

Catholic Parish of Blackiriars

Issue 11
4th February
Year B

Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



VERITAS



5th 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
PO Box 900, Dickson

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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



**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	O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	Alleluia, alleluia! He bore our sickness, and endured our suffering. Alleluia!
COMMUNION	Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.
READINGS	Job 7:1-4, 6-7 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23 Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

CROSSROADS

Pro-Life Walk Across Australia

One of the walkers from the Crossroads Australia Pro-Life group, who are walking from Brisbane to Melbourne this Summer, will be speaking at parish Masses on the week-end of the 3rd-4th February about the Crossroads Walk and their mission of giving witness to the sanctity and dignity of human life at all stages. For more information about the walk and how you can help check out the website: <http://crossroadsaustralia.org/> or simply say hi to them after Mass.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 94:1-2, 6-9

Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

Praise the Lord for he is good;
sing to our God for he is loving:
to him our praise is due.

The Lord builds up Jerusalem
and brings back Israel's exiles,
he heals the broken-hearted,
he binds up all their wounds,
he fixes the number of the stars;
he calls each one by its name.

Our Lord is great and almighty;
his wisdom can never be measured.
The Lord raises the lowly;
he humbles the wicked to the dust.

Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

IMPORTANT PARISH INFORMATION

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.

CHURCH KEY

Would the parishioner holding church key MK12 please contact the Parish Office.

SCHOOL MASS

Friday 9th February will be the opening school Mass at 10am for Holy Rosary School. Parishioners are invited.

SCHOOL OF RELIGION

The Parish School of Religion will re-commence on Sunday 11th February. New students are always welcome. This year-long faith education program is intended for children who do not attend Catholic schools. Please contact the Parish Office for more information. 6248 5925

LENTEN STUDIES



Lent begins on the 14th February with Ash Wednesday. Each year the forty days of Lent are given to us for prayerful reflection on the figure of Christ crucified and the journey He took through darkness to light. The theme of

our reflection program this year is "Surrender". In recent times we have seen natural disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis, terrorism, war, displaced persons seeking new homelands, floods, fires, and starvation shadowing the earth. Yet in these shadows we have seen people of faith, courage, prayer and action, perseverance and hope; and through these people we have caught a glimpse of the self-sacrificing love of Jesus himself. As in former years, we are invited to journey together in faith and if possible to set some time aside to reflect on God's Word as nourishment on our pilgrimage. If you would like to be a part of a Parish Lenten Group, a group will meet on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre starting on the 13th February, please sign up in the foyer if you would like to attend.

NO CLICHÉS IN CHRIST

Fifth Sunday of the Year.

fr Robert OP explains why there are no clichés in Christ.

In St Mark's Gospel, it might at first seem that St Mark is describing a relentless sequence of events in Jesus's life, one thing happening after another. A total of twenty five times, St Mark uses the expression 'kai euthys' which means 'and immediately,' 'as soon as' or 'at once.' In today's Gospel we have two such occurrences of this expression: *as soon as* they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, ... and *at once* they told Jesus about Simon's mother-in-law. But St Mark's repeated use of the expression 'kai euthys' doesn't in fact make the Gospel in any way dull; rather, it heightens the sense of urgency. There's a dynamism and a direction to St Mark's Gospel. Jesus is going somewhere, and the place where He's going is Jerusalem where He will be crucified. The last time St Mark uses the expression 'kai euthys' is when Jesus is handed over to Pilate. Thus, the immediacy in Jesus's life reaches its climax in His Passion, the sacrifice we celebrate in the Eucharist.

It is through the Church's repeated celebration of the Eucharist, week in, week out, day in, day out, that shows us that life isn't just a collection of random events, for every human experience has its ultimate meaning in Jesus Christ. Somehow, through the celebration of the Eucharist, all the hopes and sorrows of mankind are bound up with Our Lord's death on the cross and his glorious resurrection. If a cliché is a common expression that has lost all its freshness and meaning through constant repetition, it must mean the Eucharist is the opposite of a cliché, for no matter how many times we celebrate the Eucharist, it never loses its freshness, it is always full of meaning, it is always new. Clichés may dull one's life, but there are no clichés in Christ.

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

Nothing is easy. Easy is something you earn. It is something you figure out. Easy is a process of failure, discomfort, discovery, getting knocked down, and getting up again.

In Your Prayers please remember those in our community who are ill:

Elizabeth Cronin, Mary Bui, Fr Ellis Clifford, Dion Convine, Edith Jensen, Philip Bailey, Patricia Zorzi, Maureen Blood, Charles Ryan, Ken Rolls, Barbara Wilson, Anne Corver, Awny El-Ghitany, Joebert Tabiola, Elsie Loughton, Beth Delos Santos, Rosa Maria Santos, Rosemary Denmead, Maria Martiniello, Elizabeth Webster, Alexia Harris, Mimma Giampietro, Joe Schimizzi, Zelma McManus Lynn & Richard Bale

Remember our deceased

Dorothy Walsh, Patricia Cherry, Fr Kevin Muldoon (Mary Martin's brother)

In Loving Memory

Darcy Sloan

SERVING THE LORD WELL

In the Gospel Reading, Jesus comes to Peter's house and he finds that Peter's mother-in-law is sick. And finding her sick, Jesus heals her. It is a familiar story about Jesus, who heals all kinds of diseases and infirmities. But then look what happens. The whole town hears of her healing and rushes all their sick to Peter's house. The Gospel says that by the evening the whole city was gathered at the door of Peter's house (Mark 1:33)! Now, all of a sudden, Jesus seems to have become a one-man hospital. The Gospel says that Jesus healed very many of them. What is needed to serve God well, then, is not endless good things that other people want from you. If the whole city is at the door of Peter's house by the evening, then Jesus must have been healing well into the night. The Gospel says that Jesus left the house well before day and went into a secluded place to pray. He was so besieged by those who wanted healing that he couldn't pray in the house. When his absence was finally detected, his disciples went looking for him. "Hey," they say when they find him, "Everybody is looking for you!" They seem to think that his urgent-care clinic should be open at all hours.

Now, of course, it is a good work to heal the sick. And, of course, those who love the sick are right to want them healed. And yet how absurd it is to suppose that prayer should take second-place to work, no matter what the work is! And how sadly and understandably absurd it is to suppose that the mission of Jesus is to be a "Doctor Without Borders." And so maybe it isn't hard to figure out what Jesus was praying about in the early morning in the countryside.

Each healing Jesus does is a good thing. But good things can actually get in the way of serving God well. To serve God well, a person has to do not just any good things that others want him to do. He has to do those good things that God has called him to do. It may take prayer to figure out which good things to turn down. Jesus' disciples feel that Jesus needs to hurry back to Peter's village to keep practicing medicine. What Jesus tells them, after his prayer, is that he is leaving Peter's village to continue his ministry—not of medicine but of preaching in other towns. Preaching is the purpose for which he came.

What is needed to serve God well, then, is not endless good things that other people want from you. What is needed for the Lord's service is prayer first. And after that comes fidelity to just those few good things that fulfil that particular purpose to which the Lord has called you. [Eleonore Stump](http://liturgy.slu.edu/)

GOD AND THE BIBLE

'The Bible is a gift from God. Through the Bible, God meets people with great love and speaks tenderly with them. The word of God in the Bible is not simply marks on paper; it is living and active when it is proclaimed in worship or meditated on in quiet prayer. The Bible is God's gift to his people. It is a collection of different types of literature, written at different times, for different audiences, for different purposes. [From Call and Response](http://liturgy.slu.edu/)

ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES



6.45am

10.00am
(School Mass)

6.00pm
(NO 5.30pm Mass)

OBEDIENCE AND LIFE

*Fifth Sunday of the Year.
Fr Denis Geraghty OP considers
the meaning of the Kingdom of God
proclaimed by Jesus in word and in power.*

In the opening chapter of St Mark's Gospel, Jesus is driven into the wilderness by the Spirit – a vivid and dramatic opening of his ministry. He is not *led*, he is *driven*, almost as if by a power beyond his control.

'The Kingdom of God is at hand: repent and believe in the Gospel', he tells us. What is this Kingdom? Essentially, it is a proclamation of the *rule* of God. Today's Gospel seems to tell us what this rule looks like. Our acceptance of the Kingdom calls both for belief and for obedience to God's rule, and Jesus offers us today the perfect pattern of obedience.

This pattern lies in the submission of Jesus to his Father, not as a mindless drone or a victim but as one who perfectly reflects the love that unites the Son to the Father. As St Paul tells us in Philippians 2, Jesus was 'obedient even unto death, death on a cross', and this obedience is the root and cause of his exaltation, *because* it is an expression of love. And this is what he asks of us, in order that we may belong to his Kingdom.

With this in mind, we can see how the Gospel shows us the marks of God's rule in the person of Jesus: he speaks with an authority never seen before; he has power over sickness, shown when he heals Peter's mother-in-law; he has dominion over the powers of evil, as when the disciples bring to him those who are possessed by demons. He performs his miracles not simply for their own sake but to give us signs that 'the Kingdom of God is at hand'. These signs point, too, towards who Jesus is – to his identity as the Christ.

There is something sad as well as dramatic about this description of Jesus's ministry. We are called to understand and to feel compassion towards those who are brought to him: desperate people, who perhaps do not really understand who Jesus is. But they have nothing to lose, and when they encounter him and his healing power they find their lives transformed. So, we are given in today's Gospel an image of Jesus as totally self-giving, holding nothing back of his power to heal and to transform. He accepts with extraordinary patience the intrusions into his life that do not even give him time alone to pray. His rule and his Kingdom are to extend to all people, to the whole world, not just to Galilee. As we consider these signs of God's Kingdom, let us reflect on the obedience of Jesus to his Father that makes it manifest, and consider also our own obedience to the Father as members of his Kingdom. It must be an obedience that goes beyond merely obeying laws, just as Jesus is far more than simply another moral teacher. The obedience of Jesus is the love that unites him to the Father. And the Spirit that drove Jesus, in obedience, out into the wilderness is the source of our divine life. The Trinitarian life that is within us is therefore dynamic: it drives us forwards. Through the Holy Spirit we are united with Christ. We are his friends, his brothers and sisters, for through him and in him we are able to call God our Father.

We can be sure that, just as the exaltation of Jesus sprang from his obedient love, so it will be with us; from the pain and even the wreckage of our human existence, there will be a transformation to eternal life and happiness. <http://english.op.org/torch>

HOLY ROSARY CHURCH ACTIVITIES

CATECHISTS FOR 2018

Our Parish is looking for Catechists for 2018 to assist our team currently teaching School of Religion classes on Sunday mornings. No prior experience is necessary, other than an interest in teaching Primary school-aged children about their Catholic faith. A commitment is required of approximately 2-hours each week during school term time. Classes begin 11 February 2018. Training and support is offered by the Archdiocese. Please contact Jacquie Cortese at the Parish Office if you'd like more 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!!!

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

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.

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.

Holy Rosary Church is fitted with an audio loop. It is accessible in all seats 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

CARITAS KITCHEN

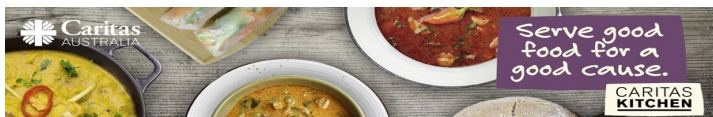
JOIN US to raise awareness and funds for Project Compassion With Special guest speaker: Michael Maguire, a former Australian professional rugby league football coach for South Sydney, visited Caritas Programs in Zimbabwe in October 2017. Michael will share his experience with us.

Shrove Tuesday 13 February at 6pm

St. Christopher's Pastoral Centre 55 Franklin Street, Forrest

Register Online by 9 February

<http://my.caritasfundraising.org.au/LuluMitshabu2018>



EVENTS

8 - February - WELLSPRINGS OF HOPE

"Wellsprings of Hope" will be a discussion on the role of hope, resilience and Christians working together to make ethical reforms possible. The forum will commence at 7.30pm at the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, Barton.

9 - 11 February - SEEKING THE MIND OF CHRIST

Parishioners are invited to a living encounter and a life transforming experience with the Lord Jesus and the Holy Spirit .

10 February - St Brigid's Church: Dickson from 10.00am to 5.00pm.

11 February - St Brigid's Church: Dickson from 10.30am to 5.30pm.

Contact: Shan 0412 310364; Karen 0402 160401

17 - February - ST VALENTINE'S MASS The Parish of St Thomas the Apostle, Kambah invites parishioners to celebrate the love, romance and joy of Christian Marriage with a **celebration Mass at 6pm**. Mass followed by informal meal. Please RSVP to if you would like to join us for dinner to Elizabeth (6231 9219) or Trish (6231 8468)

17 & 24 - February - EVENINGS FOR THE ENGAGED

Evening for the Engaged, marriage preparation program, will be held over two consecutive Saturdays. Enquiries Mark & Kathy Haseler, 6166 7634

20 - February - ALPHA COURSE

The Disciples of Jesus Community are running an Alpha course commencing on the 20th of February. It will be offered each Tuesday evening over eight weeks with dinner included. Everyone is welcome! Please contact Fiona Smith on 0411 144 208 for more information.

27 - February - CHAMBER PHILHARMONIA COLOGNE

"Classical music the world over" is the motto of the Chamber Philharmonia Cologne who wish to inspire as many people as possible across all generations to enjoy classical music. On the 27 February at 8.00pm they will be performing at St Christopher's Cathedral. The Chamber was founded in Cologne but is at home all over the world. www.ticketmaster.com.au

22 - March - CONCERNED CATHOLICS OF CANBERRA

You are invited to the 3rd public forum of Concerned Catholics of Canberra-Goulburn. Francis Sullivan, CEO, Truth Justice and Healing Council, will provide an analysis of the Royal Commission's final report.

Contact: Rog Page concerned.catholics.cnagbn@gmail.com

2018 Lenten Video Resource: GOOD NEWS IN TOUGH TIMES This resource is perfect for parish-based groups, families and individuals and presents a great opportunity for all to withdraw from the week-in, week-out busyness. To pre-order online: www.fairesources.org.au or call the Bookshop 02 6239 9888

The most important trip you may take in life
is meeting people halfway.

ROSTERS 10 / 11 February 2018

Saturday 5.00 pm Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	I. Buckley	
Readers	A. Blakey	M. Cox
Presentation of Gifts	Blakey Family	
EMOE	C. Lewis	

Sunday 8.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	F. Bertrand	
Readers	B. Bandle	C. Bandle
Presentation of Gifts	Bandle Family	
EMOE	M. Falk	

Sunday 10.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	H. Beasley	
Readers	M. Fitzgerald	K. McCluskey
Presentation of Gifts	Barbaro Family	
EMOE	E. Musolino	M. Mastrolembro

Sunday 5.00pm Day Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	J. Cornelly	
Readers	T. Ryan	V. Van der Sanden
Presentation of Gifts	R. Walpole	
EMOE	C. de Luca	T. de Luca
Counters	C. Barn	G. Gleeson