

Catholic Parish of Blackfriars

Issue 39
18 August 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
Thursday—12.30 pm

Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time



Peace or Division?

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	Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	Alleluia, alleluia! My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!
COMMUNION	With the Lord there is mercy; in him is plentiful redemption.
READINGS	Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10 Hebrews 12:1-4 Gospel: Luke 12:49-53

WHY SUNDAY

On Sundays we celebrate Christ's resurrection from the dead. According to the biblical story, on the seventh day God rested having completed the creation of the world. Appropriately, on the first day of the week Christians commemorate the 'new creation': the renewal of the world through Christ's loving sacrifice. Traditionally Christians approach this day as a day of worship and celebration, resting from work and focusing on their faith community and their family. This Sunday, take time out to give extra emphasis to this celebration. (e.g. Spend time with your children, take a walk with a friend, prayerfully review the Sunday readings.)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 39:2-4, 18

Lord, come to my aid!

I waited, I waited for the Lord
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry.

He drew me from the deadly pit,
from the miry clay.

He set my feet upon a rock
and made my footsteps firm.

He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God.

Many shall see and fear
and shall trust in the Lord.

As for me, wretched and poor,
the Lord thinks of me.

You are my rescuer, my help,
O God, do not delay!

Lord, come to my aid!

SAINT AUGUSTINE

Saint Augustine once wrote:

*To fall in love with God is the greatest romance;
To seek him, the greatest adventure;
To find him, the greatest human achievement.*

Jesus tells his disciples:

'I have come to set the earth on fire,'

God's love encompasses those who seek
Divine friendship. This is the most important
relationship we will ever know; it changes
Everything and makes us a new creation.

WHY DO WE MAKE THE SIGN OF THE CROSS?

Do you rush through the sign of the cross as if you're swatting a fly? Don't! This gesture contains powerful symbolism connected with the trinity and with your baptism. Indeed, it can be viewed as a prayer in itself. By making this sign you are declaring: I am completely under the power of the risen Christ, our Redeemer. You are identifying yourself with generations of Christians, for the common usage of this familiar formula ('In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen') can be traced back to the second century.

**LISTENING is often the only thing
needed to help someone.**

FIRE DANGER

Ponder a moment on the image of 'fire'. Jesus uses it in a negative way; it's not about cooking or warmth. It's about danger, panic, destruction; lighting a fire under somebody, apparently under a family. Jesus often uses shocking overstatements to convey a truth. Could this be such an example?

Does a choice to follow Jesus always involve danger, panic, destruction? Or is it more the case that sometimes there is some element of these? Maybe you feel different about this.

Jesus is totally involved in his mission to save us. Fire is the image he uses to speak of this great desire in his heart. Not everyone would receive his message and hence it would bring division at a deep level in many relationships.

How important to me is the good news that Jesus has brought? It helps me to realise how much I must mean to him when I consider what it cost him.

Gentle Jesus, meek and mild? Conformity and harmony are never to be imposed or sought for themselves. They are not a mould into which life is to be forced. When life is properly arranged, they will be the result.

Here Jesus is anxious to see the fire of God's love blaze across the globe. John the Baptist had promised that Jesus would baptise his disciples with the Holy Spirit and fire. The fire of God's love was in fact visibly cast upon the earth at Pentecost, and we thank God for it.

Lord that we might experience the fire of your love in our hearts today. Saint Ignatius was 'ablaze with God' and we wish that for ourselves too. Only so will we be your true disciples. <https://www.sacredspace.ie/scripture/luke-1249-53-0>

NEW AGE

There is an echo here of John the Baptist's reference to the difference between his own baptism and that of Jesus: 'I baptize you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire' (Luke 3:16). Fire has a purifying quality: it separates what is of value from what is worthless. The baptism of Jesus requires us to die to sin and selfishness in order to live more fully for God and others.

Jesus does not set out to cause conflict, but so radical is his message that it inevitably does cause division in certain situations and relationships. The Gospel is a call to conversion, to becoming 'a new creation' (2 Corinthians 5:17). It means shedding the skin of a former way of living. Does my Christian faith make a real difference to the kind of person I am and to the kind of life I lead? Living out your life as a companion of Jesus is anything but dull! Christians are meant to be 'on fire' with God's love, and be moved by the Holy Spirit. I ask God to show me where my life has become bland and to free me to become fully alive.

Jesus does not try to cause divisions, but he does insist that we must put God first. In him the new age of God has dawned, and I ask to be part of it. I want to live a fruitful life that will be a blessing to everyone, especially the oppressed and excluded. <https://www.sacredspace.ie/scripture/luke-1249-53-0>

PRAYER

Lord, you disturb me,
shake me out of complacency and make my heart burn within me.
Your message is not just about being nice. It means being angry at times,
confronting injustice, making a stand. You sensed already what a price you
would pay for your teaching, and how bitter would be your baptism,
submerging you in your Passion.

In Your Prayers please remember those in our community who are ill:	Elizabeth Cronin, Mary Bui, Greg O'Neill, Luke Mahon Una Bell, Fr Ellis Clifford, Mary Martin, Edith Jensen, Philip Bailey, Maureen Blood, Anne Corver, Barbara Wilson, Awny El-Ghitany, Joe Schimizzi, Elsie Loughton, Lexie Harris, Sharon O'Rourke, Anne O'Neill, Beth Delos Santos, Rosa Maria Santos, Paul Neddrrie, Maria Martiniello, Elizabeth Webster, Frank Zobec, Mimma Giampietro, Zelma McManus, Catherine Feehan, Pamela Sandy, Ryan Fawke, Fr Joe McGeehan, Charlotte Woolner, Dion Convine Margaret O'Sullivan
Our deceased	Rae Tanzer, Marietta Lacsao, Sr Frances Maher, Jan Winmill
In Memory	Atilio Grzic

BAPTISM

Tara Patricia Pye
Eli Henry Nash

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.



I CAME TO BRING FIRE TO THE WORLD

Jesus demonstrates God's love in so many ways during his earthly ministry. He will also accomplish an incredible blessing of love when he comes to take God's children home to be with him forever. However, the cost of those blessings is high — high for him, high for the Father, and high for those who follow him. Jesus left heaven, came to earth, and died a horrible death to provide these blessings. The Father withheld his power and allowed those he created to do such horrid things to his Son. So we must not be surprised at the powerful language Jesus uses here. His ministry calls for a decision, a radical decision, to be made. Either he is God with us, or he is an impostor. Either he is Christ, God's Messiah and our Savior, or he is delusional. Either he is Lord, King of our hearts and of all creation, or he is a liar. Making a decision about him is divisive. It will divide families and households. It will be politically incorrect because it doesn't allow for alternatives. As Jesus speaks to his disciples, he also speaks to us. If we decide for him, our decision will not make everyone happy and won't lead to everyone's liking us. A passionate disciple of Jesus will not be appreciated by all — maybe not by most — but will surely be appreciated and rewarded by God!

www.heartlight.org/wjd/luke/

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Non-violence - The Christian message is non-violent. It brings love, compassion, harmony, peace. It brings people together so that there is neither Jew nor Greek, slave or free, male or female... But it also of its nature challenges injustice, corruption, discrimination, abuse, dishonesty and all attacks on human dignity. The role of the evangeliser is "to comfort the afflicted and to afflict the comfortable." Vested interests - the rich, the powerful inside and outside the Church - will do anything to keep what they have. When the Church preaches and lives the Gospel, conflict is inevitable - even though in no way wished or intended.

True religion does not divide - So, in one way, religion should never divide (as in Northern Ireland). It is only a false Christianity and religion that deliberately creates division ("them and us"). It is not Christianity or any other religion as such which has brought so much suffering but certain people who call themselves "Christians" (or Muslims, Hindus or Jews). At the same time, true Christianity in defending truth, justice, human dignity and freedom will inevitably meet opposition and be attacked. The passage which says that the peacemakers are blessed also says that those who are persecuted in the name of the Gospel are equally blessed. Strangely enough, both go together.

Extract from a homily Frank Doyle SJ
<https://livingspace.sacredspace.ie/frank-doyle-sj/>

THE PEACE THAT ONLY COMES THROUGH FIRE

Twentieth Sunday of the Year.

Fr David Sanders OP

dares us to risk being consumed by fire.

I know a church where they stopped using incense after they had fitted smoke alarms. Fire is dangerous but sometime you have to take a risk. Imagine what would have happened to our faith if Moses had used a fire extinguisher rather than venturing into the presence of God at the burning bush.

But you may feel uneasy when you hear Jesus wanting to bring fire to the earth. There are too many terrorists around at present who are willing, for a greater cause, to burn up themselves or bring down fire on their enemies and the innocent. Is it destructive fire like this which Jesus wants to use?

Elijah had certainly called down fire on his enemies, but when the disciples earlier in the Gospel asked Jesus whether he wanted them to imitate the prophet and destroy the Samaritans with fire, he rebuked them. But Jesus could still be using the fire of judgement which would not destroy but reveal God's truth, disturb the peace and bring down hatred upon his head. And in this he would be more like the prophet Jeremiah.

Jeremiah knew that Judah was riddled with injustice but that no one wanted to admit this. The false prophets advocated peace at any cost and papered over the corruption. Jeremiah also knew what the cost would be if he opened his mouth and spoke the truth. But he could do no other. He tells us in chapter twenty that there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones. I am weary with holding it in and I cannot.

He must speak God's word which prophesies that it will only be through the crucible of exile that healing will come to the nation. Judgement is the only way to true and lasting peace. But how do his listeners react? They douse these prophetic flames by throwing him into the mud at the bottom of a well. But this is what happens to prophets who risk playing with fire.

Jesus, like Jeremiah, knows that lasting peace will only come when his words are heard and people change their behaviour. When he goes to the Temple he condemns this central institution of the nation as corrupt. And inevitably his words cause divisions.

But instead of throwing an incendiary device at his enemies, Jesus prefers to take on himself the effects of the peoples' sin. John the Baptist had earlier prophesied that Jesus would bring a baptism in the fire of the Holy Spirit. At Pentecost the disciples will indeed receive the Spirit in for form of tongues of fire. But before this can take place Jesus must face his own baptism of fire through the sufferings he will endure in his passion and death.

But today in the Gospel he expresses a passionate impatience; he yearns for this baptism just as he yearns to share the passover meal with his disciples. It will only be through his act of sacrificial love on the Cross that his disciples will be able to receive that baptism of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Having plumbed the depth of human injustice and passed through death, the risen Jesus can give them the gift of an enduring peace through the power of the Holy Spirit. But that peace will bring with it, as Jesus predicts and as the Acts of the Apostles reveal, divisions in families and households.

That gift of peace is still on offer. But just as many turned away from Christ's words in his own day people still prefer a quiet domestic peace which allow the deeper injustices and problems in their lives to be ignored. The Church too often puts out the fire which Christ wishes to bring to the earth through timidity and fear. It can often give the impression it wants peace and quiet and does not want people to be disturbed in their faith, although Jesus did not have the same anxieties.

But just in case you are ready to cast fire you should at least take the fire test. Before you cast the fire in righteous anger against others make sure you are willing yourself to take some of the same heat which Jesus felt in his baptism of fire.

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

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. 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 at Siam Twist Hackett at 10.30 am. We look forward to seeing our friends & welcome newcomers.

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

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/>

8 September - Catechist Sunday - On this Sunday we honour, pray for and encourage our 220 catechists who work with 2,200 Catholic children attending government schools. If you know one of these special volunteers please give them a 'pat on the back' and say a prayer for them. www.amazingcatechists.org.au

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS - www.australiancatholics.com.au

In Australia fire is often rightly feared. In summers, with rising temperatures and little rain, fire can sweep through hectares, destroying pastures, forests, properties and even taking lives. Amid the ashes, however, life can and does grow again. Today's Gospel speaks of fire in destructive terms but also in the understanding that once it's passed over there will be a renewal. It seems best to understand the 'fire' that Jesus says he has come to bring to the earth as being a gift of the Holy Spirit. 'This communication of the Spirit cannot take place until [Jesus] has personally confronted and overcome, through death and resurrection, the hostility to divine love lurking in the human heart'.

World Humanitarian Day is commemorated on 19 August.

We pray the fire of commitment to those in need continues to burn brightly.

A commitment by the Catholic Church to ensuring an ongoing conversation about issues raised in the submissions to the Plenary Council is essential to promoting trust in the Church, writes Fr Andrew Hamilton SJ.

<https://www.pray.com.au/pray-for-the-worlds/>

ROSTER

24 / 25 August

Saturday 5pm

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

Sunday 8am

Acolyte / Server	K. Linard	
Readers	M. Falk	E. Smith
Presentation of Gifts	P. Zorzi	
EMOE	N. Clarke	

Sunday 10am

Acolyte / Server	Q. Vu	
Readers	J. Northcote	E. Northcote
Presentation of Gifts	School Family	
EMOE	A. Northcote	B. Affas

Sunday 5pm

Acolyte / Server	P. Tran	
Readers	V. Van der Sanden	K. Watson
Presentation of Gifts	Malone Family	
EMOE	C. de Luca	T. de Luca

COUNTERS

W. Wade J. Smith

EVENTS

ST VINCENT DE PAUL Dickson shop are looking for helpers in the shop. If your are able to volunteer please contact the shop for further information.

Volunteer Overseas - The Cagliero Project, Salesians of Don Bosco
We are seeking volunteers for January 2020 departure, working with disadvantaged young people in Salesian communities throughout Cambodia, Samoa, East Timor & Solomon Islands. Applications close October 15th. Send us an inquiry - www.cagliero.org.au

24 August - Catholic Youth Apha

Catholic Youth Alpha from 7 pm at Dickson Parish Hall, Wilshire St Dickson. Meeting fortnightly. It begins with a meal (gold coin donation) and then the popular Alpha DVD presentation viewed by 100 000s of Australians and then discussions. For more info contact the parish youth minster Neve on neve.tually@cg.org.au or Fr Emil on emil.milat@cg.org.au or parish office 62485472.

25 August - AMICUS

Sunday 25.08.19 meet at 12 noon for lunch at the Hoi Polloi restaurant, Museum of Australian democracy. Table booked in the name of Amicus. Highlights tours available if interested. Contact Lyn 0400 265 926

31 August - ONE DAY RETREAT IN CANBERRA (9.30am-4.30pm)

at St Benedict's Catholic Church. Admission is FREE, BYO lunch. Boxed lunch available at nominal cost, RSVP by 29th August to p1.rebello@gmail.com For enquiries please contact: Parveen: 0439642571; Winnie: 0451015527; Prakash 0406381446;