

# Catholic Parish of Blackfriars

Issue 52  
4th November 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

Postal Address  
PO Box 900, Dickson  
Ph. 6248 5925

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

## 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time



# Love God Love People

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	Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me! Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation! I love you, Lord, my strength.
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!
COMMUNION	Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me shall have life because of me, says the Lord
READINGS	Deuteronomy 6:2-6    Hebrews 7:23-28 Mark 12:28-34

### PSALM: 17:2-4. 47. 51

I love you, Lord, my strength.

I love you, Lord, my strength,  
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.  
My God is the rock where I take refuge;  
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.  
The Lord is worthy of all praise:  
when I call I am saved from my foes.

Long life to the Lord, my rock!  
Praised be the God who saves me.  
He has given great victories to his king  
and shown his love for his anointed.

I love you, Lord, my strength.

### 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.  
Fr Kieran

### MELBOURNE CUP

On Tuesday, the Parish will hold a Melbourne Cup Lunch in the Parish Centre. Lunch will start at 1pm. Cost \$10.00. Sweeps will be available. A 'Hat Parade' with prizes. Join us for good company and lots of fun! For catering purposes please RSVP by 5th Nov.

by either the form in the foyer or call the office 6248 5925. Envelopes are in the foyer for your payment, they can be put on the second collection plate.



### SAVE THE DATE



**PARISH CHRISTMAS DINNER**  
**Saturday 1st December**  
**after the 5pm Mass**

**We invite you to join us for  
our parish Christmas Dinner.**

**Watch this space in the coming weeks  
for more information.**



### NOVEMBER MASS OFFERINGS

November is a special time to pray for the dead. November Mass offering envelopes are available at the holy water fonts if you wish a Mass for your loved one.

### PLENARY COUNCIL 2020

#### Have Your Say on Holy Rosary Parish Renewal

In the lead-up to the Plenary Council in 2020, Pope Francis and Australia's Catholic Church leaders have invited all parishioners across Australia to partake in Listening and Dialogue encounters. 2018 is a "Year of Listening", lasting until 19 March 2019 and will be followed by a "Year of Discerning" in 2019. Everyone is invited to respond to the 3 questions:

**What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?**  
**What questions do you have about the future of the Church for the Plenary Council to consider in 2020?**  
**Do you have a story of your experience of faith or the Church you would like to share?**

If we want renewal, this is where to begin! Please come along to an information session and Listening and Dialogue encounter to learn more about the Plenary Council and start thinking about what you believe the Plenary Council should consider. Choose between two times available:

**Monday 12 November 2018, 7:00 – 8:15 PM OR**

**Saturday 8 December 2018, 3:30 – 4:45 PM**

**Room 301.1.1, First floor, Veritas Building, Australian Catholic University**

All members of the community are welcome, no matter how engaged you are with the Church at this time in your life.

Feel free to subscribe to the Plenary Council e-newsletter at their webpage <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/resources/have-your-say/>, Like the [Plenary Council Facebook page](#) and follow the [Plenary Council Twitter account](#). To find out more or even to make an online submission visit <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/resources/have-your-say/>

### A LOVE LEARNED FROM GOD

'Jesus approaches the end of his journey. He has already entered Jerusalem when a "scribe", who is evidently well disposed, asks which is the greatest of the commandments of the Law. As interpreters of the Law, the scribes had listed 613 ordinances calling for observance; it is not surprising that they often discussed their relative importance.

'The Covenant was intended to make old Israel "a light to the nations" – their life, shaped by the ways of God, learned through the covenant relationship, was to be an invitation to all peoples of the earth to find the one, true God – "The Lord our God is the one Lord" – and the blessings life with God can bring. The Saviour links the two commandments under the rubric of "love". The love true believers have for fellow human beings is a love that has been learned from God.

'The theme of "love", so important to every human heart, was soon to emerge, we know, as the very heart of the Gospel, the good news that "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son".'

**Excerpt from a commentary by Fr John Thornhill SM**

<b>In Your Prayers please remember those in our community who are ill:</b>	Elizabeth Cronin, Mary Bui, Greg O'Neill Fr Ellis Clifford, Dion Convine, Mary Martin Edith Jensen, Philip Bailey, Patricia Zorzi, Maureen Blood, Ken Rolls, Anne Corver, Barbara Wilson, Awny El-Ghitany, Joebert Tabiola, Elsie Loughton, Alexia Harris, Sharon O'rourke, Beth Delos Santos, Rosa Maria Santos, Maria Martiniello, Elizabeth Webster, Mimma Giampietro, Paul Neddrie, Joe Schimizzi, Zelma McManus, Helen Miller, Charlotte Woolner
<b>Our deceased</b>	Rachel Lo Pilato, Marisa Perre, Terry Perrott
<b>In Memory</b>	Jo�e Fonseca, Adriano Focarile Luigi Commisso

## BAPTISM

### *Johnny Franciscus Miranda*

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



## CONVERSATIONS MATTER

Most organisations have planning days to discuss what they're doing right or where they can improve. A variety of questions are canvassed such as: 'Is there still a reason for us to exist?' or 'Do our clients, customers, *readers*, share the same vision?' Jesuit Media held one of those days recently, and in attempting to explain its *raison d'etre*, the word conversation kept cropping up. Everything we do – every article that is published – is designed to further conversation among ourselves, or between ourselves and God. In the readings next Sunday, Jesus and a scribe have an open conversation about God's commandments.

As Fr Brendan Byrne SJ says in his homilist notes, 'scribes are usually hostile figures in the gospels but the one who approaches Jesus seems a genuine inquirer. At first, the conversation is straightforward. The question – which commandment of the Torah is the "first"? – was a standard item of discussion among the rabbis. And Jesus initially responds in conventional terms. But he then goes on beyond what the scribe had asked to offer a "second" commandment – "to love one's neighbour as oneself".' That reported conversation has resonated for more than 2000 years.

On Friday, the International Day to End Impunity for Crimes Against Journalists will be held. Many are dismissive of journalists, and in Australia there are no end of opinions about the worthiness or truthfulness of what appears in our news each day. However, there are many journalists who have been beaten, imprisoned or killed for speaking truth to power, such as Jamal Khashoggi. Their stories remind us of the deeper role that journalists can play in our society – starting conversations that can lead to change or growth, much in the same way that Jesus did all those centuries ago.

Michele Franken - Assistant editor – *Australian Catholics*

## THE ROOT OF CHRISTIAN LOVE

Citing another text from the Torah, Jesus then says that the second command is: 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself' (Lev. 19:18). Its fundamental presupposition is not psychological well-being, but a conviction well expressed by Thomas Merton: 'The beginning of the fight against hatred, the basic Christian answer to hatred, is not the commandment to love, but what must necessarily come before in order to make the commandment bearable and comprehensible. It is a prior commandment to believe. The root of Christian love is not the will to love, but the faith that one is loved...by God although unworthy or rather irrespective of one's worth!'

Excerpt from a commentary by Fr John Donahue SJ

## LEARNING TO LIVE

*Thirty-Third Sunday of the Year.*

*fr Peter Hunter OP helps us to see how the purpose and meaning of life are given as a gift.*

We've all had that experience of joining a group of friends who are mid-conversation, and finding that, at least at first, what they're saying makes no sense to us. Without the context of what they've been saying, it's hard to get our bearings, and work out just what the things they are saying mean.

Maybe we feel that way about our lives a lot of the time. Instead of making sense, our lives seem disjointed and confusing, and it's hard to find a meaning in the things that happen.

People say, "Everything happens for a reason", but that's precisely because it doesn't look that way. If the reasons behind the things that happen in our lives were clear, we wouldn't spend any time at all trying to persuade ourselves that things happened for a reason. But it isn't so obvious.

One way of reacting to this lack of meaning is to try to create meaning for ourselves. A lot of people nowadays think it's up to us to create the meaning in our lives. We must decide on a purpose for our lives, heroically make something of ourselves. I don't think that works, and it's all very exhausting!

Part of what Jesus is talking about in today's Gospel is the idea that our lives, indeed the whole history of humanity, the whole universe, already has a meaning and a purpose: we're just ignoring it. He seems to think that the meaning is pretty clear, as openly obvious as the coming of summer, the signs which herald the passing of the seasons.

Sometimes, it's pretty hard to accept that the way things are going in the world has anything to do with God. Our news is full of tragedy and suffering. It doesn't feel as if God is in charge. But even in the darkest stories, there is often a sign of hope. There are people fleeing their countries and people trying to stop them coming here, but there are also people working to make them welcome and to care for them.

In our own lives, I think we often see, especially looking back, a story to our own lives which was not of our making. When I think of the various events in my life that nudged me towards joining the Dominicans, it's quite unnerving, because I begin to realise that all my own decisions, some of them made for good reasons, but some even made for rather selfish ones, took me down a path I had not planned to be on.

I say "unnerving" because I have to come to realise that my life and its meaning and purpose are not my own. I can try all I like to give meaning to my life, I can have as many plans as I want, but ultimately none of that amounts to much. The meaning of my life, the story I find there, is being told, not by me, but by God. I don't mean he tells that story in a way that makes my choices irrelevant, but even when I make bad choices, God can use them to move the story in the direction he wants.

Understanding our lives, then, is not about heroically creating meaning. It's about discovering the meaning that is already there, our part in the greatest story ever told, the history of the whole universe, as told by its Creator, the God who loves us. Making sense of what's going on involves seeing things more and more in the light of the revelation that God has given us in Jesus. Things can seem confusing and disjointed, a bit like arriving in a conversation part way through. In that conversation, of course, the people talking have no difficulty knowing what's going on, and the more we listen and adopt their perspective, the more it makes sense to us too.

Something similar happens in our lives. The more we come to share the perspective of God, particularly in prayer, the more the story becomes our story, and the more we see the sense of it. I'm not sure we will ever know it fully this side of eternity, and knowing the meaning sometimes doesn't make it any less difficult. But the glimpses we get now give us hope that one day, we will know as fully as we are known, and love will be all in all.

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

Leave undone whatever you hesitate to do.



## 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](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 the **third Thursday** of each month Siam Twist Hackett 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** 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 or Email: [watson@cg.org.au](mailto:watson@cg.org.au)

**CATHOLIC VOICE WEBISTE** - The Archdiocese has launched a brand new **CATHOLIC VOICE WEBSITE** for current news in the archdiocese this link is <https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/>

**PETITION** - There is an opportunity to sign a petition for two Australians who told the truth about the Australian spying on the Timorese government in 2004 and facing two year's jail as a result. The petition is asking the Attorney-General that the case be dismissed. It is found at <https://justimor.org/>

**24 November - MILITARY CHAPLAINS FUNDRAISING DINNER**  
Invitation to all parishioners to attend the dinner at the Holy Trinity Parish Centre, Curtin. The dinner is hosted by the Knights of the Southern Cross and people are asked to arrive at 7.15 pm for a 7.30 pm start. Guest speaker is Monsignor John Woods. The cost is \$50.00 per person for a 2-course hot meal and dessert. Donations will be sought at the dinner for the training of Catholic Military Chaplains and there will be lucky door prizes. A maximum of 75 tickets. Contact: Bob Perkins (6247 2977) to reserve tickets. The dinner is BYO but juice and soft drinks will be provided. Book by e-mailing [neo@ksca.org.au](mailto:neo@ksca.org.au) "

## EVENTS

**4 November - DRENCHED IN THE LORD OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**  
From 6.00pm to 9.00pm every Sunday to 2 December at St Benedict's Centre Narrabundah. Soup & bread, teaching & sharing groups

**8 & 15 November - ACTS OF THE APOSTLES & HISTORICAL JESUS**  
with Fr Baiju Thomas MGL. All welcome. Enquiries: Jacqueline 6251 3950 or Rick 0429 878 794

**10 November - AMICUS**

A support group for widowed, divorced and separated Catholics will be holding its next gathering at the La Rustica by the Lake Kingston Fore-shore at 7pm for Dinner. Call Patricia 0412 351 548.

**10 November - "SEMINAR: CONSIDER THE CAUSE OF THE POOR"**

A day seminar on responding to the needs of the poor in the current age presented by the Good Shepherd prayer group with Kate Cleary and Fr Bernie Patterson from 9.00am to 4.00pm.

**11 November - IGITUR NOS CHAMBER CHOIR**

Igitur Nos Chamber Choir will sing Durufle's sublime *Requiem* and a number of other works including Faure's *Cantique de Jean Racine* with acclaimed Australian organist David Drury on Sunday 11 November at 1:30pm at St Paul's Anglican Church. Manuka. No bookings required; exit by donation.

**15-18 November - "CANBERRA WOMEN'S CURSILLO WEEKEND" :**

Women of the Archdiocese are invited to an invigorating and fun weekend to be held at Greenhills Conference Centre, Cotter Road, Canberra from 6pm Thursday to 4pm Sunday. Meet other women and reflect on your faith and where God is in your life, with Fr Bernie Patterson as the Spiritual Director. Enquiries and registration: Lorraine Barker [lorraine-barker@grapevine.com.au](mailto:lorraine-barker@grapevine.com.au) or 0437 329 371.

**16-18 November - "WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER"**

Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville. Book online [www.wwme.org.au](http://www.wwme.org.au)  
Contact: Adrian and Janet Sullivan: on 0490 774 419 or [adrian.janet1@bigpond.com](mailto:adrian.janet1@bigpond.com)

**19 November - L'ARCHE CARD/MAHJONG DAY**

Canberra Bowling Club, Hobart Avenue, Forrest from 10 am - 2 pm.  
Cost \$25, which includes lunch, wine, juice, tea & coffee.  
Proceeds of this social event go to L'Arche Genesaret, a community of people with and without intellectual disability.  
To book a table of four, please call by 12th November Mary on 6258 1739 or Di on 6241 2658.

**25 November - ANNUAL CATECHIST MASSES**

For Catechists, friends and relatives. BYO shared meal or morning tea 4 December @ 6.300m. St Thomas Aquinas, Charnwood.

### ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS CARDS & CALENDARS

are available after all Masses.  
Cards \$8.00 Calendars \$10.00

#### ROSTERS 10 / 11 November 2018

##### Saturday 5.00 pm Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	R. Paul	
Readers	K. Markcrow	D. Hinds
Presentation of Gifts	N. Higgins	
EMOE	A. Moore	K. Murphy

##### Sunday 8.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	K. Linard	
Readers	C. Widdowson	E. Smith
Presentation of Gifts	Lestone Family	
EMOE	M. Falk	

##### Sunday 10.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	Q. Vu	
Readers	R. Ciaccia	I. Ciaccia
Presentation of Gifts	Vu Family	
EMOE	B. Affas	S. Tanzer

##### Sunday 5.00pm Day Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	L. Kim	
Readers	M. Brotohusodo	M. Karunaratne
Presentation of Gifts	B. Dobrowska	
EMOE	M. Proctor	C. Mackay
Counters	G. Gleeson	I. Buckley