

# Catholic Parish of Blackiriars

Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



## VERITAS



Issue 15  
28th February 2021  
Year B

## Second Sunday in Lent

**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  
Ph. 6248 5925

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

**Office Staff**

Jacque Cortese  
Jim Smith

**Email:**

[watson@cg.org.au](mailto:watson@cg.org.au)

**Website:**

[www.cg.org.au/watson](http://www.cg.org.au/watson)

**Facebook:**

[www.facebook.com/Holy-Rosary-Parish-Watson](https://www.facebook.com/Holy-Rosary-Parish-Watson)

**Mass Times**

Monday - NO Mass  
Tuesday & Thursday  
6:45am

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

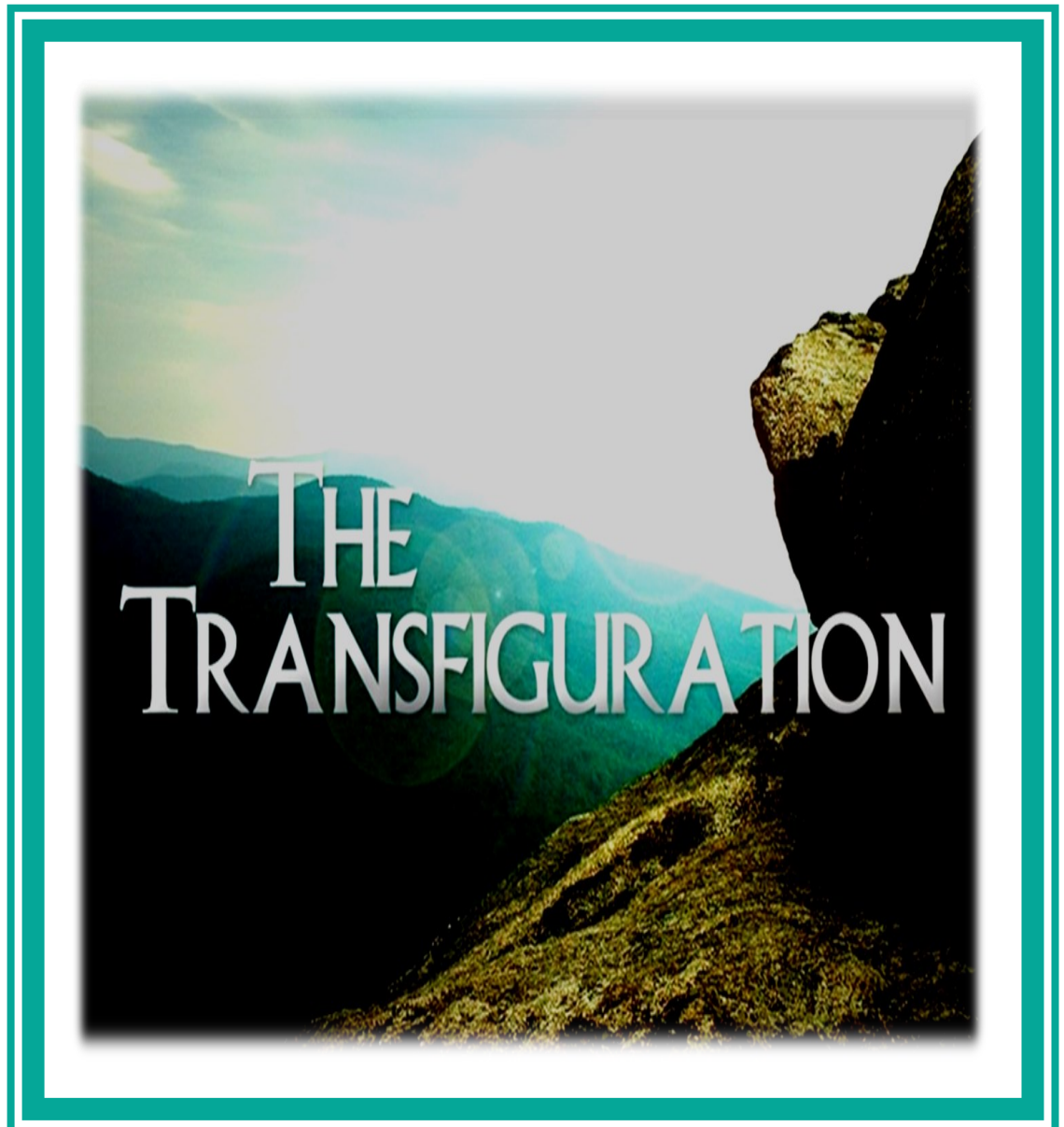
**Adoration - Holy Hour**

Tuesday 12 Noon - 1:00pm

**Pray the Rosary**

First Saturday each month 3.30pm

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



**If you are feeling unwell please DO NOT come to church.  
Please scan the QR Code & record your name, alternatively please write  
your name and contact number on the register provided.  
PLEASE sanitise your hands on entering the foyer or parish centre.  
Please DO NOT return your bulletin to the basket, if you are not taking  
it home put it in the bin.**

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Remember your compassion, O Lord,  
and your merciful love, for they are from of old.  
Let not our enemies exult over us.  
Redeem us, O God of Israel, from all our distress.

## FIRST READING

**First Reading: Genesis 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18**

A reading from the book of Genesis

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham' he called. 'Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.'

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood. Then he stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt-offering in place of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self - it is the Lord who speaks - because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of their enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Responsorial Psalm: 115-10. 15-19**

I will walk in the presence of the Lord,  
in the land of the living.

I trusted, even when I said:  
'I am sorely afflicted.'

O precious in the eyes of the Lord  
is the death of his faithful.

Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;  
you have loosened my bonds.  
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:  
I will call on the Lord's name.

My vows to the Lord I will fulfil  
before all his people,  
in the courts of the house of the Lord,  
in your midst, O Jerusalem.

I will walk in the presence of the Lord,  
in the land of the living.

## SECOND READING

**Second Reading: Romans 8:31-34**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen?

## SECOND READING

When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us - he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Gospel Acclamation: Matthew 17:5**

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!  
From the shining cloud,  
the Father's voice is heard:  
this is my beloved Son, hear him.  
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

## GOSPEL

**Gospel: Mark 9:2-10**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus.

As they came down the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## COMUNION ANTIPHON

This is my beloved Son,  
with whom I am well pleased;  
listen to him.

*Labora - Brisbane Liturgy*

## QR CODE - CHURCH CAPACITY

Please make sure you arrive before the start of Mass to register either by scanning our QR CODE with your mobile phone AND leaving your name on the register or writing your name and telephone number on the register. Our capacity has increased but we are still required to record numbers.

## PROJECT COMPASSION

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**BE MORE**



Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed "Be More". As Saint Oscar Romero said, "Aspire not to have more, but to be more." Through your generosity and by aspiring to "Be More", you are assisting some of the world's most vulnerable people build better futures for themselves, their families and their communities.



I have written on prayer a number of times in previous editions of our Parish bulletin, so you'll excuse me for writing about this subject again, I'm quite passionate about it. Twenty years ago when I was a novice there was an unofficial saying in the novitiate group and that was 'if you don't pray you won't stay': meaning that if you weren't into prayer perhaps the novitiate wasn't the place for you, or that a solid prayer life would prevent a defection from the religious life. I think this little axiom might be fruitful for us in general though: if we aren't praying we can't make much sense of what happens officially in the Church's liturgy, or, indeed our own lives. Prayer is the backbone of all we do and are as Christians.

Thus, in Lent we are called to pray. This invitation is strange. Why are we called to pray during Lent? Aren't we supposed to be praying all year round? It is obvious in the Church's wisdom, as she has observed human behavior over the last two millennia, that a great number of the Christian people pray seldom, or, if they do, it is perhaps only intercessory (which isn't a bad thing, it's good to pray for people or ourselves). Or, the nature of their prayer is rushed or halfhearted or distracted.

Lent is like the training ground. Just as the league footballer is required to attend training throughout the week so as to put in a solid performance on the weekend, so too the Christian is called to the same discipline in the spiritual life. We saw last week with fasting that it requires and indeed disposes us to a discipline, and so indeed does prayer. Prayer is a discipline it is something that requires practice.

Our Lenten prayer maybe a bit like starting to ride a bicycle, we have a few attempts but we keep falling off, maybe we get a bit disheartened, maybe we're ready to give up. What's really happening is that we are fumbling in our attempts to love God, and for this we will be rewarded. The lovely thing about Jesus' presence in the Blessed Sacrament is that he is always there waiting for us and it doesn't really matter how long we spend; we will not be disappointed. Nevertheless, the time we spend with Jesus, either present in the Blessed Sacrament or on our own, must be authentic, sincere and genuine. Our Lord teaches this to the disciples, he tells them to go to your "inner room" and "close the door, and "pray to your Father in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you." (Mt 6:6) Jesus also asks the disciples to pray an hour with him during his Passion, he asks the same of us "Had you no strength, then, to watch with me even for an hour?" (Mt 26:40)

First we must go to our "inner room" and "close the door". These metaphors require us to stand back from the hustle and bustle of daily life and withdraw. It is possible to pray while doing other things and that's fine if it is impossible for one to withdraw, but we must see prayer as speaking to our beloved. Would we speak to our wife or husband in a disrupted, distracted and disturbed way? Sometimes we do fall into this unfortunate type of communication, but no one will say it is the kind of communication that is authentic, genuine or loving. Ok, it's good that there is communication, but Lent pushes us for real, attentive communication and listening. So a tip in Lent is to go to that "inner room" and "close the door" even for five minutes, get your breath back and just say repeatedly 'Jesus', the moment you're a

Cont... little close to distraction just say 'Jesus'. Maybe even before attempting prayer just ask the Holy Spirit to pray in you as St Paul exhorts us: "in the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans." (Rom 8:26)

How long should we pray for? In his *Summa Theologiae* St Thomas Aquinas points out that there is a distinction between prayer and prayerfulness. The Angelic Doctor asks "Whether prayer should be continual?" Thomas' response, as I have alluded to, makes the very fine distinction between the attitude we have to praying and the very act of prayer itself, Thomas writes:

*I answer that, We may speak about prayer in two ways: first, by considering it in itself; secondly, by considering it in its cause. The cause of prayer is the desire of charity, from which prayer ought to arise: and this desire ought to be in us continually, either actually or virtually, for the virtue of this desire remains in whatever we do out of charity; and we ought to "do all things to the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31). From this point of view prayer ought to be continual: wherefore Augustine says (ad Probam, Ep. cxxx, 9): "Faith, hope and charity are by themselves a prayer of continual longing."*

*But prayer, considered in itself, cannot be continual, because we have to be busy about other works, and, as Augustine says (ad Probam, Ep. cxxx, 9), "we pray to God with our lips at certain intervals and seasons, in order to admonish ourselves by means of such like signs, to take note of the amount of our progress in that desire, and to arouse ourselves more eagerly to an increase thereof." Now the quantity of a thing should be commensurate with its end, for instance the quantity of the dose should be commensurate with health. And so it is becoming that prayer should last long enough to arouse the fervor of the interior desire: and when it exceeds this measure, so that it cannot be continued any longer without causing weariness, it should be discontinued. (Summa Theologiae, Secunda Secundae, q.83, article 14.)*

The interesting point about the length of our prayer is that they should be long enough to be fervent and short enough so as to avoid weariness, so St Thomas teaches. Thoroughly reasonable. However, we should not stop on account of feigned weariness, hopefully our genuine attempt will push us a bit! Lent then helps us to bring prayer back into focus as a 'thing' we ought to cultivate and incorporate into daily living. May your efforts to pray bear much fruit.

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

## VINNIES APPEAL – THE KNOCK ON EFFECT

At masses this weekend, Vinnies is holding an appeal in support of its Knock on Effect campaign. This campaign replaces the annual Doorknock Appeal and is designed to promote the work of the Society, encourage involvement as well as raise money for the Society. There will be a leaving collection after mass this evening. There is also an eftpos machine for those wanting to donate electronically. If you require a receipt and are donating cash, please do so via an envelope. Leave your details on the envelope and we will send out a receipt. For those donating using the eftpos machine and requiring a receipt, we will take your details and send you a receipt. You will also be able to return envelopes at masses next weekend. For those interested in assisting Vinnies, please contact Tony Malone

## LENTEN RENEWAL EXPERIENCE WALK IN THE SPIRIT

Blackfriars Parish is joining the Archdiocesan Lenten Renewal Experience, *Walk in the Spirit*, and everyone is invited to participate as part of our parish renewal journey. *Walk in the Spirit* started last Thursday, and continues weekly until 25 March. Presentations will be livestreamed every Thursday evening, there will be an opportunity to discuss and share on the evening's teachings. Further details of *Walk in the Spirit* can be found at <https://cgatholic.org.au/walk-in-the-spirit/>. If you would still like to register: contact the Parish Office at [watson@cg.org.au](mailto:watson@cg.org.au) or phone 6248 5925 or attend on the night. In May, it is proposed that the Lenten experience will be followed by an Alpha course, which enables people to ask questions, share ideas, build friendships and experience the love of God through the power of the Holy Spirit (<https://www.alpha.org.au/catholic-context>).  
Parish Renewal Team

## LENT EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Eucharistic Adoration will be held Tuesday Evenings during Lent from 6.00pm—7.00pm.

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

During Lent there will be Stations of the Cross following the 5:30pm Mass each Friday starting Friday 19th February.

## EASTER SINGING

The parish choir is looking for new singers to help sing the liturgies of Holy Week. There is so much beautiful music in those eight days from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday. Practices will be in the church, 7.30 pm – 8.30 pm, on Mondays. Music will be provided, and covid rules will of course be observed. For further information, or to let me know you are coming so I can have music for you, phone Maureen Robinson 61617100 or email [bamp@webone.com.au](mailto:bamp@webone.com.au)

## PARISH

**PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION** - Parish School of Religion will recommence Sunday 7 February in the Parish Centre from 9am. All children between from Year 3 – 6 are welcome – especially families wanting their children to prepare for sacraments in 2021, where the child does not attend a Catholic school. Please contact Nicole Webb - 0414139170.

**PRAY THE ROSARY** - First Saturday each month 3.30pm

**HOLY MARY MOTHER OF GOD PRAYER GROUP** meets 2.00pm 1st, 2nd & 4th **Thursdays** in the Parish Centre. Contact the Office for information.

**BLACKFRIARS MEDITATION GROUP** will meet on **Tuesday** evenings during Lent in the 7.30pm Parish Centre. Enquiries John Jarvis 6296 2001 / Michael Flynn 6257 1038 / [www.wccm.org](http://www.wccm.org)

**CRAFT GROUP** meets noon - 4.00pm in the Parish Centre every **Wednesday except the Third week**.

**DOMINICAN LIBRARY** will open **Saturday** mornings, 9.30am - 12.00 noon in the Parish Centre. All welcome.

### WEEKLY READER FORMATION

Weekly Reader Formation sessions have resumed 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  
The Meeting ID is 983 138 1937 and the passcode is 815443.

**PARISH BULLETIN - DEADLINE for notices is NOON TUESDAY**  
Ph. 6248 5925 or Email: [watson@cg.org.au](mailto:watson@cg.org.au)

## SOCIAL DISTANCING

Please check the notice board in the foyer for Covid 19 rules for the Church.

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

Alexia Harris, Maria Martiniello, Greg O'Neill, Ruth Burke, Moya McGrath, Carol Hallam, Mary Martin, Barbara Wilson, Marion Bolin, Ursula Ramsay, Edith Jensen, Frank Zobec, June Pollard, Philip Bailey, Fr Ellis Clifford, Mimma Gia, Awny El-Ghitany, Rosa Maria Santos, Margaret Suillivan, Mary Lou Pentony, Zelma McManus, Elizabeth Webster, Bob Hackett, Elsie Laughton, Paul Neddrie, Pamela Sandy, Beth Delos Santos, Terry Stephens, Maureen Blood, Chelsea Guillot, Joe Schimizzi, Anne Corver, Anna Linard, Bernard Druett, Veronica & Paul Cornelly, Mark Thompson

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

Carlene Easley, Leonora Pilar, Bill Harris, Terry Leech, Norma Roach

### In loving Memory

## ADORATION

Would you like to spend some special time with our Lord? Visit Him in the Blessed Sacrament. Adoration will be held each Tuesday from 12 noon until 1:00pm in the Church starting on Tuesday 2nd February.

## RAISING FATHERS

Raising Fathers is a special evening event with Robert Falzon exploring fathering from the frontline.  
When: Tuesday 2 March, Time: 5:30pm - 7:00pm  
Where: Haydon Hall, Ground Floor, St Christopher's Pastoral Centre, 55 Franklin St, Forresst.

## DOMINICAN FATHERS

### FIRST COLLECTION CHANGE OF BANKING DETAILS

Account Name: Dominican Fathers Watson  
BSB: 083 347  
ACN: 97 310 5044

### ROSTER 6 / 7 March 2021

#### Saturday 5pm

Acolyte / Server	M. Tran	
Readers	P. Farrelly	

#### Sunday 8am

Acolyte / Server	J. Smith	
Readers	T. Klekner	M. Falk

#### Sunday 10am

Acolyte / Server	H. Beasley	
Readers	C. Rheinberger	A. McCarthy

#### Sunday 5pm

Acolyte / Server	D. Gomez	
Readers	M. Proctor	
Counters	F. Higgins	I. Buckley