

Catholic Parish of Blackiriars



Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



VERITAS



Issue 11
5 February 2023
Year A

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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
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Office Hours -
Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday, Friday
9am to 12.30pm

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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



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 - Ps 94: 6-7

O come, let us worship God
and bow low before the God who made us,
for he is the Lord our God.

FIRST READING

First reading - Isaiah 58:7-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord:

Share your bread with the hungry,
and shelter the homeless poor,
clothe the man you see to be naked
and do not turn from your own kin.
Then will your light shine like the dawn
and your wound be quickly healed over.
Your integrity will go before you
and the glory of the Lord behind you.
Cry, and the Lord will answer;
call, and he will say, 'I am here.'
If you do away with the yoke,
the clenched fist, the wicked word,
if you give your bread to the hungry,
and relief to the oppressed,
your light will rise in the darkness,
and your shadows become like noon.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 111(112):4-9

A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

He is a light in the darkness for the upright:
he is generous, merciful and just.
The good man takes pity and lends,
he conducts his affairs with honour.

The just man will never waver:
he will be remembered for ever.
He has no fear of evil news;
with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord.

With a steadfast heart he will not fear;
open-handed, he gives to the poor;
his justice stands firm for ever.
His head will be raised in glory.

A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

SECOND READING

Second reading - 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

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

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not

Cont...depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Gospel Acclamation - John 8:12

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
the man who follows me
will have the light of life.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Gospel - Matthew 5:13-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men.

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

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. Ps 106: 8-9

Let them thank the Lord for his mercy,
his wonders for the children of men,
for he satisfies the thirsty soul,
and the hungry he fills with good things.

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WORD OF GOD SUNDAY

The Church in Australia celebrates the Sunday of the Word of God on the first Sunday in February – February 5 in 2023 (Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A). Pope Francis established the day, which is devoted to "the celebration, study and dissemination" of the Word of God. Visit www.catholic.org.au/wordofgodsonday to access resources to help commemorate the day.

Let us embrace Sunday of the Word of God to help us launch our new year with a deeper and richer encounter with the Risen Lord.

ST PAUL AND THE FUNDAMENTALS OF CHRISTIAN FAITH



There is a commonly held perception these days that anything concerned with religion or faith is seen as superstitious and not to be trusted. Despite this fact there seems to be also a plethora of people who frequent clairvoyants, consult tarot cards and attend spiritualist events with mediums claiming to talk to the dead.

This scenario resonates very well with the perceptive comment of G. K. Chesterton who observed that:

“when men choose not to believe in God, they do not thereafter believe in nothing, they then become capable of believing in anything.”

St Paul notes that the subject of his message is beyond philosophy, beyond human reasoning, beyond what our limited intellects can contain. Nevertheless this approach seems to offend contemporary ears. Our scientists, politicians and academics all believe they have the answers, or that the answers are only a few years away. What is true however is that our intellectual capacity, our ability to think and to reason **is** limited. We are not gods, we can only see as far as the horizon. There are some things we may never understand this side of the grave!

Faith can seem too many as merely wishful thinking, stuff based on no evidence, no hard facts. Many today will only believe what they see. Yet perversely they secretly do want miracles to happen, they do want to believe that there is some kind of paradise they will go to at the end of their lives, a paradise not of their making, and so the deal is either a heavenly paradise or a man-made earthly Utopia. For those who opt for the earthly paradise it is often short-lived or, at least, a life time's work and one rarely enjoys long enough considering the toil and effort it took to get there.

The desire for eternal happiness then is rooted in the soul of human persons, something that cannot be walked away from. Man and woman are made for perfect happiness and let's face it for most of us this happiness won't be found entirely in this life.

St Paul's rhetoric distinguishes however between human reason and God's, between our desire for a heavenly paradise which is an outcome of God's wisdom, or a shoddy earthly substitute created by limited human minds. Paul is keenly aware that there will be many who will not believe - trusting rather their own limited abilities.

Yet this is a problem for us and for Paul. Our faith often seems like a gamble, will we really inherit the kingdom? Will things be better for me now and in eternity if I believe in the Christian faith? Will Jesus make my life easy?

Thus the faith St Paul proclaims can be believed because he taught by a **'demonstration of the spirit'**. What could this mean? This phrase indicates the miracles God wrought through Paul so as to validate his message. Now whether we believe in miracles or not St Paul's approach was convincing enough for the many

Cont...thousands he converted to the Christian faith. The Christian understanding which Paul appears with in unbelieving Corinth continues to the present day to inspire and console hundreds of thousands of people around the world.

Paul's approach is simple and logical. **He asks us to trust him.** He does this by speaking plainly to his audience. Paul is no snake oil salesman learned in the latest theories on consumer psychology, rather he comes with a plain message which we can either embrace or reject. Paul is a credible witness to Jesus, he has nothing to gain from my faith or yours. Like anyone with good news Paul was willing to share it and proclaim from the housetops, even to the extent of suffering for this radical message not just once or twice but quite regularly - eventually giving up his life in martyrdom.

It is up to us to consider whether this guy is for real or is he just nuts. Many people in Paul's time thought both.

Our faith then is logical in that it is simply the trust we have in one who has no ulterior motive, no set of steak knives to give us nor out to swindle us of our hard earned cash.

Our faith ultimately is not some aerie faerie deal, rather it is the acceptance of saving and life-giving teachings from one who has experienced this personally, the experience of a suffering God who has triumphed and opened the way to an existence which truly conforms with our deepest desires.

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

GIVE WITH OPEN HEARTS, AND OPEN HANDS

This Sunday's readings give us a physical and very concrete image for the choice we face between two contrasting ways of living: the clenched fist and the open hand. Isaiah encourages his listeners to 'do away with the yoke, the clenched fist, the wicked word', and to do it by 'sharing your bread with the hungry and clothing the man you see to be naked'. Psalm 111 continues the theme: 'the good man takes pity and lends is generous, merciful and just open-handed he gives to the poor.' Where the clenched fist is ungenerous, unreceptive and closes things down, the open hand is generous, welcoming and vulnerable.

[Excerpts from a homily by Fr Vivian Boland, OP](#)

WARNING

Jesus does not simply apply the images salt and 'light to the community. To each is added a few sentences of explanation and warning. To appreciate what he says about salt (v. 13b) we have to recall the role salt played in food-preservation before refrigeration; salt was a vital domestic commodity. The explanation, however, is far from clear. Salt can hardly lose its taste but it may be so mixed with other elements as to become impure and so useless for either savour or preservation; it will be good only for salting the path outside the house, where people will trample it underfoot. Disciples who fall away from their vocation may face a similar fate (vv. 14-16).



Cont...The image of light falls into two distinct parts.

In biblical tradition Jerusalem was the archetypal 'city built on a hilltop'.

When the Temple was illuminated – as during the Feast of Tabernacles – Jerusalem was indeed 'the light of the world'. The image then reverts to the more domestic scene: what one does with a lamp. The disciples' good works must function as a lamp giving light to a darkened world – not to draw attention to themselves but to lead outsiders to the knowledge and praise of the God who has set them to be salt and light for the world.



PARISH MORNING TEA

GangGang will continue with renovations until the end of February. Take away service is available though outdoor tables cannot be reserved. Some of you may still be happy to meet there on the third Thursday 16th February from 10-30 am as usual but outside.

Hopefully GangGang will be up and running as previously with improvements for our third Thursday in March 16th when we hope to hold a special celebration. The address is Frencham place, Downer.

Look forward to seeing some old and new faces Thursday 16/2 and or 16/3.

HOLY ROSARY WOMEN'S FAITH CIRCLE

The Holy Rosary Women's Faith Circle returns on Thursday 16 Feb @ 8pm. Please join us as we share life, break open the word and pray for and with each other. Contact Emily at emilykathrynhall@gmail.com for further information.

SUNDAY SESSIONS RETURNS FOR 2023

This month will see the return of Sunday Sessions at St.Patrick's Braddon. Each fortnight the Archdiocese will host a BBQ with a talk followed by praise and worship music. Contact Christian Nobleza on 0498 372 645 for further information. All youth and young adults are warmly welcome.

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

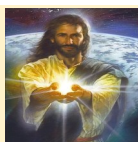
Montessori based catholic formation for children aged 3 to 12 years starts this week. Classes are held weekly on Tuesday mornings and Thursdays after school. Please contact Camille Corson at Canberratrium@gmail.com for further information.

POSITION VACANT

Digital Officer, Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn

This role combines two primary skillsets for the digital delivery of Archdiocesan Communications – IT knowledge and content production. We're seeking someone who knows their way around social media and content management systems and is creative, hands-on, and digitally savvy.

Closing Date: Friday 10 February, 2023 <https://bit.ly/CGDigital2023> Contact 0409 498 382



In the dark places of our own lives,
the light of Christ comes.
We are the light-bringers of Jesus Christ,
and we need the light of Christ in our lives.

PRAYERS

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

Mary Martin, Anne Corver, Barbara Wilson, Mimma Gia, Philip Bailey, Veronica Cornelly, Rosa Maria Santos, Peter Catlin, Beth Delos Santos, Ursula Ramsay, Sue King, Fr Ellis Clifford, Joe Schimizzi, June Pollard, Awny El-Ghitany, Pamela Sandy, Elizabeth Webster, Una Ford, Terry Stephens, Maureen Blood, Una Bell, Lily Copeland, Neville Caulfield, Maggie McKeon, Michelle Brotohusodo, Carmel Slammon, Brian & Suzanne Brown, Fr Rafael Cabezon OP

RECENTLY DECEASED

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

Sr Colleen Walsh OP, Cardinal Pell, Ted Duff, John Anthony Anderson, Barbara Parsonage, Dorothy Hegarty

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. Contact the office for details.

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 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 The Holy Rosary Women's Faith Circle returns on Thursday 16 Feb @ 8pm. Please join us as we share life, break open the word and pray for and with each other. Contact Emily at emilykathrynhall@gmail.com for further information.

ROSTER 11 / 12 February

Saturday 5.00pm - Acolyte - M. Tran
Reader - L. Dowling
Sunday 8.00am - Acolyte - K. Linard
Reader - M. Donnelly
D. P. - Volunteer
Sunday 10.00am - Acolyte - R. Tanzer
Reader - L. Fardell, A. O'Donnell
D. P. - J. Cortese
Sunday 5.00pm - Acolyte - S. Sedgwick
Reader - J. Curnow, K. Watson
D. P. - T. Malone

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
BANK DETAILS - REFERENCE GARDEN**