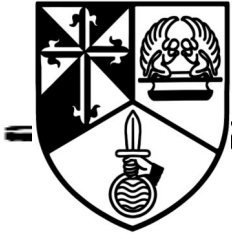


Catholic Parish of Blackiriars



Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



Issue 13
13 February 2022
Year C

VERITAS



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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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
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

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

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Blessed are you...

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

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Entrance Antiphon: Ps 12: 6

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: Jeremiah 17:5-8

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

The Lord says this: 'A curse on the man who puts his trust in man, who relies on things of flesh, whose heart turns from the Lord. He is like dry scrub in the wastelands:

if good comes, he has no eyes for it, he settles in the parched places of the wilderness, a salt land, uninhabited.

'A blessing on the man who puts his trust in the Lord, with the Lord for his hope. He is like a tree by the water-side that thrusts its roots to the stream: when the heat comes it feels no alarm, its foliage stays green; it has no worries in a year of drought, and never ceases to bear fruit.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 1:1-4,6

Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

Happy indeed is the man
who follows not the counsel of the wicked;
nor lingers in the way of sinners
nor sits in the company of scorners,
but whose delight is the law of the Lord
and who ponders his law day and night.

He is like a tree that is planted
beside the flowing waters,
that yields its fruit in due season
and whose leaves shall never fade;
and all that he does shall prosper.

Not so are the wicked, not so!
For they like winnowed chaff
shall be driven away by the wind:
for the Lord guards the way of the just
but the way of the wicked leads to doom.

Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

SECOND READING

Second reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12,16-20

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

If Christ raised from the dead is what has been preached, how can some of you be saying that there is no resurrection of the dead? For if the dead are not raised, Christ has not been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, you are still in your sins. And what is more serious, all who have died in Christ have perished. If our hope in Christ has been for this life only, we are the most unfortunate of all people.

Cont...But Christ has in fact been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Gospel Acclamation: Luke 6:23

Alleluia, alleluia!
Rejoice and be glad;
your reward is great in heaven.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Gospel: Luke 6:17,20-26

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus came down with the Twelve and stopped at a piece of level ground where there was a large gathering of his disciples with a great crowd of people from all parts of Judaea and from Jerusalem and from the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon. Then fixing his eyes on his disciples he said:

'How happy are you who are poor: yours is the kingdom of God. Happy you who are hungry now: you shall be satisfied. Happy you who weep now: you shall laugh. Happy are you when people hate you, drive you out, abuse you, denounce your name as criminal, on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice when that day comes and dance for joy, for then your reward will be great in heaven. This was the way their ancestors treated the prophets. 'But alas for you who are rich: you are having your consolation now. Alas for you who have your fill now: you shall go hungry. Alas for you who laugh now: you shall mourn and weep. 'Alas for you when the world speaks well of you! This was the way their ancestors treated the false prophets.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

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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FOOTPRINTS IN THE SAND

I'm sure most of you have come across the 'Footsteps in the sand' prayer at some time. While its popularity may wax and wane in line with the cynicism of the times, there is certainly truth to it.

In essence, in describing a dream of walking with the Lord across the sand, the supplicant notes that at the most troublesome times there is only one set of footprints. 'I don't understand why in times when I needed you most, you should leave me,' is the cry. The Lord replies, 'My child. I love you, and I would never leave you during your times of trial and suffering. When you saw only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you.'

Cont...This call to trust in the Lord's love and support is the theme for Sunday's upcoming readings. Happy are those who have placed their trust in the Lord, says the psalm. We are asked to let our prayers centre around the choices we make as we try to find happiness and to trust in God. There are hardly any statements more challenging than the Beatitudes. 'Jesus is not endorsing poverty or hunger . . . they are evils to be eradicated. He is insisting that what most people reckon to be advantages and disadvantages are relativised and indeed reversed in view of a particular vision of God – a God who has pledged to act on behalf of the poor and marginalised rather than the rich and well off. What the Beatitudes basically call for is a preparedness to be vulnerable in the light of this understanding of God and God's faithfulness.'

Sunday marks 15 years since the Apology to the Stolen Generations. While it was an important step on the path of Reconciliation, the targets in achieving equality between First Nations and other Australians are not being reached.

This week let us place our trust in the Lord and allow ourselves to be vulnerable and open to others as we seek reconciliation in our world.

Michele Frankeni

BLESSINGS AND CURSES



There is a dispute amongst many commentators as to whether we should use the word "blessed" or "happy" in the translation of this gospel for today. I always feel that 'happy' doesn't quite hit the spot when it comes to understanding the full meaning of the Beatitudes. Does God just want us to be happy, or blessed?

Unfortunately, it is all rather a matter of semantics. Happiness has become such a pedestrian word that we can miss what Jesus is trying to teach us today. Blessedness endeavours to convey a contentment which is not this worldly, but something only God can bestow.

When we look at the Beatitudes we must see them as Jesus' program for me not just for the present time but for the future. If this program were just a manifesto for this world, Jesus' statement the "poor will always be with you" (Jn 12:8) would make no sense. No, Jesus Beatitude program points to a future time when all the possible causes of human misery will be wiped away.

This future time begins at the crucifixion. It is through the death and resurrection of Jesus that the Beatitudes begin to take full effect. Ultimately this is a matter of faith, putting our trust in the God who became poor, became hungry, endured sorrow, and who was hated and put to death because people didn't like what he was saying.

Ultimately the Beatitudes pit the world of God against the human world. With all our advances in medicine, social welfare and the like, the poor are still marginalized, the hungry still beg with empty bellies, the sorrowful still need consoling.

The message for us is that Jesus himself is the answer to all of these concerns, not so much because he is resolving all these problems as we speak, but that it is his solidarity with these little ones that gives limited humanity a spark of hope. The good news is that God has endured

Cont...these same sufferings which Jesus mentions today. What Christ is endeavouring to get across to us is that these sufferings are short-lived and will be made easier if one places their trust in the God who suffers with humanity, but also, who will herald a time when these issues will be no more.

Sadly, there is a time-lag between the time of suffering and the time of rejoicing and it is in this period we find ourselves now. The only element we have to hang on to in the deep sea of human difficulty is our faith in this God who suffers. This faith is founded on the fact that God is not beneath being hungry, thirsty, sorrowful or hated. The blessing is to be able to endure these things by God's grace. It is in the endurance of these difficulties that we will ultimately find salvation, as Jesus says elsewhere "By your patient endurance you will gain your souls" (Lk 21:19).

Finally we need to address the 'woes' which counterbalance the Beatitudes. These four curses may have meaning for us too. These curses cut to the heart of our lives when we put our faith totally in this world and its delights. As Jeremiah describes it in the first reading:

**A curse on the man who puts his trust in man,
who relies on things of flesh,
whose heart turns from the Lord.**

The 'woes' provide for us an examination of conscience of sorts. Am I rich? Am I comfortable? Am I filled? Do I love it when people praise me, make a fuss over me and give me esteem? The 'woes' are a reminder for us to avoid complacency in our spiritual life. It is not the Christian way to be totally content in what this world has to offer, the moment we do we find ourselves cursed and given over to the world. Our readings today challenge us to evaluate our lives from the perspective of only two choices - trust in God, which entails a blessing or the trust in people, which entails a curse. The task for us is to constantly ask the Holy Spirit to enlighten us in our Christian life to continually choose for God.

As we reflect on the Beatitudes and the woes, today let us realise that these sayings of Jesus are meant to console us and challenge us, but more so to give us hope during our journey through the valley of tears. May the grace of God enable us to persevere so that one day we may see the poor possess God's kingdom, the hungry filled and the sorrowful consoled, and likewise may we see a day when there is no longer hatred for those who have suffered for Christ's name but rather the reward of God's reign.

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

THE POOR

Should we understand by 'poor' the economically poor or the spiritually poor? The 'poor' are certainly the economically poor; the Beatitudes, like the Magnificat, cannot be spiritualised away so as to have no bearing upon economics or social justice. At the same time, in Jesus' day the phrase 'the poor' was a standard self-description for the faithful in Israel who wait upon the Lord – like Simeon and Anna at the presentation of the Child Jesus in the Temple (Luke 2:22-38). At the heart of their waiting for economic and structural salvation lies a deep spiritual longing and trust in God. 'The poor' are all whose emptiness and destitution provides scope for the generosity of God.

HOLY ROUNDABOUT YOUTH GROUP

Term 1, Sundays 3.30 - 5.00pm

Rosary Blackfriars Parish is partnering with Holy Cross Anglican Parish (across the road) to run a regular weekly Sunday afternoon youth group for 11-17 years, led by a team of volunteers from both churches. Games, music, chill-time, food & drink, teaching & discussion, worship & prayer are on the program. Whatever space their faith life or church connection is or isn't, all students are welcome. Flyers in the foyer.

NET FOR GOD

A monthly meeting open to all to gather, share a cuppa, pray, discuss and watch a short film highlighting a way God's love is visible for today's world. 'Net For God' is a worldwide network that prays for unity and peace between different nations, cultures and denominations. This month's film is "Irenaeus of Lyon: Artisan of Peace and Unity". All are welcome. **Sunday 20 Feb 6.15 pm, Holy Cross Church Hackett**

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

The Parish Vinnies Conference wants to thank parishioners for their great generosity during the appeal held in December. Despite COVID impacts, \$11,886 was raised via in-person and on-line donations by Holy Rosary and St Brigid's parishioners. As flagged in December, 25% of this collection - \$2931 - will be directed to supporting our twin conferences in developing nations such as Thailand and Indonesia. Only a small amount was required to support our Christmas hampers work and the rest - \$8914 - went towards supporting Vinnies work to assist families in the arch-diocese across the Christmas period.

VINNIES VOLUNTEERS

Looking to add value to your life? Why not volunteer with Vinnies Youth Programs! When you volunteer with Vinnies, you become part of a supportive, inclusive team of people who work together to make a meaningful difference in the local community. Our Youth programs offer respite to vulnerable youth and young carers across Canberra in the form of holiday camps and weekend activities. If you are interested in being an inspiring role model, meeting a wide range of people, having fun, and most importantly, making a difference in the lives of young people please email us at Youth.CG@vinnies.org.au Our first training session will be Sunday 20th February 9am-3pm. We look forward to seeing you there!

PROPOGATION OF THE FAITH

Working tirelessly to support children and communities in most need, religious sisters are integral to the missionary Church. From catechism and teaching maths and physics, to doing home visitations and distributing food supplies throughout the pandemic, Teresa and the Salesian Sisters in Cambodia and Myanmar have been critical in supporting the communities they serve. You can help faith-filled women like Teresa complete their preparation as novices so they will become effective Church leaders for their communities. You can learn more about Teresa and how you can support novices like her by scanning the QR code, going online to catholicmission.org.au/faith, or calling our friendly team on 1800 257 296.



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, Maggie

RECENTLY DECEASED

Our recently Deceased: May they find peace and comfort in the embrace of the Lord.
Alice McDonald, David Pembrey, Patrick Readon, Jim Tobin (Ireland), Martin McKeon (UK)

ANNIVERSARIES

In Loving Memory - Marion Bolond

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 in the church foyer at 7.30pm OR join us using Zoom. Zoom Details are - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86247979958?pwd=ZnFjN3l3MDdDdDQk5FenhXcjA2K054UT09> The Meeting ID is 862 4797 9958 and the Passcode is 675081.

'Gang Gang' 2022 Time to catch up again for morning tea every third Thursday in the month from 10-30 am at 'Gang Gang,' Frencham place Downer. This month we will gather on Thursday 17th. Look forward to seeing regular parishioners again and welcome some new faces.

ROSTER 19 / 20 February 2022

Saturday 5.00pm	- Acolyte - M. Tran Reader - P. Farrelly
Sunday 8.00am	- Acolyte - K. Linard Reader - M. Falk, T. Klekner
Sunday 10.00am	- Acolyte - H. Beasley Reader - M. Fitzgerald, K. McCluskey
Sunday 5.00pm	- Acolyte - P. Tran Reader - C. Paton, C. Paton

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

I am looking for two volunteers to help weed the front garden - Saturday 19th February from 8am - 11am. If you can help, please call Jacquie in the office 6248 5925 or email watson@cg.org.au