

Catholic Parish of Blackiriars



Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



VERITAS



Issue 11

30 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
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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 12pm—12.30pm
and 4pm—4.30pm

Adoration - Holy Hour

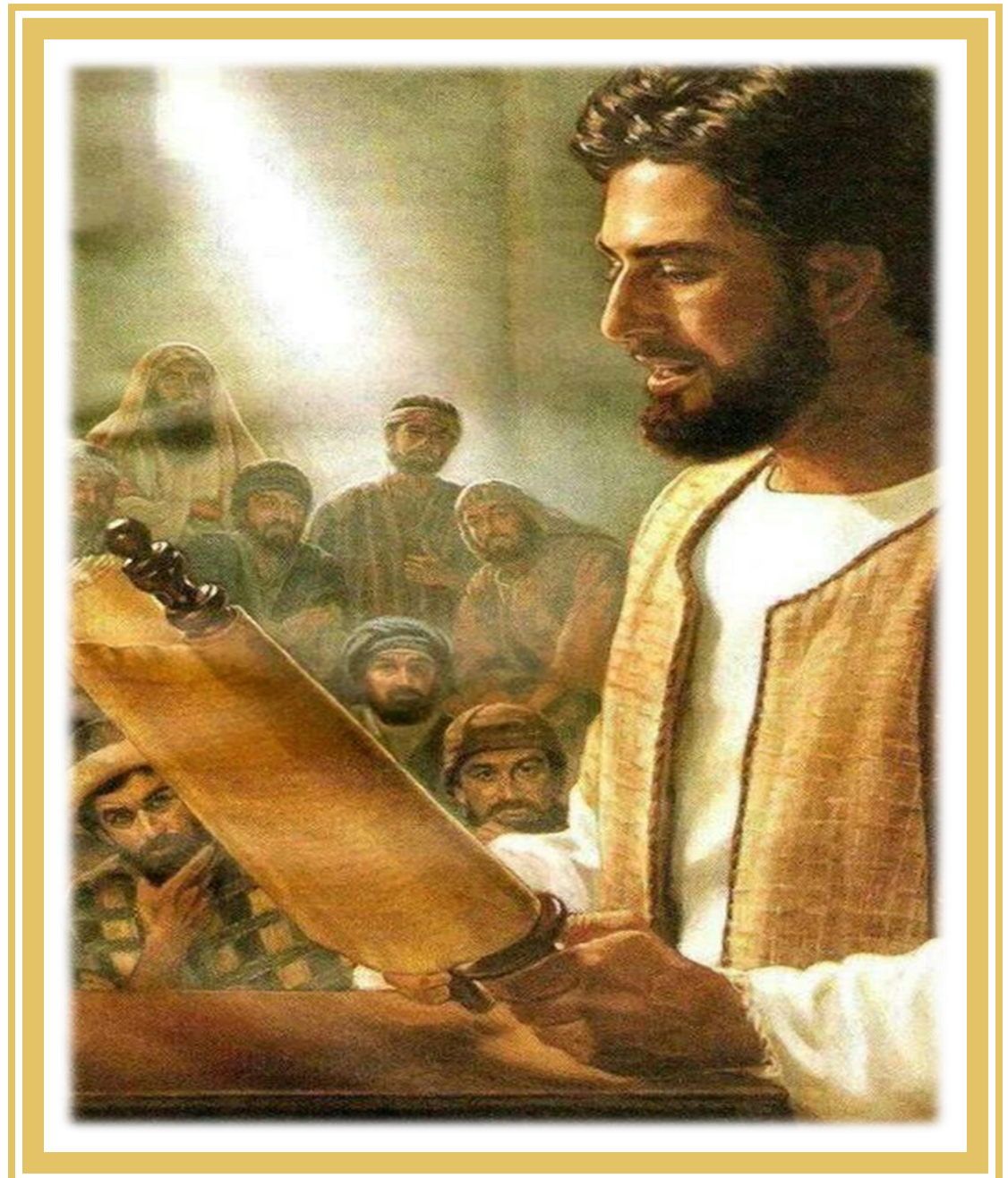
Starts - 01/02/2022 back
Tuesday 12 Noon - 1:00pm

Pray the Rosary

Before 10am Mass on Sundays

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

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



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

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Entrance Antiphon: Ps 105: 47

Save us, O Lord our God!
And gather us from the nations,
to give thanks to your holy name,
and make it our glory to praise you.

FIRST READING

First reading: Jeremiah 1:4-5,17-19

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

In the days of Josiah, the word of the Lord was addressed to me, saying:

'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you came to birth I consecrated you; I have appointed you as prophet to the nations. 'So now brace yourself for action.

Stand up and tell them all I command you. Do not be dismayed at their presence, or in their presence I will make you dismayed. 'I, for my part, today will make you into a fortified city, a pillar of iron, and a wall of bronze to confront all this land: the kings of Judah, its princes, its priests and the country people.

They will fight against you but shall not overcome you, for I am with you to deliver you – it is the Lord who speaks.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 70(71):1-6,15,17

I will sing of your salvation.

In you, O Lord, I take refuge;
let me never be put to shame.
In your justice rescue me, free me:
pay heed to me and save me.

Be a rock where I can take refuge,
a mighty stronghold to save me;
for you are my rock, my stronghold.
Free me from the hand of the wicked.

It is you, O Lord, who are my hope,
my trust, O Lord, since my youth.
On you I have learned from my birth,
from my mother's womb you have been my help.

My lips will tell of your justice
and day by day of your help.
O God, you have taught me from my youth
and I proclaim your wonders still.

I will sing of your salvation.

SECOND READING

Second reading: 1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13

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

Be ambitious for the higher gifts. And I am going to show you a way that is better than any of them.

If I have all the eloquence of men or of angels, but speak without love, I am simply a gong booming or a cymbal clashing. If I have the gift of prophecy, understanding all the mysteries there are, and knowing everything, and if I have faith in all its fullness, to move

Cont...mountains, but without love, then I am nothing at all. If I give away all that I possess, piece by piece, and if I even let them take my body to burn it, but am without love, it will do me no good whatever.

Love is always patient and kind; it is never jealous; love is never boastful or conceited; it is never rude or selfish; it does not take offence, and is not resentful. Love takes no pleasure in other people's sins but delights in the truth; it is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope, and to endure whatever comes.

Love does not come to an end. But if there are gifts of prophecy, the time will come when they must fail; or the gift of languages, it will not continue for ever; and knowledge – for this, too, the time will come when it must fail. For our knowledge is imperfect and our prophesying is imperfect; but once perfection comes, all imperfect things will disappear. When I was a child, I used to talk like a child, and think like a child, and argue like a child, but now I am a man, all childish ways are put behind me. Now we are seeing a dim reflection in a mirror; but then we shall be seeing face to face. The knowledge that I have now is imperfect; but then I shall know as fully as I am known.

In short, there are three things that last: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Gospel Acclamation: Luke 4:18

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

GOSPEL

Gospel: Luke 4:21-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus began to speak in the synagogue: 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.' And he won the approval of all, and they were astonished by the gracious words that came from his lips. They said, 'This is Joseph's son, surely?'

But he replied, 'No doubt you will quote me the saying, "Physician, heal yourself" and tell me, "We have heard all that happened in Capernaum, do the same here in your own countryside."' And he went on, 'I tell you solemnly, no prophet is ever accepted in his own country. 'There were many widows in Israel, I can assure you, in Elijah's day, when heaven remained shut for three years and six months and a great famine raged throughout the land, but Elijah was not sent to any one of these: he was sent to a widow at Zarephath, a Sidonian town. And in the prophet Elisha's time there were many lepers in Israel, but none of these was cured, except the Syrian, Naaman.'

When they heard this everyone in the synagogue was enraged. They sprang to their feet and hustled him out of the town; and they took him up to the brow of the hill their town was built on, intending to throw him down the cliff, but he slipped through the crowd and walked away.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Communion Antiphon: Cf. Ps 30: 17-18

Let your face shine on your servant.
Save me in your merciful love.
O Lord, let me never be put to shame,
for I call on you.

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REJECTED LOVE?

Fourth Sunday of the Year. Fr David Rocks OP shows how the story of Jesus' rejection by his own people mirrors our own tendency to reject him.

And just as it was starting to go so well! He had returned among them in triumph – a local hero. They marvelled at the wonderful things he said among them. He was one of their own, he grew up among them and they knew his background. He shared their ups and downs, laughed with them; he was involved in the different aspects of their lives. Now he spoke with eloquence and graciousness. They could be rightly proud, a people who had raised such a man. He told them that the words of hope they treasured in the Scripture were being fulfilled in their hearing. What beautiful, golden words. God was indeed very close to this people, in fact, they could touch him. That wonderful feeling – faith and hope being fulfilled in love. They were truly blessed to experience the blessing of God upon them. This is a treasure to be cherished.

But what happens when the blessing of God doesn't quite fit in with our own plans? At least, not in the way we'd like. We want to have a close relationship with God. We want to feel his blessing – of course we do! But all very much on our own terms.

This Gospel is like a microcosm of the whole story. As the Prologue to the Gospel of John says: "He came unto his own, and they that were his own received him not." (John 1:11). In a very small way, the townsfolk in the Gospel represent the whole of human history – rejecting God at the moment when his plan for us leads us in a direction we'd rather not travel.

He was one of their own, and they were more than happy to go along with him for a time. How often this happens in the life of Jesus – that people follow him and then go off in a different direction when things don't suit. We come to him in the hope that he will fulfil our needs and realise our dreams. We're not sure if we have much time for him if he doesn't. But then, it's hard for us to recognise what our real needs are. It seems almost impossible for us to rejoice completely in God's love. Perhaps this is because we always want to keep something back for ourselves, to retain some control over our lives rather than suffering the indignity of 'surrender' to something else. Yet nothing we might cling to will serve us better than the complete freedom that God's love offers us.

There is always a temptation for us to think we are superior to others. This danger is very present when we feel blessed by God. When Jesus spoke of blessings for foreigners and pagans in the presence of his own townsfolk, they turned on him and rejected him. Perhaps we might be tempted to feel superior to the townsfolk in the Gospel, or to others in our own time, because we

Cont...are so close to God ourselves. When we feel that we possess God, things are beginning to go wrong. We can never possess God, rather he possesses us and that gives us our true dignity. The freedom he gives us to embrace his love so entirely also allows us to reject his love entirely. We can only truly dwell in his blessing if we embrace it with every fibre of our being.

Sometimes we so violently rupture our relationship with God that he seems so very distant that his love is entirely beyond our reach. Yet he recalls us constantly to return to the mystery of his saving love for us. Sometimes when our faith is weak, when our hope seems futile – sometimes it is then that we really experience his love as he gently calls us. God's blessing appears in the most unlikely of places. His ways are not our ways.

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

THE REJECTION OF UNIVERSAL LOVE

'Part of the reason for Jesus' rejection by the people is their possessiveness. The people of Nazareth are envious of what Jesus has done for others in Capernaum, and they want to keep him to themselves, so that they can share his glory. What this amounts to is a rejection of the universal love that Jesus embodies.' Jesus enrages the people by recalling stories of the prophets Elijah and Elisha. Elijah was one of the most celebrated of Israel's prophets: Sirach says that he 'arose like a fire, and his word burned like a torch' (48:1). He mentions Elijah's miraculous gift of food to a widow of Zarephath, a foreigner. Then, rubbing salt into the wound, he recalls Elisha's healing, not of any of the numerous lepers of Israel, but of a Syrian, Naaman. Jesus is here announcing his mission: later he will raise up the son of a widow (7:11-17) and heal a leper (5:12-16). He will become a rejected prophet himself. Like John, who criticizes those who crow about their descent from Abraham and yet bear no fruit, Jesus says that God's grace and power will benefit outsiders, even Gentiles.'

Excerpt from a homily by Fr Timothy Gardner OP

GOSPEL NOTES

The text illustrates the diverse reactions that Jesus could stir in people: 'All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth.' (v.22) And the later: 'When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage.' (v.28)

'Is not this Joseph's son?' (v.22) Expressed here is the cultural expectation that a son should follow in his father's footsteps and trade. It also reveals that the life of Jesus in Nazareth prior to his public ministry was unremarkable in the eyes of his fellow villagers.

'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.' (v.23) Jesus anticipates the challenge that is forming in their minds, 'Why don't you look after your own family and community first?' - the basic rule of Mediterranean culture. By healing first in Capernaum Jesus

has broken that rule. He associates himself with the prophets, Elijah and Elishah, who cared for Gentiles rather than Israelites – underlining the fact that the grace and gift of God knows no boundaries.



COMPASSION

People get hot under the collar after Jesus pours cold water on their hopes.

There is something strange about today's Gospel. It begins with Jesus' townspeople admiring Him. They are all amazed at the eloquence of a home-grown preacher. Then a sudden twist: the same admirers turn into an angry mob. Why? This is why: Jesus throws cold water on their hope that He will do in His own town what His townspeople hear Him doing elsewhere.

"Surely," Jesus says, "you will quote me this proverb, 'Physician, cure yourself' and 'Do here in your native place the things that we heard were done in Capernaum.'" Then, Jesus delivers a series of more punches.

"Amen, I say to you," He says, "no prophet is accepted in his own native place." If read without a correct understanding of the person of Jesus, one may say that Jesus is to be blamed for being literally kicked out of the synagogue and almost killed. A misguided reader of this episode in Luke's gospel may misjudge the situation as Jesus unwittingly provoking His townspeople unto fury. A cynic may likewise question the compassion of God that we, followers of Jesus, claim to be Jesus Himself.

Too often, many people misunderstand "compassion" as doing always what is pleasant to other people. Because of this misunderstanding, the same people waste their life by spending it in trying to please everyone always. They are the same people whom we often find incapable of making firm decisions. They call diplomacy what is pure but disguised compromise. They name "compromise" what Jesus may call "cowardice."

But sometimes, compassion may be very painful. When a person, for example, needs to know the truth, he must be told it even if it hurts. And, truly, it often hurts. I read a wise statement that read, "The truth will set you free. But it will hurt you first." When a surgeon's knife cuts through a body part of a patient, we do not say that the surgeon has no compassion toward his patient. Rather, we consider to be lacking in compassion a Doctor who refuses to operate on his patient for the absurd reason that he does not want his patient to go through the pain of a much-needed surgery. No matter how others may misunderstand Jesus' words and actions in the Gospel today, no one can rightly say that Jesus does not love His own people. The love of Jesus is both tender and tough. And that is the kind of compassion that God has for each of us.

From a reflection on the Gospel by Fr Bobby Titco

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.

THANK YOU

Fr Bernie Maxwell wishes to thank parishioners for the cards and phone calls for his recent birthday.

CONGRATULATIONS

Meritorious Service Public Service Medal Federal



Justine Curnow for outstanding public service in leading the assistance package to sustain and revive the arts and entertainment sectors through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Justine is a member of our St Vincent de Paul conference and a reader and helper at the 5pm Sunday Mass.

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, Patricia Zorzi, 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, Gwen Gleeson, Beth Delos Santos, Bernard Druett, Denis Lawrence, Veronica & Paul Cornelly, Neville David Caulfield

RECENTLY DECEASED

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

ANNIVERSARIES

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

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

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 5 / 6 February 2022

Saturday 5.00pm - Acolyte - M. Tran
Reader - J. de Riva O'Phelan

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

Sunday 10.00am - Acolyte - T. Johnson
Reader - J. Cooke, C. Bergin, S. Coles

Sunday 5.00pm - Acolyte - S. Sedgwick
Reader - J. Schwingamer, T. Malone