

Catholic Parish of Blackiriars

Issue 14
25th February
Year B

Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



VERITAS



Second Sunday of Lent

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

Masses are now suspended

until February 2018



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	Remember your compassion, O Lord, and your merciful love, for they are from of old. Let not our enemies exult over us. Redeem us, O God of Israel, from all our distress.
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
COMMUNION	This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.
READINGS	Genesis 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18 Romans 8:31-34 Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

The Archdiocese Celebrates the Chrism Mass on
Monday 26 March @ 7.30pm St Christopher

FAMILY MASS WELCOME

 Welcome to students and parents from our Parish school, (Rosary School) who are celebrating the Eucharist with parishioners at the 10am Family Mass. This Mass will be followed by a Sausage Sizzle and refreshments. All invited.

St Vincent De Paul will be holding a Leaving Collection for the Door Knock Appeal next weekend the 3/4 March. Your support is greatly appreciated.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 115-10, 15-19

I will walk in the presence of the Lord,
in the land of the living.

I trusted, even when I said:
'I am sorely afflicted.'

O precious in the eyes of the Lord
is the death of his faithful.

Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;
you have loosened my bonds.
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:
I will call on the Lord's name.

My vows to the Lord I will fulfil
before all his people,
in the courts of the house of the Lord,
in your midst, O Jerusalem.

I will walk in the presence of the Lord,
in the land of the living.

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.

PREPARING FOR EASTER

Enhance your spiritual journey through Holy Week and Easter this year by singing. Join the choir for just seven one-hour practices, and sing your way through the liturgies of that crucial and climactic season of the Church year. Practices Mondays, 7.30pm, in the church, starting Monday 12th February. No cost. No fees. Music provided. More information, ring 61617100, or just turn up.

DOMINICAN LAITY

Sharing in a rich spiritual life and heritage

Did you know that the Dominican Order has a lay branch? Dominican Laity come from all walks of life, single and married, and share in the rich spiritual life and heritage of the order through prayer (especially the Divine Office and the Rosary) and study suited to their personal situation. We draw on the order's rich heritage of theology and of prayer and mysticism, including figures such as St Thomas Aquinas, St Catherine of Siena and Meister Eckhart, and on the inspiration of its involvement in contemporary theological and social issues. Members take part in a broad range of apostolates, drawing on their Dominican formation to share with others the fruits of contemplation. Works undertaken in Canberra and elsewhere include prayer and study groups, assistance with university and prison chaplaincy, and service as readers, acolytes and catechists and as members of the St Vincent de Paul society. Some work full-time in Catholic education. One member, Michael Fitzgerald, maintains the library in the parish centre. Some groups hold periodic retreat and study days. The core of Lay Dominican life is participation in the monthly meeting of the local chapter or fraternity. The fraternities are linked in a national body which meets for a convention every three years, staying in touch by letter and email, and are part of a wider international movement. The internet is helping us to stay connected and beat the tyranny of distance. The Canberra fraternity meets in the Dominican Fathers' house in Watson with Fr Bernie Maxwell as our promoter. We have about eight active members at present, and would welcome more. If you would like to know more, please contact Peter (62477036) or Michael (62497026).

This article is the first in a series that will highlight the purpose and activities of Parish groups. If you would like to share something about your Parish group, please give or send (watson@cg.org.au) a draft to the Parish Office.

LENT CALLS US TO LEARN THE WAY OF PRAYER

'As we prepare for the Great Lent, the forty days of concentrated prayer, penance, fasting and almsgiving, we have an opportunity to learn to pray again. To be drawn into a deeper place in the communion of God's love. 'All Christians are called to prayer. Only prayer can satisfy the hunger of our souls. It also changes us. It strips away only what impedes love. Those who pray can then become lanterns of love for others seeking the way through the darkness of their own lives. Lent is a time to learn to pray, to love, and to live our Lives more fully in Communion with God.'

Deacon Keith Fournier, <http://www.catholic.org/hf/faith/story.php?id=44715>

YMI EQUIPPING SCHOOL INVITATION

The Equipping School is a key formation initiative in the Archdiocese and is a formation that inspires and resources youth, young adults and ministry leaders for the mission of the Catholic Church. The YMI Equipping School will be conducted in the Archdiocese from the **1st to 4th March**. The Archdiocese is seeking two members from each Parish to participate. If you are interested in representing our Parish please contact the office. Youth ministers across the Archdiocese, around the country and throughout the Oceania region including Samoa, Tonga, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Fiji. This is an exciting initiative that will be central to forming youth leaders in the Year of Youth.

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, Maria Martiniello, Elizabeth Webster, Mimma Giampietro, Alexia Harris, Joe Schimizzi, Zelma McManus, Lynn & Richard Bale

Remember our deceased

Rosemary Denmead, Patricia Cherry, Edgar Villalon, Noel Afable, Hermann Ficken, Bill (Alberico) Gallo

In Loving Memory

Laurie O'Neill, Debbie Maher, Mildred Willey, Felix Dennis

PROJECT COMPASSION



Rattanak is a skilled young barber, living an independent life in rural Cambodia. But it wasn't always that way. As a child he contracted polio and also became deaf. Like many people who are deaf or hard of hearing, Rattanak faced isolation, with a lack of opportunity to escape poverty. After joining the Deaf Development Program run by Caritas Australia's partner, Maryknoll Cambodia, his life was transformed and he is now supporting himself, his wife and baby.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2018 and help deaf youth in Cambodia to build a just future, and live in communities that uphold everyone's dignity. A Just Future starts with your support!

CARITAS REFLECTION

The readings invite us to reflect on the transformative power of seeing more clearly and listening more deeply.

The love which unites Jesus and the Father is the same love which embraces us.

The readings also point to a call to discernment and a desire to learn about the blessings God showers on us. St Paul asks the powerful question "With God on our side, who can be against us?" When we recognise that God is for us we are transformed. Rattanak's story featured this week by Caritas Australia's Project Compassion gives us a glimpse into a story of courage and transformation. Rattanak is twenty-nine and a barber in the village of Poh Krom in south-eastern Cambodia. From fever and becoming ill with polio as a child, Rattanak has some difficulty walking and is profoundly deaf. Emerging from an isolated world at home in his early twenties, he gained skills at the Caritas supported Deaf Development Program. He can now use sign language to communicate and is now running a successful business, supporting himself, his wife and their new baby.

The program has been one of transformation for Rattanak. He can now understand and see the world in a whole new way. For Rattanak and other young people in his community, 'a just future' started with community.

Listening to the scriptures today and to Rattanak's story of transformation has the power to transform us. We can be partners in working for a just future for everyone.

A NEW BEGINNING?

First Sunday of Lent.

fr Anthony Axe OP provides us with a reflection on the need to be honest about our need for God's forgiveness.

For us to accept its truth, the Bible must present a recognisable picture of what our lives are like, by showing us what the problems are, how to deal with them and what happens if we make the wrong decisions. It has been accepted as the reference book for Christianity because it best shows, not only what life should be like, but also what life is like. The Bible portrays life as a continual fight to produce order from chaos and to preserve the order that has already been established.

The very first chapter of the Bible tells us how God, at creation, brought order to chaos. According to the Book of Genesis, creation originally consisted of darkness and a formless, watery, turbulent mass from which God separated darkness and light, dry land and water, earth and sky. Today's reading is from the story of the Flood. People have rejected the natural moral order given to them by God and the chaos of sin has taken over. Sin threatens order in society. Consider what the greed of financiers has done to our society today. Think of what our own greed has done to the stability of the planet and to the lives of countless poor people. Order is being destroyed and there is the threat that universal chaos might return. In the story of the Flood, because of sin, the watery chaos before creation comes back, a graphic illustration that the natural order is destroyed. But God has chosen the family of Noah to be saved so they can help create order once again. The words of this new creation are very similar to those of the first creation. Human beings are again given mastery over the world, but this time there is a difference. Men and women will not have the easy relationship they had with the world before things went wrong. There may be a new creation of sorts after the Flood but it isn't the new beginning that we might think. God doesn't start from scratch. He doesn't separate the waters again but merely turns off the taps. Nor does he create the human race anew but uses the survivors, hoping that things will turn out better this time.

Human beings are obsessed with fresh starts and new beginnings. We always want to turn over a new leaf, to make New Year's resolutions, to begin again for Lent. But experience tells us that there is no such thing. The more experience of life we gain, the more we realise that we can't start anew because we are the same people. Whatever we do, we take ourselves with us. This means that not long after our fresh start, we are in the same boat as we were before it. The danger is that we might get so disillusioned with ourselves that we will stop trying. Maybe the whole concept of fresh starts is wrong. In the Gospel reading we hear how John was baptising people in the River Jordan, trying to put some order back into their chaotic lives. Jesus joined them but having got some kind of order into his life from that, chaos soon returned when he was driven by the Spirit into the desert, that place of chaos where mankind doesn't have control. Jesus emerges from this experience of life in all its chaotic complexity ready to proclaim the Good News.

But to receive salvation we must admit that we need to be saved. We have to recognise that we will never be able to bring order to our lives. We do want to be charitable, selfless, kind and forgiving, yet we always fail to live up to our aspirations. And it is precisely this being doomed to failure that Jesus redeemed. He brought the good news that even though we can never start afresh, every time we repent, every time we turn our lives towards the good, that is a new beginning in the eyes of God. We know we are going to fail, and God knows we are going to fail, yet the good news is that it doesn't matter. So long as we keep trying, so long as we continue sincerely to repent, then that's all God asks of us. We may not be able to create ourselves anew, but every time we repent and believe the gospel, we become a new creation.

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

Why is it called "after dark" ... when it really is "after light"?

HOLY ROSARY CHURCH ACTIVITIES

SCHOOL OF RELIGION / CATECHISTS - Parish School of Religion has recommenced. New students are always welcome. This year-long faith education program is intended for children who do not attend Catholic schools. Catechists are still needed to help with the classes. Our Parish is looking for Catechists 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 have now started. Training and support is offered by the Archdiocese. Please contact 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 the **third Thursday** of each month at 10.30 am. We look forward to seeing our usual friends, 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

1-4 - March YMI EQUIPPING SCHOOL - The YMI Equipping School is an intensive formation school that equips & resources youth, young adults & ministry leaders for the mission of the Catholic Church. The Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn invites all youth & young adults from parishes or ecclesial movements wanting to be formed for ministry and mission to attend. Contact Huw Warmenhoven (huw.warmenhoven@cg.org.au). Register at ymiequippingschool.eventbrite.com.au

CHURCH KEY - Parishioners issued with a key to the Church who have not returned the letter sent to them in late January please do so by next weekend (3/4March). Would the parishioner holding church key MK12 please contact the Parish Office.

Faith sees the invisible, believes the unbelievable, and receives the impossible.

EVENTS

SACRED CONCERT - A sacred concert with Irish singer David Parkes on Tuesday 27 Feb 5.30pm Parish Mass, 6pm Supper 6.30pm at St Benedict's Church Narrabundah. Plus testimonies John Cavavan, director of Divine Mercy Publications. Free Entry donation to cover costs. More information Parish Office 6295 7879

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

Online: www.faithresources.org.au or call the Bookshop 6239 9888

Footsteps of Jesus 2018 Holy Land Pilgrimage

Join Fr Gabriel Ezenwa on 7 - 20 June 2018 for a 14 day Pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Take the chronological road of Jesus' life from Bethlehem to Nazareth and Galilee to Jerusalem. Daily Mass. Optional Extension to Petra. If interested, call Harvest Journey today for bookings or for more info 1800 819 156. The price is \$6590.

Brisbane Catholic Bushwalking Club Hits 60! All Past Members, Family & Friends of BCBC are invited to the celebrations on Saturday 10th March: Mass at 10am at St William's Church, 67 Dawson Pde, Keppera, followed by a light lunch. See the link "The 60th Anniversary" on <http://www.bcbc.bwg.org.au>. RSVP by e-mail at bcbcbigevent@gmail.com or by phoning Greg on 3351 4092.

NEW YEAR SPIRITUAL RESOLUTIONS?

A small Canberra Christian Life Community (CLC) group of women and men wish to extend an invitation to others to join them.

Ignatian spirituality is spirituality for everyday life and can be a pathway to deeper prayer and better decisions through discernment. The Canberra group meet once a fortnight, in the evening, for one and a half hours. If you would like to find out more please contact Marj (0401116800) or Gabi (0400996030).

CHANEL COLLEGE 60th ANNIVERSARY REUNION for students of the Marist Fathers era [1958-1970]. For details send your email address to chanel.geelong@gmail.com OR your postal details to PO Box 3069 Geelong West 3218

PALMS AUSTRALIA is a Catholic agency which expresses Pope Francis' call to be "a church which is bruised, hurting and dirty because it has been out on the streets", and in the villages, farms, hospitals and schools where Palms volunteers serve. Palms volunteers do not seek comfort, but embrace a life of solidarity with their host communities during a mission of 1-3 years.

If you would like more information about Palms Australia, please go to <https://www.palms.org.au/volunteer/current-opportunities/>

ROSTERS 3 / 4 March 2018

Saturday 5.00 pm Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	I. Buckley	
Readers	M. Pentony	J. De Riva O'Phelan
Presentation of Gifts	Vanderzil Family	
EMOE	T. O'Neill	

Sunday 8.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	J. Smith	
Readers	M. Falk	E. Smith
Presentation of Gifts	E. M. Falk	
EMOE	N. Clarke	

Sunday 10.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	K. McCluskey	
Readers	J. Cooke	A. McCarthy
Presentation of Gifts	Lestone Family	
EMOE	R. Zochling	J. Munro

Sunday 5.00pm Day Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	L. Kim	
Readers	T. Ryan	V. Van der Sanden
Presentation of Gifts	De Luca Family	
EMOE	J. Curnow	K. Kralikas
Counters	F. Higgins	N. Higgins