



Catholic Parish of Blackfriars

Issue 53
19 November 2017

Under the care of the Dominican Fathers

Year A



VERITAS

THIRTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

HOLY ROSARY CHURCH

Parish Priest

Fr Kieran Adams OP

Assistant Priests

Fr Rafael Cabezón OP

Fr Bernie Maxwell OP

Holy Rosary Church

Cnr Phillip Avenue &
Antill Street, Watson ACT

Postal Address

PO Box 900, Dickson

Ph. 6248 5925 Ph. 6248 5085

Fax 6248 7564

Email: watson@cg.org.au

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

Office Staff

Jacquie 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

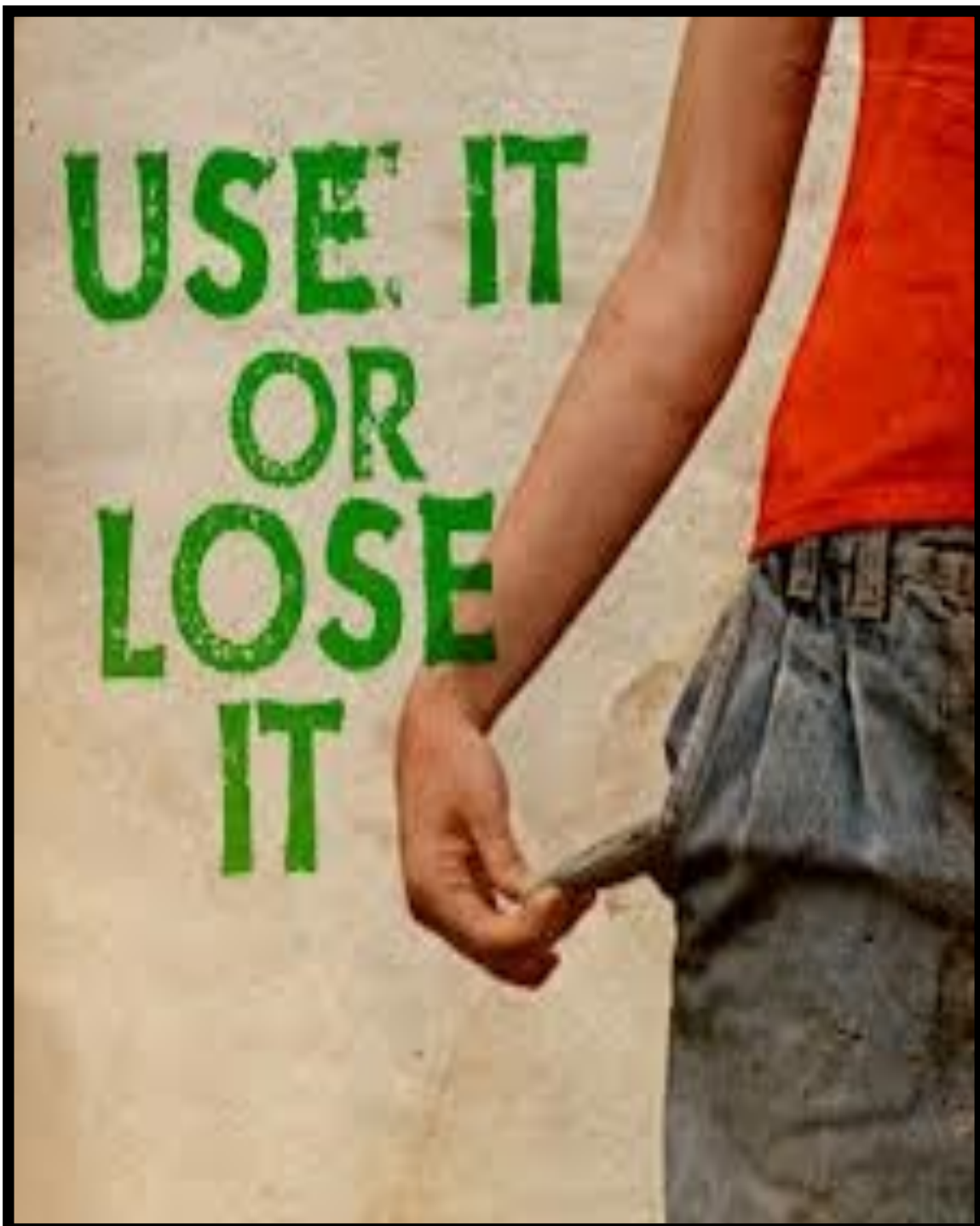
and 4pm—4.30pm

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.

ENTRANCE	The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	Alleluia, alleluia! Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. Alleluia!
COMMUNION	To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.
READINGS	Proverbs 31:10-13. 19-20. 30-31 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6 Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

PSALM : 127:1-5

Happy are those who fear the Lord.

O blessed are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be happy and prosper.

Your wife like a fruitful vine
in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive,
around your table.

Indeed thus shall be blessed
the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion
in a happy Jerusalem
all the days of your life.

Happy are those who fear the Lord.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

The Christmas Mass Times are now
Available. Please make sure you take one
home. There some important Mass Time
changes and cancellations.

PARISH CHRISTMAS GET-TOGETHER

Join us for Christmas cheer on
Saturday evening 9th 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 to share.

BYO drinks

TALENTS

Jesus is telling us that we are not here in this world to play safe. Of course we are to avoid doing wrong - that much is essential, but it is not enough. We are to make the best possible use of our time, our talents and our opportunities. Everything we have, whether in the spiritual or the material sphere, even life itself, is a 'talent' entrusted to us by the Lord, and we must 'use it or lose it'. 'God does not need any return from us, but He requires it - for the good of our fellow men and women.

TRUE HUMILITY AND TALENTS

Some people think that humility is a matter of taking yourself to be small, unworthy, not up for much. But, in the Gospel parable, the servant who thinks he is too little to do much with his talent is dismissed as wicked and useless, and his talent is taken away from him. The Lord doesn't praise him for humility. So what is humility? It is the opposite of pride—but what is pride? Pride isn't thinking that there is some excellence, some talent, in yourself when there really is. Rather, pride is a failure to recognize that talent as given by the Lord. Everything is gift, and everything is meant to be given back in service of love for the Lord. And so, of course, we are small and unworthy. What else would we be? Our talents are not a function of what we are and can do. Every excellence in us is a gift of the Lord's. We can acknowledge the excellence that is truly in us without danger of pride, provided we remember that such excellence comes from the Lord. Not only that, but in the Gospel Reading our Lord announces a funny distribution principle: to him who has, more will be given. So here is the idea. A person who does not refuse a gift of the Lord's receives it and consequently has more. Then, because he has more, the Lord will offer him another gift. If he does not refuse that new gift, it will be given—and so he will have more. And then more will be given to him. And so on and on, till a person blazes in glory for the Lord. Unlike the useless servant in the parable, then, we can aim as high as we like, with true humility, provided we recognize as gift every excellence we have. Everything is gift, and everything is meant to be given back in service of love for the Lord.

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

WHAT IS ENTRUSTED US

The Gospel parable is about a man entrusting his servants with his property, and the point it makes concerns the need for fidelity in caring for what belongs to the master. God our master has left us with the earth, not to do with it what we want but to care for it even as we live off of its abundant riches. God created the land to support living things: What will happen when God returns to find so much land strip-mined, strip-cleared, eroded, and burdened with toxic waste? God created the waters to support living things: What will happen when God returns to find the oceans and rivers polluted with our garbage and chemical by-products? God created the air to support living things: What will happen when God returns to find smog and holes in the ozone? God created plants and animals to live on this wonderful earth and revel in its beauty: What will happen when God returns to find so many of them driven to extinction by our destructive practices? "Father of all that is good, keep us faithful in serving you." May we learn to care better for the Master's goods so that when the Master returns, we will hear those blessed words: "Well done! Come and share your master's joy." Men and women bear a unique responsibility under God to safeguard the created world and by their creative labour even to enhance it. Safeguarding creation requires us to live responsibly within it, rather than manage creation as though we are outside it. The human family is charged with preserving the beauty, diversity and integrity of nature as well as fostering its productivity.

Gerald Darring <http://liturgy.slu.edu/>

GROWTH ~ This Gospel reminds us that Christian spirituality is not passive or inactive. Our life of prayer helps us to discern the gifts that have been given to us by God. This prayer and discernment ought to lead us to use our gifts in the service of God and our neighbour. God's grace allows us to share in the work of serving the Kingdom of Heaven.

In Your Prayers please remember those in our community who are ill:	Elizabeth Cronin, Maureen Blood, Fr Ellis Clifford, Philip Bailey, Mary Bui, Dion Convine, Edith Jensen, Alexia Harris, Joe Schimizzi, Mary Harrigan, Rosemary Denmead, Philip Bailey, Elizabeth Webster, Rosa Maria Santos, Beth Delos Santos, Barbara Wilson, Awny El-Ghitany, Elsie Laughton, Lynn & Richard Bale, Patricia Zorzi, Maria Martiniello, Mimma Giampietro, Fr Simon Falk, Charles Ryan, Ray Ramsay
Please remember our deceased:	Nell Byrnes, Gregory Butler
In loving memory	Elizabeth Hall, Helen (Jelica) Zobec

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

CHRISTMAS CARDS & CALENDARS - You can purchase Christmas Cards and Columban Calendars in the foyer. 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 very 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 eg. cup cakes, muffins pancakes 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 greatly appreciated.

LITURGICAL ROSTER

Please join us by volunteering to participate in the weekend liturgies. Rosters for January to June 2015 are currently being prepared if you wish to be a part of the weekend liturgy. Please use the form in the foyer to sign up. For those already on the roster - if you wish to come off the roster or make a change please use the form to do so. It will be assumed that if you do not sign the list you are still available to be rostered on.

BEING CHRISTIAN

'In the parable, the first two are rewarded handsomely, they are called "good and worthy". The third one is called "wicked and lazy, good-for-nothing (literally), dis-interest-ed" (again, quite literally, he made no interest). He is condemned. It's a surprise to us: but he didn't do anything wrong, did he? Did he?

'For Matthew, the greatest talent is a talent for relationship.... You could call it "grace". In contrast to all the others, Matthew's message is simple, but direct. Grace employed abundantly. Grace buried does nothing. Use your grace. Let it live. The result is: more and deeper relationship.

'It is beautiful to be a Christian, it gives a person wings to fly. The Christian way is a project into the future we make by relationship. It is a living out of a great total idea, with a concentration on what is important and essential - relationship. If the church lives like that, it grows younger all the time, it doesn't grow old. It is in touch with a God who is at the origin of new youth and new life through relationship. Our mission, should we choose to accept it, is to use it and build a relational future for our world. Get going!

From the Redemptorists

As Advent/Christmas is approaching our contact with parishioners is through the bulletin. Please make sure you read or take home the Bulletin for current news and information.

THE TRUTH THAT SETS US FREE

*Twenty-Third Sunday of the Year.
Fr Timothy Calvert OP insists that
only adherence to the truth of Christ
can bring an end to human conflict.*

The Gospel pictures a very different world from the brutalising insistence upon conflict that mars our society. Jesus knows there will be conflict between Christians. He calls men and women to form the Church in this world in which we live, a world damaged by sin and the consequences of sin. But this conflict is to be wholly and completely moderated by the truth - the truth about God and the truth about ourselves.

When one Christian has a case against another, the first step will be an attempt at private reconciliation. This protects both parties from humiliation, and from forming a public position they cannot back away from. Only when this fails are witnesses brought forward, and after that it is brought before the Church publicly. This is perhaps a mirror image of our world, where we rush to public conflict, and only resort to personal reconciliation when all else has failed. What Jesus calls us to is an unrelenting insistence upon the truth, a commitment to the truth whatever it takes, resisting the simplicity of the Punch and Judy show at all costs. What becomes clear is that it is not conflict that is the real story. It is the persistent hope that human beings are able to hear the truth about themselves, and to live that truth with joy, knowing that whatever we have been, the Lord is with us. 'When two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.'

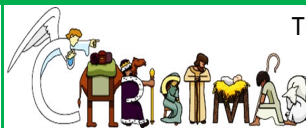
The world perhaps rushes to present reality as conflict, as it cannot cope with the truth. To know who we have been, how we have harmed our brothers and sisters, can be a burden too heavy to bear. To hear how I have failed another is to be confronted with a picture of myself very different from the one I want to project to others. But Christians believe that the truth can set us free. The true reality is not the conflict of us, the innocent, with the guilty, but the discovery of our solidarity in guilt, and so our solidarity in being loved by God.

There will always be conflict in our world. And so there will always be conflict in the Church as it passes through this sinful world. As GK Chesterton says somewhere, the Church is not an oasis of peace in this world of conflict, but a place of conflict in a world of false peace. Jesus instructs the Church on how to deal with this conflict. And the authority Jesus gives Peter and his brothers is an authority to bind and to loose.

Throughout history the Church will have to have recourse to this precept of Jesus, to deal with conflict and when necessary declare that communion with the Church has been broken. But conflict is not the true reality for a Christian, thank God. When it comes we should expose it at every step to truth, spoken in love. Then the real story of a God who loves human beings and seeks to draw them into the communion of his love can be glimpsed, and our world may encounter something of the truth that sets us free.

Fr Timothy Calvert OP <http://english.op.org/torch>

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MASS



The Children's Mass will be celebrated on Sunday 24th December at 6pm in Holy Rosary Church. Come and be a part of our Children's special Mass

to celebrate the birth of our Lord.

Children who would like to be involved in this Mass are invited to come and join the celebration. A practice for the Children's Christmas Eve Mass will be held on Saturday 16th December and Saturday 23rd December at 10am. To participate, the children must first have a permission note from their parent/s and an assurance that they will be attending this Mass.

There is need to practice on both days 16th and 23rd December at 10am, Children will be required to attend both practices. Please put your name on the form in the foyer if you would like to be part of the Mass.

HOLY ROSARY CHURCH ACTIVITIES



CHRISTMAS CHOIR
Choir Practices for Advent and Christmas will held on Monday 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. The School of Religion is now in recess until 2018. 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

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 (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

20 - November "L'ARCHE GENESARET CARD DAY"

One and all are invited to attend the L'Arche Genesaret fundraising Card Day on from 10am - 2pm. at the **Canberra Bowling Club**, Hobart Ave. Forrest. The cost of \$25.00 includes coffee, tea, lunch, wine or juice. To book a table of four, please call Mary on 6258 1739 or Di on 6241 2658. RSVPs due on or before Nov 13th.

26 November - AMICUS

"Amicus", a support group for widowed, divorced and separated Catholics will be holding its next gathering at Yarralumla Gallery & Oaks Brasserie Café at 12 NOON for Lunch. To join us please call Paul on 0419 411 691".

28 November - GALA DINNER

Living the Gospel today - Next Steps to re-imaging 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 Inquiries: (02) 6299 4611, email queanbeyan@cg.org.au

30 November - CHRISTAMS CRAFT & PRESENT STALL

The Calvary Hospital Auxiliary is holding a Christmas Craft and Present Stall in the foyer of the hospital from 8.00am til 4.00pm. Monies raised will be going towards purchasing equipment for the hospital. Please come along and support this worthwhile cause. Enquiries Mary Cruickshank 62544084

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

8-10 December: INTERNATIONAL NATIVITIES EXPO

This exhibition of 350 Nativities is an entrée to family discussion on the true meaning of Christmas. From some 80 countries, they present the diverse cultures that embrace the Christian story, from the Palestinian Territories to Vietnam and China. Hands-on craft activities for children, as well as nativity jigsaws, puppets and books.

Venue: Catholic Pastoral Centre, 55 Franklin St. Manuka (behind St Christopher's Cathedral). Fri 8th: 2pm-7pm; Sat 9th:10am-5pm; Sun 10th: 9am-7pm.

Contact: Keith Linard on 0412 376 317 or linard.keith@gmail.com

Sign outside of a church :

Jesus is watching but the Police have Radar.

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

ROSTERS 25 / 26 November 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	J. Smith	
Readers	B. Bandle	C. Bandle
Presentation of Gifts	Bandle Family	
EMOE	E. Smith	

Sunday 10.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	H. Pham	
Readers	A. McCarthy	J. Cooke
Presentation of Gifts	Northcote Family	
EMOE	A. Northcote	B. Affas

Sunday 5.00pm Day Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	L. Kim	
Readers	M. Brotohusodo	V. Van Der Sanden
Presentation of Gifts	T. Ryan	
EMOE	M. Proctor	J. Curnow
Counters		