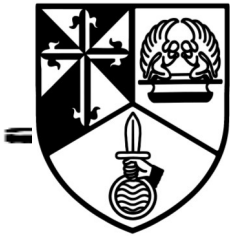


Catholic Parish of Blackiriars



Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



VERITAS



Issue 13
20 February 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
Telephone: Ph. 6248 5925

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

Office Staff
Jacquie Cortese
Jim Smith

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

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time



Face Masks are mandatory,
for those 12 years and older.

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

PARISH BULLETIN - DEADLINE for notices is **NOON TUESDAY** Please contact Jacquie in the
office Ph. 6248 5925 or Email: watson@cg.org.au

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Entrance Antiphon: Ps 12: 6

O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.
I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

FIRST READING

First reading: 1 Samuel 26:2,7-9,11-13,22-23

A reading from the first book of Samuel

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph.

In the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul lying asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him.

Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice.' David answered Abishai, 'Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt? The Lord forbid that I should raise my hand against the Lord's anointed! But now take the spear beside his head and the pitcher of water and let us go away.' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them.

David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. He called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 102(103):1-4,8,10,12-13

The Lord is kind and merciful.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord
all my being, bless his holy name.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings.

It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion.

The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults.

As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.
As a father has compassion on his sons,
the Lord has pity on those who fear him.

The Lord is kind and merciful.

SECOND READING

Second reading: 1 Corinthians 15:45-49

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

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Gospel Acclamation: John 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment;
love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Gospel: Luke 6:27-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Communion Antiphon: Ps 9: 2-3

I will recount all your wonders,
I will rejoice in you and be glad,
and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.

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LOVE YOUR ENEMIES

Neighbours, the television program, was in the news last week when it was revealed that Britain's channel 5 would no longer buy the series. It's been an epic falling out after nearly 40 years of the closest of friendships. The treatment of our neighbours, our friends and our 'enemies' are central to Sunday's readings. We pray for our sisters and brothers everywhere, while the central theme of Sunday's Gospel is 'love your enemies'. Social justice grows when we recognise the value of each human being. All of which brings us back to the question of 'who is our neighbour?'

DON'T JUDGE!



Our gospel for today sees Jesus still speaking to the disciples, and this discourse carries on from last week's beatitudes sermon on the plain. Jesus' words to the disciples once more overturn, or re-imagine Old Testament ways of doing things. These rules of engagement are for the disciples explicitly; it is the 'how' of evangelization: when you're preaching the gospel show people the compassion of God, do not be quick to judge, accompany rather than condemn.

Yet Our Lord clearly does give the disciples the power to assess behavior within the Church, and in the whole world. There is a belief that no one can judge anything, and certainly not the Church. However, we can judge other people's activities if they are objectively contrary to the natural or divine law. It is on this basis that we have civil courts who do assess people's activities. There is then an objective standard of right and wrong, morality is not subjective - if it were we should have no goals or punitive systems.

In the Judaeo-Christian tradition it is the ten commandments that give us the basis for our ability to assess moral activity in the light of God's plan for humanity. This office of assessment has been given to the Church herself by Christ when Our Lord conferred on Peter the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven: "whatever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven". (Mt 16:18) So too do the other disciples receive the same office (Mt 18:18).

Further evidence of Jesus' delegating this power to judge, and to administrate the affairs of the Church on earth appear throughout the New Testament. In St John's Gospel, after he had breathed the Holy Spirit on them, the Spirit of Right Judgment, we see Jesus say "As the Father has sent me, so I send you" (Jn 20:21). Whilst in St Luke's Gospel Jesus says to the disciples "he who hears you, hears me, and he who rejects you, rejects me" (Lk 10:16).

Nevertheless, judging others should only be the first step in the process. Our judgment of others' behaviours needs, at times, to take into account the context of their lives, for these may mitigate, or completely vitiate, any culpability. This is judging with compassion.

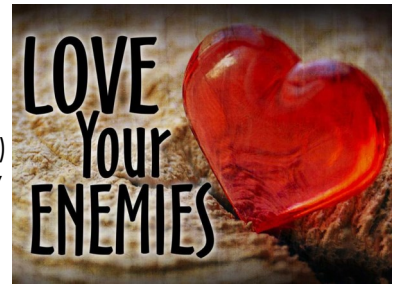
Today then let us realise that judging others needs to be done in a manner that is compassionate and fully aware of the life circumstances of people. This does

Cont...not, however, detract from what a person has done, but it can assist us in judging with justice and in doing this we imitate God who is full of compassion and slow to anger (Ps 86:15).

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

HOMILY NOTES

Today's Gospel continues Luke's instruction to his disciples known as the Sermon on the Plain. As if the Beatitudes (and Woes) that we heard last Sunday were not radical enough, the Sermon now pushes



vulnerability to fresh extremes. A long instruction begins (v. 27) and ends (v. 35) with the extraordinary command to 'love your enemies.'

This is the central theme. In between come concrete illustrations of what loving one's enemies might mean in practice: returning blessing for a curse, turning the other cheek, not withholding one's shirt from a person who demands one's coat, and so forth. All involve responding to injury or unreasonable demand with nothing but generosity and the abandonment of all claim to recompense. It has been plausibly suggested that the instruction has in view the situation of people in an occupied country such as Palestine was at the time of Jesus under the Romans. The injuries listed are particularly those ordinary citizens would be likely to suffer at the hands of Roman soldiers, who could bully and plunder them at will.

CHANGE OF ATTITUDE

The attitudes Jesus commends make no sense in themselves. Once again, as so often in the Gospels, allowance has to be made for the exaggeration that often marks the prophetic speech of Jesus. He is not laying down maxims to be followed literally. Rather, he is seeking to inculcate a fundamental attitude according to which one would be prepared to be vulnerable to a degree that would be thought foolish by the standards of the world. The grounds for adopting a policy of such vulnerability and generosity towards others, even one's enemies, stems from what one both discerns in God and experiences from God. As in the case of the Beatitudes, the policy only makes sense in the context of the distinctive vision of God and relationship to God that Jesus communicates to his own. As obedient children follow the example of their parents, so, concludes Jesus, by acting in this way 'you will be children of the Most High, who is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked' (v 35).

Likewise, in view of this relationship with God, the members of the community are to be 'compassionate' as their Father is compassionate. If they refrain from judging (that is, condemning others), they themselves will avoid being judged (condemned [at the final judgment] by God]). If they forgive they will be forgiven (by God).

Excerpt Fr Brendan Byrne

'But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.'

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Luke presented the Golden Rule in this part of his Gospel. Jesus said to love our enemies, to share with them and forgive them. If our enemies take something from us, we are to give them what they take and more. The point Jesus made was that if we only love people like ourselves, we are no better than the sinner because even the sinner loves other sinners. Sinners lend to one another, so it is not any great thing we have done if we lend something expecting payment in return. No, we are to give more than we receive and expect nothing in return. Then will our reward be great in heaven because God will measure us in the same way we measure other people.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

The Parish Vinnies Conference is looking for new members to assist in its important work. For just 2-3 hours per week, you can make a difference for needy families in our community. Please contact Tony Malone on 0431 542 531 for more information.

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 children and teenagers 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**

SYNOD OF BISHOPS

Sunday February 20 - SYNOD OF BISHOPS: People around the world have been participating in an international conversation about the Catholic Church. You are invited to join the discussion, helping shape a major global meeting in 2023. You have one more week to make a submission to your local consultation for the international Synod on Synodality, calling the People of God to walk together in our mission as Christians. Find out more at: <https://catholic.org.au/synodalchurch>

PROJECT COMPASSION

Share packs and boxes for donations to Project Compassion are available at exits and foyer tables. Please support this Appeal.

LENTEN PROGRAM

The Parish will run a Lenten Program on the Tuesdays of Lent, so the first week will commence on 2nd March (Shrove Tuesday) at 7pm in the Parish Centre. The Program will follow the Archdiocese of Sydney this year.

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 - Kevin Nolan, Jose Rico

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.

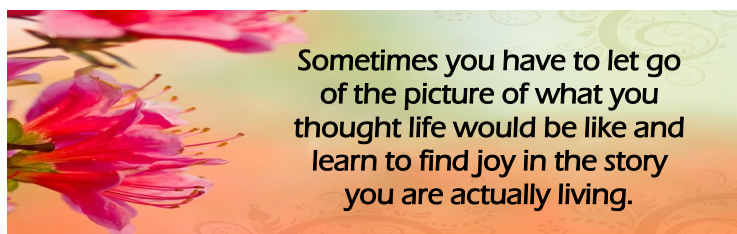
BLACKFRIARS MEDITATION GROUP meets on Thursday evenings in the 7.30pm Parish Centre. Enquiries John Jarvis 6296 2001 or Michael Flynn 6257 1038 - www.wccm.org

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 26 / 27 February 2022

Saturday 5.00pm	- Acolyte - M. Tran Reader - K. Markcrow
Sunday 8.00am	- Acolyte - K. Linard Reader - E. Smith
Sunday 10.00am	- Acolyte - T. Johnson Reader - M. Fitzgerald, K. McCluskey
Sunday 5.00pm	- Acolyte - S. Sedgwick Reader - J. Curnow, K. Watson



Sometimes you have to let go of the picture of what you thought life would be like and learn to find joy in the story you are actually living.