

Catholic Parish of Blackfriars

Issue 28
2nd June 2019
Year C

Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



VERITAS



Ascension

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

HOW IT IS WRITTEN




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	Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens? This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw him go, alleluia.
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!
COMMUNION	Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, alleluia.
READINGS	Acts 1:1-11 Ephesians 1:17-23 Gospel: Luke 24:46-53

WELCOME

Welcome to our students, parents and teachers from our Parish School who will be joining us in the Celebration of the Eucharist at the 10am Family Mass. Please join us after Mass for a sausage sizzle and refreshments - a chance to meet, greet and catch up.



St Vincent de Paul Society will hold its annual Winter Appeal as a leaving collection on the week-end of 15-16 June. Winter is a very difficult time for those struggling in our community and your assistance will be greatly appreciated.

PSALM: 46:2-3. 6-9

**ELECTION IS DONE,
NOW TO FOCUS ON WHAT MATTERS**

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

All peoples, clap your hands,
cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,
great king over all the earth.

God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise,
sing praise to our king, sing praise.

God is king of all the earth.
Sing praise with all your skill.
God is king over the nations;
God reigns on his holy throne.

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Most comment on the federal election has naturally concentrated on how it was won and lost: how votes were gained here and lost there, how people were consoled or devastated by the result, and how the parties will respond in future elections.

It is time to return to the more important question of what matters for the future good of Australia. This is what governments and political parties are bound by tradition and by their own official rhetoric to serve. This, not electoral success or failure, should govern their actions and our response as citizens to their governance.

The most urgent claims, those by which our grandchildren will judge us, are first that we should pass on to them a habitat in which they can live without anxiety. This demands addressing climate change responsibly. It will require strong leadership endorsed by all parties and shapers of public opinion.

The second priority is to address the concentration of wealth and power in the hands of the few to the detriment of others and to the national welfare. This is the legacy of a destructive economic ideology that threatens the cohesion of Australian society.

To respond to these claims will not be easy. Necessary change will involve some people and groups in loss. It will also run against the strong emphasis on the competitive individual which puts under pressure the bonds between individuals and groups everywhere, whether between nations in trade and security, between business and workers, shareholders or between different minority groups. Ultimately, all is reduced to the art of the deal, based on superior power. This mindset, whether expressed in the abuse of power or in attempts to overthrow it, leads to popular mistrust in government and any appeal it might make to a larger, national good. Because of the strength of this attitude the third priority facing government is to commend and embody the commitment to the common good, meaning that individuals seek their own good in the good of all people. It implies that the demands of individuals and of groups, whether defined by class, age, gender, wealth, race, occupation or anything else, need to be viewed and argued for as contributing to the good of the whole society. It implies that all that we do carries with it a social license. The license for drinking coffee in the street involves placing the cup in a bin and not throwing it on the ground. The social license for running a bank involves acting with respect to clients, to the environment and to ethical values. The social license for governing the nation involves respect in human relationships, respect for the rule of law, avoiding conflict of interest, and placing the common good above the good of the party in making decisions.

In a society based on competition between individuals, the death and destitution of others is of no concern. In their personal lives and attitudes most people realise that this attitude is indecent. They are compassionate. Governments must commend and embody responsibility for responding to human beings as human in all levels of society.

The difficulty of embodying a concern for the common good and respectful relationships in government and Parliament is large. But it is the more necessary because the current conduct of politicians in public debate and in private conduct, and the subjection of good governance to satisfying party political demands, has so deeply eroded confidence in government.

The practice in the recent election of offering huge bribes to crucial electorates and the refusal to increase the scandalously low Newstart undermined any claim to concern for the common good. These things may win a seat for a Party but they further diminish respect for politicians and government.

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.

VALE FR JORDAN PERRY OP



Please pray for the repose of the soul of Fr. Jordan Perry, OP who died Saturday 25th May. Fr. Jordan has, in recent times worked in the Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes, since 2014. Prior to that he was assistant Priest at Holy Rosary Church 2012 to 2014, he was on the staff of Vianney College (the Seminary) in Wagga Wagga. He also laboured in different parts and ministries around the province including Auckland NZ, Armidale NSW, and the Solomon Islands. May he rest in peace.

“Dream lofty dreams, and as you dream, so shall you become. Your vision is the promise of what you shall at last unveil.”
James Allen

In Your Prayers please remember those in our community who are ill:	Elizabeth Cronin, Mary Bui, Greg O'Neill Fr Ellis Clifford, Mary Martin, Edith Jensen, Philip Bailey, Maureen Blood, Anne Corver, Barbara Wilson, Awny El-Ghitany, Joe Schimizzi, Elsie Laughton, Alexia Harris, Sharon O'Rourke, Beth Delos Santos, Rosa Maria Santos, Paul Neddrie, Maria Martiniello, Elizabeth Webster, Frank Zobec, Mimma Giampietro, Zelma McManus, Catherine Feehan, Pamela Sandy, Ryan Fawke Luke Mahon, Anne O'Neill
Our deceased	Fr Jordan Perry OP, John Green, Dianne Kennedy, Lofty Tottenham, John Collet, Evelyn Bland, Paul Maher
In memory	Joseph & Stephens Family, Tammy Marchesani, Christopher Ford, Anthony Benedict Biggerstaff

THE LORD GOES UP WITH SHOUTS OF JOY

The Ascension of the Lord.

Fr Vivian Boland OP asks why the Ascension is an occasion of joy for us.

To celebrate the Ascension may seem strange. It is, after all, about an ending. Saying good-bye can be awkward, is sometimes difficult, and is often sad. His ascension means the disappearance of Jesus. Up to then he was visibly present with his disciples and now he is, it seems, to be absent. Why be joyful about this? Why think of it as something to celebrate? At the mid-point of his gospel Luke writes, 'when the days drew near for him to be taken up, Jesus set his face to go to Jerusalem' (Luke 9:51).

His 'being taken up' refers to his crucifixion, the moment in which he was 'lifted up from the earth to draw all people to himself' (John 12:32). It can also be taken to refer to his resurrection from the dead. And it is complete in his exaltation to the right hand of the Father. He has been taken up to the place of glory that is eternally his.

In the Temple at Jerusalem the High Priest went up into the Holy of Holies once a year, on the Day of Atonement, carrying the blood of sacrificed animals. Through him Israel asked forgiveness of the Lord and a renewal of the covenant. The only other person allowed to enter the Holy of Holies was a new King, on the day he was enthroned. The psalms and other texts of scripture speak about the king going up to a place of honour in the presence of the Lord, the God of Israel.

This is important background for understanding the Ascension of Jesus. He is our high priest who enters the Holy of Holies, not the earthly one in Jerusalem, but the great and perfect one in heaven. The blood he carries is not that of animals but his own blood, which is offered once and for all to gain 'an eternal redemption' (Hebrews 9:12). Seated at the right hand of the Father, enthroned as judge of all, Jesus is our king and our high priest.

Ascension Day is, then, the original feast of Christ the King. Because his love and obedience the Father has exalted him and given him 'the name above all other names' (Philippians 2:9). We celebrate his victory, and its meaning for us, the fact that he is become 'the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him' (Hebrews 5:9). As the prayers of today's Mass put it, he has been 'taken up to heaven to claim for us a share in his divine life' and 'where he has gone, we hope to follow'.

The closing verses of the Gospel of Luke are read for Ascension Day this year. Although Jesus 'withdrew from them and was carried up to heaven' the disciples returned to Jerusalem 'with great joy, and were continually in the temple blessing God' (Luke 24:53). They understood, it seems, the meaning of his exaltation. They await the gift of the Spirit, the power from on high that Jesus will send.

Jesus had said to his disciples, 'if I do not go away he (the Advocate, the Holy Spirit) cannot come to you' (John 16:7). Exalted to the right hand of the Father he sends the Holy Spirit as he had promised. This is why we rejoice at his departure, because his return to the Father establishes a new bond between heaven and earth. In sending the Spirit, Jesus fulfils his promise to remain with us always. We become his physical presence in the world, his body alive with his love. If he is with us in the Spirit, where can we be except with him in the same Spirit?

Our lives have been configured to this great paschal mystery of Jesus, to his death, resurrection, exaltation, and sending of the Spirit. Through baptism we enter sacramentally into the tomb with Jesus so that we may also rise with him as members of his body. Through confirmation we enter sacramentally into his promotion to the right hand of the Father to become temples of his Spirit and witnesses of his grace to the ends of the earth.

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

THE ROD

Often, we look back over our lives, and we can see the doors that were open, the thread that was sewn, or perhaps the road that was forged and brought us to where we are in life today. I wonder though, when we reflect back - on the doors which opened, the thread that was sewn, the road forged - do we contemplate the smaller moments, those moments that support the actual opening of doors, the subtle stitching changes, or the periodic grading of the road required to maintain the continuity of the story. Biblical scholar Luke Johnson suggests that the story of the Ascension is such a moment, a hinge moment if you will, in our faith story.

Let us consider a commonplace hinge. It is actually a small piece of hardware in comparison to what it supports, and yet it nonetheless is essential for the opening and closing of a door. One piece of the hardware connects to the frame and another piece to the door, with one final rod joining the two and completing the hinge. A hinge is not a hinge by definition unless, of course, it has something dependent on it, something which is continuous with it - in this case, the operation of a door. In today's readings, we hear about the essential hinge in our faith story: the Ascension.

The Ascension connects and provides continuity to the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ with the ministry that unfolds. It provides continuity between the ministry of Jesus and the ministry of witness to which the disciples were invited and to which we are invited on this day. Jesus came and lived among us. He did what he needed to do in all its fullness - teaching, healing, forgiving, preaching, suffering, sacrificing, redeeming and loving. He did what he needed to do, and now it was time to go. It was time to go - otherwise, the disciples would not have moved beyond themselves, not really understood the ministry of witness to which they were called. I know this may seem quite simplistic. But I think of the Ascension itself as the actual piece of hardware: one piece attached to the ministry of witness. The one final rod, joining the two and completing the hinge, operates as the question posed by the two men in white garments does in the Gospel story: 'Why are you standing there looking at the sky?'

This event speaks to me of the need to contemplate the moments and hinges in my life. I do that contemplation so that when I have done what is needed in all its fullness in one place, I might stop looking at the sky and understand the ministry of witness to which I am invited in new and yet continuous ways. We all move through transitions in life, whether asked for or not. That is why we can look back to see the doors, the threads and the rods. Yet sometimes, it is good to contemplate the moments - the hinges - that support those transitions.

The feast of the Ascension invites us to reflect on the hinges in our lives. And it invites us to be as grateful for those moments that supported the transitions, as well as all the doors that those moments enabled to close and open. This reflection and gratitude will help us to grow into who we are called to be as beloved witnesses of Jesus Christ.

Carolyn Wright - Celebration Publication

"Be content with what you have. Rejoice in the way things are. When you realise there is nothing lacking, the whole world belongs to you."

Lao Tzu

IMPORTANT PARISH INFORMATION

It is important that you contact the office by email, phone or in writing if you would like to a Mass Intention, Memorial Mass, Baptism, or use of the Parish Centre a **minimum two weeks** notice for Wedding bookings **six months** notice is required.

If you DO NOT book through the Office we cannot guarantee your request.

If you would like a loved one in the prayers for the sick, anniversary or death in the *Bulletin*, details must be with the Parish Office **NO** later than **Tuesday 9am** of that week.

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.

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/>

INCLUDING YOUTH

Consider the task confronting Luke: To record and spread the central event of all history...and there's no Snapchat, Instagram, Twitter or Facebook. And Luke's message is not exactly logical by human standards. Yet here we are 2,000 years later; hearing it. Consider: Why? How? It "shouldn't" be happening, but it is. Not only that, but we are talking about that person who disappeared into heaven! Is it nuts? Or is it a spectacular, cosmic reality that we don't fully appreciate?
 Jim Auer - Celebration Publication.

EVENTS

21 June—ST THOMAS MORE FORUM

Women's Leadership in the Future of the Church: Naming the Nameless. **Friday 21 June 2019** | 7 for 7.30PM Keynote Speaker: Dr Sr Maeve Louise Heaney VDMF Director, Xavier Centre for Theological Formation—ACU Dr Heaney's lecture will speak about women's leadership in the Church of the future and the need for creative, courageous and careful thought on this essential dimension of the Church's life. Register here: <https://goo.gl/gwgv1U> If you would prefer not to book online, please contact the Parish Office on 0416 823 447 or campbell@cg.org.au. Bookings Close Friday 14 June 2019

1 June - Say YES to refugees

General Meeting 1pm -2.30pm BBQ at midday. Come along to this General Meeting and contribute to the discussion about the next steps for the refugee campaign. Corroboree Park Meeting Room, Ainslie.

4th - 7th July - CHOSEN CONFERENCE

The Chosen Conference is a national conference for youth and young adults between 18 - 30 years old, organized by Jesus Youth, an International Catholic Association. From the 4th - 7th July at Sacred Heart Girl's College Melbourne for 4 power-packed days. For registrations please visit www.chosenconference.org.au. For further information, info@chosenconference.org.au or call us at 0491 002 081.

WRAP WITH LOVE

Are you a knitter, crocheter, or interested in learning? Join, our Wrap with Love craft group. Every Friday from 7 June to 26 July, Where: Campus Ministry, Signadou Building 302. Contact: Nicola.Tait@acu.edu.au or 6209 1386 Wrap with Love provide warm wraps to people in over 75 countries. To help you can knit/crochet squares in your own time, or if anyone has spare wool/needles etc they'd care to donate that would be much appreciated. Please see flyer on exit tables for more information.

TAIZÉ PRAYER

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. A service jointly hosted by: St Margaret's Uniting Church, Holy Rosary Church, & Holy Cross Anglican Church next Sunday 9th June at 6pm.



ROSTER	8 / 9 June	
Saturday 5.00 pm		
Acolyte / Server	R. Paul	
Readers	P. English	T. Dennis
Presentation of Gifts	J. Anderson	
EMOE	A. Moore	
Sunday 8.00am		
Acolyte / Server	N. McGahey	
Readers	N. Clarke	G. Thompson
Presentation of Gifts	Flynn Family	
EMOE	M. Falk	
Sunday 10.00am		
Acolyte / Server	H. Beasley	
Readers	C. Barbaro	P. McDonald
Presentation of Gifts	Webb Family	
EMOE	H. Zobec	R. Marson
Sunday 5.00pm		
Acolyte / Server	D. Gomez	
Readers	M. Brotohusodo	J. Curnow
Presentation of Gifts	de Luca Family	
EMOE	V. Van der Sanden	C. Mackay
Counters	G. Gleeson	I. Buckley