our common humanity will keep our efforts and energy focused on the paths of peace and that we might in the words of the prophet Micah: Act justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with our God.

## THE LIGHT FROM BEYOND THE DOME

**Hope encourages us to have a larger vision than the 'dome' within which we live.**

In ordinary life we can't escape from hope. If you find that your football team, which you know will lose, is ahead at half time, a sliver of hope will return. It will torment you even more when your team eventually loses. In the Jewish world into which Jesus came, hope underpinned their faith. The prophets foretold that the people would return from exile, and shared visions of the victory of God in a new heaven and a new earth. In Luke's stories of Jesus' childhood devout Jews keep that hope alive during a lifetime of waiting. Jesus himself promises that God will be with those who believe his message no matter how close they are to disaster. For Jesus at the heart of faith was a hope that triumphs in the face of all the evidence.

Sometimes a modest hope shared is better than a ringing hope untested. *Excerpt By Andrew Hamilton SJ*

## JOB VACANCY

**Parish Secretary-Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish.**

This is a permanent part-time position, 9 hours per week, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. The requirements for this position are: good communication and organisational skills, experience in an office environment, proficiency in Microsoft Word, and a respect and understanding of the Catholic Church. Salary is subject to Clerk Award Level 4 rates. Please send applications via email to Fr Loi at: Luis.Viovicente@cg.org.au by Friday, 11 February 2022.

**Saint of the Week 28 January** – Saint Thomas Aquinas was a Catholic Priest in the Dominican Order and one of the most important medieval philosophers and theologians. He was immensely influenced by scholasticism and Aristotle and known for his synthesis of these two traditions. Although he wrote many works of philosophy and theology throughout his life, his most influential work is the *Summa Theologica* which consists of three parts: on God, on ethics and on Christ.

May the message of St Thomas 'to seek the truth in charity' penetrate our heart and mind.

## PRAYERS

In Your Prayers please remember those in our community who are ill: Greg O'Neill, Ruth Burke, Frank Zobec, Carol Hallam, Mary Martin, Edith Jensen, Barbara Wilson, June Pollard, Anne Corver, Rosa Maria Santos, Ursula Ramsay, Philip Bailey, Fr Ellis Clifford, Mimma Gia, Bob Hackett, Joe Schimizzi, Awny El-Ghitany, Margaret Sullivan, Mary Lou Pentony, Elizabeth Webster, Una Bell, Peter Catlin, Terry Stephens, Pamela Sandy, Maureen Blood, Beth Delos Santos, Bernard Druett, Denis Lawrence, Veronica & Paul Cornelly, Patricia Zorzi, Gwen Gleeson, Neville David Caulfield

## RECENTLY DECEASED

Our recently Deceased: May they find peace and comfort in the embrace of the Lord.  
Dominic Strangio, David Pembrey,  
Matty Hurley (Boorowa)

## ANNIVERSARIES

In Loving Memory - John Popplewell, Mary Johnson  
Jack O'Brien, Mal & Georgina Hurley,

## BAPTISM

*Naomi Vatauvuk*  
*Jayden Dimeski Jeffers-Bell*

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



**PRAY THE ROSARY** Sunday Mornings prior to 10.00am  
Mass the Rosary will be recited. You are welcome to join in.

**HOLY MARY MOTHER OF GOD PRAYER GROUP** meets 2.00pm 1st, 2nd & 4th Thursdays in the Parish Centre. Contact the Office for information.

**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](http://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 at the door of the office at 7.30pm OR join us online using Zoom. Zoom details are - <https://zoom.us/j/91493407836>  
[pwd=eVBQR0hnZ05CL1YzWU93YmJLNm53UT09](https://zoom.us/j/91493407836)  
The Meeting ID is 983 138 1937 and the passcode is 815443.

## ROSTER 29 / 30 January 2022

**Saturday 5.00pm** - Acolyte - M. Tran  
Reader - P. Farrelly

**Sunday 8.00am** - Acolyte - K. Linard  
Reader - N. Clarke, G. Thompson

**Sunday 10.00am** - Acolyte - J. Wade  
Reader - J. Cooke, S. Coles

**Sunday 5.00pm** - Acolyte - L. Kim Reader - M. Proctor