

Catholic Parish of Blackiriars

Issue 9
20th January 2019
Year C

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
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Email: 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

Second Sunday of Ordinary Time



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	All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	Alleluia, alleluia! God has called us with the gospel to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia
COMMUNION	We have come to know and to believe in the love that God has for us.
READINGS	Isaiah 62:1-5 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 Gospel: John 2:1-11

GOSPEL SUMMARY
While the Wedding in Cana is a familiar story, it only appears in John's Gospel. Scholars call it the first of Jesus' signs. The point Jesus wanted to illustrate by performing this sign was to introduce a change. Many scholars interpret the wedding as the new age and the huge stone jars represent the magnitude of the wonder. There is great abundance in the story and that is the message of the new order Jesus promises - God lavishes us with his abundant love and we come to know that love through Jesus. Change is often good for us. Jesus brought about a good change in the world

PSALM: 95:1-3. 7-10

Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.

- sing a new song to the Lord,
sing to the Lord all the earth.
- sing to the Lord, bless his name.

Proclaim his help day by day,
tell among the nations his glory
and his wonders among all the peoples.

Give the Lord, you families of peoples,
give the Lord glory and power,
give the Lord the glory of his name.

- Worship the Lord in his temple.
- earth, tremble before him.
- Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.'
- He will judge the peoples in fairness.

Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.

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.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL



The Vinnies conference wants to thank parishioners for their donation of goods for our annual Christmas hamper appeal. Thanks to donations from you and

and from Holy Rosary Primary School families, we were able to bring some cheer to 25 local families and their kids with generous hampers & toys for the kids. We were also assisted by staff and students from Merici College at a hamper working bee in December that made the hamper packing process much quicker.

The Christmas hampers mean a lot to the families we assist and your generosity makes a difference to their Christmas.



THE FIRST OF THE SIGNS GIVEN BY JESUS.

In today's liturgy - as we begin the cycle of the Sundays of the Year - the gospel reading from John tells the story of the "first sign" worked by Jesus, in the presence of his disciples, in Cana in Galilee. With it we round off the celebration of the Lord's Epiphany, or "manifestation". The meditative tradition of the community that gave us this gospel has gathered together several "signs" - miracles or works of Jesus - in which they have found in a rich symbolism that nourishes their faith in the Eternal Son who came forth from the Father. As it concludes, this gospel is called a "book of signs", put together so that the reader "may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God", and believing this "have life through him". In this "first" sign, it is solemnly announced, Jesus "revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him". We are given notice that we should find here far more than the moving story of a wedding celebration that was saved from disaster by a miracle worked by Jesus.

There are few occasions in our human experience that bring the joy and celebration brought by a wedding. The presence of Jesus and his recently-called disciples has unmistakable overtones. In the gospel's next chapter, John the Baptist will describe himself as "the bridegroom's friend", who must disappear before Christ, "the bridegroom who has the bride". We are reminded that the great prophets of Israel dared to call *Yahweh*, the God of the covenant, the devoted "Husband" of the Chosen People; reminded also that Jesus referred to himself as "the Bridegroom" (Mt 9:15). This theme is taken up in the first reading - like last week's taken from the later writings of the Isaian tradition. Now the forthright message of hope is given to an exiled community struggling to reestablish themselves after their return from Babylon: "I will not grow weary until Zion's integrity shines out like the dawn". Past infidelity will not be remembered, as the Lord bestows new names of endearment: "As the bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so will your God rejoice in you".

These great promises will be realized, the gospel tells us, with the coming of the Saviour's "hour". In the seven days described beforehand, Jesus has called his first disciples. Now they must look forward to something that far surpasses the grandeur of the first Creation - called to mind by the reference to seven days. The abundant wine reminds us of the "new wine" spoken of by Jesus: the new order of things that he was inaugurating through his Paschal Mystery. In contrast, the water jars of "the Jews" - representing those who refuse to believe in Christ - are empty. The quantity of wine produced (120 gallons - far more than required for the occasion!) underlines the abundant generosity of what is to be hoped for. When she makes her request on behalf of God's simple people, Mary - the "woman" who personifies the Church, the new Bride - is reminded that the generous realization of the hopes of Israel depends entirely upon the will of the Father. In response, she shows herself a model disciple, with words that are meant for all of us: "Do whatever he tells you." *John Thornhill sm*

GOD AND SCRIPTURE

'The Scriptures are a gift from God. Through Scripture, God meets people with great love and speaks tenderly with them. The word of God in Scripture is not simply marks on paper; it is living and active when it is proclaimed in worship, or meditated on in quiet prayer.'

From Call and Response

In Your Prayers please remember those in our community who are ill:

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 Laughton, Alexia Harris,
Sharon O'Rourke, Beth Delos Santos,
Rosa Maria Santos, Paul Neddrie, Helen Miller,
Maria Martiniello, Elizabeth Webster,
Mimma Giampietro, Joe Schimizzi,
Zelma McManus, Catherine Feehan,
Heather Pook

Our deceased

Fredrick Schwinghamer, Dr James McCarthy,
Terry Manual

In Memory

Jack O'Brien, Maureen Patricia Dawes

BAPTISM

*Nevah Matthew
Zane Matthew*

who will be baptised this weekend.

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



GOSPEL SUMMARY

While the Wedding in Cana is a familiar story, it only appears in John's Gospel. Scholars call it the first of Jesus' signs. Mary, Jesus' mother, observed that the wine was running low at a wedding feast she and Jesus were attending. She didn't specifically ask Jesus to do something about the situation, but he understood the implication. He instructed the servants to fill six stone jars with water and then take some to the waiter in charge. The waiter was surprised that the bridegroom had saved the best wine for last. The servants were surprised because they knew the jars were filled with water and they had witnessed something remarkable.

The point Jesus wanted to illustrate by performing this sign was to introduce a change. Many scholars interpret the wedding as the new age and the huge stone jars represent the magnitude of the wonder. There is great abundance in the story and that is the message of the new order Jesus promises - God lavishes us with his abundant love and we come to know that love through Jesus.

Change is often good for us. Jesus brought about a good change in the world. Think about some changes your family can make (or has already made) like rearranging furniture, breaking a routine, or going on vacation. Talk together about how these changes excite you, cause you to grow, or give you a different view of things.

WEDDINGS



Weddings are joyous occasions. For every 'bridezilla' or temper tantrum that makes the news there are thousands upon thousands of weddings where family and friends celebrate the happiness of a new couple. Summer weddings are especially popular as there is something about warm weather and extra long twilights that add to the event.

While weddings require considerable thought and planning for various eventualities, unfortunately things do go wrong - much as it did 2000 years ago at the wedding in Cana. It was Mary, alight to the potential for embarrassment when the wine ran out too early, that urged her son Jesus to help. Initially reluctant, he gave into her plea. The miraculous conversion of water into wine occurred and so did the ministry of Jesus begin.

The real 'miracle', is not the conversion to the 'best wine', but rather as a sign of the presence of God. The wedding itself is a symbol of God's eternal relationship of love for his people.

WINE ON THE THIRD DAY

*Second Sunday of the Year.
Fr Bruno Clifton OP reminds us
that God rejoices over his people.*

It seems (at least to me who has never had to organise a wedding) that it is the wedding feast, not the wedding, that takes by far the most trouble to arrange. It is not simply nourishment for the guests.

The major part of the celebration is the feast and there are often more traditions associated with it than with the ceremony itself: photographs, for example; the ritual of welcoming; who gives speeches and in what order; the first dance. I'm sure you can think of many others.

What this suggests is that a wedding is about *rejoicing*. It is mandatory to rejoice, for this reflects the relationship between the spouses: the newlyweds rejoicing in each other. So the very idea of a wedding includes the feasting. It is ironic, then, that rejoicing is often the last thing that we feel like doing under the pressure of providing such a celebration, or the pressure of being nice to family, or of talking to people we don't know. Wine becomes essential in these situations.

Nevertheless, we learn from Isaiah's image that the relationship of God to his people is like that between bridegroom and bride: 'as the bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so will your God rejoice in you' (Is. 62.5). God's relationship with Israel is not simply as husband to wife, as St Paul's images duly emphasise, but as the *newly married* - for God is never changing, always new.

'On the third day there was a marriage at Cana in Galilee' (Jn 2.1). But the rejoicing at Cana has hit a snag in John's Gospel, which is, of course, a cause of great shame for the hosts. Wine is linked to joy, just as bread is linked to nourishment, and without wine, who can rejoice and partake of the joy of the newlyweds? Wine is the sign of our joy, that a meal becomes a feast, that sustenance becomes eternal rejoicing - the work of God.

'On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of fat things, a feast of wine on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of wine on the lees well refined' (Is. 25.6). And this is the first sign of Jesus: that, *on the third day* the Lord provides the joy for the feast. Jesus manifests his identity with God, the bridegroom of Israel, and his union with humanity. The miracle of Cana is the sign of God's abundant rejoicing. It manifests the kingdom, God's sovereignty, in exuberant feasting. It shows that the bridegroom is with his bride and rejoices in her.

'Can the wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them?' (Mk 2.19)... When Jesus completes his answer to the Pharisees with a warning that the bridegroom will be taken away, so the shadow of the cross falls over this newest of new wines.

'This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly, I say to you, I shall not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God' (Mk 14.24-25). His passion, his glory, his 'hour' pervades everything Jesus does, hence his response to his mother: 'my hour has not yet come'. For any symbolic act of Jesus will be a sign of Calvary. The marriage of God and man in Christ is an epiphany of our salvation, but it is shown forth most clearly in the cross. The feast given to us in the Mass foreshadows that banquet on God's mountain, but it is also the making present of the Lamb's sacrifice.

The new wine of God's kingdom is only reached through the shedding of blood - but there will be abundant rejoicing, and the raising of a glass... on the third day.

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

WEDDING MIRACLE

The fact that the miracle was performed at a wedding is also significant. By His attendance, Jesus places His stamp of approval on the marriage covenant, and with His miracle He shows from whence the blessings in a marriage spring. The love and joy inherent in a wedding ceremony are also characteristic of the ministry of Christ, who came into this world because of love (John 3:16) and brought joy to all who believe (Luke 2:10).



<https://www.gotquestions.org/wedding-at-Cana.html>

HOLY ROSARY CHURCH ACTIVITIES

SCHOOL OF RELIGION / CATECHISTS - 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. Now in recess until February 2019.

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 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 information - Letty 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

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/>

A SECRET

The miracle at Cana was almost a secret one; at the time the only people who knew it to be a miracle were the servants who drew the water out. But what did strike home was the sheer abundance of new wine. That was the sign that confirmed the disciples in their new following. Their eyes were opened to the absolute newness and abundance of life in Christ. "This was the first of the signs given by Jesus. He let his glory be seen, and his disciples believed in him."

Excerpt from a homily by Fr Columba Ryan OP

Sometimes the best thing you can do is not think, not wonder, not imagine, not obsess. Just breathe, and have faith that everything will work out for the best.

EVENTS

Share Accommodation Watson (\$275 p/w including utilities) Lovely bright room in fully furnished townhouse to share with one other (F) in Watson. Walking distance to Watson shops, Farmers Markets, Australian Catholic University and on bus route/easy cycle to Dickson and Civic. NBN wi fi and utilities included. Suit ACU student. Contact Sam: 0402 077 012

WANTED – Weekly Board - country female Nursing student to attend CSU Watson. Mon- Friday, well mannered and responsible. please phone Sharon at St Patrick's Cooma 02 6452 6169

2 February – KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS

The KSC extend an invitation to all Catholic men to attend their first meeting for 2019 in the Parish Centre, Transfiguration Parish North Woden, Strangways Street, Curtin ACT from 11.00am – 1.00pm. The branch will be meeting at Curtin every 2 months in 2019. Come along and share a cuppa!

16 February - St Valentine's Mass

The Parish of St Thomas the Apostle, Kambah invite you to celebrate the Love, Romance and Joy of Christian Marriage with a St Valentine's celebration Mass on Saturday 16th February at 6pm. Mass will include a Renewal of Marriage Promises for married couples, and a Special Blessing for engaged couples. EVERYONE is welcome. Any enquiries to Elizabeth 6231 9219 or Trish 6231 8468

2 March - National Day of Prayer & Fasting

Join together with Christian leaders and Churches of all denominations in your region to pray and celebrate the National Day of Prayer & Fasting from 10 AM – 4 PM Saturday 2 March . 2 Chronicles 7:14 Pray for a National Awakening for Australia and pray for millions to find Jesus Christ. Take part in the 40 Day Prayer Relay. Initiate a Bible Reading marathon and take part in a live prayer webcast on the day. Register now: www.nationaldayofprayer.org.au

7–18 June - TEN DAY RENEWAL IN THE YEAR OF LUKE

Join Dr Elizabeth Dowling RSM, an Australian biblical scholar, as she leads participants in an exploration of mercy, compassion and release in the Gospel of Luke at St Clements Retreat Centre, Galong. Bookings: 02 6380 5222 or info@stclement.com.au

Humour ~ I needed some supplies from a Sunday school cupboard that was seldom used and was secured with a lock. I didn't know the combination, but our clergyman offered to give it a try. The reverend placed his fingers on the lock's dial and raised his eyes heavenward for a moment. Then he confidently spun the dial and opened the lock. Seeing how impressed I was with this demonstration of faith, he smiled and confided, "The numbers are written on the ceiling."

ROSTERS 26 / 27 January 2019

Saturday 5.00 pm Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	I. Buckley	
Readers	P. English	T. Dennis
Presentation of Gifts	J. Anderson	
EMOE	A. Moore	

Sunday 8.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	F. Bertrand	
Readers	T. Klekner	Volunteer
Presentation of Gifts	Lestone Family	
EMOE	E. Smith	

Sunday 10.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	L. Kim	
Readers	A. O'Donnell	L. Fardell
Presentation of Gifts	Webb Family	
EMOE	S. Tanzer	B. Affas

Sunday 5.00pm Day Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	Volunteer	
Readers	T. Malone	V. Van der Sanden
Presentation of Gifts	T. Malone	
EMOE	J. Curnow	K. Sneddon
Counters	W. Wade	J. Smith