

# Catholic Parish of Blackiriars

Issue 17  
18th March 2018  
Year B

Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



## VERITAS



## Fifth 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

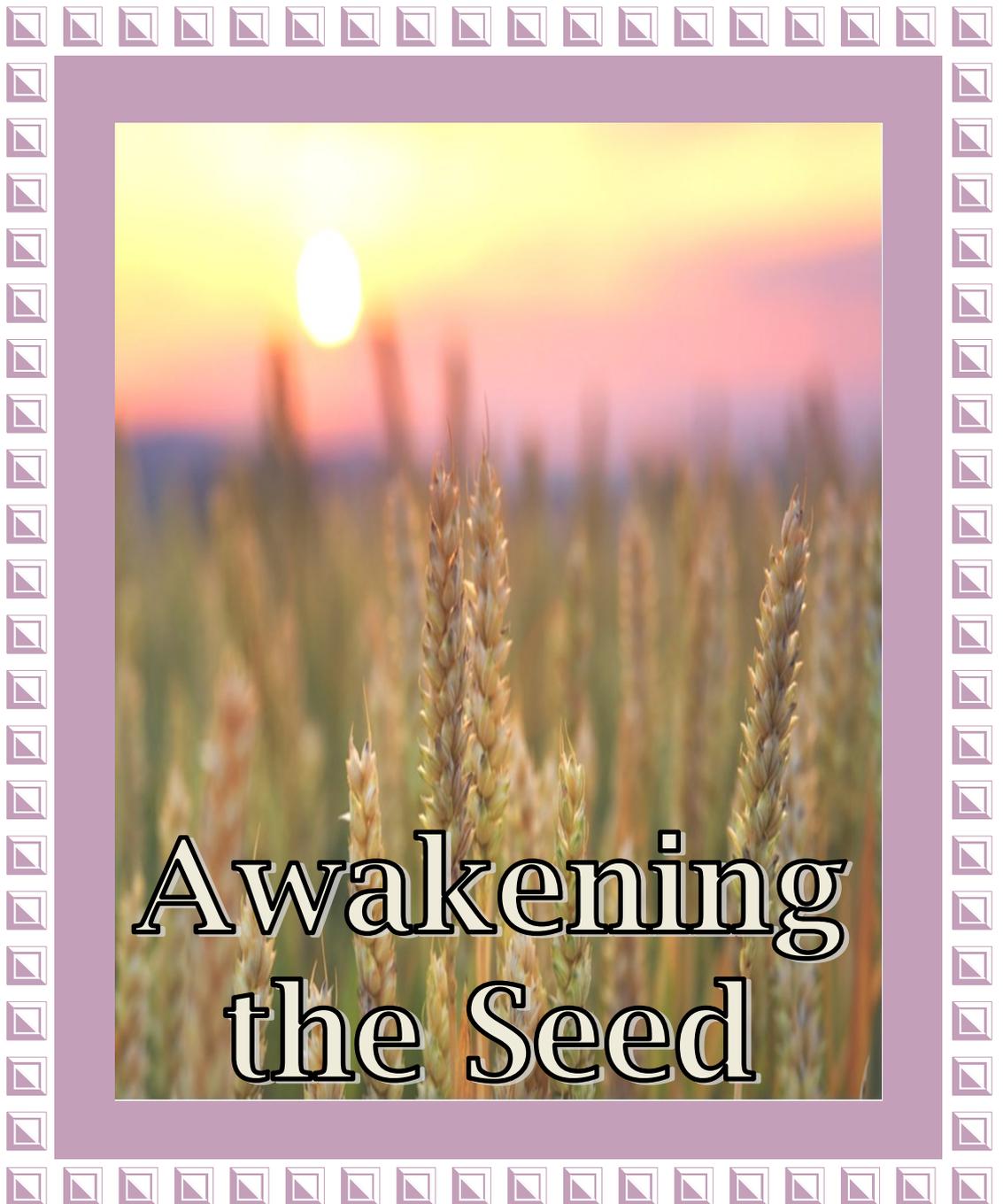
*Pray the Rosary*

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

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



# Awakening the Seed

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

<b>ENTRANCE</b>	Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.
<b>GOSPEL ACCLAMATION</b>	Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord; and where I am, my servant will also be. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
<b>COMMUNION</b>	Amen, Amen I say to you: Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains a single grain. But if it dies, it bears much fruit.
<b>READINGS</b>	Jeremiah 31:31-34 Hebrews 5:7-9 Gospel: John 12:20-30

## CHRISM MASS

Join the Archbishop and the Clergy of the Archdiocese on Monday 26th March at 7.30 in St Christopher's Cathedral, for this most important Holy Week ceremony. It is at this Mass that the **Holy Oils** used in the various Sacramental Rites of the Church are blessed and consecrated. Everyone is most welcome.



The Timetable with Holy Week / Easter Celebration times is now available on the exit tables please pick up a copy to take home.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 50:3-4, 12-15

**Create a clean heart in me, O God.**

Have mercy on me, God,  
in your kindness.  
In your compassion  
blot out my offence.  
O wash me more and more  
from my guilt  
and cleanse me from my sin.

A pure heart create for me, O God,  
put a steadfast spirit within me.

Do not cast me away  
from your presence,  
nor deprive me of your holy spirit.

Give me again the joy of your help;  
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,  
that I may teach transgressors  
your ways  
and sinners may return to you.

**Create a clean heart in me, O God.**

### PREPARING FOR EASTER

Join the choir, and sing your way through the liturgies of that crucial and climactic season of the Church year. Practices Monday 7.30pm, in the church. No cost. No fees. Music provided. More information, ring 61617100, or just turn up.

### HOLY WEEK / EASTER ROSTER

The Rosters are now in the foyer for parishioners who would like to volunteer for the Holy Week / Easter Liturgies. Special help is needed after Holy Thursday and on Holy Saturday morning.

### ONE MILLION ROSARIES FOR UNBORN BABIES

The 2018 One Million Rosaries for Unborn Babies global prayer event is scheduled for 4, 5 and 6 May. Persons participating will pray at least one Rosary for the protection of unborn babies. For details go to: [www.saintmichaelthearchangelorganization.org/](http://www.saintmichaelthearchangelorganization.org/)

### PROJECT COMPASSION

**DITOSA, MOZAMBIQUE**



### PROJECT COMPASSION

**FOR A JUST FUTURE**

Ditosa, a young girl from Mozambique, went to live with her grandmother after her parents died of AIDS-related illnesses. Featured in Project Compassion during 2013, Ditosa faced a challenging future with food scarcity, little education and few job prospects. Ditosa and her grandmother found support through the Caritas Australia supported Matuba Children's Centre. Ditosa has now graduated from school and hopes to go to university and secure an even brighter future.

**Please donate to Project Compassion 2018 and help young women like Ditosa have a just future. A Just Future starts with your support!**

### CARITAS REFLECTION

The readings remind us that our relationship with God is one that is deep and lasting - at least from God's viewpoint!

The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the emergence of a 'new covenant' and offers us these words: "Deep within them, I will plant my law, writing it on their hearts."

Let's pause for a few seconds and reflect on the implications of these words.

God calls us into a mature and deeper relationship that will grow as we grow. The Gospel story has Jesus speaking to two of his disciples, Andrew and Philip, of his own imminent death. He uses the image of the grain of wheat which must die to yield a rich harvest.

Together these readings can help us appreciate and understand the depth of love and faithfulness required to live in right relationships with God and others.

The weekly Project Compassion Lenten story from Caritas Australia this week revisits Ditosa's story from 2013. With your contributions to Project Compassion, Caritas Australia was supporting the Matuba Children's Centre in Mozambique which provided vulnerable children with study help, food, and training in activities such as sewing and growing vegetables. Five years on, Ditosa is now 17, has completed her education and is looking forward to a bright and just future.

This program reflects the strength of Caritas' long term commitment and willingness to allow 'new green shoots' to 'yield a rich harvest' - which is so obvious in the changes in Ditosa's life and the maturing partnerships which began five years ago.

For Ditosa and many other young people, a just future started with education.

A thought to take away. What seeds lie dormant in each one of us and within our communities that could grow into a new harvest yielding a more just and peaceful future?

### FAMILY MASS

**PALM SUNDAY 25th March**

**10am Mass will be a Family Mass followed by a Sausage Sizzle.  
All welcome for a chance to meet, greet and catch up with Parish Families.**

**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 Laughton, Beth Delos Santos, Rosa Maria Santos, Maria Martiniello, Elizabeth Webster, Mimma Giampietro, Alexia Harris, Joe Schimizzi, Glenice Entwistle, Zelma McManus, Lynn & Richard Bale, Greg O'Neill

**Remember our deceased**

Hermann Ficken, Bill (Alberico) Gallo, Pino Parisi

**In Loving Memory**

Noel Dawes

## BAPTISM

*Mila Fran*

who will be baptised this weekend.  
May her life filled with God's peace,  
and her heart with God's love...  
on this Baptism day and always.



## ST VINCENT DE PAUL DOORKNOCK APPEAL

The recent St Vincent de Paul Doorknock collections at St Brigid's - \$882.05, Holy Rosary - \$3,430.50 and the Canberra Show \$3,103.35.00 (Sunday rained out) have resulted in \$7,415.90 being collected for the work of the Society in the Canberra-Goulburn Region. Thank you to parishioners for your great generosity and thank you to those volunteers who assisted with the show. What a fantastic result!

## SEEING JESUS

Some Greeks came up to Philip and made this request: "Sir, we should like to see Jesus." They are to find Jesus, of course, in the grain of wheat fallen to earth and dying. They are to find Jesus in the one who is lifted up from the earth and loses his life. If we should like to see Jesus, we need to look for the fallen grains of wheat around us, the sick and impoverished, the abused and oppressed. If we should like to see Jesus, we need to look for those who are losing their lives, the victims of poverty, abuse, discrimination, and war. What we need is a new covenant, a covenant of love and forgiveness. We need to have written in our hearts that we are God's people, that we aspire to be like Christ in transforming the darkness of the world's pain into the life and joy of Easter.

Jesus who came as 'Emmanuel' (God with us, Mt 1:23) and who promises to be with his people until the end of the age (Mt 28:20) is hidden in those most in need; to reject them is to reject God made manifest in history. [Gerald Darring](http://liturgy.slu.edu/) <http://liturgy.slu.edu/>

## NOTE ON THE GOSPEL

"Despite any misgivings, Jesus faced his 'hour' because of the Father's will. His death would reveal the glory of the Father (ie define what sort of God the Christians believed in). And glorify the 'name' of the Father. Since the name revealed the character and inner strength of the person, according to ancient belief, 'glorifying the name of the Father' meant revealing the power of the Father. Jesus would show the God's power with an outpouring of his love. Jesus' prayer, and the heavenly response, affirmed the coming of Jesus' 'hour'. As the cross revealed the Father's love, it also revealed the Father's judgment. The ruler of the world (the Evil One) would be ejected. And everyone would be lifted up with Jesus, on the cross and in the resurrection (the image in 12:32 could refer to either). John, then, affirmed God's love did not save anyone from suffering on this earth, or even physical death. But, the faithful Christian would enjoy the presence of God now and in the life to come. All of this, because of Jesus." [An extract on the Gospel by Larry Broding.](#)

## SEEING THE CHRIST

*Fifth Sunday of Lent.*

*Fr Benjamin Earl OP preaches*

*on the simple request that triggers Christ's passion.*

From time to time, probably, all Christians ask themselves, 'what would it have been like to have been in the gospels, to have seen Christ face to face?' Today we get our question answered. We came to know Jesus not by having met him during his life on earth. Rather we were introduced to him by reputation: those who formed us in the Christian faith told us about him. But just knowing things about Jesus is not what the Christian faith is about. We want to know and love Jesus. Having heard about him and having believed what we have heard, ultimately, we wish to see Jesus.

This is where today's gospel comes in. The Greeks who say to Philip, 'we wish to see Jesus,' say this not only in their own name, but also on behalf of all those throughout history who will hear about the fame of Jesus, but not have the opportunity to see him in the flesh. The Greeks speak for us.

When Jesus hears that there are some Greeks wanting to see him, his reply is not directed just at them, but it is a reply to all who wish to see him. Up to this point in St John's gospel, we repeatedly read, 'his hour had not yet come.' Now, things change. Now, Jesus says:

'The hour has come for the Son of man to be glorified.'

And once the voice of the Father has thundered from heaven, the gospel seems to shift up a gear. After years of preaching and working of miraculous signs, the Passion of the Christ begins: the whole sequence of events that we commemorate over the next two weeks.

But remember what it is that triggers this momentous change: the arrival of some anonymous Greeks and the seemingly innocuous request, 'we wish to see Jesus.' The consequences of such a simple phrase probably surprised the Greeks, and might surprise us. But the fact is that the whole mission of Jesus was that he should be seen; and be seen not just by the Jewish people, but by the whole of the wider world which the Greeks represent. Obviously when I say that Jesus' mission was that he should be seen, I'm not talking about the first-century equivalent of being mentioned regularly in a newspaper society or gossip column. Christ is not a celebrity, he is the 'source of eternal salvation'; we don't long to see him with the eyes of idle curiosity but with the eyes of faith. It is that vision of faith which saves us from our sins, and seeing God in eternity is the reward of salvation. And so it is the news that the world is ready to see him that triggers the saving work of Christ: his passion and death.

At the end of today's gospel, Jesus says: 'I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself.'

This is the closest he comes to actually answering the request of the Greeks who wish to see him. They were to see him, not for a quiet chat, but instead lifted up on the cross. There, they were drawn to him not by the grotesque spectacle of crucifixion, but by the love of God and their thirst for his mercy, which comes only through Christ.

In the liturgy we too are present in the gospel. We say 'we wish to see Jesus', and we do see him lifted up before us, at every celebration of the Eucharist. We see him in a particularly intense way through the celebration of the liturgy of Holy Week. We see Christ, and he draws us to himself, in the all the sacraments, especially at this time the Sacrament of Penance and the reception of Holy Communion. The Christ we now see through sacramental signs, we still long to see face to face. This too is promised to us; Christ who was exalted on the cross was also raised from the dead, and draws all who long to see him to the fullness of happiness for all eternity in the vision of God, a joy that as yet we cannot possibly comprehend.

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

We must absorb what is useful,  
discard what is not and add what is uniquely our own.

# 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](http://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](mailto:watson@cg.org.au)

## 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.

### CATHOLIC WEEKLY

Please note that if you wish to have a copy of the Catholic Weekly the cost is \$2.00. It is not a FREE publication.

# EVENTS

## 25 - March - REFUGEE RALLY

*Palm Sunday Rally For Justice For Refugees*  
1pm Sunday 25 March - Garema Place, City.

## 22 - March - CONCERNED CATHOLICS OF CANBERRA

You are invited to the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:concerned.catholics.cnagbn@gmail.com)

## 24 - March - LORETO ALUMNI LUNCHEON

Ex students from all Loreto Convents are warmly welcomed to the Alumni's annual regional lunch at Muse, Kingston preceded by Mass. Enquiries to Jenny Dobbin, 0439 619181

## 27 - March - DARAMALAN COLLEGE OPENING EVENING

Tuesday 27 March. Tours from 5.00-6.30pm. Optional information sessions for Year 7, 2019 at 4.45pm & 7.00pm. Year 11, 2019 Information Session at 6.00pm. Contact 62456348 for further information.

## MERICI COLLEGE

Wednesday 9 May - 2.00pm-4.00pm and 5.30pm-7.30pm (includes Year 7 2019 Information Session)  
Year 11 Information Night - Thursday 17 May - 5.00pm-6.30pm  
*Careers Expo from 2.30pm*  
Be a Merici Girl for a Day - Experience a typical day at Merici College  
Wednesday 2 May - Friday 4 May  
School Tour and Principal's Address Saturday 5 May 9.30am  
Visit [www.merici.college](http://www.merici.college) for all enrolment enquiries and online registrations for Be a Merici Girl

## In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop 2018 National Pilgrimage

The Sisters of St Joseph invite you to join the National Pilgrimage, giving you the opportunity to journey to significant places in Australia made holy by St Mary MacKillop. **Commence in Melbourne 23 October, travel through Victoria & South Australia, conclude in Sydney 3 November 2018. COST EX CANBERRA:** \$3,375.00 (all inclusive: airfares, accommodation, coach travel, admission fees and meals). **SINGLE SUPPLEMENT:** \$700.00 For further information, please contact Sr Therese Leydon 0417 683123 or Sr Annie Bond 02 89124818, or email [national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au](mailto:national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au).

## PALM SUNDAY ROSTERS 24 / 25 March 2018

### Saturday 6.00 pm Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	I. Buckley	
Readers	P. English	E. Smith
Gospel Narrator	T. Dennis	
<b>Gospel Others</b>	<b>Volunteer</b>	
Presentation of Gifts	Vanderzil Family	
EMOE	J. Maclean	

### Sunday 8.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	M. Falk	
Readers	M. Gabbitas	T. Klekner
<b>Gospel Narrator</b>	<b>Volunteer</b>	
<b>Gospel Others</b>	<b>Volunteer</b>	
Presentation of Gifts	Lestone Family	
EMOE	J. Smith	

### Sunday 10.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	J. Wade	
Readers	R. Ciaccia	I. Ciaccia
<b>Gospel Narrator</b>	<b>Volunteer</b>	
<b>Gospel Others</b>	<b>Volunteer</b>	
Presentation of Gifts	Ciaccia Family	
EMOE	E. Musolino	M. Mastrolembo

### Sunday 6.00pm Day Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	J. Cornelly	
Readers	J. Curnow	T. Malone
Gospel Narrator	T. Malone	
Gospel Others	J. Curnow	
Presentation of Gifts	Malone Family	
EMOE	K. Sneddon	V. Van der Sanden
Counter	I. Buckley	