



Catholic Parish of Blackfriars

Issue 26
14th May 2017

Under the care of the Dominican Fathers

Year A



VERITAS

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

HOLY ROSARY CHURCH

Parish Priest

Fr Kieran Adams OP

Assistant Priests

Fr Rafael Cabezon OP

Fr Bernie Maxwell OP

Holy Rosary Church

Cnr Phillip Avenue and
Antill Street, Watson ACT

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Office Staff

Jacque Cortese

Jim Smith

Parish Council

Andrew Blakey

Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday,

Thursday, Friday

9.00am—12.30pm

Mass times

Wed 5.30pm

Tues & Thurs 6.45am

Fri 5.30pm

Saturday 6pm (Vigil)

Sunday 8am, 10am & 6pm

Saturday & Public

Holidays Mass excluding

Mondays 9am

Pray the Rosary

Wed & Fri before 5.30pm Mass

Saturday after 9am Mass

Reconciliation

Saturday 12pm—12.30pm

and 5pm—5.30pm

ACU Chapel Signadou

Tues 12.30pm

Wed & Thurs 12.30pm



**If you are in Urgent need of
a Priest Call - 6248 8253**

A warm welcome is extended to guests & parishioners celebrating our Eucharist today.

ENTRANCE	O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	Alleluia, alleluia! I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me. Alleluia!
COMMUNION	I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.
READINGS	Acts 6:1-7 1 Peter 2:4-9 Gospel: John 14:1-12

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The next Liturgical Roster is about to be started. Acolytes, Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Offertory (Presentation of Gifts) and Counters are needed for all Masses. If you can help please sign-up on the sheet in the foyer. If you are already on the Roster and would like to make a change or be removed please also let the office know or make a note on the sheet provided. The sign-up sheets will be in the foyer for the next two weeks, please make sure you sign-up or make any changes by the 1st June. If you no longer wish to be on the roster please indicate on the sheet provided. Please consider supporting our Parish by being a volunteer on the next Liturgical Roster.

PSALM: 32:1-2. 4-5. 18-19

Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.
Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp,
with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs.

For the word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love.

The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine.
Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.

CHALLENGE FOR THE WEEK

Jesus is our source of life -- Eucharist in its fullest sense. All who toil are invited to come to the Lord and learn from him.

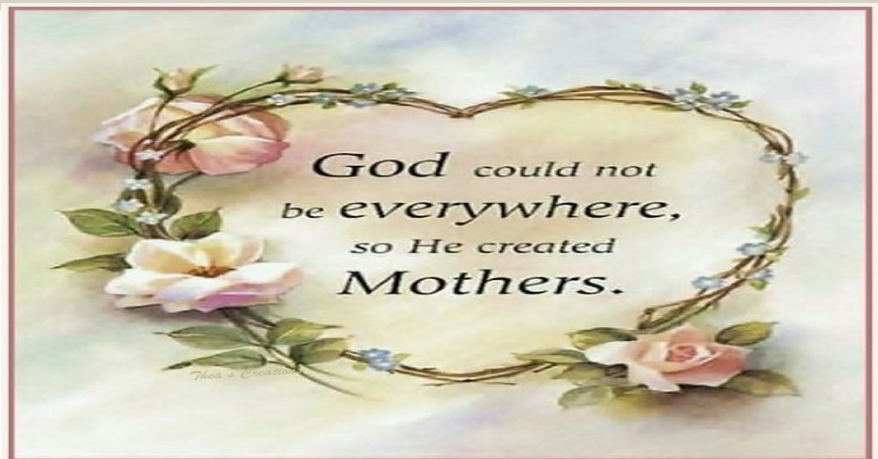
PROJECT COMPASSION

Please return all share packs and boxes by next weekend, 20/21 May. Donations to Caritas need to be finalized by 31st May. Receipts will be issued during the week commencing 29th May.

CARE OF THE SICK If you know of anyone who is unable to get to Mass and who would like the Eucharist brought to them, please let the office know. Also, if someone is in need of prayer or a visit in hospital - likewise, let us know.



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY



MOTHER'S DAY PRAYER

Lord Jesus,
You have known a mother's love
and tender care, and You will hear,
while for our mothers most dear,
we offer this Mother's Day prayer.
Protect the lives, we pray, of those who have
given us the gift of life.
May our mothers know from day to day
the deepening glow of joy that comes from Your presence.
We cannot pay our debts for all the love
that we have received; but, You, Lord, will not forget their due reward.
Bless our mothers both in earth and heaven.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



WHOEVER HAS SEEN ME HAS SEEN THE FATHER

Philip plays only a small role in the Gospels, but here his role is pivotal. Jesus has warned his apostles that he is leaving—probably a reference to his death and ascension. Philip responds to Jesus' claim that they "have seen the Father". Like the other apostles, he has not comprehended the depth of Christ's identity. He can see only the man and not the God. Our Lord expresses the nature of his person and his unity with the Father. It is a clear statement that he is God. In the beauty of Jesus we see the qualities of God because Jesus is divine. What do we see in Jesus? Surely among his attributes are love, mercy, compassion, strength, humility, self-sacrifice...in short all that is good and nothing that is wrong.

- A commentary by Fr Richard Lonsdale

BIBLE EMERGENCY NUMBERS: My presence will go with you and I will give you rest. Exodus 33:14

When in sorrow, call John 14
When people fail you, call Psalm 27
When you worry, call Matthew 6: 19-34

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

Elizabeth Cronin, Maureen Blood,
Fr Ellis Clifford, Dion Convine,
Edith Jensen, Alexia Harris,
Joe Schimizzi, Trevor Dennis,
Mary Harrigan, Elizabeth Webster,
Philip Bailey, Eileen Liston,
Rosa Maria Santos, Jim Burgess,
Mary Bui, Rosemary Denmead,
Barbara Wilson

**Please remember
our deceased:**

Zelma Kennedy, David Moss

In Loving Memory:

Henry Allsop, Margaret & Charles
Baker, Victoria & Harry Gaudencio,
Kathleen Ford,
Stan Jeffrey, Tammy Marchesani,
Edna O'Brien

I AM

In the 'I am' statements in John's Gospel Jesus describes himself in nine different ways which include the bread of life, the light of the world, the sheep gate, the good shepherd, the resurrection, and the true vine. In this Sunday's Gospel we are granted three rich understandings of Christ in the one statement, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life.'

DIMENSIONS

'Jesus is speaking in the first place about the dimensions of God's love. The love of the Father is extravagant and generous, a love that comes to find us and in which there is room for everyone. The only measure of it we are given is Jesus himself who is the way to it, the truth of it, and the life it brings.

'This solemn 'I AM the way, the truth and the life' is just the latest in a series of such statements that punctuate John's gospel – *I AM the bread of life ... the living bread ... the light of the world ... the resurrection and the life ... the door ... the good shepherd ... the vine.*

'So, in giving us a name for God and in showing us the face of God, Jesus is not only a greater one than Moses but is also God's fullest response to the requests made by Moses. We are given a name where Moses was not: it is the name of Jesus. We are allowed to see God's face where Moses was not: it is the face of Jesus, the only Son who reveals the glory of the Father.'

- Excerpt from a homily by Fr Vivian Boland OP

THE WAY

Today's Gospel follows Jesus' statement that he is going where the disciples cannot follow until later. After Jesus tells his disciples that they know the way, Philip naively asks, in another instance of misunderstanding leading to deeper truth, how they can know the way if they do not know where he is going. Jesus responds, "I am the way, the truth and the life," which can be understood as "the way that is truth [that is, the unveiling of God] and life"—themes that have permeated the Gospel and culminate when Pilate stands before Jesus and says, "What is truth?" as he prepares to deprive Jesus of his life.

'The next section shifts to Jesus' relation to the Father (one of mutual knowledge and indwelling) and the need for faith and trust in him and concludes with the remarkable statement, "Whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, and greater than these, because I go to the Father." These words anticipate the coming of the Advocate (14:25-31), who is the continuing presence of Jesus in the church. The "greater works" have long puzzled commentators but seem to be the disciples' works of faith and love, to be done through the centuries in imitation of Jesus and by the power of the Spirit.'

- Excerpt from a commentary by Fr John Donahue SJ

LIVING STONES

Fifth Sunday of Easter.

*Fr Benjamin Earl OP invites us to imagine
a Church made of living stones.*

Christ tells us in today's gospel, "There are many rooms in my Father's house". We are meant to understand, of course, that in heaven there is room for everyone who receives God's call, and indeed a place individually prepared by Christ for each one of us. But there are only two places in St John's gospel where the expression "my Father's house" appears. One is in today's gospel, from Jesus' farewell discourse to his disciples. The other occurs much earlier, where Jesus has a rather different sort of "farewell discourse" as he throws the money-changers and those selling animals and birds out of the temple. "Take these things away," he says; "you shall not make my Father's house a house of trade." So the Father's House is both the Temple in Jerusalem, and the heavenly abode of those whom Christ calls. This is no great surprise. The Jerusalem Temple was supposed to be a sign of the Lord's presence among his people, and so it is reasonable that it shares imagery with the heaven where God is ever present to his people. It is because the Jerusalem Temple was failing to live up to its role as a sign of heaven that Jesus found it necessary to cleanse it of its commerce and profiteering. From what is the heavenly Father's house built? The Temple was built with stone, splendidly decorated; but the house to which we are called is what St Peter today calls a "spiritual house" built from "living stones". Now obviously the talk of heaven as a house and ourselves as stones is by way of analogy. But permit me a little thought experiment. I'm sure we have all seen "human pyramids" or "human towers" performed by gymnasts. Some of us may even have taken part in such structures... or tried to. What if we took these human pyramids to the next level, and had a whole church or cathedral built literally from a lattice of Christian gymnasts standing on each other's shoulders? Admittedly, before the structure got very big it would be too much for the "living stones" at the bottom to support. But have faith, and suspend disbelief (not to mention the laws of physics) for a moment. The human lattice church would certainly be a very impressive structure. And indeed the Church is an impressive body, there is no doubt about that: she has preached the good news incessantly for millennia and brought Christ's love to billions. The human lattice church would, however, be a rather wibbly-wobbly unstable structure: anyone who has ever tried to be part of a human pyramid can confirm this! And the fragility of our faith and of our Church is apparent to us. We can't hold this institution together on our own – and nor are we meant to. She was Christ's Church before she was "our" Church, and it is Christ who is the original living stone giving firmness to his Church. We stumble, but he holds firm, and so the living lattice holds firm with him. The human lattice church is one which has room. The lattice has holes where new living stones can be inserted and potential for whole new layers – and the Church is always inviting new members to be part of her, and new expressions of Christian life are always growing up in the Church. We don't merely dwell in a room in the Church, but we become part of her dynamic fabric and structure. In our baptism and confirmation we are consecrated and anointed as individuals, but also to be part of the spiritual temple dedicated to Christ. In this structure the gymnasts all depend on each other – it is the lattice which gives strength. So too in the Church we need to recognise our interdependence. We must provide for and support those in need, recognising that while we have different functions we are equal in dignity and equally requiring physical and spiritual nourishment, whether we are Hebrew or Hellenist, Apostle, Deacon or Widow, Cradle-Catholic or Convert. It is a fanciful image, this human lattice church. But the real Church is more impressive, more dependent on Christ, more accepting of new members and movements, more a communion of Christians, more loving among ourselves and towards the world. Or if, through human frailty, she isn't, we must, with Christ's help, constantly strive that she become so.

HOLY ROSARY CHURCH ACTIVITIES

SCHOOL OF RELIGION Sunday A year long Faith Education Program including Sacraments for children who do not attend Catholic Schools. Term has now begun. Contact the Parish Office.

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

CARDS Play social style 'Cards for fun', **Monday** 10am-1pm in the Parish Centre. All welcome!!!

CARE OF THE SICK If you know of anyone who is unable to get to Mass and who would like the Eucharist brought to them, please let the office know. Also, if someone is in need of prayer or a visit at home, in hospital or by the Parish Priest - please, let us know.

COFFEE GROUP Our monthly coffee group will meet at Wilbur's, Hackett on the **third Thursday** of each month at 10.30 am. We look forward to seeing our usual friends, and newcomers most welcome.

CRAFT GROUP meets noon - 4.00pm in the Parish Centre on the **first, second and fourth Wednesdays** of the month .

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

HOLY MARY MOTHER OF GOD PRAYER GROUP Divine Will Prayer Group meets 2.00pm **Thursdays** in the church. Details Heather 6247 7775.

WEEKLY READER FORMATION Reflections on the readings for the following Sunday are held **Wednesday** evenings at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. All Parishioners welcome.

PRAY THE ROSARY will be held the First Saturday of every month at 4pm in the Church on a trial basis. Confessions available afterwards followed by refreshments in the parish centre. Please bring a plate to share. For more information call Letty on 0418 518 033

COELIACS Parishioners who are coeliac (intolerant to Gluten) If you wish to receive a gluten free host at Mass you should advise the Celebrant or Acolyte prior to Mass.

PLEASE NOTE: We have been advised that there are people visiting local churches asking for money. If you are approached by anyone asking for money please do not provide any but refer the person to Samaritan House, 19 Hackett Place, Hackett

NEW PARISHIONERS would you like to join our Parish? If you wish to register as Blackfriars Parishioner please fill out a card which you can find on the entrance tables and place on the second plate or give the card to Father.

Holy Rosary Church is fitted with an audio loop. It is accessible in all seating areas by using T-switch on your hearing aid.

PARISH BULLETIN - DEADLINE for notices is **NOON TUESDAY** Please contact Jacquie in the office Ph. 6248 5925 Fax.6248 7564 or Email: holyr.watson@cg.catholic.org.au

IMPORTANT

It is important that you contact the office by email or in writing (even a note on the collection plate) if you require a booking - for a Mass Intention, Booking of the Church or Parish Centre, Weddings and Baptisms.

If you would like to add a name to the prayers for the sick, anniversary or death list in the *Bulletin*, details must be with the Parish Office **NO** later than Tuesday of that week. For all other bookings Mass for an Anniversary or to use the Parish Centre etc. two weeks notice is required. It is difficult to keep track of Parishioners requests if they do not come through the Office. Fr Kieran

EVENTS

17 & 18 - June "Cowra Liturgy Weekend" Speakers include Bishop Pat O'Regan, Dr Laurie Woods, Ms Karla Slaven, Mr Paul Dunn and many more. Enjoy a weekend of music liturgy and fun! Contact Fr Laurie Beath, 6342 1369 or E-mail: office.cowra@cdob.org.au

St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship: Applications now open. The Trust offers scholarships to enable lay people to further their understanding and skills in leadership/ministry or a specialised activity, such as promoting faith enhancement, social justice and pastoral care. Details: <http://www.pallottine.org.au/scholarships/st-vincent-pallotti-scholarship-for-lay-ministry.html>

Braille Bibles: Decommissioned copies of Braille Bibles and New Testaments are available, free, from Liturgy Brisbane. Contact: Tom Elich liturgy@liturgybrisbane.net.au

21 May 2017: The World Council of Churches and the All Africa Conference of Churches are promoting the observation of a 'Global Day of Prayer to End Famine' on 21st May in faith congregations worldwide.

28 May 500 Anniversary.

All are invited to the joint commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the reformation between the Lutheran Churches and the Roman Catholic Churches. Join Archbishop Prowse and Pastor Gabor at 5pm at St Peter's Memorial Lutheran Church, Reid. A reception will follow the commemoration service. Enquiries 6248 0064

6 June 2017: "Lessons from the Long Paddock" offer perspectives from outback and rural NSW on faith and spiritual life. Fr Frank Brennan SJ and Bishop Columba Macbeth-Green OSPPE reflect on stories from people in the diocese and explore the lived experience from those in the bush. The online experience commences at 9am. Further information: www.wf.catholic.org.au

Parish Boundaries Map

Check out the parish boundaries interactive map on the Archdiocesan Website <http://cg.catholic.org.au/> under PARISHES AND MASS TIMES.

"Let us be grateful to people who make us happy; they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom.

Marcel Proust

ROSTERS 20 / 21 May 2017

Saturday 6.00 pm Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	M. Tran	
Readers	P. English	E. Smith
Presentation of Gifts	Vanderzill Family	
EMOE	T. O'Neill	

Sunday 8.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	K. Linnard	
Readers	M. Gallagher	E. Smith
Presentation of Gifts	M. Falk	
EMOE	N. Clarke	

Sunday 10.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	T. Johnson	
Readers	R. Ciaccia	I. Ciaccia
Presentation of Gifts	Ciaccia Family	
EMOE	A. Northcote	B. Affas

Sunday 6.00pm Day Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	E. Kralikas	
Readers	J. Cooke	
Presentation of Gifts	de Luca Family	
EMOE	J. Curnow	V. Van der Sanden
Counters	R. Walpole	