



# Catholic Parish of Blackfriars

Issue 51  
5 November 2017

Under the care of the Dominican Fathers

Year A



## VERITAS

## THIRTY FIRST 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

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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

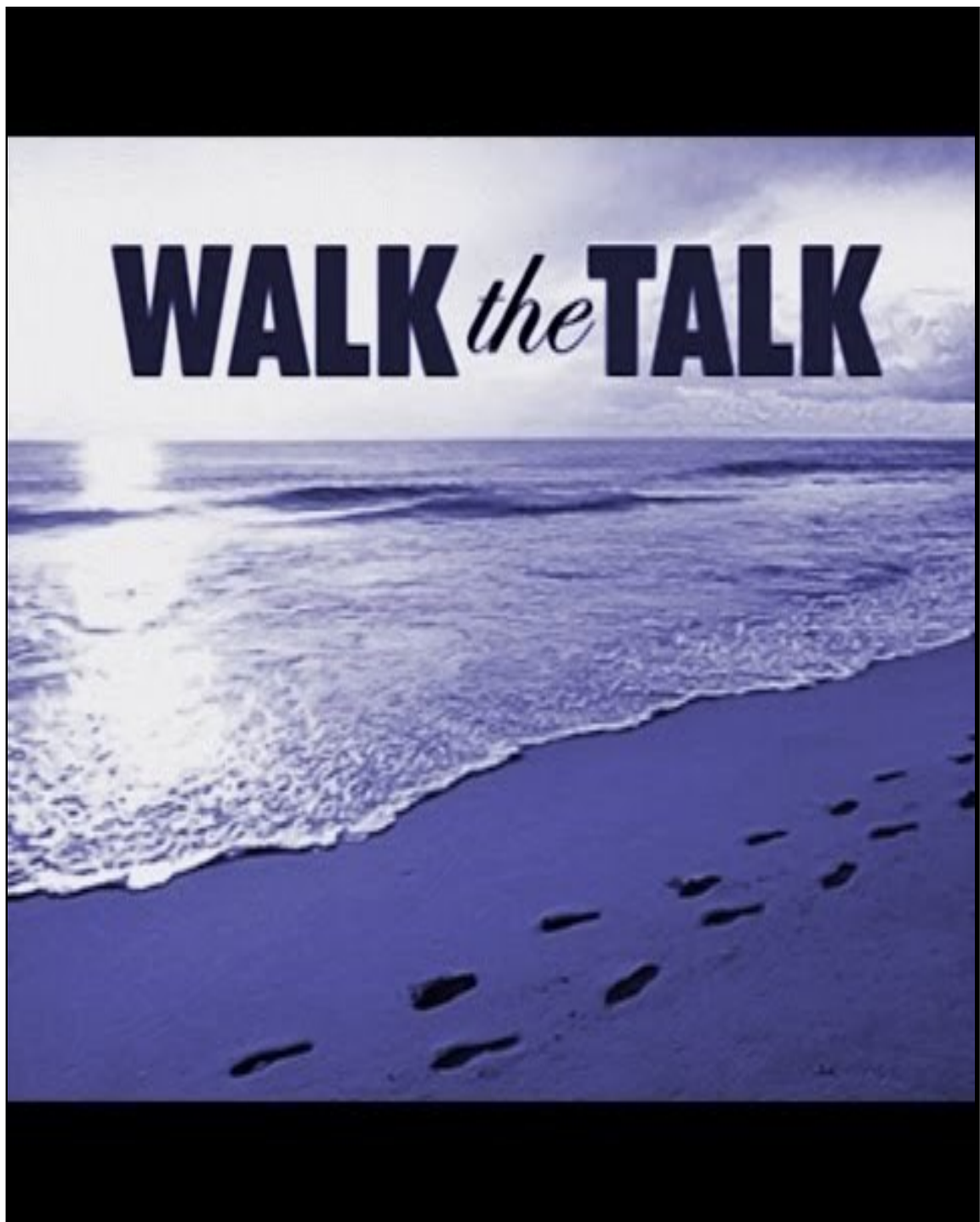
and 4pm—4.30pm

*ACU Chapel Signadou*

Tues 12.30pm

Wed & Thurs 12.30pm

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



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

<b>ENTRANCE</b>	Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me! Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation!
<b>GOSPEL ACCLAMATION</b>	Alleluia, alleluia! You have one Father, your Father in heaven; you have one teacher: the Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia!
<b>COMMUNION</b>	You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.
<b>READINGS</b>	Malachi 1:14 - 2:2. 8-10 1 Thessalonians 2:7-9. 13 Gospel: Matthew 23:1-12

## SAVE THE DATE

### PARISH CHRISTMAS GET-TOGETHER

Join us for Christmas cheer on Saturday evening 13th December, at 6.00pm.

#### CHICKEN WILL BE PROVIDED

People with surnames

A - L : please bring a dessert

M - Z : please bring a salad

Our Parish is made up of many people from different lands, if you have a favourite national dish and would like to share a little of your culture please bring a plate. BYO drinks

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM : 130

In you, Lord, I have found my peace.

O Lord, my heart is not proud  
nor haughty my eyes.

I have not gone after things too great  
nor marvels beyond me.

Truly I have set my soul  
in silence and peace.

A weaned child on its mother's breast,  
even so is my soul.

O Israel, hope in the Lord  
both now and for ever.

In you, Lord, I have found my peace.

### MELBOURNE CUP



Tuesday, 7 November  
our Parish will have a  
Melbourne Cup Lunch  
in the Parish Centre.  
Lunch will start at  
1pm.  
Cost \$10.00.

Sweeps will be available. A 'Hat Parade' with prizes. Join us for good company and lots of fun! For catering purposes please RSVP by 30th Oct. by either the form in the foyer or call the office 6248 5925

### CONGRATULATIONS

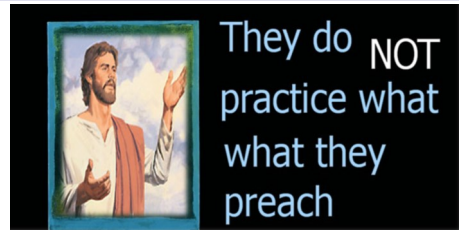
#### Elly & Michael



### LIVING THE FAITH

"Faith gives us the promise of peace and makes known the demands of love." And what love demands is service: "The greatest among you will be the one who serves the rest." The problem is that selfishness blurs the vision of faith, and so we break faith with each other, thereby violating the covenant of our fathers.

We people of religion are all too often like the Pharisees, laying heavy loads on other people's shoulders without lifting a finger to budge them ourselves. Instead of judging the poor, we should be serving them through our efforts on behalf of economic justice. Instead of criticizing those of other races, we should be serving them through our efforts on behalf of racial justice. Instead of ignoring the homeless, we should be serving them through our efforts on behalf of adequate housing for all. "May we live the faith we profess." Our faith tells us that we are all brothers and sisters: "Have we not all the one Father?" The way to live this faith is to build a human community of love and justice, and the first step in doing this is the acknowledgment of our failings and the offering of a pure sacrifice for the forgiveness of our sins. God's word proclaims the oneness of the human family—from the first words of Genesis, to the 'Come, Lord Jesus' of the Book of Revelation. God's word in Genesis announces that all men and women are created in God's image; not just some races and racial types, but all bear the imprint of the Creator and are enlivened by the breath of his one Spirit. [Gerald Darring](http://liturgy.slu.edu/)



### A MOTHERING GOD

In the Psalm, the Psalmist compares God to a mother, and he compares himself to a weaned child at peace on its mother's lap. This is a striking image, and worth reflecting on. How can a child who is being weaned and is also on his mother's lap understand the suffering of the weaning? What he wants is right there; there is nothing bad about his having it—it costs his mother nothing to satisfy him; the pain of doing without it is sharp and urgent. And so for a while the child will be overwhelmed by the misery of his situation. Tasting the goodness of God makes seeing the world's evils and our own compatible with joy in the Lord.

But sooner or later in his affliction he will also see his mother, and that makes all the difference. His desire for what she will not give him is still urgent, and the pain of the deprivation remains sharp. But in seeing her, he feels her love of him. He senses her goodness, and he comes to trust her. As Isaiah puts it, he sucks consolation to the full in another way (Is 66:11).

And that is how he can be both weaned and also resting peacefully by her side. If a truly good God rules the world, then the world has a good mother, and life is under the mothering guidance of God. Even the most loathsome evils and the most horrendous sufferings are in the hand of a God who is truly good.

Nothing in this thought makes evil less evil. Suffering remains painful; violence and greed are still execrable. We still have an obligation to lessen the misery of others and our own troubles retain their power to torment us. But it makes a great difference to suppose that the sufferers of evil, maybe ourselves included, are in the arms of a mothering God. Tasting the goodness of God makes seeing the world's evils and our own compatible with joy in the Lord. [Eleonore Stump](http://liturgy.slu.edu/)

*You do not need to know precisely what is happening, or exactly where it is all going. What you need is to recognize the possibilities and challenges offered by the present moment, and to embrace them with courage, faith and hope."*  
— Thomas Merton



<b>In Your Prayers please remember those in our community who are ill:</b>	Elizabeth Cronin, Maureen Blood, Fr Ellis Clifford, Philip Bailey, Mary Bui, Edith Jensen, Alexia Harris, Rosemary Denmead, Jim Burgess, Mary Harrigan, Elizabeth Webster, Rosa Maria Santos, Beth Delos Santos, Barbara Wilson, Elsie Loughton, Lynn & Richard Bale, Patricia Zorzi, Maria Martiniello, Mimma Giampietro, Fr Simon Falk, Charles Ryan
<b>Please remember our deceased:</b>	Nell Byrne, Jack Olsson, Judy Ramage
<b>In loving memory</b>	Christian Vartholomes, Ethel West, Cecil West, Br Dave Merrick MSC

## ST VINCENT DE PAUL

**CHRISTMAS APPEAL** - There will be a leaving collection on the weekend of 11th and 12th November for your donations.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS & CALENDARS** - You can purchase Christmas Cards and Columban Calendars in the foyer from this weekend. Cards \$8.00, Calendars \$10.00

**HAMPER DONATIONS** - A box is now in the back of the church for your hamper donations. Hamper List: Biscuits (tins for seniors are popular), shortbreads & savoury biscuits also. Puddings this includes plum puddings, jellies, fruit or pudding mixes. Jams, Pickles, Tomato Sauce, Vegemite, Pasta, Rice. Some tinned Food eg. beetroot, peas, beans, corn, baked beans, spaghetti, salmon & ham. Cake mixes, muffins, pan-cakes etc. Tea & Coffee, Packets of Cereal, Lollies. Toys, colouring books & pencils, books etc. Small gifts for older persons.

**We are no longer permitted to include nuts or nut products. For health and safety reasons we CANNOT accept food stuffs that are out of date.** Your donations are appreciated.

## HUMILITY

It is one of the most misunderstood virtues. It does not involve an attitude of submission or weakness. It is rather an attitude of willingness to accept help. No one is truly self-sufficient. We all lack some skill or ability, perhaps several. Arrogance is the feeling that we are totally in control and need no outside aid.

'The priests and Pharisees wielded tremendous power in their day. They demonstrated this assumed authority in their dress, mannerisms and demand for attention. Do you seek assistance or refuse to ask for it or accept it when proffered? The difference shows your humility or pride.'

Fr Richard Lonsdale

## WHERE THE HELL IS GOD?

This telling book by Australian Jesuit, Fr Richard Leonard SJ, springs from the tragedy of his sister becoming a quadriplegic as the result of a car accident. In the Preface he writes:

'I think that one of the greatest points of the incarnation, of God becoming one with us in Jesus Christ, is precisely that God wants to reveal his ways and thoughts, wants to be known, especially in regard to the moments when we are sometimes given to the greatest despair.

'The life, death, and resurrection of Jesus show us that God has grafted himself onto human history in the most intimate of ways. We do not believe and love an aloof being who revels in mystery and goes AWOL when the action turns tough in our lives. The incarnation surely shows us that God is committed to being a participant in the human adventure in all its complexity and pain.'

## NOVEMBER MASS BOOK

November Mass offering envelopes are available with the November Mass book on the altar and Holy Water fonts.

## HUMBLE CONTRADICTIONS

Jesus devises a puzzle for us this Sunday. And then he makes a remark that contradicts itself.

Do I have your attention?

First the puzzle. "Call no one on earth your father," he says.

"You have but one Father in heaven" (Gospel). What can this mean? "Father," or its equivalent, is one of the most widely used names in the world! We say it in many ways to our dad (father, daddy, pa, pop, papa, and in Ireland da, etc.). Also, the normal address for a priest is "Father." Some believe this name should not be used for a cleric, because of the Gospel passage we are examining.

Let God be the Father of your children, and let you be the eyes, ears and hands that God works through.

Let's look at it. "You have but one Father in heaven," Jesus tells us. This is profoundly accurate. Next to God's beautiful, tender parental love (Second Reading), you and I are just pale imitations of fathers or mothers or priests. We become competitors with God, I suppose.

But if we are not trying to compete with God for the name Father, we are trying to partake in it, to be vessels from which it is poured. Couldn't we be called "father" because we humbly accept God's own fatherhood and motherhood, which he wants to place around our shoulders like a cape? This would mean we are part of the Body of Christ, showing the world what the Father's love looks like.

Why didn't Jesus say it that way? Many answers exist, some of which you can read on other parts of this week's website. But maybe he meant, "Let no man usurp the name of God and use it for himself, forgetting all about God's part in it. Let God be the Father of your children, and let you be the eyes, ears and hands that God works through. This understanding would make Father's Day and Mother's day deeply meaningful times.

Second, the contradiction.

Jesus proclaims, "Whoever exalts himself will be humbled. But whoever humbles himself will be exalted" (Matthew 23:12). What kind of sense does this make? If I am lowly, the result would seem to be, quite simply, that I am not exalted. The Gospel reverses this logic and thus presents an enigma.

Agreed, but allow me to use a simple metaphor. Suppose you have a water-glass filled to the top with hardened concrete. Are you able to pour water into it? No. Same thing for our souls. When they are hardened as with cement, nothing much else gets in.

If we perform our works in order to be exalted, if we crave places of honor, if we are very fond of being hailed "in the marketplace"—none of which are such bad or evil desires but still—as a result, our souls can harden like concrete so there is no room left for the cooling spring-water of God's presence. Paradoxically, God "exalts" us by entering humbly into our deepest soul. How does such an entrance feel? Look at Sunday's Responsorial Psalm. It has only three lines total but its gentle tone describes what it is like to be exalted by God. One becomes "like a weaned child on its mother's lap."

Why not press this link or open your bible and take time with such a beautiful psalm.

The answer to the puzzle and the contradiction? Riches honor and pride sweep us off God's lap. Weaned humility lets us be cozy, down where we belong.

John Foley, SJ <http://liturgy.slu.edu/>

## JOY

Joy is what makes life worth living, but for many joy seems hard to find. They complain that their lives are sorrowful and depressing. What then brings the joy we so much desire? Strange as it may sound, we can choose joy. Two people can be part of the same event, but one may choose to live it quite differently from the other. One may choose to trust that what happened, painful as it may be, holds promise. The other may choose despair and be destroyed by it. What makes us human is precisely this freedom of choice.

Henri Nouwen,

## HOLY ROSARY CHURCH ACTIVITIES

**Choir Practices for Advent and Christmas** will commence on **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November**, at 7.30 pm in the church. If you would like to double your joy in the Christmas liturgies, come and sing with us. There are only six practices. To supplement the traditional and Australian carols, we will be learning a lovely new Christmas lullaby this year. No musical qualifications needed. We can all sing.

**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 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

*Adam & Eve the first people to not read the Apple Terms & Conditions*

**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 (6mths) and Baptisms. **It is difficult to keep track of Parishioners requests if they do not come through the Office.**

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. a minimum two weeks notice is required.

# EVENTS

## 4 November - CHOIR MEMBERS WANTED

You are invited to join a choir - drawn from Canberra and surrounds - for an enjoyable evening of singing Carols, Chant, and Sacred Polyphony. The carol service will be held on Sunday, December 10 at 7.30 PM. Rehearsals begin Saturday, November 04. Contact: Maria Henry on [mrhny@gmail.com](mailto:mrhny@gmail.com).

## 18 November - "CATHOLIC MILITARY FUNDRAISING DINNER"

The Knights of the Southern Cross Canberra Branch (KSC) will host the dinner at the Holy Trinity Parish Centre, Strangways Street, Curtin ACT from 7.30pm. Cost: \$50.00 per person for a 2 course hot buffet dinner. BYO but juice and soft drinks will be provided. Guest speaker is Deacon Brenton Fry (RMC Chaplain and former SAS soldier). Envelopes will be available on each table for tax deductible donations to assist in the training of Catholic military chaplains. There are only 75 seats. Contact: Bob Perkins on 6247 2977.

## 28 November - GALA DINNER

**Living the Gospel today - Next Steps to re-imagining Our Parish Communities**. Media personality, Geraldine Doogue will be keynote speaker at a gala dinner, hosted by St Gregory's Parish Pastoral Council, Queanbeyan. Date: Tuesday 28 November. Venue: Queanbeyan Roos Club. Tickets: \$60. Bookings: [www.stgregorysparishqueanbeyan.com](http://www.stgregorysparishqueanbeyan.com) Inquiries: (02) 6299 4611, email [queanbeyan@cg.org.au](mailto:queanbeyan@cg.org.au)

## 7 - 9 December - ACYF GATHERING

The Archdiocese of Sydney is hosting the Festival from December 7th to 9th. The Festival will launch the National Year of Youth, celebrating ten years on from hosting World Youth Day 2008. For more information and registration: [www.cgyouthministry.org.au/acyf](http://www.cgyouthministry.org.au/acyf)

## February 2018 - INDIA TOUR

Bookings for the Christian tour to India in February 2018, "One Heart and One Soul" will be closing shortly. Please contact Marie Fonseca the organiser on 02 9344 0523 or 0418 265117, Email: [info@spiceodyssey.net.au](mailto:info@spiceodyssey.net.au) Website: [www.spiceodyssey.net.au](http://www.spiceodyssey.net.au) flyer.

**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: [fathermac@nor.com.au](mailto:fathermac@nor.com.au) - web address <http://fathermac.org.au/>

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

## ROSTERS 11 / 12 November 2017

### Saturday 5.00 pm Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	M. Tran	
Readers	M. Pentony	J. de Riva O'Phelan
Presentation of Gifts	C. Lewis	
EMOE	A. Moore	K. Murphy

### Sunday 8.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	F. Bertrand	
Readers	M. Gallagher	E. Smith
Presentation of Gifts	Lestone Family	
EMOE	E. Smith	

### Sunday 10.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	R. Tanzer	
Readers	C. Rheinberger	N. Price
Presentation of Gifts	E. Musolino	
EMOE	B. Affas	S. Tanzer

### Sunday 5.00pm Day Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	Volunteer	
Readers	J. Curnow	T. Malone
Presentation of Gifts	Malone Family	
EMOE	K. Kralikas	C. Mackay
Counters	G. Gleeson	C. Barn