

Catholic Parish of Blackfriars

Issue 25
29th April 2018
Year B

Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



VERITAS



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
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

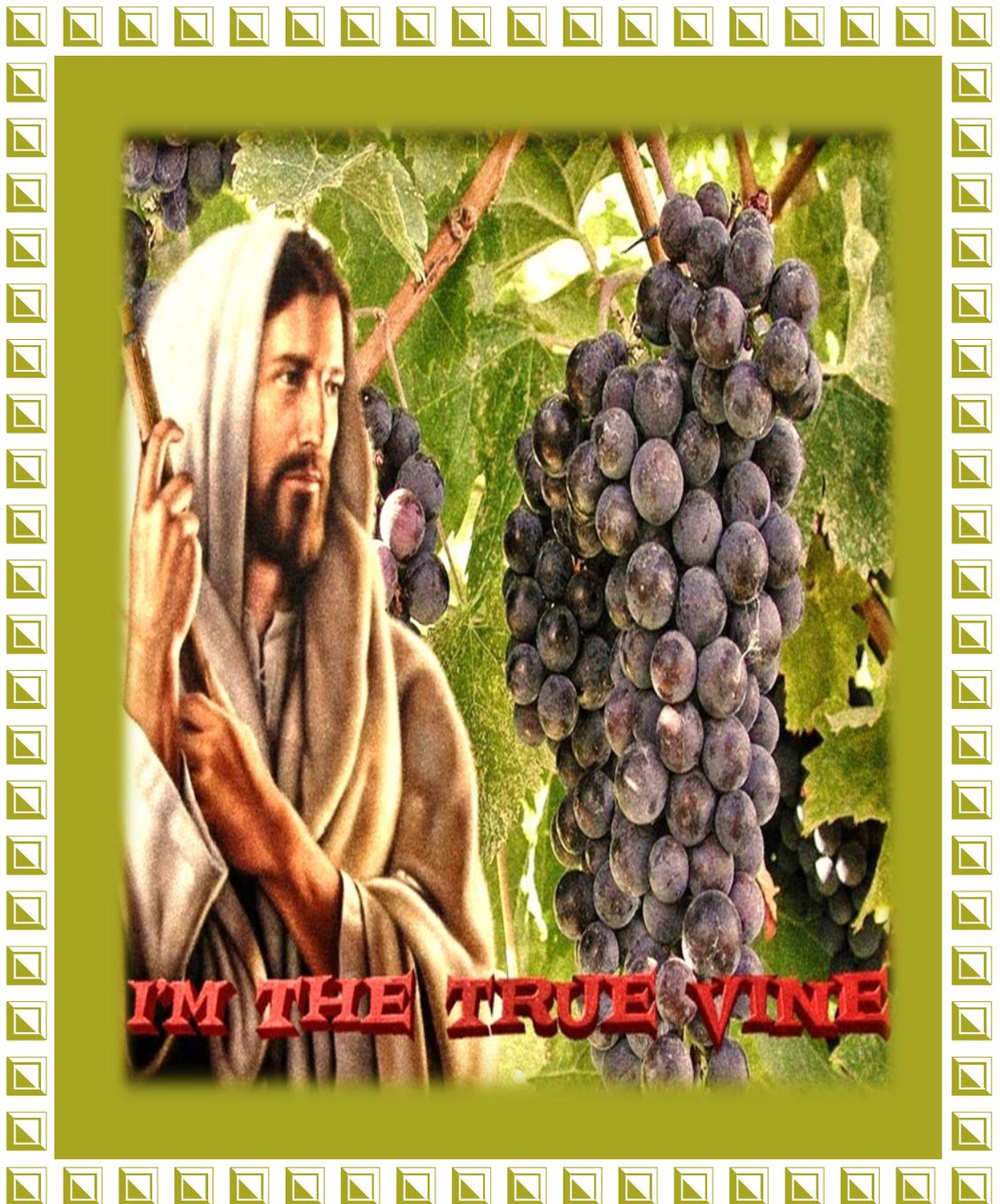
Saturday 5pm (Vigil)
Sunday 8am, 10am & 5pm

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

Fifth Sunday of Easter



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 sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	Alleluia, alleluia! Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. Alleluia!
COMMUNION	I am the true vine and you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.
READINGS	Acts 9:26-31 1 John 3:18-24 Gospel: John 15:1-8

FIRST COMMUNION PARENT NIGHT



A reminder to all Parents of children making their First Communion this year, that there is a Parent Information Night this Thursday 3rd May at 6.00pm. Children also attend this meeting with their parents. On Sunday 6th May there will be a Family Commitment Mass at 10.00am for all Families of First Communion children.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 21:26-28, 30-32

I will praise you, Lord,
in the assembly of your people.

My vows I will pay before those who fear him.
The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.
They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him.
May their hearts live for ever and ever!

All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord,
all families of the nations worship before him.

They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust.

And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him.
They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come,
declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn:
'These things the Lord has done.'

I will praise you, Lord,
in the assembly of your people.

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.

WHO CARES?

The heart of Christian community is the person of Jesus Christ. Jesus is the vine; we are the branches. Living within the vine, we "will produce abundantly." Separated from the vine, we are, "a withered, rejected branch which can do nothing." The commandment that binds together this community is twofold: to believe in Jesus and to "love one another as he commanded us." When following this commandment of faith and love, "we are at peace before him." Such a community of faith, love and peace is possible, and Luke assures us that "throughout all Judea, Galilee and Samaria the church was at peace." Our world is not at peace; there is war and division everywhere. For our Church to speak peace to this world, it will have to be a peaceful community. There must be that faith in, and reliance on Jesus, and there must also be that love for one another. The world must be able to look at us and say that we are at peace. Only then will our message of peace get through to others. That the Church may really be the sign of that solidarity which the family of nations desires, it should show in its own life greater cooperation between the Churches of rich and poor regions through spiritual communion and division of human and material resources.

Synod of Bishops, Justice in the World, 1971: 59. Gerald Darring

BE FRUITFUL AND MULTIPLY

The first command God gave to human beings was "be fruitful and multiply" (Gen1:28). In the Gospel Reading, there is a kind of reiteration of this command. At any rate, the text describes the bad things that happen to people who are not fruitful. In Genesis, the fruitfulness has to do with reproduction. It comes from union between a man and a woman, and it multiplies God's image in the production of children. Love unites you and your beloved without either one of you losing your identity. The fruitfulness at issue in the Gospel comes from connection too, but connection with Christ. It comes when Christ is in you, and you are in him. This reciprocal being-in is a funny state of affairs, isn't it? You can put a bowl in a box, or you can put a box in a bowl. But the box can't be in the bowl when the bowl is in the box! Boxes and bowls can't manage reciprocal being-in. But persons can, because of love. Love unites you and your beloved without either one of you losing your identity. The union of love is not a fusing; it is a mutual indwelling. In the Gospel Reading, Christ says that he always remains in his own. So if you yield to Christ in love, you have what is needed for the mutual indwelling of love. You are your beloved's, and he is yours. (Song of Songs 6:3) There is joy in this love, because Christ is so much with you that he is in you. There is peace, too, because there is rest for the heart in having your beloved with you. Your sins and the storms of life retain their power to afflict you. But you can more easily put up with things, even your own troublesome self, if your beloved is yours and you are his. In that mutual indwelling, then, there is love, joy, peace, patience and longsuffering. But these very things are fruits of the Holy Spirit. When they grow in you, you are bearing fruit. Finally, consider: is there a more powerful witness than a life lived in love, joy, peace, patience and long-suffering? If you have the fruits of the Holy Spirit in you, you will multiply God's image in others too. And so, by remaining in Christ, you are doing what will make you multiply and be fruitful. [Eleonore Stump http://liturgy.slu.edu/](http://liturgy.slu.edu/)

SAUL OF TARSUS

Today's first reading mentions someone named Saul, who tries to meet the Apostles and is rebuffed. Without some background context this doesn't mean much. Saul is better known by his Roman name of Paul, the first great Christian missionary. The reason why the Apostles rejected him is that he had been a rabid fanatic against Christianity. Saul had led what amounted to a one-man crusade against the followers of Jesus. He had caused the arrest of many of them and even participated in their executions! This all changed when he dramatically converted to the very faith he had hated. No wonder the Apostles were suspicious.

[Fr R. Lonsdale http://www.4catholiceducators.com/lonsdale](http://www.4catholiceducators.com/lonsdale)

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, Ken Rolls, Anne Corver, Barbara Wilson, Awny El-Ghitany, Joebert Tabiola, Elsie Lughton, Beth Delos Santos, Rosa Maria Santos, Maria Martiniello, Elizabeth Webster, Mimma Giampietro, Alexia Harris, Joe Schimizzi, Zelma McManus, Lynn & Richard Bale, Greg O'Neill Ivan Habus
Our deceased	Norma Avery, Beatriz Carreas, Charles Ryan, Lillian Brigg's, Bob Thomas, Greg McAlpin, Glenice Entwistle, Rosita Dignadice, Olga Michel, Arthur Sanderson
In Memory	Colin & Lily Ingram, Chris Ford

BAPTISM

Isabelle Jean Watson

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.



PRUNING BRANCHES

Jesus uses grape vines as an analogy for the personal connection that exists between himself and the people of God. Some vines produce more leaves than grapes. Often those cultivating the plants must cut unhealthy branches to force to produce more grapes. So must we prune those parts of our lives which weaken our bond with Jesus.

Fr R. Lonsdale

FROM CHAOTIC TO CALM

When our Lord and Saviour entered into this world, he did so in all simplicity, humility and gentleness.

He suffered His passion and death in order to set us free from all the forms of bondage our world has to offer. But are we truly free? Do we really enjoy this freedom? Or have we allowed worldly distractions, materialism in particular, to creep in and rob us of our freedom....freedom to focus on God, to embrace our vocation, to focus on relationships, to live simply and joyfully? What can we do to recapture the simplicity and beauty that our homes so desperately need? Living with less is the answer. *Three Benefits of Living with Less*

1. Our Home Becomes a Haven: When we have fewer things we don't have to expend so much time and energy organising and maintaining them. There's less stress and less chaos.
2. There is More Room to Love God and Others: Material things are not bad in and of themselves. However, we are called to love God ABOVE all things. Having or desiring too many things can distract us from our relationship with our God and our family. When we live with less, we have... more freedom to ponder and listen to God; more time to pray; the ability to focus on improving our relationships.
3. We Practise the Virtue of Holy Detachment: When we learn to detach from the things of this world, we also learn to practise holy detachment in other areas of life: from worrying what we cannot control; from other people's opinions of us; from forming unfounded opinions about others; from our own self-will ...so that we can embrace our Lord's Holy will more fully in our lives.

cathfamily.org

*Life is the best school. God is the best teacher
Problem is the best assignment.
Failure is the best revision.*

CUTTING BACK

The Gospel for this coming Sunday of Easter has a familiar story. Jesus, the vine, is rooted and stable and will always bring us all the nourishment we need. We are the dependent branches. Maybe you would like to stop there and contemplate such a rich image. Do so if you would like.

Why? Because just beyond it there is the small matter of being pruned. To prune a plant is to cut parts of it off. Jesus mentions it twice in our Gospel reading: Speaking as the vine, he says that the Father takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and every one that does he prunes, so that it bears more fruit. (Gospel) Ouch. If we bring forth no fruit, we "will be thrown out like a branch and wither." If we bear some, we have to be pruned. We lose either way! And it is all our fault: The reason pruning would help is not that we should be punished, but that pruning promotes health of the whole person. If only I were a better person, if only I had done the right thing, if only the world were different, if only I had been dealt a better hand in the game of life, or, or, or. If I weren't so full of guilt I wouldn't have to be pruned. It is all my fault!

But guilt is a major feature of human life. "Everything goes wrong," it says. To tell the truth, many people take the crucifixion as a direct result of their own sins. "I caused this. My sins killed Jesus." This is not completely false, but it is out of control. How could your small sins take down the Lord of the universe? So could there be a better way to deal with guilt? Yes.

First, decide whether you are bearing no fruit at all. None. If that is really and actually true, then get help from someone, because spiritually you are dying. Most of us do bear good fruit—it is just that we don't recognize that we do.

Second, with that settled, look at what pruning is. It is a way to make things better, make a better plant, a better tree, a better orchard. If you cut tired old branches from your philodendron, for instance, it will begin to thrive again, not wither. Pruning encourages new growth and the overall health of the plant or tree. *Third*, seen in that way, you and I do need to be trimmed regularly, don't we? Here is an example. Maybe unconsciously we have been thinking that we ourselves are the vine, independent of Christ, not just a branch. The reason pruning would help is not that we should be punished, but that pruning promotes health of the whole person, the whole garden, the whole orchard—the mystical body of Christ.

Can you trust the steadiness of Jesus' gardener hand. Trust even while suffering? Drink in your overflowing share of trust at Sunday's table of the Lord. Let the Word instruct you, let the body and blood of Christ, which was pruned to almost nothing, fill you and shape you.

Then you can say to the Lord with the rest of us, go ahead, trim whatever gets in the way! I am not the vine, I am a branch.

My job is not to be perfect, it is to remain in you, Christ, and to let you do good within me and through me and us.

John Foley, SJ <http://liturgy.slu.edu/>

CANCER MORNING TEA

Our Parish will once again be holding a morning tea to raise money for Cancer Research on Thursday 24th May at 10.30am in the Parish Centre. Entry is by donation and all money raised will go to the ACT Cancer Council for Cancer Research. Everyone is welcome - men, women, young and old. Please come and support this parish function and have some fun.

POPE FRANCIS

The covenant of love lived by the Holy Family of Nazareth illuminates the principle which gives shape to every family, and enables it better to face the trials of life. On this basis, every family despite its weaknesses can become a light for the world.

HOLY ROSARY CHURCH ACTIVITIES

SCHOOL OF RELIGION / CATECHISTS - 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

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

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 the cost of the Catholic Weekly is \$2.00. It is not a FREE publication.

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.saintmichaeltheangelorganization.org/

HEART WOMEN'S CONFERENCE will be held **7th - 9th June** at the Fairfield RSL. A time to come together as women to be refreshed and renewed in our busy lives. Full registration cost \$199.99. register at Heart.TheCatholicGuy.com or phone: 1300 734 880 for more information.

EVENTS

3 - May - CALVARY HOSPITAL MOTHER'S DAY STALL

The Calvary Hospital Auxiliary is holding a Mother's Day Craft and Present Stall in the main foyer of the hospital on Thursday 3rd May from 8.00 til 4.00pm.

4 - May - HEALING MASS FOR MOTHERS

5.30 pm St Benedict Mission Centre, Narrabundah. SMS Fr David on 0435 484 608

4-6 May - CONSECRATED LIFE WEEKEND

Missionaries of God's Love Sisters: A low-key weekend in Kambah of vocation information, stories of calls, discernment support, fun, and prayer, for young women looking for more. Contact us: 6166 6941

5 - May - EVENINGS FOR THE ENGAGED

Evening for the engaged marriage preparation program. Bookings and Enquiries to Mark and Kathy Haseler, 6166 7634.

5 - May - STREET MINISTRY

Build your confidence and knowledge in STREET MINISTRY! Parish Centre from 10am-4pm. St Benedict Mission Centre, Narrabundah. All Welcome. Contact Brian: 0409 126 804. St Benedict Mission Centre, Narrabundah. All Welcome.

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

9 - May - MERICI COLLEGE - 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

9 - May - ST THOMAS MOORE FORUM - 7.30 - 9.00pm

Senator Patrick Dodson Shadow Assistant Minister Indigenous Affairs and Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islanders and Senator for Western Australia *Changing the National Agenda for First Nations and the Role People of Faith Can Play.*

10 - May "Canberra Women For the World Luncheon 2018"

This year's lunch will focus on the plight of refugees. Royal Canberra Golf Club (RCGC), Yarralumla. Cost: \$130 per person. Register online by 23 April. www.caritas.org.au/donate/online-fundraising/women-for-the-world Phone: 6201 9852 Em: Fiona.Wilkinson@caritas.org.au

13 May - PILGRIMAGE TO THE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF MERCY

Pauline Fathers Monastery "Penrose Park" near Berrima
Sunday 13th May for Fatima Day Coach departs from St Joseph's Church, O'Connor 7.30am
For Bookings: Phone Judy & Joe Mewburn on 6254 6202

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 5 / 6 May 2018

Saturday 5.00 pm Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	R. Paul	
Readers	P. English	E. Smith
Presentation of Gifts	Vanderzil Family	
EMOE	T. O'Neill	

Sunday 8.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	M. Falk	
Readers	M. Gabbitas	T. Klekner
Presentation of Gifts	Flynn Family	
EMOE	E. M. Falk	

Sunday 10.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	L. Kim	
Readers	E. Northcote	J. Northcote
Presentation of Gifts	School Family	
EMOE	B. Affas	A. Northcote

Sunday 5.00pm Day Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	J. Cornelly	
Readers	T. Ryan	V. Van der Sanden
Presentation of Gifts	J. Curnow	
EMOE	K. Kralikas	C. Mackay
Counters	F. Higgins	N. Higgins I. Buckley