

# Catholic Parish of Blackiriars



Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



## VERITAS



Issue 12  
12 February 2023  
Year A

## Sixth 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  
Telephone: Ph. 6248 5925

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

Office Staff  
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#### 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  
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](mailto:watson@cg.org.au)



## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

### Entrance Antiphon - Cf. Ps 30: 3-4

Be my protector, O God,  
a mighty stronghold to save me.  
For you are my rock, my stronghold!  
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

## FIRST READING

### First reading - Ecclesiasticus 15:16-21

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

If you wish, you can keep the commandments,  
to behave faithfully is within your power.  
He has set fire and water before you;  
put out your hand to whichever you prefer.  
Man has life and death before him;  
whichever a man likes better will be given him.  
For vast is the wisdom of the Lord;  
he is almighty and all-seeing.  
His eyes are on those who fear him,  
he notes every action of man.  
He never commanded anyone to be godless,  
he has given no one permission to sin.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

### Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 118(119):1-2,4-5,17-18,33-34

*Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!*

They are happy whose life is blameless,  
who follow God's law!  
They are happy who do his will,  
seeking him with all their hearts.

You have laid down your precepts  
to be obeyed with care.  
May my footsteps be firm  
to obey your statutes.

Bless your servant and I shall live  
and obey your word.  
Open my eyes that I may see  
the wonders of your law.

Teach me the demands of your statutes  
and I will keep them to the end.  
Train me to observe your law,  
to keep it with my heart.

*Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!*

## SECOND READING

### Second reading - 1 Corinthians 2:6-10

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

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: *the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man,*

*Cont...all that God has prepared for those who love him.*

These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

### Gospel Acclamation - cf Matthew 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;  
you have revealed to little ones  
the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

### Gospel - Matthew 5:17-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish but to complete them. I tell you solemnly, till heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, not one little stroke, shall disappear from the Law until its purpose is achieved. Therefore, the man who infringes even one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven; but the man who keeps them and teaches them will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven.

'For I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: *You must not kill*; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court; if a man calls his brother "Fool" he will answer for it before the Sanhedrin; and if a man calls him "Renegade" he will answer for it in hell fire. So then, if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, go and be reconciled with your brother first, and then come back and present your offering. Come to terms with your opponent in good time while you are still on the way to the court with him, or he may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. I tell you solemnly, you will not get out till you have paid the last penny.

'You have learnt how it was said: *You must not commit adultery*. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye should cause you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body thrown into hell. And if your right hand should cause you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body go to hell.

'It has also been said: *Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a writ of dismissal*. But I say this to you:

Cont...everyone who divorces his wife, except for the case of fornication, makes her an adulteress; and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: *You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord.* But I say this to you: do not swear at all, either by heaven, since that is God's throne; or by the earth, since that is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, since that is the city of the great king. Do not swear by your own head either, since you cannot turn a single hair white or black. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

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 77: 29-30**

They ate and had their fill,  
and what they craved the Lord gave them;  
they were not disappointed in what they craved.

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## BUT I SAY UNTO YOU....



Our gospel for today challenges us on a number of levels, it challenges us with regard to our attitudes towards others, towards our relationships, and in the area of truth telling.

In St Matthew's gospel Jesus is seen as the new law giver, the new Moses. But as we hear in the gospel Jesus contends that he is not about abolishing the

law or doing away with it, but rather he is its fulfilment and its restorer.

Jesus challenges the perceptions we have about those who oppose us. The law says do not kill. Jesus on other hand amplifies this prohibition. Murder is wrong but also murdering people with our words:

**But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court; if a man calls his brother "Fool" he will answer for it before the Sanhedrin; and if a man calls him "Renegade" he will answer for it in hell fire.**

Jesus then turns his gaze to the sixth commandment which prohibits adultery. The Lord here, as the new law giver, once more amplifies the prohibition. Not just improper relationships with another's spouse becomes condemned but all activity outside the marital bond becomes subject to the law of sin. Unchaste looks, desires etc are deemed unworthy of the human person and at odds with God's plan for human sexuality.

Following on from Jesus' examination of the sixth commandment the thorny subject of divorce rears its head. Jesus here is intending to provide the original plan for marriage. That it is a life time commitment, in

Cont...good times and bad, for richer or poorer till death. Jesus here endeavours to uphold this ideal as the original ideal of God. We know though that human weakness and the vicissitudes of life can sometimes erode the marriage bond and often faithful people have no option but to divorce and we commend these people to the Lord in the midst of very difficult and life changing decisions. Nevertheless we should strive by God's grace to uphold and defend the sanctity of marriage as a life long partnership which sanctifies and should draw spouses closer to God and each other.

Lastly, Jesus discusses being honest in our transactions with others. Say simply 'yes' or 'no' rather than hide behind oaths and other illusory or legalistic promises. It is the virtue of justice that needs to be respected and upheld. Every individual should receive what's due to them. Harmony and peace should be the object of our business arrangements not greed or self conceit.

Today let us pray that Jesus may give us the graces to live the commandments faithfully and fruitfully so that in doing so we may live our lives to the full and enter joyfully into the kingdom of God.

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

## ANGER IS A SIGN OF HOPE

'Today's Gospel...is the sort of passage which many people in the modern age, even Christians, perhaps especially Christians, are liable to find repulsive. It is a speech made by Christ in anger, and unless we understand that anger can be a necessary good thing, then we can't begin to understand this passage. Christ was angry because he was reasonable but also he was angry because he knew what the kingdom could be...Anger is the emotion that seeks to change things. That is why anger ends in one of two ways. Either the angry person succeeds in changing the object of their anger, or accepts that it can't be changed. Anger therefore has no opposite emotion. Either we are angry or we are not. Hope is the emotion which believes that it is possible for some good to come out of some evil. Without hope, we could not be angry because we could not have any expectation that our anger could do anything to change things.'

Excerpts from a homily by Fr Euan Harley OP

## ST DOMINIC'S GARDEN

Parishioners would have noticed the work has started on the second stage of our St Dominic's Garden.

Thank you to Joe Cortese who spent 9 hours on the big clean out off the garden on Saturday. He was supported by Richard Tanzer who gave up his Saturday morning to help on this stage of the project. As always thank you to Brother Francis who helped where he was able. A & A Landscaping and Mini Diggers who did an excellent job.

Over the coming months we will be holding fundraising events to finish the final stage of the garden on the Phillip Avenue side of the path. Please don't forget to support our hardworking volunteers.

If you would like to make a donation please see the details on the back of the bulletin.

## ST DOMINIC'S GARDEN LAST OF THE SUMMER WINE

Stage Two of the garden is under way.  
A Fund Raising event for this stage will be held on  
**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March** commencing at **6.00pm**.  
The function will include wine tasting and purchases.  
Bring your own picnic. Tea and coffee will be served.  
**Entry by ticket** - \$5.00 per adult or \$10.00 per family.  
More details to follow in the coming bulletins.

## VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

The Parish Vinnies Conference thanks all those who contributed to another successful Christmas Appeal – both in terms of financial donations and goods donations for our Christmas hampers. Over \$7100 was donated to the Christmas Appeal to assist needy families in Canberra and we were able to put together hampers to assist 25 households in the inner north to have a better Christmas. Once again, this generous parish has made a difference in our community.

## 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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

## 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, Katey Tuite, 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, 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](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 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 18 / 19 February

**Saturday 5.00pm** - Acolyte - M. Tran  
Reader - P. Farrelly  
**Sunday 8.00am** - Acolyte - K. Linard / N. Webb  
Reader - Web Family  
D. P. - Webb Family  
**Sunday 10.00am** - Acolyte - T. Johnson  
Reader - A. McCatthy / C. Rheinberger  
**Sunday 5.00pm** - Acolyte - P. Tran  
Reader - T. de Luca  
D. P. - C Bailey

## 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**