

# Catholic Parish of Blackfriars

Issue 23  
15th April 2018  
Year B

Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



## VERITAS



## Third Sunday of Easter

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](mailto:watson@cg.org.au)  
[www.cg.org.au/watson](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

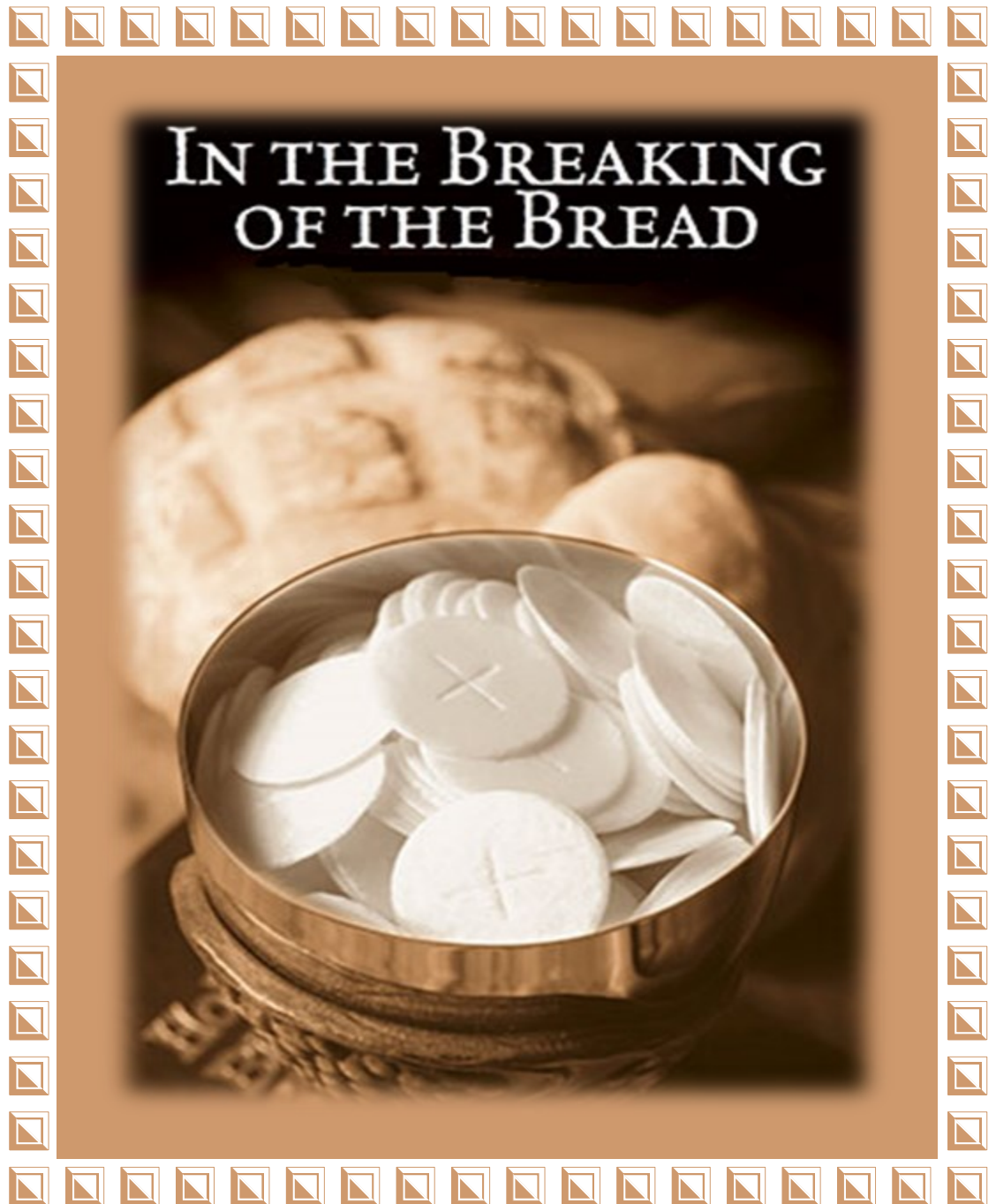
**Saturday 5pm (Vigil)**  
**Sunday 8am, 10am & 5pm**

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

**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>	Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia.
<b>GOSPEL ACCLAMATION</b>	Alleluia, alleluia! Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us: make our hearts burn with love when you speak. Alleluia!
<b>COMMUNION</b>	The Christ had to suffer and on the third day rise from the dead; in his name repentance and remission of sins must be preached to all the nations, alleluia.
<b>READINGS</b>	Acts 3:13-15. 17-19      1 John 2:1-5 Gospel: Luke 24:35-48

### PSALM: 4:2, 4, 7, 9

Lord, let your face shine on us.

When I call, answer me, O God of justice;  
from anguish you released me, have mercy and hear me!

It is the Lord who grants favours to those whom he loves;  
the Lord hears me whenever I call him.

'What can bring us happiness?' many say.  
Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.

I will lie down in peace and sleep comes at once,  
for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

Lord, let your face shine on us.

### POPE FRANCIS

*The home is where children first learn about God. Parents hand on faith to their children not only by what they say but, more importantly, by what they do and how they treat others both inside and outside of the home.*

### WHAT TO BELIEVE

"The gospel opens with two people who followed Jesus, but felt discouragement. Events have dashed their hopes. Now they walk away from the Christian community in Jerusalem. Luke symbolised the broken movement in Cleopas and his companion.

"But, as Jesus once gathered followers with his preaching and great signs, he would do again. He came near and engaged them in a faith dialogue without revealing himself. How does he begin? By being present and listening to stories of discouragement. On a human level, the two companions had every right to feel discouraged. After all, they placed their trust in the reputation of Jesus, only to have that trust crushed by the actions of the religious leaders.

"Jesus also listened to the companions' lack of trust. They heard the witness of the women to his resurrection but through their actions (ie. walking away), they showed disbelief. In light of past days events, the women's claim did seem hard to believe."

[An extract from a reflection on the Gospel by Larry Broding](#)

### CHILDREN'S BULLETIN

**If your children are taking a Children's Bulletin to colour-in please ensure that all the pencils are returned to the basket from which they were taken.**

### 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/)

## HOW FISH BECAME A SYMBOL OF CHRISTIANITY

The first disciples were fishermen. The only recorded meal that Jesus cooked was grilled fish for breakfast at the end of John's



Gospel. Early on, the fish became a symbol for Christ from the Greek word for fish, *ichthys*: Iesous Christos, Theou Yios, Soter - Jesus Christ, Son of God, Saviour. When two early Christians met, the first might trace one arc of the fish symbol on the ground, then the other would confirm that he or she was a believer by adding the complementary curve.

### REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL

Extraordinary things can happen if we open ourselves to the presence of a stranger on the road of life. That is one of the elements in today's gospel which is the conclusion to the Emmaus story. When I was a student at Trinity College in Dublin writing about Luke's depiction of women in his second volume, I would often take a detour on my way home to visit the National Gallery of Ireland. Velázquez' remarkable oil painting, Kitchen Maid with the Supper at Emmaus captured and held my attention. In his painting, the kitchen maid pauses from her tasks to listen, through the window between kitchen and dining area, to the conversation between Jesus and the disciples. The disciples have not yet recognised the companion they had encountered on the road from Jerusalem. Velázquez seems to be suggesting that the young slave woman has sensed what they have still to discover.

Imagine two dejected disciples (Cleopas and possibly his wife) on the road from Jerusalem to their home in Emmaus. On their journey, they encounter the risen Jesus. At first, they fail to recognise him. Their sadness at his death has blinded them to what is happening before their very eyes. He engages them in conversation and holds up a metaphorical mirror to their experience of loss and grief. Their hearts 'burn' within them as he opens to them the meaning of their sacred scriptures. They invite him to share a meal with them and their eyes are opened: they recognise him in the breaking of the bread. He disappears from their midst. They cannot contain the joy they have experienced in realising that Jesus is alive. Cleopas and partner go straight back to Jerusalem to share the good news with the other disciples. Now all the assembled disciples experience powerfully the presence of Jesus in their midst. They share a meal with him. He opens their minds to understand the scriptures. Everything falls into place. They not only understand Jesus' death and resurrection in the light of the scriptures. They now know that they will be 'clothed with power from on high' to exercise their role as witnesses to this great mystery, and to preach forgiveness to all peoples 'beginning from Jerusalem'.

Luke will open the Acts of the Apostles with the story of Jesus sending the disciples to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth. We who re-member these events in every Eucharistic celebration are both the recipients and the bearers of that message. If we allow our hearts to 'burn' within us, we too may recognise the Risen One in our gatherings and become his witnesses to the ends of the earth. *Veronica Lawson RSM*

### PROJECT COMPASSION

Please return or Project Compassion boxes and share envelopes as soon as possible. Place the Box in the Sacristy and the Share pack envelopes on the second collection plate. Thank you.

**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 Ivan Habus

**Our deceased**

Fr Joe Wilson OP, Nelson Belotti, John Love, Norma Avery, Beatriz Carrearas

## DOUBT NO LONGER

*Third Sunday of Easter.*

*Fr Aidan Nichols OP*

*discusses the difference between doubt and difficulty.*

Today's Gospel shows the first disciples having difficulties and doubts about the Resurrection. Is it real, did it really happen, or is it an illusion, are we misinterpreting the evidence?

Traditionally, the Church has distinguished between difficulties and doubts. According to John Henry Newman, 'Ten thousand difficulties do not make one doubt'. As reasoning people, we naturally apply our minds to our religion, including to what happened in the aftermath of the Crucifixion. There are difficulties here - about the sources, about the agreement of the witnesses, about the possibility of miracle, and, in the larger picture, about how the Resurrection of the Messiah can be said to fulfil the hope of Israel and consummate the creation. We face up to these difficulties, none of which is insuperable (to put it mildly!), and through them we grow into a more informed and intelligent faith.

Doubt is something more radical. Doubt is wondering whether religious terms have any reference to reality at all. 'God', 'Christ', 'The Resurrection', 'The Holy Spirit', 'grace' - are these words just counters, is it all a game? Curiously, this kind of radical doubt is mentioned by both St Luke and St Matthew in connexion with the Resurrection appearances. With the risen Christ before their very eyes, some doubted. In today's Gospel, Christ gives his own analysis of why this could be and his explanation runs: the cause of it is fear or anxiety. 'Why are you so agitated?' 'Why are these doubts arising in your hearts?' 'Your hearts', we notice, not 'your intellects'. Something is wrong with their sensibility, with their passions, their emotions, and this is what is doing the damage to their judgment. This is what is causing doubt. Stepping back a little from the Gospel narrative, we can reflect on the following datum of human experience at large. If we are, in some way, fearful of reality in its richness and depth, we tend to clam up. We shut out from our minds the unexpected, which may also - but not necessarily - be the unpalatable. We like to have things taped. We feel secure and unchallenged that way. Predictability is a comfort zone. The routines even of a hard life become dear to people. This is strange but true. 'Human kind', wrote T. S. Eliot, 'cannot bear too much reality', or, come to that, too varied a diet of it.

Applying that generalization to the present case, then: to accept the risen Christ, which means, among other things, to accept that we are going to be in some manner changed by him and have our lives interfered with, may be more than we want to bear, at any rate at this or that time in our lives. The closed-in self must be opened up before we have Easter contact with Jesus. 'Why are you troubled?' 'Peace be with you!' It brings to a climax a theme sounded throughout his ministry. 'Why are you afraid?' 'You believe in God, believe also in me.'

Christian faith requires us to receive this mystery, to let it flow over us and shape our life. There is a parallel here with the philosophical realism in the school of St Thomas Aquinas. We are not to dictate to reality, to force it into the shape we prefer. We are to let go, let ourselves be carried by it, let it mould us by its own glorious objectivity. Life and the God of life are bigger than we are. If that is how we ought to approach creation, then the new creation - the supernatural - will surely make at least comparable demands.

The new creation has its realism as well as the old. What could be more basic to the act of faith than to say of the Gospel narratives and the invitation they contain: something real is here! God is here, and he is here for me. So in Paschaltide we hold out our hands to the Living One, the risen and exalted Lord, and experience in some degree the joy of his victory over death. He is truly risen, alleluia!

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

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

## BAPTISM

*Zara Jane Saniland*

*Siena Ava Brusic*

who will be baptised this weekend.  
May their lives filled with God's peace,  
and their hearts with God's love...  
on this Baptism day and always.



## WHAT ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO?

Once, in perplexity, people asked Jesus, "What are we supposed to do?" (John 6:28). The Second Reading raises this question for us too.

The Second Reading says that if you don't keep God's commandments but say that you know the Lord, you are a liar. Being a liar is bad enough. But the Second Reading also says that if you don't keep the Lord's commandments, you don't know the Lord. If we believe that Jesus is the Saviour, sent by God to save us from our sins, then, sinful as we are, we are in fact keeping the commandment the Lord gave the people. That is the worst, isn't it? Especially because the test for whether or not you know the Lord is not whether you have fervent prayer or sweet religious experience. No, the test is just whether you keep the Lord's commandments. That is why you lie if you don't keep the Lord's commandments but still try to tell yourself and others that you know the Lord.

In another passage, this same Epistle (1John 1:6-8) claims that if you say you have no sin, you are a liar, too.

And now we have a real puzzle, don't we? To avoid the sin of lying, you have to confess that you do sinful things. But then you are confessing that you aren't keeping the Lord's commandments, aren't you? And in that case, you are a liar, and you don't know the Lord. Well, then, what are we supposed to do? The answer is in what Jesus told the people when they asked him that very question. Jesus said, "Believe in the one whom God has sent." (John 6:29) Notice that this is a command.

And here is what it means. We can tell the truth: we are sinful. But it doesn't follow that we don't keep God's commandments. If we believe that Jesus is the Savior, sent by God to save us from our sins, then, sinful as we are, we are in fact keeping the commandment the Lord gave the people when they asked him what they were supposed to do. And if we keep his command, then it is also true that we know him. We know him as the Christ, sent by God to save us from our sins.

It can be true then both that we are sinful and that we keep the commandment of the Lord if we believe that he will save us from our sinfulness.

So this is what we are supposed to do: know *him*. *Eleonore Stump*

**Fr Kieran will be taking a short break after the Easter Celebrations and will be back in the office on Monday 23rd April**

**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. 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.

The Calvary Auxiliary is holding a bookstall on Thursday 19th April between 8.00am and 4.00pm in the main foyer of the Hospital, i.e. in the Lewisham Building. Come and stock up on your winter reading needs - **NOTHING** over \$2.00. Enquiries contact Mary Cruickshank 62544084

*The phrase "do not be afraid" is written in the bible 365 times. That's a daily reminder from God to live every day being fearless.*

**CATHOLIC WEEKLY** - Please note the cost of the Catholic Weekly is \$2.00. It is not a FREE publication.

## 21 - April AMICUS

"Amicus", a support group for widowed, divorced and separated Catholics will be holding its next gathering at the Joe's Thai Restaurant Wanniassa Shops at 6.30pm for dinner. Contact Patricia 0412 351 548.

## 24 - April CHRISTIANS FOR AN ETHICAL SOCIETY

A forum to discuss peace, hope, violence and war will held from 7.30 pm at the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, Blackall St (corner Kings Ave), Barton, ACT. Supper will be provided. A \$5 donation would be appreciated. For further information [www.ces.org.au](http://www.ces.org.au).

## 28 - April EVENINGS FOR THE ENGAGED

Evening for the engaged marriage preparation program, will be held over two consecutive Saturdays on 28<sup>th</sup> April and 5<sup>th</sup> May 2018. Bookings and Enquiries to Mark and Kathy Haseler, 6166 7634.

## 27-29 - April - "MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND"

A relationship enrichment opportunity for married couples at the Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW.

Bookings online at [www.wwme.org.au](http://www.wwme.org.au) or via Adrian and Janet Sullivan: on 0490 774 419 or [adrian.janet1@bigpond.com](mailto:adrian.janet1@bigpond.com)

## 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.

**ST CLARE'S: Tuesday 1 or Tuesday 8 May** - We invite prospective Year 7 students to St Clare's College. Please register on our website.

Open Evening: Wednesday 2 May - Our Open Evening will run from 4.00pm to 7.00pm with an information session to be held in the College Hall from 6.00pm-6.30pm.

Year 11 Information Evening: Thursday 10 May - Courses and leadership opportunities for senior students at our Information Evening from 6.00pm - 7.30pm at the College.

School Tours: Tuesday 8 and Wednesday 16 May - School Tours with the Principal are available by appointment at 9.00am or 4.00pm. Please contact the College to register for a tour.

Contact details: P: 02 6260 9400 E: [the.principal@stcc.act.edu.au](mailto:the.principal@stcc.act.edu.au)

A: 1 McMillan Crescent, Griffith ACT 2603 [www.stcc.act.edu.au](http://www.stcc.act.edu.au)

## 14 - October - "MARIAN PROCESSION"

**Save the Date** - This year will be a celebration of 100 years since the foundation of St Clement's Monastery. Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Yllana will be leading those gathered on this special day.

## ROSTERS 21 / 22 March 2018

### Saturday 5.00 pm Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	I. Buckley	
Readers	M. Pentony	J. de Riva O'Phelan
Presentation of Gifts	N. Higgins	
EMOE	J. Maclean	

### Sunday 8.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	K. Linnard	
Readers	N. Clark	G. Thompson
Presentation of Gifts	E. M. Falk	
EMOE	M. Falk	

### Sunday 10.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	R. Tanzer	
Readers	M. Fitzgerald	K. McCluskey
Presentation of Gifts	Barbaro Family	
EMOE	B. Affas	S. Tanzer

### Sunday 5.00pm Day Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	J. Cornelly	
Readers	K. Kralikas	V. Van der Sanden
Presentation of Gifts	de Luca Family	
EMOE	J. Curnow	K. Sneddon
Counters	W. Wade	J. Smith

Forgiveness does not change the past but it does enlarge the future.