

Catholic Parish of Blackfriars

Issue 18
24 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

Third Sunday of Lent

Can it be Saved



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

ENTRANCE	My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! Repent, says the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
COMMUNION	The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.
READINGS	Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12 Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

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.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 102:1-4, 6-8, 11

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 does deeds of justice,
gives judgement for all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses
and his deeds to Israel's sons.

The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for 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.

CHOIR PRACTICE TO PREPARE FOR EASTER

The choir has begun preparations for the Easter season on Mondays at 7.30 pm in the church. Phone 61617100 if you would like to know more.

It's so hard when I have to,
and so easy when I want to.

PRAYERS AND SOLIDARITY

This week we join religious communities around the world in prayer for those affected by the terrible events in Christchurch. The New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference issued the following message of solidarity over the weekend:

We hold you in prayer as we hear the terrible news of violence against Muslims at mosques in Christchurch. We are profoundly aware of the positive relationships we have with Islamic people in this land, and we are particularly horrified that this has happened at a place and time of prayer. We are deeply saddened that people have been killed and injured, and our hearts go out to them, their families and wider community. We wish you to be aware of our solidarity with you in the face of such violence.

Peace, Salaam.

Alongside the terrible stories of pain and loss, we also hold in our minds the stories of courage and love - including the large numbers of people from all faiths and none who turned out at mosques across New Zealand and Australia to express their solidarity with Muslim communities. Their response reminds us that there is more that brings us together than separates us as human beings.

As Pope Francis said during his visit to Abu Dhabi in February, 'God is at the origin of the one human family'.

'We cannot honour the Creator without cherishing the sacredness of every person and of every human life: each person is equally precious in the eyes of God, who does not look upon the human family with a preferential gaze that excludes, but with a benevolent gaze that includes... In the name of God the Creator, therefore, every form of violence must be condemned without hesitation.'

editor@australiancatholics.com.au

GOSPEL SUMMARY

In ancient times, people thought death was the result of sinfulness. The crowds asked Jesus if that was true. He replied that it was no more true than the contrary: People lived because of righteousness. The point Jesus did make, however, was that repentance was necessary and necessarily immediate. Jesus then gave the people an illustration of a fig tree that had not produced fruit for three years. The vineyard owner wanted the tree cut down, but the gardener promised to aerate and fertilize it for one more year. If, by then, it did not bear fruit, the gardener would cut it down.

Some children worry whether or not their parents will live as long as the child needs them basically forever! But often, parents worry more that they will someday be a burden to their children. Once in a while, parents know they only have a short period of time left with their children and they quickly take stock of what is truly important and act accordingly. Even without this notice, it would be good to evaluate each day and be grateful for each moment we have with each other. Ideas might include praying for someone who is sick, or sending a cheerful greeting to someone who is alone. Perhaps you could visit an elderly relative or do something kind for a family member.

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, Jamie Judd Jacques Michel, Pamela Sandy, Mineka Tuckwell, Ryan Fawke, Fr Bernie Maxwell
Our deceased	Ken Rolls, Derrick Yee, Bruce McKinnon, Robert McCormack, Dolores O'Riordan
In Memory	Maria Xuan, Violeta Tabiolo, Saturnim Tabiolo, John Collett

LENTEN STUDIES

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. 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 .

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 And 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.

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.

CHRISM MASS

Join the Archbishop and the Clergy of the Archdiocese on Monday 15th April at 7.30pm in St Christopher's Cathedral, for this most important Holy Week ceremony. It is at this Mass that the **Holy Oils** used in the various Sacramental Rites of the Church are blessed and consecrated. Everyone welcome.



BEARING FRUIT IN DUE SEASON

*Third Sunday of Lent.
Fr Irenaeus Vincent OP*

ponders on the unhappiness of our world.

My dear friends, many people in world today are unhappy for one reason or another. Even those who may often smile are at times just putting on a brave face. For deep down inside they are hurt or upset about something or some things. And so bearing this in mind, I propose that the reason why so many people are unhappy or are unable to smile genuinely in our world today is very much rooted in two simple reasons.

The first reason why people are so unhappy in our world today is because many of us are not doing what we are supposed to be doing. When we read the newspapers or look at television, it is quite clear that many people are unhappy and making others unhappy because we are not doing what we are supposed to be doing. The stories of war, poverty, prostitution, child pornography, sexual abuse, slavery, ambition and the like support this view.

So, since we are in the Lenten season, it may be good to ask ourselves a simple question: as a Christian, as a follower of Jesus Christ, am I doing what I am supposed to be doing? Actually, we can feel free to personalize the issue and ask other questions as well: as a mother or wife, as a husband or father, as a student, as an employer or an employee, as a priest or a religious, am I doing what I am supposed to be doing? Lent is a time to answer and ask serious questions like these.

The second reason why many people are unhappy in our world today is because we often have false expectations. And it is these very false expectations that can make us end up doing what we are not supposed to be doing. We seem at times to make demands on God, other people, ourselves and on the world in general that are totally unreasonable.

In today's Gospel, Jesus's parable is a perfect example of the three issues referred to: unhappiness, not doing what we are supposed to be doing and false expectations. As regards unhappiness, the owner of the vineyard was quite disappointed with the progress of the fig tree and was eager to cut it down. But why was he unhappy? Firstly, the fig tree was not doing what it was supposed to be doing – that is, producing fruit. Secondly, the vineyard owner had false expectations about the fig tree, thinking that once it was planted it should bear fruit.

Thank God, the fellow who was looking after the vineyard brought the owner to his senses. Not only did the farmer show the owner that the fig tree needed to be constantly nurtured through manure and given constant care; but more importantly, he noted that even if this was done, there was no guarantee that all would be well. No wonder his words were: 'it may bear fruit next year.' Indeed, a similar lesson can be applied to our Christian lives.

No matter how much we may be nurtured and cared for by the Eucharist, God's Word and the Holy Spirit, there is no guarantee that all of us will naturally bear the fruit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control. No wonder throughout the Gospel Jesus throws the ball back into our hands and says 'But unless you repent you will all perish.' And yes, Jesus may sound harsh, but the point to remember is this: Jesus just wants us to be happy and the more we follow him sincerely the more we will produce fruit, fruit that will last.

Fr Irenaeus Vincent OP <http://english.op.org/torch>

ROLE OF SACRED SCRIPTURE IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Sacred Scripture gives support and vigour to the life of the Church. For the children of the Church, it is a confirmation of the faith, food for the soul and the fount of the spiritual life. Sacred Scripture is the soul of theology and of pastoral preaching. The Psalmist says that it is "a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Psalm 119:105). The Church therefore exhorts all to read Sacred Scripture frequently because "ignorance of the scripture is ignorance of Christ".

<http://www.catholicenquiry.com>

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/>

EASTER LITURGIES

We would really like the Easter Liturgies to be a whole of community project and ask you all to consider being involved in some way.

You may have noticed in the foyer of the church that the rosters for volunteers are now out. I would like to draw your attention to some of the jobs.

- The Altar of Repose needs to be prepared for Holy Thursday night
- The church needs to be prepared for Good Friday
- Then the church needs to be prepared for Holy Saturday night, a lot needs to be done;
- The ladies who provide such beautiful flowers for us on a regular basis need help with the huge job of preparing the church for this wonderful celebration.
- General cleaning
- Preparing the small candles for the congregation to use.
- And most important of all keeping the workers watered and fed.

Please consider joining us, any age group we will find something for everyone to do.

EVENTS

26 March - "Rusted Off: Why is Country Australia Fed Up?"

Gabrielle Chan will speak at 7.30pm on Tuesday 26 March at the Chapel, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, Blackall St. Barton Forum chair: Emeritus Professor John Warhurst Gabrielle, a journalist for more than 30 years and author of *Rusted Off: Why Country Australia is Fed Up*, will examine why politics is changing in rural areas and how it may impact on the outcome of the next election. The forum will seek to encourage discussion from the floor. A \$5 donation would be appreciated.

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.

Jesus Youth Canberra is organizing a four day programme called **Instagrace for teenagers (Age 14-17) from 8am to 6pm on 24th to 27th April 2019 at St. Thomas The Apostle School, Kambah.** The programme helps the teens to encounter God's love for them, to find their place in the church and society through inspiring talks and music.

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

ST FRANCIS XAVIER COLLEGE

2020 Enrolment Information Evening - Tuesday 7 May - Guided Tours 5pm - 6pm, Information Session from 6.30pm - 7.15pm.
More Information jennifer.madgwick@sfx.act.edu.au

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.

TRIBUNAL OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Marriage breakdown is usually a traumatic experience for all those concerned with many divorcees unsure of the validity of this marriage within the Catholic Church. The Church reaches out in support of those whose marriage has broken down, while upholding the permanence of a true Christian marriage.

If you are divorced or in the process of finalising your divorce and would like information about the annulment process, please contact the Tribunal on 6239 9813 or by email tribunal@cg.org.au. All enquiries remain confidential to the Tribunal.

ROSTERS 30 / 31 March 2019

Saturday 5.00 pm Holy Rosary

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

Sunday 8.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	M. Falk	
Readers	E. Smith	J. Smith
Presentation of Gifts	M. Falk	
EMOE	N Clarke	

Sunday 10.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	K. McCluskey	
Readers	J. Northcote	E. Northcote
Presentation of Gifts	Family	
EMOE	A. Northcote	S. Tanzer

Sunday 5.00pm Day Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	D. Gomez	
Readers	M. Proctor	
Presentation of Gifts	K. Turrisse	
EMOE	V. Van der Sanden	C. Mackay
Counters	I. Buckley	J. Smith