



Catholic Parish of Blackfriars

Issue 47
8 October 2017

Under the care of the Dominican Fathers

Year A



VERITAS

TWENTY SEVENTH 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 &
Antill Street, Watson ACT

Postal Address

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Office Staff

Jacque Cortese

Jim Smith

Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday,

Thursday, Friday

9.00am—12.30pm

Parish Council

Andrew Blakey

Mass times

Wed 5.30pm

Tues & Thurs 6.45am

Fri 5.30pm

Saturday 5pm (Vigil)

Sunday 8am, 10am & 5pm

9am Mass Saturday & Public

Holidays

excluding Mondays

Pray the Rosary

Wed & Fri before 5.30pm Mass

Saturday after 9am Mass

and First Saturday each month

3.30pm

Reconciliation

Saturday 12pm—12.30pm

and 4pm—4.30pm

ACU Chapel Signadou

Tues 12.30pm

Wed & Thurs 12.30pm

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

Don't Bite

the Hand



that Feeds You

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

ENTRANCE	Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	Alleluia, alleluia! I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. Alleluia!
COMMUNION	The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.
READINGS	Isaiah 5:1-7 Philippian 4:6-9 Matthew 21:33-43



PSALM : 79:9. 12-16. 19-20

The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.

You brought a vine out of Egypt;
to plant it you drove out the nations.
It stretched out its branches to the sea,
to the Great River it stretched out its shoots.

Then why have you broken down its walls?
It is plucked by all who pass by.
It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,
devoured by the beasts of the field.

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted.

And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name.
God of hosts, bring us back;
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.

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, please let us know.

CARPARK

The carpark will be reserved during the week and available to parishioners and guests for funerals, special Masses and functions.

HEAVENLY PUDDINGS

Every year Father Mac's Heavenly Puddings raise much needed funds to help other communities and charities. This year, we would like to help our Aussie farmers who are experiencing severe drought conditions, and we need your help to do so. By purchasing a pudding, you are doing your part in providing much needed relief to desperate families. Puddings 800gm - \$20, 1.6kg - \$35 and introducing 100gm single serve 4 pack \$20.00 You can purchase puddings by Phone: 02 6628 5474 or email: faterhmc@nor.com.au - web address <http://fathermac.org.au/>

ROSARY SUNDAY



*Twenty-Seventh Sunday of the Year.
Fr Malcolm McMahon OP helps us to see
how physical signs can make God present to us.*

The first Sunday in the month of October, in Dominican churches was celebrated as Rosary Sunday until the calendar was reformed in the 1960s. So now we celebrate the 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time. No matter how we try to explain this change I think something has been lost in the transition.

On Rosary Sunday, roses were blessed at Mass and then distributed to the people with the charge to take them home. The prayer of blessing says that God has given these roses so that we may enjoy their pleasing fragrance and that the sick persons to whom they are brought may be healed of their infirmities. There is something very tangible about a rose, especially if a thorn pricks your finger; and their scent can invade our senses in an uplifting and spiritual way. There is no doubt that natural symbols like the blessed rose give us a very strong hint of God's unfailing love for whether we are sick or healthy. That is easy to grasp when we are ill but the problem for us when we are healthy is that we don't always realise how much we need God's love and mercy. In today's Gospel the tenants of the vineyard become consumed with their own well being and power and they chose to forget that the vineyard is not theirs, but is the property of the landlord. They even go to the extent of seizing the landlord's son and killing him.

This parable rather obviously alludes to the way in which God's son, Jesus, was rejected and died for us on the cross. Nowadays it is very easy for us to forget that we are dependent on God for every moment of our life. The truth is that it is God's love and mercy for each of us individually that sustains us in our being. We tend to ignore this purposely or simply forget this fact as the cares of life overtake us. But there are times in our lives when we are pulled up in our tracks, and realise just how much we rely on God. Many people suffer these shocks and surprises more than once in their lives. It could be the death of someone very close to us, or being made redundant from work. On the other hand it could be something joyous such as the experience of a pilgrimage or a golden wedding anniversary. At these key points in our life on earth we realise deeply that God is holding us in the palm of his hand. But that moment of clarity usually comes to us in a physical or natural means. So I come back to the blessed rose.

The simple and fragrant rose so redolent of the power of God's love for us can help us stay in touch with God. In a small way this gift from God can help us open our minds and hearts to the divine gift of the Son of God. The best way to find the Son is to get amongst the places where he is to be found, that is amongst the poor and marginalised, and especially amongst those who have forgotten that the created world in which we live belongs to God, and not to the human race. The prick of a rose thorn may wake us up to this fact, just as its fragrance reminds us that it is God, and God alone, who heals us and lifts us up.

In Your Prayers please remember those in our community who are ill:	Elizabeth Cronin, Maureen Blood, Fr Ellis Clifford, Philip Bailey, Dion Convine, Edith Jensen, Nell Burns, Richard Johnson, Alexia Harris, Joe Schimizzi, Rosemary Denmead, Philip Bailey, Jim Burgess, Mary Bui, Mary Harrigan, Elizabeth Webster, Rosa Maria Santos, Beth Delos Santos, Barbara Wilson, Awny El-Ghitany, Elsie Loughton, Lynn & Richard Bale, Patricia Zorzi, Maria Martiniello
Please remember our deceased:	Fr Phil Harding, Monica Bourke, Antonio Pellegrino, Eileen Liston, John Downes, Kevin Ford, Nadeel Qurashi
In loving memory	Giustino Gambacorta

BAPTISM

Henry Adam Harris

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.



FRUITFULNESS

Both the First Reading and the Gospel tell a story about a vineyard. In each story, the Lord of the vineyard gives good soil, choice vines, and ample protection for the vineyard. But then he does not receive the good fruit that the vineyard should have given him, either because the vineyard doesn't produce good fruit or because the tenants won't give the good fruit to him. There are penalties for this failure to give fruit to the Lord. The unfruitful vineyard is left to go to ruin. The tenants who won't give the fruit to the Lord lose their lives and their vineyard, which is given to others. The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience and long-suffering. These fearful penalties are not so hard to understand. Failure to be fruitful is punished by the loss of the gifts that might have yielded fruit and by the death of the unfruitful recipients of those gifts. But what is the fruitfulness which it is so fearful not to have? Do we have to do the most possible good for the poor? Do we have to be highly effective at ministry? Are we supposed to work around the clock, so that we can use our gifts to the fullest? What about our jobs? Are we unfruitful if we are unemployed? How hard do we have to work in order not to count as unfruitful? How successful do we have to be at that work? The thing to notice here is that all these questions rest on a false presupposition. The fruitfulness at issue doesn't come from our work. In both the stories, the owner of the vineyard, who is God, plants the vines, spades the soil, removes the stones, and protects the vineyard. If the vines bear fruit, it is because it is God who worked so hard at the vineyard. So also our fruitfulness comes not from our own work, but from the work of God's Spirit in us. We cannot work our way into heaven! And what about the fruit God is looking for in us? This fruit is not our awards and achievements. It is the fruit that God's Spirit works in us. And the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience and long-suffering. God has planted himself deep within us in the indwelling Holy Spirit. No lack of success in work, no lack of work itself, can keep us from responding to him with love and joy and the rest. And these are what make us fruitful for the Lord.

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

ADVENT / CHRISTMAS PLANNING

Anyone interested in assisting in the planning and preparation of the Advent & Christmas liturgies are invited to a meeting at the Parish Centre on Monday 9th October at 7.30pm.

THE REAL STORY

This Sunday we hear two stories about a vineyard. . The First Reading tells about "a friend" who carefully built a vineyard, clearing stones, building a watchtower, planting the choicest vines. He even "hewed out a wine press." But his vineyard yielded bad grapes. In vivid language, God tells the chief priests and elders that they themselves are this vineyard and that he is going to destroy them and trample them down because they would not let God's love grow up among them!

Then in the Gospel Jesus takes the same tale and embroiders it. In just one sentence he handles the part about planting a vineyard, digging the wine press, building the tower. Does God punish those who fail to produce? But then he goes further. He has the owner rent his rich vineyard to tenants (as was the custom). The he trusts his tenants to raise choice grapes. When in due season he sends servants to collect the yield—which must have been great because the tenants dishonestly want to keep everything, including the vineyard—they beat or stoned or even killed his servants! In a surprising twist to the tale, seemingly an implausible one, Jesus says that the owner kindly decides to send his own son. He thinks that the tenants will surely respect his beloved offspring. Would you have done this? Wouldn't you have said, "I will keep my family away from these criminals"? I surely would have. Not this owner. He sent his beloved son directly into the trap. The tenants kill him. The owner has spent all his resources, even his own son, with no response. So at last he ejects the tenants and gives care of his vineyard to people who will listen. Our First Reading tells the dishonest vineyard that God will make it a ruin: it shall not be pruned or hoed, but will be overgrown with thorns and briars. The details of these two parables are different, aren't they? But aren't they the same story, about *God punishing those who fail to produce?*

Does God punish those who fail to produce? Be careful, because the stories do not turn out to be identical at all. As Jesus puts it, have you never read in the scriptures that, the stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; by the Lord has this been done, and it is wonderful in our eyes. This is not a generic condemnation of disobedient servants. The person who is telling this parable is *himself the very "stone that the builders rejected"*! Our repeated failure to accept God's love has resulted now in a final invitation, one concerning the teller of the tale, God's own child. Yet we continue to tell Jesus' story of his love and his suffering, and of God's love brought to fulfilment in his life. We will hear it on Sunday in a parable. Be sure to listen. John Foley, SJ

A TRUE VINEYARD

The church is the vineyard of the Lord. It has been placed by God "on a fertile hillside; he spaded it, cleared it of stones, and planted the choicest vines." Unfortunately, what grows in this vineyard is often not a crop of grapes but wild fruit, of no use to the master. We have within our community a good share of selfishness, power grabbing, and short-sightedness. The very same social ills that we see in the world at large can be found right here within our own community: racism, sexism, economic injustice, and marginalization. We pray that God "forgive our failings." We hope that God will "take care of this vine, and protect what your right hand has planted." The challenge is for us to become a true vineyard of the Lord, free of all the sinful conditions that we lament in the world. We work for the day when Christians will form a Christian community united in love and service. Is it too much to hope for? No, it is not, as long as we maintain our faith in our God, who can "lead us to seek beyond our reach." Although the Catholic Church has been endowed with all divinely revealed truth and with all means of grace, her members fail to live by them with all the fervor they should. As a result, the radiance of the Church's face shines less brightly in the eyes of our separated brethren and of the world at large, and the growth of God's kingdom is retarded. Every Catholic must therefore aim at Christian perfection and, each according to their station, play their part so that the Church ... may daily be more purified and renewed. Gerald Darrin

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

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 3.30pm 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

Can you Share your Marriage Journey with Young Couples? Ministry to the Newly Married is a mentoring program for Couples in the first five years of their marriage. The mentors are Catholic couples, married at least ten years, who share their marriage journey through a series of four talks each year. A very supportive environment is provided to help prepare for each talk. If you would like to assist young couples, please contact Debbie & Brian Kensey on 0414 878 167 or mnm@grapevine.com.au.

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

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

13 October - BLACK FRIDAY TRIVIA

The Calvary Hospital Auxiliary is holding a Trivia night on Friday 13th October at 7.00pm at the Belconnen Labour Club. All profits from the evening will go towards purchasing equipment for the Calvary Public Hospital. Come along and have an enjoyable night out while supporting this hard-working and enthusiastic group of volunteers. Cost is \$20/head and enquiries to Daphne Ashley 62547409.

13 October - HEALING MASS

St Benedict's Mission Centre invites all to a Mass for stillborn, miscarried & aborted babies at St Benedict's Church Narrabundah.

13 October - JAM FOR REFUGEES

Jam for Refugees is a ten hour concert consisting of a series of 30 minute acts by some of Canberra's finest musicians. The concert will take place in All Saints Anglican Church Ainslie from 10.30am to 8.30pm Friday 13 October. Information jamforrefugees@gmail.com

13 October - FATIMA 100th ANNIVERSARY

Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Mercy "Penrose Park" near Berrima Friday 13th October for Fatima Day. Coach departs from St Joseph's Church, O'Connor 7.30am.

For Bookings: Phone Judy & Joe Mewburn on 6254 6202

17 October - ACU LECTURE

Blackfriars Lecture '**Ahead of the game: recognising the opportunities for the ageing population**' Public Lecture by Dr Kay Patterson AO. On Tuesday 17 October - 5.30pm registration & refreshments 6pm-7pm Lecture. Cost - free, invite family, friends and colleagues. Lecture in Room 300.G.23 Blackfriars Building. RSVP 13 October - registrations essential - OCD.Canberra@acu.edu.au - or 6209 1129

18 October - PUBLIC FORUM FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

This year, the Public Forum on the Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement: *Everyone's Business: Developing an inclusive and sustainable economy* is to be held from 7.30pm at the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, Barton. Fr Frank Brennan AO SJ is the keynote speaker with the evening moderated by Dr Helen Watchirs OAM, Enquiries to Robyn Coghlan 6254 0487 (CES) or email Social.Justice@cg.org.au (CSJC).

10 November – REXBAND

"Concert at Queanbeyan Bicentennial Hall" - Alphonsa Syro-Malabar parish community extend an invitation to one and all to join them for a concert with the Rexband from India. The Rexband are associated with the Jesus Youth movement and they will share the Good News of the Gospel through a three hour performance of lively music, which promises to be a fun and memorable evening for anyone who comes along. **Online Tickets:** <https://www.trybooking.com/RLQA> <https://www.trybooking.com/306644> <http://stalphonsa.com.au/>

ROSTERS 14 / 15 October 2017

Saturday 5.00 pm Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	R. Paul	
Readers	P. English	E. Smith
Presentation of Gifts	N. Higgins	
EMOE	T. O'Neill	

Sunday 8.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	F. Bertrand	
Readers	N. Clarke	G. Thompson
Presentation of Gifts	Lestone Family	
EMOE	M. Falk	

Sunday 10.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	Q. Vu	
Readers	C. Barn	M. Fitzgerald
Presentation of Gifts	Vu Family	
EMOE	E. Musolino	M. Mastrolemba

Sunday 5.00pm Day Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	T. Leota	
Readers	J. Cooke	
Presentation of Gifts	J. Curnow	
EMOE	K. Kralikas	C. Mackay
Counters	R. Walpole	T. Ryan