



# Catholic Parish of Blackfriars

Issue 27  
21st May 2017

Under the care of the Dominican Fathers

Year A



## VERITAS

# SIXTH 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**

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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

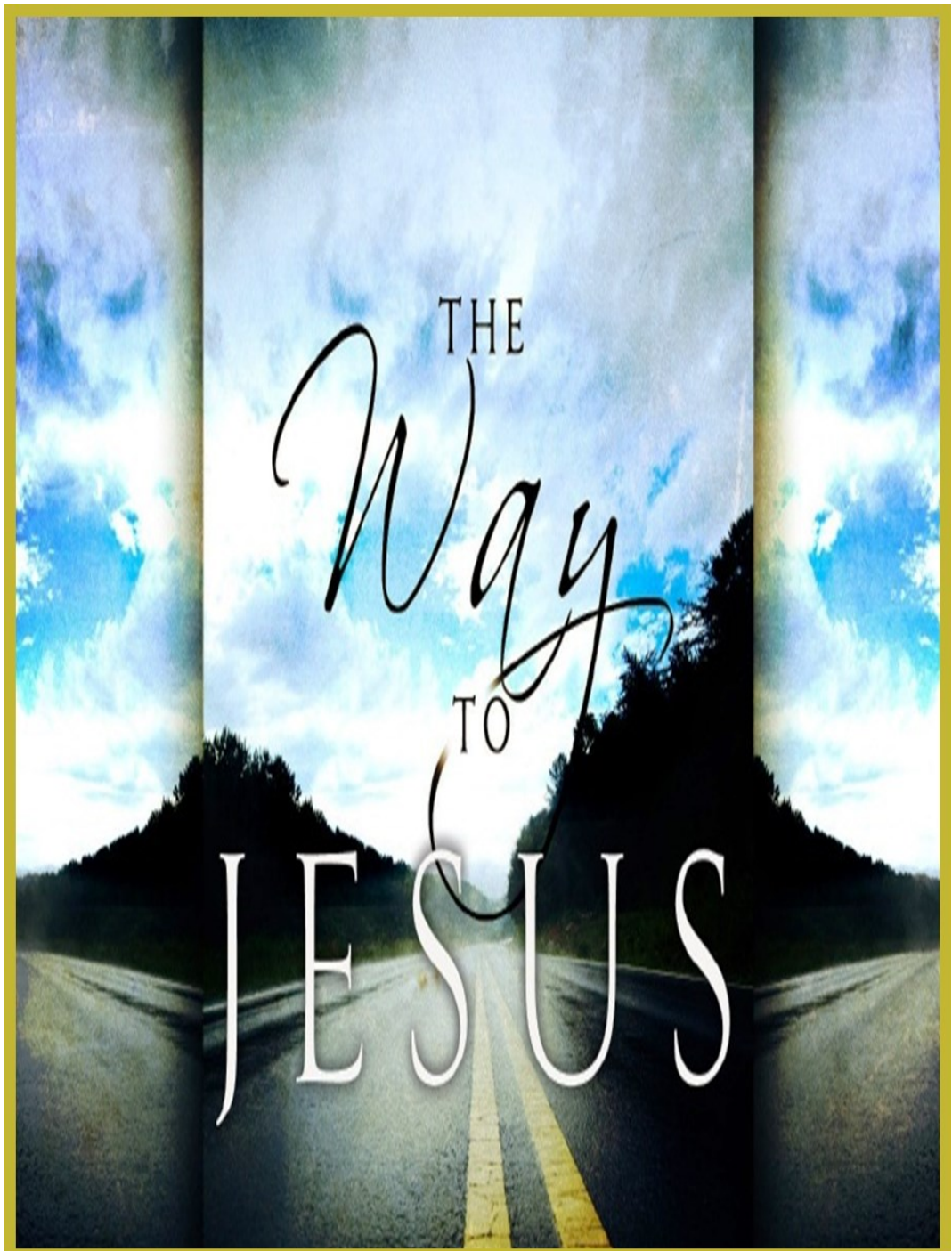
and 5pm—5.30pm

*ACU Chapel Signadou*

Tues 1.30pm

Wed & Thurs 1.30pm

**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	Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!
COMMUNION	If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia.
READINGS	Acts 8:5-8. 14-17      1 Peter 3:15-18 Gospel: John 14:15-21

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Belated Birthday Wishes to Father Rafael for last Sunday, 14th May!



**PSALM: 65:1-7. 16. 20**

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Cry out with joy to God all the earth,  
O sing to the glory of his name.  
O render him glorious praise.

Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds!

'Before you all the earth shall bow;  
shall sing to you, sing to your name!  
Come and see the works of God,  
tremendous his deeds among men.

He turned the sea into dry land,  
they passed through the river dry-shod.  
Let our joy then be in him;  
he rules for ever by his might.

Come and hear, all who fear God.  
I will tell what he did for my soul:  
Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer  
nor withhold his love from me.

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

**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.

**DOMINICAN STUDENTS APPEAL**

Next weekend, 27th and 28th May, the annual appeal for donations to help support those studying to become Dominican brothers and priests, will be held. Envelopes will be available and you are encouraged to give generously.



As part of Australia's Biggest Morning Tea, we will be holding a Parish Morning Tea next Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May at 10.30am in the Parish Centre. All are encouraged to come along and enjoy this event.

**BAPTISM**

*George Jones*

who will be baptised this weekend.  
May his life filled with God's peace,  
and his heart with God's love...  
on this Baptism day and always.



**THE MONTH OF MAY**

Within the cycle of a year, the Church unfolds the whole mystery of Christ, from his incarnation and birth until his ascension, the day of Pentecost, and the expectation of blessed hope and of the Lord's return . . .

In celebrating this annual cycle of Christ's mysteries, the Church honours with special love **Mary, the Mother of God**, who is joined by an inseparable bond to the saving work of her Son. SC 102, 103

**JESUS SENDS AN ADVOCATE**

Jesus expresses his love for us in so many ways. Like the perfect friend, he refuses to be separated from us. So he sends us his Spirit. Jesus calls the Spirit "the Paraclete." The word *paraclete* means "advocate." An advocate is someone who speaks up for someone else, or who represents someone in court. He or she is "on our side" as friend and advisor.

We never face our troubles alone. Our main advocate, the Holy Spirit, is always with us, helping us.

Throughout our lives, we are given human advocates. We are also advocates for others. Who are your advocates? Who is "on your side" when you need help? Make a list of them on the bottom of this page. Say a prayer of thanks to God for each one as you write a name.

We are called to be advocates for others at times. When are you an advocate? Do you speak up for people who cannot defend themselves? Do you take someone's side when others are saying unkind things about them? Sometimes people speak against a group as a whole: "Oh, those \_\_\_\_\_. None of them will ever be any good." Sometimes just one person is a target. Why is it important to speak up for people who are spoken against and are not there to defend themselves? Think about one situation in which this has happened. What did you do? Or, imagine a situation in which something like this could happen. What would you say? How would you be an advocate?

**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

**Please remember  
our deceased:**

Thelma Rusina

**In Loving Memory:**

Maria Condemi, Theo Foster

## THE HOLY SPIRIT SPEAKS UP FOR US

In today's Gospel, Jesus told the disciples that the Father would send us the Holy Spirit to be our helper. Jesus always said that he wanted his followers to show their love for obeying the commandments. As Jesus' followers we can pray to the Holy Spirit to ask for help in obeying the commandments.

You may want to pray in these or similar words: *Thank you, Father, for hearing the words of your Son and sending the Holy Spirit to us to help us. Holy Spirit, please help us to show our love by keeping the commandments. Amen.*

## GOD'S HELPER

Several words in today's reading are so important that we should repeat them to ourselves often: "Obey the commands I give you." Jesus knows how difficult this would be for us if we had to do it all alone. So he gives us a Helper, the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit living and working in us enables us to put the teaching of Jesus into action.

Jesus promised to send the Spirit of truth and love to us. Where do you find truth and love in your life? There you will find the Holy Spirit. When is truth and love fun and exciting? When is truth and love hard and difficult?

## PHILIP IN SAMARIA

Last week we saw that the apostles had ordained seven men to administer the soup kitchen in Jerusalem. The men—later known as deacons—quickly expanded their role to missionary work. One of these travels to Samaria, part of what is now the West Bank. There had been a bitter antagonism between the Jews and Samaritans, but Jesus had broken the ice. One of the deacons, Philip, capitalizes on this and begins making converts. Philip baptizes several people. When the apostles hear the news, they dismiss Peter and John to evaluate the situation. They complete the initiation of the converts by laying hands on them, administering Confirmation. We might see this as a foreshadowing of the differing roles of deacons and bishops. The former baptize, but only the latter can confirm.

## I WILL NOT LEAVE YOU ORPHANS

Jesus did not want the apostles to remain dependent upon his physical presence. They would have to make their own way in the world. They had a destiny to fulfill as missionaries, spreading the faith to the world. At a certain point Christ had to cut the apron strings. As he had said to Mary Magdalene on Easter, "do not cling to me, but go and tell my brothers..." Now it was the apostles' turn to let go.

But Jesus did not abandon them. He promised to send another "Paraclete"—a legal word implying a defender, a sort of barrister. This would be the Holy Spirit who would come a little over a week later on Pentecost. Jesus gave ample warning of his departure, but the reality of this farewell did not sink in until he finally ascended into heaven.

## THE HOPE THAT IS WITHIN YOU

*Sixth Sunday of Easter.*

*Fr Leon Pereira OP reflects on the relationship  
between faith and doubt.*

It would be odd if Catholics did not question their faith. The lack of intellectual curiosity would be a indication of the capital sin of sloth. We would be like Rex Mottram in *Brideshead Revisited*, ranking papal infallibility (extending to meteorological forecasts) with sacred monkeys in the Vatican - and accepting both as things to be believed. Happily, most people do question their faith, although our difficulties sometimes worry us, and we confuse them with doubts. Blessed John Henry Newman wrote, 'Ten thousand difficulties do not make one doubt.' He distinguished these because the difference is an enormous one. Someone with a difficulty might say, 'How can this be?' Someone with a doubt says, 'It can't be!' The difference is between one who struggles within a family fold, and one who no longer struggles, outside the fold in some sense.

It is as a family, or more precisely as a body, that we gather at Mass. When we pray the Creed, we say, 'I believe'. There is no 'we believe' because the Faith of the Church must be a personal faith for us. Indeed, whenever people say 'we believe' the 'we' is restricted to those presuming to speak on behalf of everyone else. But faith is a personal matter; it must be confessed personally by the 'I'. St Thomas teaches us that through baptism the Holy Spirit gives us the power of faith (*virtus fidei*), the capacity to have faith; but this faith must be actualised in a conscious and explicit act of faith (*actus fidei*). The Faith must be instantiated — it must, under God's grace, become a personal act, and become an active reality.

This instantiation of faith as an act comes about through our free and graced co-operation with the Holy Spirit. It happens when we consent, as the Jesuit axiom puts it, to feel with the Church (*sentire cum Ecclesia*). This is what Pope Francis means when he frequently reaffirms that he is 'a son of the Church' — he believes with the Church, and does not invent his own Christianity to suit himself. In other words, all the contentious issues (contentious to the modern world: sexual mores, abortion, women's ordination etc.) are a given for him: he believes with the Church because there is no other Faith to assent to, not without betraying Christ.

The fact that people think about these issues is good. It is excellent! Problems arise when we apply worldly models to the Church: as though the pope were a CEO who could change 'company policy', or that majority decisions could change doctrines or morals. Keeping our perspective, things were worse in the fourth century when the Arian heresy (the error that Jesus was not True God) flourished, when St Jerome could say, 'The whole world groaned, and marvelled to find itself Arian.' In our own day, we could not think the widespread use of contraception justifies it one bit — otherwise we should also think lying justified, since practically everyone has lied.

Early in the last century an Anglican cleric warned, 'The church that weds the spirit of the age ends up a widow in the next [age].' We should be cautious of any 'spirit of Vatican II' which lacks a foundation in the actual texts of Vatican II. Similarly, the 'spirit of Pope Francis', when not based on the contextualised words of the pope, is simply media spin. In its proper context the oft-quoted 'Who am I to judge?' applies to any category of sinner: rapists, paedophiles, tax-dodgers etc. The real Francis most frequently and forcefully stresses the reality of sin and the devil, the need for conversion to Christ, and to take the Church's teachings as a given; he would cringe at 'the church of Francis' — the Church is Christ's, or it is a lie.

We need the *person* of Christ, and not poorly-defined 'gospel values'; we need His Spirit, which the world cannot receive and cannot know. We need to let Christ be Lord: Lord of our boardrooms and bedrooms, our desires, our loves, our needs; truly Lord of the whole person. Then our life-killing and joyless doubts will be vanquished, and our difficulties graced with faith.

## 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](http://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](mailto: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

**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>

### 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 5 pm at St Peter's Memorial Lutheran Church, Reid. A reception will follow the commemoration service. Enquiries 6248 0064

### 28 May Amicus

Amicus, a support group for widowed, divorced and separated Catholics, will be holding its next gathering at the National Museum, Acton at 12 noon for lunch at Broad Bean Café. Contact Rosemary 6231 6665

**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. Further information: [www.wf.catholic.org.au](http://www.wf.catholic.org.au)

**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](mailto:office.cowra@cdob.org.au)

### Parishes Boundaries Map

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

### RETREATS 2017 at ST CLEMENTS, GALONG, NSW

The 2017 Retreat Program is available on request. Contact [infor@stclement.com.au](mailto:infor@stclement.com.au) or web [www.stclement.com](http://www.stclement.com) (02) 6380 5222

**23-25 June** - Eat, Pray, Paint.

**14-21 August** - The Inner Journey.

**22-29 September** - A Time for Silence.

**8 October** - Marian Procession.

**9-13 October** - An Emmaus Journey

**30-1 November** - Divine Love, the Heart of the Christian Journey.

All weekday retreats commence with the evening meal at 6pm and conclude after breakfast on the last day of the retreat.

### ROSTERS 27 / 28 May 2017

#### Saturday 6.00 pm Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	R. Paul	
Readers	T. Dennis	J. Maclean
Presentation of Gifts	J. Anderson	
EMOE	A. Moore	K. Murphy

#### Sunday 8.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	F. Bertrand	
Readers	M. Gabbitas	T. Klekner
Presentation of Gifts	P. Zorzi	
EMOE	E. Smith	

#### Sunday 10.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	R. Tanzer	
Readers	J. Cooke	C. Rheinberger
Presentation of Gifts	Hall-O'Brien Family	
EMOE	J. Munro	R. Zochling

#### Sunday 6.00pm Day Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	L. Kim	
Readers	J. Curnow	T. Malone
Presentation of Gifts	Malone Family	
EMOE	C. de Luca	T. de Luca
Counters		