



# Catholic Parish of Blackfriars

Issue 40  
20 August 2017

Under the care of the Dominican Fathers

Year A



## VERITAS

## TWENTIETH 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

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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

**From 2/3 September Mass  
times will change to**

**Saturday 5pm & Sunday 5pm**

**Reconciliation**

**Saturday 4.00 pm—4.30pm**

Saturday & Public

Holidays Mass excluding Mondays

9am

**Pray the Rosary**

Wed & Fri before 5.30pm Mass

Saturday after 9am Mass

**Reconciliation**

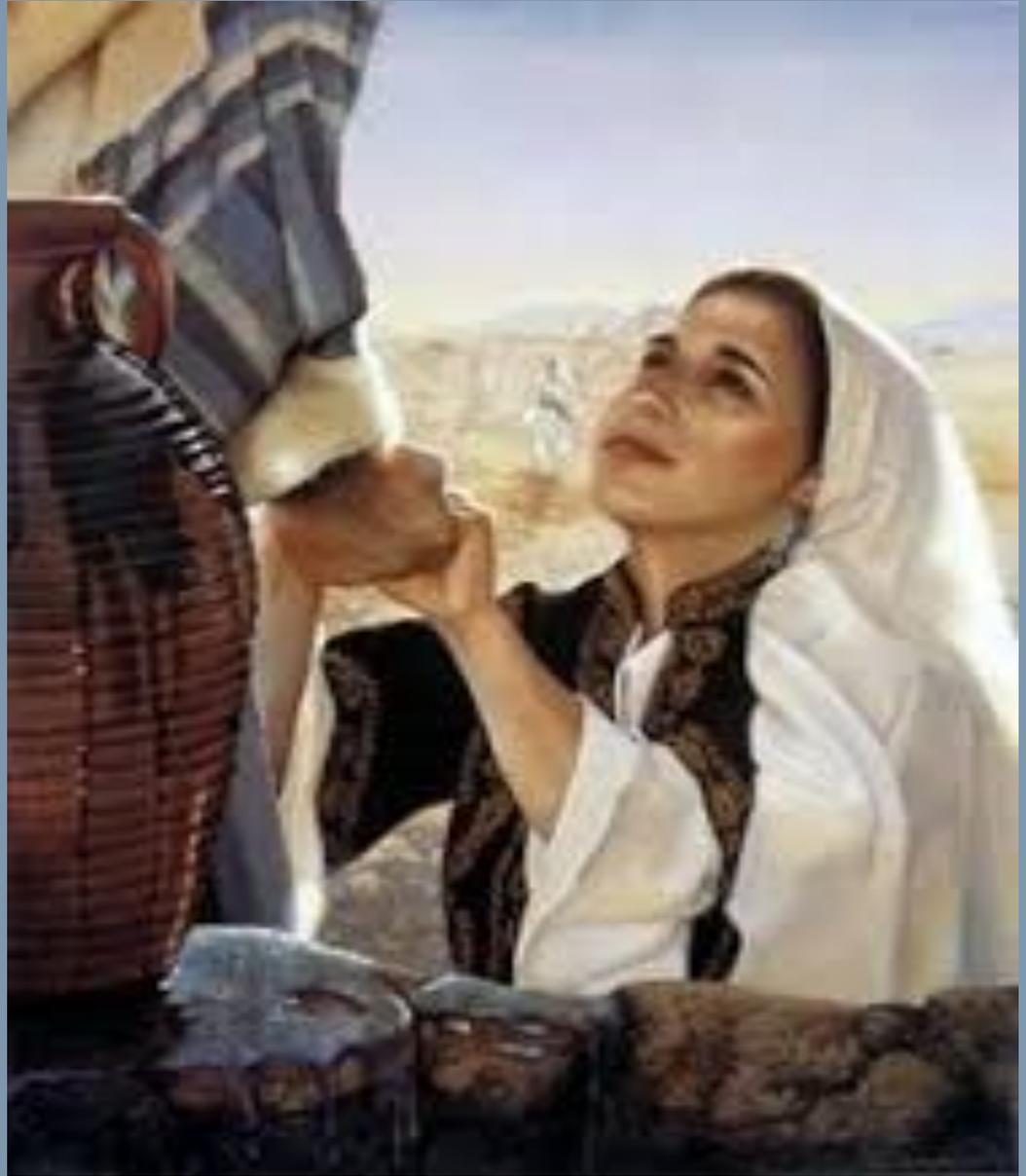
Saturday 12pm—12.30pm

and 5pm—5.30pm

**ACU Chapel Signadou**

Tues 12.30pm

Wed & Thurs 12.30pm



## Great Faith

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

A warm welcome is extended to guests & parishioners celebrating our

<b>ENTRANCE</b>	Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.
<b>GOSPEL ACCLAMATION</b>	Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!
<b>COMMUNION</b>	With the Lord there is mercy; in him is plentiful redemption.
<b>READINGS</b>	Isaiah 56:1. 6-7    Romans 11:13-15. 29-32 Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28

**PSALM: 66:2-3. 5-6. 8**

O God, let all the nations praise you!

O God, be gracious and bless us  
and let your face shed its light upon us.  
So will your ways be known upon earth  
and all nations learn your saving help.

Let the nations be glad and exult  
for you rule the world with justice.  
With fairness you rule the peoples,  
you guide the nations on earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.  
May God still give us his blessing  
till the ends of the earth revere him.

O God, let all the nations praise you!

**HELP NEEDED**

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 6249 5925

**HOW DO I BECOME A CATHOLIC**

Are you an adult interested in finding  
out more about the Catholic faith?  
The Rite of Christian Initiation of  
Adults (RCIA) is a process, based  
within a parish community, that starts  
by allowing interested individuals to  
make initial enquiries about the Catholic faith.  
Each year we have had the privilege of receiving  
new members into our community at Holy Ro-  
sary. Please contact the Parish office on 6248  
5925 if you would like to attend or to discuss  
your interest with an RCIA team member. RCIA  
will begin on Tuesday 5th September.



**DOMINICAN FATHERS  
SICKNESS & RETIREMENT APPEAL**

The Appeal for the Dominican Fathers  
Sickness & Retirement Fund will be held  
next weekend 26/27 August. Envelopes  
will be provided for your contribution.  
Your generosity is very much appreciated.

**CONGRATULATIONS**

*Congratulations to Fr Kieran  
on 40 years of Ordination  
on 20th August.*

On Sunday 27th we will celebrate  
the anniversary of  
Fr Kieran's Ordination  
after the 10am Mass  
with a Sausage Sizzle  
and refreshments.  
Please join us in this  
celebration.



**MASS TIME CHANGES**

**Blackfriars Parish has been a place of worship for some five decades and over this time the Mass times have changed to suit the demographics, age and needs of parishioners. The Parish has received numerous comments from various members of the Parish on the lateness of our evening Masses. Since May 2016 the Parish Pastoral Council has discussed the work load, age, health and well-being of our Parish priests and Mass attendances which have been dropping significantly over the past 5 months. During these ongoing discussion the Council has endorsed the change of times for Saturday Vigil Mass and Sunday evening Mass with both changing from 6pm to 5pm. The confession times will also change in respect to the new Mass time changes. The time change will take place from the weekend of the 2<sup>nd</sup> / 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2017.**

Fr Kieran

**WHAT MATTERS**

In the Gospel Reading, Jesus and his disciples have walked all the way into Gentile territory, and one Gentile woman cries out to him repeatedly to heal her daughter. The disciples of Jesus urge Jesus to send her away. The way the disciples see her, she's just a woman, she isn't Jewish, and she doesn't look like an important person even among the Gentiles. So, from the point of view of the disciples, she is a person who does not matter. They want Jesus to get rid of her.

In response, Jesus tells his disciples, "I am sent only to the lost sheep of Israel." And this is an odd thing for him to say, isn't it He is in Gentile territory now. Why did he go there if he has no mission to the Gentiles?

And if he was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel, as he says, then why doesn't he just send this Gentile woman away, as the disciples want him to do? Why does he let her keep crying out to him?

If he was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel, as he says, then why doesn't he just send this Gentile woman away?

Because he doesn't send her away, she comes closer to him and pleads with him for help. In reply, he says to her one of the most insulting things he says to anyone in the Gospels: "it is not right to take the bread of the children and give it to the dogs." How could she matter less than this?

The solution to the perplexity of this story comes in the final exchange between the two of them. Jesus' treatment of her elicits from her one of the most pert responses to Jesus from anyone anywhere: "Even the dogs eat the crumbs of the children's bread," she says. And Jesus loves her for that pertness and the persistence behind it. "Great is your faith!" he says to her in praise.

It is the way Jesus deals with her that brings her to this point, isn't it? But here is the most important thing to notice. To have faith is to be one of the sheep of Israel. Because he was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel, Jesus went to Gentile territory for her.

Gentile, female, or whatever else makes her seem a person who doesn't matter, she has the one thing that really does matter: she won't let go of Jesus.

And now we can understand why Jesus went into Gentile territory. He was looking for her. And we can also see that what Jesus says to his disciples is after all true: he is sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.

All those who cleave to Jesus, Gentile or Jew, are his sheep.

<b>In Your Prayers please remember those in our community who are ill:</b>	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 Lynn & Richard Bale, Elsie Laughton, Richard Johnson
<b>Please remember our deceased:</b>	Moya Britten, Ken Fleeton, Kemble Thompson, Val Jeffery, Roy Shirvington, Eris Pollard, Sebastiano Pelle, Adrian Newbond, Kathleen (Kitty) Heath, Anne Perkins
<b>In loving memory</b>	Adriano Focarile, John Collett, José Kius Prates Leal, Violeta Tabiolo, Victoria Gaudencio Joselito Tabiolo, Harry Gaudencio

## THE CRY OF FAITH

*Twentieth Sunday of the Year.*

*Fr Dermot Morrin OP suggests that the faith of the Gentile Woman is the true faith of the Church.*

The woman's cry is one of profound faith in Jesus. Her request is simple. Her daughter is possessed by a demon. We can hardly begin to imagine just what this woman and her daughter must have suffered. This poor woman believes that Jesus can free her daughter from her terrible affliction. In her sincere and humble faith the Canaanite woman stands in contrast with so many others in the Gospel. She does not ask for a sign, nor does she ask for the best place in his kingdom. This woman of faith simply asks that her daughter to be made well again.

When we read Matthew's Gospel it is hard not to sense the tension between Jesus' declaration that he has been sent to the lost sheep of the House of Israel only and the end of the Gospel when the Risen Jesus sends his disciples out to make disciples of all nations.

But in part the tension is within us. We Gentiles tend to forget that Jesus was a Jew. We tend to listen to him speaking in the Gospels as if he was speaking directly to us today in our context. We tend to forget that Jesus lived out his ministry of teaching and healing as a Jew among Jews. We tend to forget that this was what he was sent to do. In doing so we neglect some of the implications of our faith that Jesus is the fulfilment of all the promises which God has made to his people Israel.

On that day, when the Canaanite woman called out after Jesus, "Son of David, take pity on me", the divide between Jew and Gentile was very real. It is only in his death and resurrection that Jesus overcomes this barrier. Then, Christians could see that God has no favourites.

But even though throughout his ministry Jews would reject Jesus, and eventually crucify him, he never rejects them. To do so would be the negation of God's covenant with the Israel, and his mission.

The focus in this passage isn't on the healing of the child but on the woman's faith. The child is healed at a distance. The mother's confidence that Jesus can heal her daughter is unshakeable. The woman will not be put off. When Jesus states the limited nature of his mission, she responds by expressing the true faith of Israel. She speaks like a Jew who believes in Jesus.

Although the language of children and dogs may offend our modern sensitivity, it makes sense in the context of the gospel.

Continued —>

## cont... THE CRY OF FAITH

In faith this woman acknowledges the distinction between Jew and Gentile but she also acts from the deep-felt conviction that this barrier can and will be overcome. In a sense, her faith anticipates the Resurrection and Pentecost.

The real miracle is the very fact that such faith could be found in the heart of this Gentile woman. Shortly before this scene, when Jesus visits the synagogue at Nazareth he encounters such a lack of faith that he can work few miracles. Before the Gospel ends we will see just how weak the faith of Peter and the other disciples turns out to be.

By contrast, this Canaanite woman's faith is unshakeable. It seems that true faith in Jesus is found not among those to whom he was sent, but outside of Israel. We are reminded of the centurion, another gentile whose servant was ill. Again Jesus remarked, "Nowhere in Israel have I found faith like this." In fact although Matthew stresses that Jesus was sent first to Israel, his Gospel is punctuated with examples of Gentile faith. Matthew alone tells us of the Magi. Jesus praises the faith of the centurion at Capernaum and of the Canaanite woman and after the death of Jesus it is a Roman centurion who says "In truth this was a Son of God".

In these Gentiles who have faith in Jesus, Matthew anticipates the preaching of the Gospel to all nations. Indeed, he anticipates our own incorporation into Christ. And perhaps in our twenty-first century world, he anticipates a situation where the greatest divide is not between Jew and Gentile but between those who have faith and those who have none.

Finally, this gospel passage should make us humble and grateful. Notice how the Canaanite woman's cry of faith comes between the two miracles of the feeding of the crowds. In both cases not only did all have their fill, but there were twelve and then seven baskets left over, reminding us that in God's kingdom there is more than enough room for all people, even us. We need not worry about where we sit at table, the main thing is that we belong. We belong to God's holy people not by anything we ourselves have done but by what Christ has done for us. We have been given a part to play in God's plan of salvation, not by birth, but rather by our rebirth through the water and the Spirit. May we never fail to give thanks that we can be called God's children, for through his love and mercy that is what we are.

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

## BEYOND THE BOUNDARIES

The Canaanite woman was all alone: she was a Gentile in a Jewish world and a woman in a man's world. What makes her special is her determination: she turns to her advantage Jesus' statement about not giving food to the dogs.

There can be no doubt that God's "care extends beyond the boundaries of race and nation to the hearts of all who live," and that God's house should become a house of prayer for all peoples. It is therefore fitting that we should pray that the walls, which prejudice raises between us, crumble.

But we must realize that an end to prejudice will not come easily, and it will be overcome only by the determination of the victims of prejudice.

Woman, you have great faith! Jesus did not resist the determined woman; rather, he praised her determination. Those of us who work and pray for an end to prejudice must follow Jesus in praising the determination of those who are claiming their rights as human beings.

It is obvious to everyone that women are now taking part in public life. This is happening more rapidly perhaps in nations with a Christian tradition, and more slowly, but broadly, among peoples who have inherited other traditions or cultures.

Since women are becoming ever more conscious of their human dignity, they will not tolerate being treated as inanimate objects or mere instruments, but claim, both in domestic and in public life, the rights and duties that befit a human person.

Pope John XXIII, *Pacem in Terris*, 1963:41.-Gerald Daring

## 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

### 2 - September "Catechist and Friends Retreat Days"

Parishioners are invited to attend the Catechist Retreat Days with Sr. Judy Bowe, mgl. Commence at 10am - 4pm will be held at Sacred Heart Pearce (2 September); BYO lunch.

RSVP: [kylie.bereza@cg.org.au](mailto:kylie.bereza@cg.org.au)

**Being young is beautiful, but being old is comfortable.**

**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.

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

### 23 - August "St Thomas More Forum"

At 7:30pm at Holy Faith Hall, Campbell. Labour Senator Don Farrell will address the topic of "Faith and Politics: What difference can we all make?" RSVP by noon, Monday 21 August. Go to <https://goo.gl/nSMmG8> to register online, emailing [forum@stthomasmore.org.au](mailto:forum@stthomasmore.org.au) with your booking details. Enquiries to 0484 355 786 or [fo-rum@stthomasmore.org.au](mailto:forum@stthomasmore.org.au)

### 27 - August "Amicus"

"Amicus", a support group for widowed, divorced and separated Catholics will be holding its next gathering at R&R's Diner Village Square Bungendore. Table will be booked in name of AMICUS. Contact: Patricia 0412 351 548

### 31 August - MERICI COLLEGE ENROLMENT

Come and experience the unique Merici College vibe, in a small supportive environment that puts your daughter's individual learning needs first and prepares them for the exciting future that awaits her! Merici College the Talk and Tour will consist of a brief introduction to the College by the Principal and a student-led tour while classes are in progress. There will be opportunities for parents, and their daughters, to ask questions both during, and after, the Talk and Tour has finished. Two sessions will be held on Thursday 31 August: Session 1: 9.30am-11.00am; Session 2: 12.30pm - 2.00pm. Go to [www.merici.college](http://www.merici.college) to register online.

### 31 - August "Concerned Catholics"

A group of concerned Catholics is holding a further public meeting to discuss ideas as to how the laity of the Archdiocese might increase their participation in the Church. Parishioners, clergy, and friends are invited to attend the meeting from 7.30pm - 9.30pm at the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, Blackall Street, Barton. Contact: Rod & Susan Page 0401 731 918

### 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 26th / 27th August 2017

#### Saturday 6.00 pm Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	I. Buckley	
Readers	A. Blakey	P. Brotchie
Presentation of Gifts	Blakey Family	
EMOE	G. Collins	

#### Sunday 8.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	N. McGahey	
Readers	M. Gabbitas	T. Klekner
Presentation of Gifts	Lestone Family	
EMOE	E. Smith	

#### Sunday 10.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	L. Kim	
Readers	E. Northcote	J. Northcote
Presentation of Gifts	School	
EMOE	A. Northcote	B. Affas

#### Sunday 6.00pm Day Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	T. Leota	
Readers	M. Brotohusodo V. Van der Sanden	
Presentation of Gifts	Malone Family	
EMOE	K. Kralikas	C. Mackay
Counters	I. Buckley	