

Catholic Parish of Blackfriars

Issue 17
17 March 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**

Second Sunday of Lent



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

ENTRANCE	Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
COMMUNION	This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.
READINGS	Genesis 15:5-12. 17-18 Philippians 3:17 - 4:1 Gospel: Luke 9:28-36

PARISH MEETING

All parishioners are invited to attend a Parish meeting on Wednesday, 27 March, in the Parish Centre starting at 7.30pm to discuss the next steps in the parish renewal foreshadowed in the Plenary Council submission. Every parishioner is welcome to attend the meeting and to become involved in the parish renewal now and as it unfolds. Your views are vital. The success of the renewal depends on your input and participation.

If you wish to attend please sign up on the form in the foyer. Thank you

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 26:1. 7-9. 13-14

The Lord is my light and my salvation.
The Lord is my light and my help;
whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
before whom shall I shrink?
O Lord, hear my voice when I call;
have mercy and answer.
Of you my heart has spoken:
'Seek his face.'
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face.
Dismiss not your servant in anger;
you have been my help.
I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness
in the land of the living.
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.
Hope in the Lord!
The Lord is my light and my salvation.


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.

CHOIR PRACTICE TO PREPARE FOR EASTER



The Easter Season is a very special time in the Church year. The choir has begun preparations for the Easter season on Mondays 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.

The smile on my face doesn't mean my life is perfect. It means I appreciate what I have and what I have been blessed with. I choose to be happy.

HOMILY | Katy Beedle Rice

We began the Lenten season on Ash Wednesday with the words of the prophet Joel: "Even now, says the Lord, return to me with your whole heart." In Lent, we enter into a journey of conversion. Through prayer, almsgiving and fasting, we prepare our hearts to encounter the Lord of life in his risen glory at the feast that crowns our whole year. Each Easter Vigil, along with the catechumens who are baptized, we celebrate the moment in our own lives when we (or our parents and godparents, speaking on our behalf) proclaimed our intention to live (with our whole hearts) as children of light. When catechumens and candidates are welcomed in the Rite of Acceptance and state their desire for baptism, part of the ritual calls for their sponsors to place the sign of the cross over each of their senses, marking them as followers of Christ. As the eyes are signed, the presider says, "Receive the sign of the cross on your eyes that you may see the glory of God." In today's first reading and Gospel, we have two instances of human beings contemplating the wonder of the divine through the gift of sight. In the Gospel reading, Peter, John and James are also treated to a revelation of God's glory in the Transfiguration. On the mountain, in prayer, Jesus is transformed from the humble preacher and wonderworker they had come to know, to a man clothed in "dazzling white" who converses with Moses and Elijah. Inside of a cloud, they hear the words: "This is my chosen Son; listen to him." Abram, Peter, John and James are each offered glimpses into the divine life of God. When Abram wakes up the next morning, the stars he gazed at in wonder will no longer be visible. As James, John and Peter make their way down the mountain, they are accompanied by their friend Jesus, no longer remarkable in his clothing or conversation partners. And yet, we know the stars remain even when we cannot see them. And Jesus, whether he is found in a manger as a vulnerable infant, resplendent on a mountain top, or nailed to the wood of the cross, is always the Son of God. In the spiritual life, we might intend to live as children of the light, but unless we have eyes to see and ears to hear God working in our midst, we miss the opportunity to live into the fullness of life which Jesus promises to his followers. Poet Brian Doyle wrote in *A Book of Uncommon Prayer*, "We are handed miracles beyond number, every blessed moment, if only we can train ourselves to open and see and hear and taste and feel and smell and absorb them." As we journey toward the joy of Easter, may our eyes be opened to glory of God present all around us. May we recommit with our whole hearts to live as children of light.

[Celebration Publication](#)

LENTEN STUDIES

Parish Lenten Group meets on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre .

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

It has been a big few weeks for Vinnies in this Parish with our annual Door-knock Appeal and our associated collecting at the Canberra Show. Thanks to the generosity of this parish and our friends at St Brigid's at Dickson, we raised an incredible \$9090. As ever, the Society is very thankful for the support of our wonderful parishioners. In addition, we raised \$2847 from the broader community at our Canberra Show stall. So that is almost \$12,000 to assist the needy in our community. A great result.

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, Anne Corver, Barbara Wilson, Awny El-Ghitany, Joe Schimizzi, Elsie Laughton, Alexia Harris, Sharon O'Rourke, Jacques Michel, Frank Zobec, Mimma Giampietro, Pamela Sandy Beth Delos Santos, Rosa Maria Santos, Paul Neddrie, Helen Miller, Maria Martiniello, Elizabeth Webster, Zelma McManus, Catherine Feehan, Fr Bernie Maxwell
Our deceased	Ken Rolls, Derrick Yee, Bruce McKinnon, Robert McCormack, Anthony Baker
In Memory	Noel Dawes, Gennaro Alfonso

GLOWING WITH GOD

Second Sunday of Lent.

Fr Duncan Campbell OP helps us to understand the transfiguration as an experience of prayer.

Why did Jesus appear, suddenly, and so changed, to his closest followers? The gospels are meant to raise these questions. They were written, to report the strangest and most important event in human history, something quite unlike anything else we are told. That was the point of writing them.

Let's ask the questions. Why did this happen? We might answer by saying - Jesus, their Lord and Master, was to be condemned as a blasphemer and rebel, mocked, publicly flogged, and hung, naked, to die horribly on a Roman gibbet. His followers would need some reminder of who he really was, to see them through this ordeal.

Why were they told to keep silent about their vision? Perhaps because they simply wouldn't be believed, until much more wonderful things happened. These would make something like this scene make sense, and be believed. Jesus was to rise from a tomb, appear to many other followers, tell them to preach - invite others to believe that after death there is life with God.

There are little niggling questions, however. How did Peter know that the two strangers talking to Jesus were Moses and Elijah? We don't know. We may be in a world nearer to God than ours, with more knowledge of God, and God's affairs, than we now have. Jesus was the divine being Peter had already recognised. Moses brought the Law - the way to live with God. He never was seen to die. Elijah, the greatest of the Prophets - 'spokesmen' for God - didn't die. He was spectacularly 'assumed' out of this world. All this could have helped Peter to know who they must be. I shouldn't fumble with a mystery, but I could suggest that there might have been hints in their appearance.

We for example have the idea, from somewhere, that Peter had curly hair, and Paul was bald. We might recognise them when we meet them in heaven.

What did Peter mean by suggesting they make three booths? It was the custom to camp out in booths, to keep guard, over the harvest. Peter wanted these wonderful beings to stay, and keep guard over us, for ever. It was not to be. 'He didn't know what he was saying'.

A Voice - we might think of them all as being 'within earshot' of God - called Jesus the 'chosen one'. In Hebrew, the words 'chosen one', 'beloved'.

Jesus wasn't just the 'traveller' they might have become very familiar with - a tramp, always on the road, sleeping rough, leaving his friends so hungry at times to plucking grains of corn. Worst of all, he faced formidable opposition from the authorities. He was presented in this wonderful scene, a majestic one - Law, Psalms, Prophet.

The point, for us all, was that Jesus was praying. We too can pray, especially with the help of the Law, the Psalms and the Prophets. When we pray - to God - a light must shine in the world of the spirit, and we are transfigured ourselves, and in such majestic company. Whenever we think of God a flash of recognition must reach us from God - and God from us. I hope we have all had some glimpse of this when we pray, and 'know what we are saying'.

We are recognised - and recognise. We are loved - and love. We are spoken to - and speak, words given to us by Jesus, Moses, and Elijah.

Jesus' triumphed. He redeemed us. He atoned to God for us, in loving obedience. He clearly showed us this, in resurrection. We are now allowed to make the 'booths' Peter wanted - our parish churches, basilicas, and magnificent cathedrals, for Jesus, Moses and the Prophets.

We add the Saints. They lived with all this. They glowed, with God. Artists painted them with 'haloes' to suggest this.

They didn't walk about with haloes. They looked ordinary - even Jesus. Their glory couldn't be seen, while they lived with us. This can help us understand that the glory, in our lives with God, may not be seen by others, when we pray, and become saints ourselves.

[Fr Duncan Campbell OP http://english.op.org/torch](http://english.op.org/torch)

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.

PROJECT COMPASSION

Tati lives in the remote forest of West Kalimantan. She is a mother of three who was earning an income working in a local rubber plantation. Since taking part in eco-tourism training with Caritas Australia and its partners, Tati can now afford to send her children to school. With new hope and commitment Tati aspires to a future free from poverty for her family.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2019 to provide and help lift communities in Indonesia out of poverty and give them hope to protect our common home.



Project Compassion share packs and giving boxes can be picked up from all exit tables.

INCLUDING YOUTH | Jim Auer

Most young people remember a time when God and faith made sense, and things felt right in their religious sphere. Then, they grew up into a culture that either questions that experience or discounts its importance in the "real world." Invite speculation on what might have happened if Abram, Peter, James and John had given in to later doubts about whether their experiences were real or meant anything. What would they have lost had they returned to the world of simply shepherding and fishing? It is not easy for youth to see the "the big picture" or "the long run" in a culture that emphasizes "right here, right now."

LAYERS FOR LENT

During Lent ACU Engagement and Campus Ministry are collecting winter clothing for those in need in our local communities. As a joint venture we are asking parishioners to donate their unused winter clothing and blankets. The venture runs between the 6 March to 18 April. Donations can be left in the box in the church foyer or the Veritas foyer.

Donations will be received by St Vincent de Paul - Night Patrol. Primary clients of Night Patrol are the homeless, people at risk, both young and old, and those in need, who might not otherwise seek help from the St Vincent de Paul Society or other community or charitable groups.



Today is not finished until tomorrow commences.

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". 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@svdp-cg.org.au for information.

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.

EVENTS

11 March - SPECIAL MASS

Join Apostolic Nuncio, His Excellency Most Reverend Adolfo Tito Yllana celebration Mass for the 6th Anniversary of the Pontificate of Pope Francis. Monday 11 March, St Christopher's Cathedral at 5.00pm. All welcome

23 March - LENTEN RETREAT

The Lord chose to carry all our burdens of our sins in the ultimate sacrifice - Death on the Cross. He freed us from the shackles of sin and renewed us to the title of God's Loving Children. The Lord invites us all to come and spend some beautiful moments with Him. Let His Love manifest in our lives and the Spirit of God will live in us and make all things right.

At St Benedict's Catholic Church, 10 Tallara Pkwy, Narrabundah, ACT 2604, Australia from 9.30am - 4.30pm. Free admission with a boxed lunch available at nominal cost. RSVP by 21st March to p1.rebello@gmail.com Contact: Parveen: 0439642571; Winnie: 0451015527; Prakash 0406381446; Shan: 0412310364; Tom: 0434689957

4 April - PLANT STALL

Calvary Public Hospital Auxiliary is holding a plant stall on Thursday 4 April 2019, 7.30am - 4pm, in the foyer at Calvary Public Hospital, Haydon Dr, Bruce. A wide variety of succulents, perennials and indoor plants available. All funds raised go towards the purchase of equipment for Calvary Public Hospital patients and staff. Further information: Jan on 0437 790 980.

6 April - GOURMET AUTUMN DINNER

Saturday 6 April 6pm Kingston Baptist church hall 1 Curry Street Kingston. Enjoy delicious food and wonderful vistas of EastTimor and support our project to build a permaculture garden for a school in Dili in East Timor to teach Christian children nutrition and growing of food. Cost \$40. Bookings by 3 April by phone to Robert on 0423 931 753.

12 - 14 April - Taize 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

ROSTERS 23 / 24 March 2019

Saturday 5.00 pm Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	I. Buckley	
Readers	K. Markcrow	D. Hinds
Presentation of Gifts	Tran Family	
EMOE	A. Moore	

Sunday 8.00am Holy Rosary

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

Sunday 10.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	L. Kim	
Readers	J. Cooke	A. McCarthy
Presentation of Gifts	Family	
EMOE	H. Zobec	R. Marson

Sunday 5.00pm Day Holy Rosary

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