



# Catholic Parish of Blackfriars

Issue 37  
30th July 2017

Under the care of the Dominican Fathers

Year A



## VERITAS

## SEVENTEENTH 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*

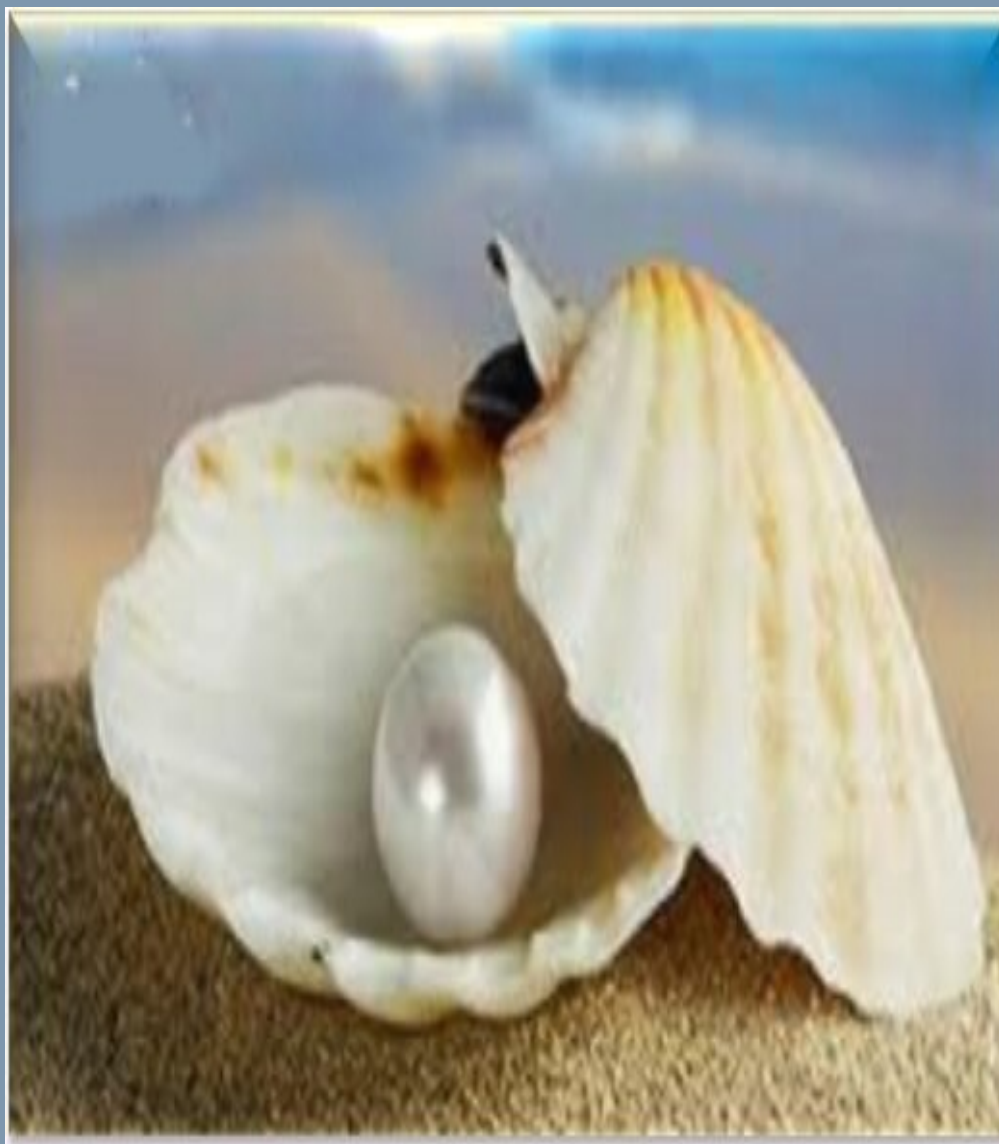
Saturday 12pm—12.30pm

and 5pm—5.30pm

#### *ACU Chapel Signadou*

Tues 12.30pm

Wed & Thurs 12.30pm



## Treasure hidden in a field

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

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

<b>ENTRANCE</b>	God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house; he himself gives might and strength to his people.
<b>GOSPEL ACCLAMATION</b>	Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!
<b>COMMUNION</b>	Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his benefits.
<b>READINGS</b>	1 Kings 3:5. 7-12      Romans 8:28-30 Gospel: Matthew 13:44-52

### PSALM: 118:57. 72. 76-77. 127-130

Lord, I love your commands.

My part, I have resolved, O Lord,  
is to obey your word.

The law from your mouth means more to me  
than silver and gold.

Let your love be ready to console me  
by your promise to your servant.  
Let your love come to me and I shall live  
for your law is my delight.

That is why I love your commands  
more than finest gold.  
That is why I rule my life by your precepts:  
I hate false ways.

Your will is wonderful indeed;  
therefore I obey it.  
The unfolding of your word gives light  
and teaches the simple.

Lord, I love your commands.

### ACU - INTERPRETING THE BIBLE

Australian Catholic University will run a 4 week Short Course in Theology which will be held on Monday evenings: 7, 14, 21 and 28 August. The topic this semester is "Interpreting the Bible".

Topics and speakers include:

Monday 7 August: *Interpreting the Old Testament* - Dr Gareth Wearne (ACU)

Monday 14 August: *Interpreting the Gospels* - Dr Antonia Pizzey (ACU)

Monday 21 August: *Interpreting Paul's Letters* - Dr Alan Cadwallader (CSU)

Monday 28 August: *Interpreting the Book of Revelation* - Dr Michael Theophilus (ACU)

Time 6 - 8 pm (Refreshments from 6 pm, lecture starts at 6.30 pm).

Venue : ACU Campus, Watson.

Fees: \$100 for those requiring a Certificate of Attendance, \$50 attendance only

information, please visit: <http://www.acu.edu.au/theology/shortcourses>

Registration is essential and closes Friday, 4 August. Please register at:

[http://www.acu.edu.au/about\\_acu/faculties\\_institutes\\_and\\_centres/theology\\_and\\_philosophy/theology/short\\_courses/canberra/interpreting\\_the\\_bible](http://www.acu.edu.au/about_acu/faculties_institutes_and_centres/theology_and_philosophy/theology/short_courses/canberra/interpreting_the_bible)

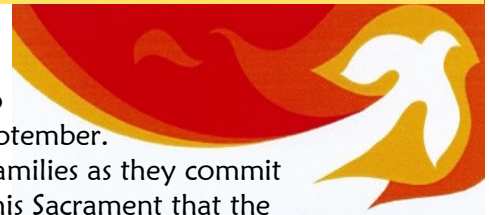
### FEAST OF ST DOMINIC

This weekend we will be remembering the Dominican Congregation in our Parish. We pray in loving memory of the Priests, Brothers, Sisters and Associates who have ministered to us in our Parish and throughout the world over the years. We pray in thanksgiving for our Parish Priests Fr Kieran, Fr Bernie and Fr Raphael. May God richly bless you Fathers.

### WELCOME CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

We welcome all the students From Rosary School and the Parish School of Religion who will be Confirmed on 15th September.

We pray for them and their families as they commit themselves to preparing for this Sacrament that the Holy Spirit will enrich their lives with His Gifts and His Grace. All are invited to stay after the 10.00am Mass and share a cuppa and a sizzled sausage!



### FEAST OF ST DOMINIC

#### Feast of St Dominic 3rd August

Dominic was born in Castile, Spain, in 1170. He was a member of the Guzman family and his mother is Blessed Joan of Aza. After years of study, he became a priest too. Dominic Lived a quiet life, but God had amazing plans for Dominic. He was meant to begin a new religious order. It would be called the Order of Preachers or Dominicans after St. Dominic. The Dominicans preached the faith. They helped correct false teachings called heresies. The Dominicans conquered dangerous heresy with prayer, especially the Holy Rosary. Dominic also encouraged the people to be humble and to make sacrifices. He urged the Dominicans to be devoted to the study of the Bible and to prayer. No one did more than St. Dominic and his preachers to spread the beautiful practice of saying the Rosary. St. Dominic was a brilliant preacher, while St. Francis of Assisi was a humble beggar. Yet, they were close friends. The two orders of Dominicans and Franciscans helped Christians become holier. Dominic's friars opened centers in Paris, France; Madrid, Spain; Rome and Bologna, Italy. He lived to see his order spread to Poland, Scandinavia and Palestine. The friars also went to Canterbury, London, and Oxford, England. Dominic died in Bologna on August 7, 1221.



### HELP WANTED

The Parish is in need of a helper/s for Monday and Friday mornings for between 1 and 2 hours to help tidy (Monday) and prepare (Friday) the church for weekend Masses. If you can help out please call the office.

There will be a Family Mass 13th August and Commitment Mass 27th August and a sausage sizzle both of these Sundays. If you can help at either Mass please contact the office.

 We welcome Fr Kieran back from leave. 

**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  
Elsie Laughton,  
Lynn & Richard Bale

**Please remember  
our deceased:**

Marilyn Van de Laarschot  
Moya Britten, Ernest Medza,  
Ken Fleeton, Kemble Thompson,  
Eris Pollard, Val Jeffery

**In loving memory**

Felix Fernandez,  
Vera Fernandez,  
Brian Fitzgerald,  
Stanely Rowe,  
Margery Gaynor,  
Dorothy Alloy,  
Wendell Nigil,  
Mary Cesary,  
Julian Hichcock,  
Kenneth Tully,  
Oswald Beale,  
Olinda La'Porte,  
Ralph Myers,

Betty Collett, Harry Gaudencio,  
Richard Gaudencio, Iris La'Porte,  
Cynthia Robinson, Rosy La'Porte,  
Daphne Robinson, Richard La'Porte,  
Josephine Gaudencio, Alice Phillips,  
Charles Gaudencio, Simon La'Porte,  
Edna Gaudencio, Daphne La'Porte,  
Ernest La'Porte, Queenie Concesso,  
Millicent Gaudencio, Alan La'Porte,  
Marjorie La'Porte, Mary Cesary,  
Rev. Bro. Oswald Ballantyne  
Rev. Bishop Alan de Lastic,  
Rev. Mother Aime,  
John Baptist Gaudencio  
Christine Kleeberg,

## BAPTISM

***Sophia Auld***

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



## SEARCH FOR TREASURE

In today's gospel, Jesus uses parables to explain that we should always search for the Kingdom of God. The Kingdom of God is the greatest treasure of all, more valuable than any earthly riches. Matthew's gospel stacks one parable of the Kingdom on another. He wants Christians to understand that seeking, working, and praying for the Kingdom of God is the heart of Jesus' Good News. When we seek the Kingdom before all else, we are like a merchant who sells everything to buy a pearl of great price. Like Jesus, we value God's love and God's will above any earthly treasure.

## WRITING OPENS A DEEP WELL

Writing is not just about jotting down ideas. Often we say: "I don't know what to write. I have no thoughts worth writing down." But much good writing emerges from the process of writing itself. As we simply sit down in front of a sheet of paper and start to express in words what is on our minds or in our hearts, new ideas emerge, ideas that can surprise us and lead us to inner places we hardly knew were there. One of the most satisfying aspects of writing is that it can open in us deep wells of hidden treasures that are beautiful for us as well as for others to see.'

Fr Henri Nouwen, *Bread for the Journey*

## WISDOM'S WORTH

*Seventeenth Sunday of the Year.  
Fr Simon Gaine preaches on the parable  
of the pearl of great price.*

Some of Jesus' parables tell us exactly how much his wisdom is worth and what it costs, what it costs *us*. He tells of a merchant looking for fine pearls. The meaning of the pearl might have been obvious even to Jesus' disciples, who often got things wrong. Job had said that the price of wisdom was beyond pearls. This parable is about the discovery of the most precious wisdom of all, the wisdom of Jesus that leads us to God. Now the merchant's reaction might not be at all what a real merchant would have done: selling *everything* he owned to obtain this one pearl. That seems a little ridiculous, but it's the ridiculous detail in Jesus' story that drives the point home: Christ's wisdom is beyond the price of pearls and it is worth more than everything you have. The merchant may seem foolish - but the wisdom of God does appear foolish in the eyes of the world, and it demands the greatest commitment - everything we have once and for all for our whole lives. But can we be comfortable with that? Such a commitment of a whole life *now* - of an unknown future, leaving nothing back - *complete* self-giving - is that even possible for us? A lot of life today is short-term, not long-term, or at least that's how we have come to find our world. We know that commitments in general no longer seem to be the lifelong commitments they once were - people make a commitment but then move on for one reason or another to something else. All of this can affect the way we see the whole of life.

Our lives simply no longer seem to have the unity and stability they perhaps once had. Even when economic times were better than they are today, just envisioning *one* career for the whole of working life had become more difficult for young people. People seem less able to grasp their whole lives ahead of them as having a kind of unity, as being a single continuing story of a single life. Their perceptions can also sometimes be shaped by an idea of the endless possibilities of continually reinventing yourself. At the bottom of much of this lies the modern obsession with choice, the idea that choice somehow guarantees freedom and quality of life. But while career changes and new directions are often liberating, to make having choices so central to our idea of the good life is surely more double-edged. Along with making freedom of choice so central, there often goes unease about commitment, because if you make a commitment you limit your options. Making a committed choice seems to lessen your freedom, and sometimes people experience a tendency to put off the key decisions and commitments that somehow make our identities. We sometimes just like to keep our options open. So there's the crucial question: is it possible in a world like this, even to commit oneself to following Christ as a baptised Christian? Do we think of this commitment as opening us up to the fulfilment of our lives, or as just another way of limiting our options? People can be surprised at the idea that you might commit yourself once and for all just to being at Mass every Sunday for the rest of your life. It might seem the more obvious thing to make a separate decision whether to go to Mass each Sunday instead, keeping your options open.

So does obsession with choice and keeping options open prevent us from selling everything we have and obtaining the pearl? Does the pearl cost us more in today's world than it did in the past? Though it may be difficult, divine grace means commitment is never impossible, and our human nature still makes us need it. In reality, only Christian commitment can give our lives the unity and stability they need by making them part of God's one story. Only Christian commitment can fully open up for us the fulfillment that truly makes us happy and free, a heavenly happiness and freedom that last forever and can never be lost. So let us affirm our choice of this pearl once and for all, a choice made with everything we have, with all we are, and all we will be. And may God who has begun this work in us bring it by his grace to its completion.

<http://english.op.org/torch>

## HOLY ROSARY CHURCH ACTIVITIES

**SCHOOL OF RELIGION Sunday** A year long Faith Education Program including Sacraments for children who do not attend Catholic Schools. Contact the 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 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. 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. 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

**"Every great dream begins with a dreamer.  
Always remember, you have within you the strength,  
the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars  
to change the world."**

**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

### 5 August – KSC MEETING

Knights of the Southern Cross will hold their next meeting from 11 am – 1pm on Saturday, 5 August in the Collins Wing adjacent to the St Benedict's Church, Narrabundah. Contact Bob Perkins on 6247 2977 for further information.

### 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 11am Mass a blessing on all engaged and newly married couples. Mass will be followed by a light luncheon in the new Pastoral Centre. Please RSVP at <http://bit.ly/marriagesunday> or phone 6239 9800

### 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 Cogan 6254 0487 or [admin@ces.org.au](mailto:admin@ces.org.au). Bookings close 7th August. Poster on notice board for further details.

### 18 August - Trivia Night

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

### 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)

### 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.

### 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)

### ROSTERS 5th / 6th August 2017

#### Saturday 6.00 pm Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	I. Buckley	
Readers	A. Blakey	M. Cox
Presentation of Gifts	Vanderzil Family	
EMOE	A. Moore	K. Murphy

#### Sunday 8.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	J. Smith	
Readers	N. Clarke	G. Thompson
Presentation of Gifts	P. Zorzi	
EMOE	L. Smith	

#### Sunday 10.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	Q. Vu	
Readers	K. McCluskey	M. Mallett
Presentation of Gifts	Vu Family	
EMOE	B. Affas	A. Northcote

#### Sunday 6.00pm Day Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	T. Leota	
Readers	J. Cooke	
Presentation of Gifts	R. Walpole	
EMOE	M. Proctor	J. Curnow
Counters	F. Higgins	N. Higgins