

Catholic Parish of Blackiriars

Issue 14
24th February 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
Ph. 6248 5925

Email: watson@cg.org.au
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

ACU Chapel Signadou
Wednesday at Midday

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

Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time



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

ENTRANCE	<p>O Lord, I trust in your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.</p>
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	<p>Alleluia, alleluia! I give you a new commandment: Love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia!</p>
COMMUNION	<p>I will recount all your workers, I will rejoice in you and be glad, And sing psalms to your name, O Most High.</p>
READINGS	<p>1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23 Corinthians 15:45-49 Luke 6:27-38</p>



Join us to celebrate the beginning of Lent,
a time for penance, prayer, and fasting.
A day of abstinence from meat.

6.45am
10.00am - School Mass
6.00pm
NO 5.30pm Mass

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 1:1-4

The Lord is kind and merciful

My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings.

It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion.

The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repays us according to our faults.

As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.
As a father has compassion on his sons,
the Lord has pity on those who fear him.

The Lord is kind and merciful.

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.

WELCOME



Welcome To students & parents from our Parish School, who are celebrating celebrating the Eucharist with parishioners at the 10am Family Mass. This Mass will be followed by a Sausage Sizzle and Refreshments. All are invited.

LENTEN STUDIES

LENTEN STUDY GROUP As in former years, we are invited to journey together in faith and if possible to set some time aside to reflect on God's Word as nourishment on our pilgrimage. Lent begins on the 6th March with Ash Wednesday. If you would like to be a part of a Parish Lenten Group, a group who will meet on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre (starting the 5th March), please sign up in the foyer.

ANOTHER WISDOM

In Luke's Gospel, Jesus came to restore the people of God and remind them of their moral obligation to care for the marginalized. Even though threat of religious persecution was real, the disciples came to listen. They were most likely protective of the few possessions they had, and their very existence was dependent on various methods of survival, but they came anyway. Jesus wanted them to know that even in their life full of insufficient or inadequate resources they were the ones blessed because they were there to listen in the face of fear and doubt. He wanted them to know their reward would be in heaven despite their struggle on earth.

That message must have seemed troublesome to a group who were most likely homeless and hungry. Those gathered on that plane had little to distract them from listening. Their hope was in the Lord.

We are taught that sin is when we make choices that separate us from God. Hoarding wealth and ignoring the needs of those less fortunate also separates us from God. In the Gospel, Jesus makes it quite clear that it may keep us from out of the kingdom. He calls out the rich and preaches that they have received their kingdom on earth. In their world, they have no need for God's mercy because their needs are already being met by the "good life."

But the psalmist reminds us that we can prosper if we chose to live a just life. The rich are not locked out but must let their roots spread to others in kindness and generosity. They can make a choice to hoard their wealth as the poor struggle to survive, or they can bear fruit and share with others.

So what shall I do with the overabundance of possessions that hinder my relationship with God? What shall I do with the things that keep me frozen in time? Those gathered on the stretch of level ground were free of encumbrances and were able to be open to the preaching of Jesus. The kingdom of God is within our reach but until we can see God in the eyes of the poor and act on it, we linger on the periphery. In a culture where identity is often attached to some product, possession or political preference, it is difficult to break the habits that separate us from God.



As for the material possessions I accumulated in life, I must share them, donate them, give them away freely so that others may use them. Jesus's Sermon on the Mount is challenging for all. The poor must have hope that there is a kingdom of God and someday they will "leap for joy" in God's presence while the rich must turn loose of those things in which they have come to find comfort. The comfort we seek is found in the kingdom of God not in wealth or possessions.

Gloria Couvion Celebration Publication

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

Our deceased

Anthony Baker, Heather Pook, Rosa Ciuffetelli,
Rosa Terry Manual

In Memory

Debra Maher, Kate Dwyer, Kevin Nolan

BAPTISM

Ana Jasmine Boyle Borquez
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

As part of the Annual Doorknock Appeal, the Watson Vinnies Conference will hold leaving collections at masses next weekend, the 2nd and 3rd of March. This is the major collection for the operation of St Vincent de Paul in the ACT. Receipts will be available. As ever, Vinnies is very appreciative of the support of the Watson Parish for the activities of the Society.

READERS YOUR CHANCE FOR SPECIAL TRAINING

An opportunity to proclaim the Word of God to the to the liturgical assembly, proclaiming God's Word well requires specialised training, careful preparation and practice. If you are interested in attending the Speaking Awesome Words Lector Ministry Training course please call 6248 5925 or email watson@cg.org.au Numbers are required to book a session for Holy Rosary Church.

SCHOOL OF RELIGION

Blackfriars School of Religion (Blackfriars SoR) is held at the Holy Rosary Watson Church each Sunday morning from 9.00am - 9.45am during school terms. Classes will begin on **Sunday 3 March 2019** Children from Kindergarten to Year 6 who attend non Catholic schools are invited to attend. For more information or if you are interested in assisting children to grow their love of God, please contact the Parish Office.

WHY DO WE HAVE SACRAMENTS?

Relationships grow through communication. We communicate in many ways beyond words: smiles, handshakes, gestures of affection, gifts, cards, flowers. In our relationship with God, too, we use signs to express the mystery of God's loving presence. There are many ways we do this, but some community rituals have developed in our Church which we hold to be particularly sacred and which mark the various stages of a person's life as a member of the Church. We call these *sacraments*: signs or symbols that 'make present' within us the reality of God's love that is signified

GOSPEL SUMMARY

Luke presented the Golden Rule in this part of his Gospel. Jesus said to love our enemies and to share with and forgive them. If our enemies take something from us, we are to give them what they take and more. The point Jesus made was that if we only love people like ourselves, we are no better than the sinner because even the sinner loves other sinners. Sinners lend to one another, so it is not any great thing we have done if we lend something expecting payment in return. No, we are to give more than we receive and expect nothing in return. Then will our reward be great in heaven because God will measure us in the same way we measure other people.

GOSPEL MORALS

Seventh Sunday of the Year.
Fr Aidan Nichols OP

asks what Catholic morality really is.

What is the code of behaviour we as Catholics are bound to? What are the principles for living you can draw from Catholicism as distinct from, say, the common sense ones about how to survive that you can work out by looking at how other people manage, in the family or at work or in social life at large?

The Catholic Church, we say, has 'authority to teach on faith and morals'. So what are these 'morals' we're bound to live by specifically as Catholic Christians?

One of the more extraordinary results of the withering away of Christian faith and Christian attitudes in the world we live in is that what according to public opinion *distinguishes* Catholics in matters of morality – no contraception, no divorce, no abortion, no purely secular education for their children – are not in fact *distinctively* Catholic things at all. Having a right judgment about these things – sex and the family and education – is just a matter of getting things into perspective simply as a human being.

So far from being distinctively Catholic things, the Church refers to them as truths of the natural law - what a society whose human heart is sound would accept even if it had never heard of Jesus Christ or the apostles or the Pope. But on these topics our society has broken with an older tradition of civility and left the Catholic Church holding the baby – sometimes, quite literally!

If anyone asks what is distinctive about the Catholic understanding of life, it would be better to put down for the moment that particular baby – literal or metaphorical - and pick up St Luke's Gospel, opened at the passage we've just heard. St Luke's summary of the ethical teaching of Jesus Christ is clearly not just about how to be an ordinarily decent, good-living member of natural society. The Gospel teaching is not of course any less serious, less demanding, than such an ordinary reasonable ethics would be. But it's so different from our usual attempts to act fair with people, that it sounds really quite wild and zany – indeed, downright foolish. This ethic commands love of people who hate you and work against you, so that you become vulnerable to those who have already shown they can strike and wound you. It enjoins giving away your electric cocktail-mixer to a thief who's already making off with your battery-powered toothbrush.

It requires you to lend without charging interest. It demands that you refrain from ever condemning anyone who does you harm and to give and give until it hurts. Surely any society which tried to put this code into practice would more or less collapse overnight! True. But not because the ethics of Jesus are not meant to be taken literally – they are! The real explanation is that there's something wrong, something out of joint, with the world. Gospel ethics look impracticable because they are for humanity as it ought to be – humanity in the image of Christ as the Father intended it. And this is where we come up against the hard fact that Catholic Christianity – Christianity in its fulness – is not primarily a teaching at all.

Primarily it's a way of salvation, a way of so sharing in the power and freedom of God that we have resources to live by - resources for moral effort – which go back deep into the life of God himself. Because God, in an excess of unreasonable folly, a kind of divine madness, entered the world in the person of his Son, the Poor Man of Nazareth, to make himself vulnerable in the weakness of Jesus Christ, we can begin to live – at least on occasion – with just a touch of the extravagant generosity the Gospel demands from us.

The transformation we call 'holiness' comes about when we respond in kind to the reckless, non-calculating, goodness of God in Jesus Christ. Owing to change at that level we can start to be 'fools for Christ's sake'. The Catholic vision of man, the distinctively Catholic picture of morality, is to live with such ridiculous generosity as to be reckoned a fool of the eyes of a fallen world.

This is the imitation of Christ, and since the deeds of Christ are the gestures which point us to what God is like, living with this sort of – absurd - generosity is the imitation of God as well. So:

Be merciful as your Father is merciful.

Fr Aidan Nichols OP <http://english.op.org/torch>

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. New Year starts on 3rd March 2019.

BLACKFRIARS MEDITATION GROUP meets on **Thursday** evenings in the 7.30pm Parish Centre. Enquiries John Jarvis 6296 2001 or Michael Flynn 6257 1038 - 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 friends and newcomers 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. Contact the Office.

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, if someone is in need of prayer or a visit at home, in hospital or by the Parish Priest - please let the office 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.

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/>

ST VINCENT DE PAUL COMPEER PROGRAM

St Vincent de Paul Society is currently looking for enthusiastic and passionate volunteers to take part in our Compeer program. Compeer matches people with a mental health diagnosis with a "friend" who is a caring and compassionate volunteer, to circumvent social isolation for people with mental health issues. The program promotes social inclusion and the reduction of stigma through friendship, based on the simple premise that "friendship is powerful medicine". It also aims to improve the quality of life and self-esteem of people living with a mental health diagnosis. This low-time volunteer commitment is the perfect opportunity for anyone who is enthusiastic about meeting new people and giving back to our community. No previous experience is required as all volunteer will receive specialised training and support.

Attributes: - A Working with Vulnerable People card is required to undertake this volunteering opportunity. Spend 4 hours (minimum) per month in social/recreational activities for a 12 month period. To be supportive, respectful and have empathy for people living with a mental health challenges.

Please contact compeer@sudp-cg.org.au for information.

EVENTS

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

12 - 14 April - Taizé Retreat: "Finding life and joy in today's world: Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, Sydney. Facilitated by Fr John Armstrong and Annemarie Nicol. All welcome Cost: \$300.00 Private facilities, fully catered Friday dinner to Sunday lunch. Bookings: Mount Carmel Retreat Centre (02 8795 3400) More information: Annemarie (0421 492 554). The retreat is organised by an ecumenical group and everyone is welcome. The group meets regularly for prayer using songs from Taizé every second Sunday of the month at Weston Creek Uniting church at 5.30pm.

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

CALVARY HOSPITAL - We urgently need the input of new members for the Calvary Hospital Auxiliary - men and women, tertiary students, part - or full-time workers, newly retired persons, all denominations - to assist in the Auxiliary's fund raising activities. We hold events such as the Book Fair on 20&21 March, Easter raffle, plant stalls, cake stalls and more. To explain the Auxiliary's work we are holding a membership drive on Thursday 21 February, 10-4pm, in the foyer, Calvary Public Hospital, Hayden Drive, Bruce. Please come along for further information, or ring Daphne Ashley on 0407835846.

MERICI COLLEGE ENROLLING NOW CAMPAIGN

A wonderful opportunity for prospective families to see the College in action, meet our students and attend the Principal's address, Yr 7 and Yr 11 Information Evenings, Careers Expo and lots more. Please visit www.merici college for all dates and information.

CHOIR PRACTICE TO PREPARE FOR EASTER

The Easter Season is a very special time in the Church year. The six weeks of Lent prepare us for it, Holy Week commemorates it, and the following Sundays celebrate it. The liturgies all have their own particular music, some of it so special we only hear it once a year. The choir will begin preparations for the Easter season next Monday 25th February, at 7.30 pm in the church. Just one hour. You do not have to be a singer to come along and join in. Phone 61617100 if you would like to know more.

ROSTERS 2 / 3 March 2019

Saturday 5.00 pm Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	M. Tran	
Readers	P. English	T. Dennis
Presentation of Gifts	J. Anderson	
EMOE	K. Murphy	

Sunday 8.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	N. McGahaey	
Readers	B. Bandle	C. Bandle
Presentation of Gifts	Bandle Family	
EMOE	N. Clarke	

Sunday 10.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	R. Tanzer	
Readers	C. Barbaro	P. McDonald
Presentation of Gifts	Family	
EMOE	R. Zochling	J. Munro

Sunday 5.00pm Day Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	L. Kim	
Readers	M. Proctor	
Presentation of Gifts	Dobrowska—Cheyne Family	
EMOE	D. de Luca	T. de Luca
Counters	F. Higgins	N. Higgins I. Buckley