



# Catholic Parish of Blackfriars

Issue 36  
23rd July 2017

Under the care of the Dominican Fathers

Year A



## VERITAS

## SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**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

Postal Address

PO Box 900, Dickson

Ph. 6248 5925 Ph.6248 5085

Fax 6248 7564

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

<http://www.cg.org.au/watson>

*Office Staff*

Jacquie 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

## WHEAT & TARES



## The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man

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	See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to you with willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!
COMMUNION	The Lord, the gracious, the merciful, has made a memorial of his wonders; he gives food to those who fear him.
READINGS	Wisdom 12:13. 16-19    Romans 8:26-27 Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43

**ST DOMINICS DAY**

Sunday 30th July  
at the 10am  
Mass our Parish  
will celebrate an  
early St Dominic's  
Day. The Mass  
will be followed  
by a sausage  
sizzle and  
morning tea.



At this Mass our Confirmation  
Candidates will be making their  
commitment to the sacrament.

**PSALM: 85:5-6. 9-10. 15-16**

Lord, you are good and forgiving.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving,  
full of love to all who call.  
Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer  
and attend to the sound of my voice.

All the nations shall come to adore you  
and glorify your name, O Lord:  
for you are great and do marvellous deeds,  
you who alone are God.

But you, God of mercy and compassion,  
slow to anger, O Lord,  
abounding in love and truth,  
turn and take pity on me.

Lord, you are good and forgiving.

**SAVE THE DATES**

**12 August - Pilgrimage**

To Eden Mary Mackillop Centre - Archbishop Christopher Prowse and the Pambula Catholic Parish invite all for a pilgrimage from Canberra and South Coast to Eden Mary MacKillop centre. The pilgrimage will depart St Christopher's Cathedral at 8.00 am and pilgrims can follow the Archbishop in their own vehicles.

**13 August - Marriage & Family Sunday**

Archbishop Christopher Prowse invites all to celebrate Marriage and Family Sunday at St Christopher's Cathedral. During the 11.00am Mass the Archbishop will confer a blessing on all engaged and newly married couples. Mass will be followed by a light luncheon in the new St Christopher's Pastoral Centre, Manuka. Please RSVP at <http://bit.ly/marriagesunday> or phone 6239 9800

**18 August - Trivia Night**

A Trivia Night will be held at St Christopher's Parish Hall (new Haydon Hall), 55 Franklin Street, Forrest starting at 7.30pm until 9.30pm. The proceeds from the night will aid *Karinya House Home for Mothers and Babies Inc.*

**20 September - Save the Date**

Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn - Join us for the official opening and blessing of St Christopher's Pastoral Centre on Wednesday 20th September at 2pm.

**THE WHEAT AND THE TARES**

In the Lord's field, there is the wheat and the tares (weeds). Some people are good wheat and are gathered to the Lord. And then there are people who are tares. It isn't good to be the tares. The tares get gathered into bundles for burning.

So how do we know which people are those bad, destined-for-burning tares? We don't, the Lord says. At least, we don't, not now. For all we know, the rudest, proudest, worldliest person sitting so smug in the next pew might be among the wheat, when the angels come at the end to gather the wheat to heaven. The most despicable sinner might be wheat too. You can't tell the tares until the end when the angels come, the Lord says.

You are not the judge, not for the other guy and not for yourself either.

By the same token, of course, the humblest, most hard-working person, sitting there so meekly in the next pew, might be among the tares. The most admirable and saintly person might turn out to be tares too. We don't know the wheat any more than we know the tares.

The Lord knows his own. But we don't. We can judge thoughts, choices, acts, and habits; but we don't know enough to judge a person's final resting place when the angels come at Judgment Day. And so the Lord's parable about the wheat and the tares can raise a terrible question: What am I? Am I tares, too? If I can't tell the wheat from the tares, how can I tell whether I am wheat or tares? The problem with finding an answer to *that* question is that the question is confused. You are not the judge, not for the other guy and not for yourself either. Nietzsche said derisively of Christians, "They don't even look like the redeemed!" But how would we know what the redeemed look like? (For that matter, how would Nietzsche know?) Our job is not the job of judge, because we are not up for that job.

Our job is to come to Christ and cleave to him. His job is first to save us, tares that we are, and then to judge us the wheat his salvation has made us be.

Eleonore Stump <http://liturgy.slu.edu/>

**GOSPEL REFLECTION**

**Gospel Summary** - This Gospel is a way of explaining why there is good and evil in the world today. As Jesus explained in the parable, the weeds (or evil) are allowed to grow with the wheat (or good). Only at the harvest (the end time) would God separate the good from the evil just as the farmer will separate the wheat from the weeds in Jesus' parable.

**Reflection for Families** - How do we answer our children when they ask why bad things happen to good people? This parable of the wheat and the weeds may be a way of explaining why God allows evil, like the weeds, to grow next to goodness in our world today. Evil will not really be gone until the fullness of God's Kingdom.

**Bringing the Gospel Into Your Family** - Try as a family to think about why God allows weeds to grow among the wheat in today's Gospel story. Either by looking through the newspaper, or sharing news about people in your

**QUOTE**

So often we ask God to be on our side instead of asking that we be blessed enough to be on his. That said, the wheat and the tares must grow up together, and in the days of harvest they will be separated properly."

David Holdsworth



**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  
Awny El-Ghitany, Barbara Wilson  
Chelsea Guillot, Beth Delos Santos  
Eris Pollard, Elsie Loughton

**Please remember  
our deceased:**

Patricia Wood, Ted Kendall  
Marilyn Van de Laarschot  
Moya Britten, Ernest Medza

## AN INCLUSIVE CHURCH

Matthew is very concerned in his Gospel with the unity of the Christian community. He does not envision the Church as an exclusionary organization, but rather as an inclusive community which is guided by the spirit of the parable of the weeds.

“Let them grow together until harvest”: since its earliest days, the Church has preferred to tolerate different levels of commitment and holiness. Such an attitude is in line with the ‘wisdom’ of the Hebrew Scriptures, which informs us that “those who are just must be kind and your mastery over all things makes you lenient to all and you judge with clemency.”

This attitude of acceptance is also in line with the revelation of God “as merciful and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in kindness.”

An inclusive Church that is kind and lenient toward its own members and toward everyone else should be an inspiration to a divided world that has a tendency to judge harshly, to be quick to anger, and to uproot weeds even at the cost of damage to the good plants.

By virtue of her mission to shed on the whole world the radiance of the gospel message, and to unify under one Spirit all men of whatever nation, race, or culture, the Church stands forth as a sign of that brotherliness which allows honest dialogue and invigorates it.

Such a mission requires in the first place that we foster within the Church herself mutual esteem, reverence, and harmony, through the full recognition of lawful diversity.

*Vatican II, Constitution on the Church in the Modern World,  
Gerald Darring*

## BE OPEN TO THE WEEDS AND THE WHEAT

While we must speak out for the truth, we may well be tempted to emphasise our faithfulness by our impatience and intolerance towards those who do not journey with us. The parable of Jesus warns us that this is not God’s way. The reading from the book of Wisdom shows us that, as the Old Testament was drawing to a close, devout thinkers in old Israel were recognising that the virtuous person must be kindly to others, learning from the mysterious patience of God.

Only the Lord of the harvest – whose grace is at work in a hidden way in every human heart – can sort out the good from the bad when all is gathered in at the end. We who are blessed with the gift of faith must prepare for the final harvest by becoming an exemplary crop ourselves. There is a lesson here, also, for those who belong to the new movements emerging in the today’s Church. They must avoid a sectarian spirit that would see their way as the only way. There is room in God’s Church for many spiritualities and traditions. True ‘catholicity’ shows an openness to this.’

*From a homily by John Thornhill sm*

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

## ON NOT BEING SOLOMON

*Sixteenth Sunday of the Year.*

*Fr Gregory Murphy OP asks whether .*

*the parable of the wheat and the weeds*

*has an application beyond the Christian community*

Matthew enjoins us not to judge, so that we may escape judgement. But again, in the same chapter, he tells us to beware of false prophets, whom we shall know by their fruits - those who stir up discord and break peace; those who oppose the coming of the Kingdom. We seem compelled to judge the actions of others. Which of us has not, on occasion, been annoyed with those around us who seem indifferent or only motivated by self-interest? Today’s parable, which operates with the same imagery as the sower and the seed, addresses the problem of the good and the not-so-good, or lacklustre, in the church. Only now, a new character has entered the story: the enemy, who sows the bad seed. The workers are perplexed, and do not know how to respond. The householder, on the other hand, urges the workers to be patient, not to uproot the weeds, with concomitant damage of the crop. This will be sorted out, appropriately, at the harvest. The parable exposes the double-edge of our judgement. On the one hand, the nervousness which leads us to want to expel those who are, in our eyes, recalcitrant or unworthy of church membership is exposed as arrogant: as the letter of James tells us, who are you to judge your neighbour? Church discipline has its place, as Matthew has taught, but it has to be tempered with the realisation that the final judgement is God’s. On the other hand, we are faced with an existential question of how we, ourselves, will stand under the judgement of God. Have we judged justly? Still, this parable, nevertheless, pushes us beyond mere anxiety. Two other parables follow in quick succession. One of those parables describes the joyful pursuit of treasure hidden in a field; the other tells of a merchant who sells all he has to purchase "one pearl of great value." In light of the coming judgment, the present is not a time of paralysing uncertainty, but a time of risk, of joyful ventures taken, of discovering what is really valuable, of a boldness not intimidated by the fear of failure, of a persistence in pursuit of the coming reign of God, as Pope Francis has recently emphasized. And the Son of Man who sends his angels to effect judgement is the same Son of Man who on earth forgave sins freely, who suffered at the hands of betrayers, and who confirms for us that God’s gracious promises can be trusted. We should then forego anxiety, forego judgement, and focus rather on making peace and doing mercy: so helping to establish God’s kingdom. Judgement is God’s, however that is inseparable from his mercy. We judge ourselves by rendering ourselves incapable of receiving God’s mercy if we cannot recognise it, which is the meaning of "to those who are merciful is mercy shown". Yet Jesus’ blood, the blood of the truly innocent victim, is poured out for us and pleads more insistently than Abel’s (the prototypical innocent victim) for our redemption and healing. In his Blood (or life) we are enlivened; quickened to seek forgiveness, do justice, make peace, and learn how we might walk humbly with our God. <http://english.op.org/torch>

## GARDENERS

Gardeners tell us that we have to be careful when pulling weeds. Some weeds look very much like the flowers and vegetables around them! Sometimes they have to be allowed to grow a little to be sure they are truly weeds! Also, gardeners must be careful not to pull up the good plants with the weeds, especially when they are growing close together.

Name some weeds in your personal world. Then name some weeds in our country. Then name some weeds in the world in general. What is your attitude toward these weeds? What do you think might be Jesus’ attitude toward them? How should we treat these weeds? If you look carefully, you might find some "weeds" inside your own heart. What is Jesus’ attitude toward them? How will you deal with them?

Proclaiming Faith

**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 for further information.

**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

## 26 July - RE-IMAGING DISABILITY IN AUSTRALIA

Public lecture by Graeme Innes (AM) Australian company director, lawyer and human rights practitioner in NSW and WA. Room 300.G.23, Blackfriars Building ACU. RSVP by 21 July Phone 6209 1129 or [OCD.Canberra@acu.edu.au](mailto:OCD.Canberra@acu.edu.au)

## 5 August - KSC MEETING

Knights of the Southern Cross Canberra Branch (KSC) will hold their next meeting from 11.00am - 1.00pm on Saturday, 5 August in the Collins Wing adjacent to the St Benedict's Parish Church, Narrabundah. See the KSC website [www.ksca.org.au](http://www.ksca.org.au) for further information. All Catholic men are invited. Contact Bob Perkins on 6247 2977.

**13 August - WHAT IS HAPPENING TO MARRIAGE IN AUSTRALIA ?** Australian Family Association, National Conference. At Serbian Church Hall, National Circuit, Forest from 2 to 5 pm. Information [www.family.org.au](http://www.family.org.au) or email [act.family.org.au](mailto:act.family.org.au)

## 17 August - CHRISTIANS FOR AN ETHICAL SOCIETY

2017 Forum Series on Seeking our Moral Compass. Dinner at Bella Vista Restaurant Belconnen. Speaker: Kristina Keneally. Enquires Robyn Coglean 6254 0487 or [admin@ces.org.au](mailto:admin@ces.org.au). Bookings close 7th August. Poster on notice board for further details.

## 19 August - CALL TO CONNECT-DAY RETREAT FOR WOMEN

Carmelite Monastery Red Hill from 9:15 am to 4pm. Cost \$35 per person, pensioner concession available. RSVP 14th August to Lorraine 0437 329 371. Details [www.calltoconnect.org](http://www.calltoconnect.org)

## 6 October - MOVIE NIGHT FOR HOME

"Home" in Queanbeyan is holding a fund raising movie night at the Q Theatre Queanbeyan commencing at 6.00pm.

## 8 - October - MARIAN PROCESSION

Archbishop Christopher extends an invitation to all Catholics of the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn to attend the 2017 Marian Procession at St Clement's Monastery, Galong. 9am: Youth Pilgrimage from Galong Village. 10.30: Confession. 11.30am: Mass with Archbishop Christopher. 12.30pm: Lunch. 2pm: Procession to the Grotto and sharing by Sr Mary Rachel (OP)

**"Have your say"** - The Catholic Voice is always trying to improve and respond to the community. To help John and the Communications Team know what readers want in the Archdiocesan newspaper a brief survey has been prepared. The survey will take only 30 seconds and responses are anonymous. The more feedback the better equipped John and the Communications Team will be in creating a paper that will both 'inform' and 'form'. Simply follow the link: <http://cg.catholic.org.au/catholic-voice/survey/>



## ROSTERS 29 / 30 July 2017

### Saturday 6.00 pm Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	M. Tran	
Readers	K. Markcrow	D. Hinds
Presentation of Gifts	Tran Family	
EMOE	J. Maclean	

### Sunday 8.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	N. McGahey	
Readers	B. Bandle	C. Bandle
Presentation of Gifts	Bandle Family	
EMOE	M. Falk	

### Sunday 10.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	H. Pham	
Readers	R. Ciaccia	I. Ciaccia
Presentation of Gifts	Lestone Family	
EMOE	E. Musolino	M. Mastrolembo

### Sunday 6.00pm Day Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	L. Kim	
Readers	K. Kralikas	T. Ryan
Presentation of Gifts	de Luca Family	
EMOE	K. Kralikas	C. Mackay