

Catholic Parish of Blackfriars

Issue 40
25 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

Twenty First Sunday of Ordinary Time



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 ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	Alleluia, alleluia! I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me. Alleluia!
COMMUNION	The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.
READINGS	Isaiah 66:18-21 Hebrews 12:5-7. 11-13 Gospel: Luke 13:22-30

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

As we reflect on this weekend's scripture readings we learn that God has no favourites. His love for us all is boundless. This, however, is a good and bad news scenario. God sees and loves us all, even those who fail. But equality can be bad news for some. There's no extra credit for merely being a member of a certain religion, sect, political party, gender or cultural group. 'When the time comes to be gathered into God's kingdom feast, those who take their faith for granted may find themselves shut out.' 'Those who might consider themselves "insiders" and so be complacent about their inclusion had better take note. Too late, they may wake up to find themselves excluded, while, to their anguish and chagrin, they see many included whom they would have considered outsiders.'

Fr Brendan Byrne SJ

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 116

INTRODUCTION

Go out to all the world
and tell the Good News.

O praise the Lord, all you nations,
acclaim him all you peoples

Strong is his love for us;
he is faithful for ever.

Go out to all the world
and tell the Good News.

Who would not be interested in accepting God's endless mercy? Today's readings remind us that not everyone responds in the same way to what is offered. Living the Gospel is a joy and a privilege, with ultimate rich rewards. But we know there is no guarantee of a smooth journey. The discipline required may not be for everyone - even those we love. All we can do is embrace the invitation issued to us and pray that countless others will join us in discipleship when they are ready.

Joan DeMerchant Celebration Publication

WELCOME

GOSPEL REFLECTION

 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.

When someone asks Jesus how many will be saved, he answers by using the image of the narrow door. Those who do not remain faithful to him will be left outside. Jesus is warning people of faith not to take their salvation for granted. Just because we worship every week-end, we cannot assume that we can squeeze through the narrow door. We may be surprised to discover that some who seem less worthy will enter the kingdom before us. Discussion - Jesus reminds us that we are not to judge others as "worthy" of the kingdom or not. Our human judgment is faulty. We only see so much. God sees the entire person, heart and soul, past, present, and future. Some who seem to be "last" ("losers" in our current slang) may well be "first" with God. And some we look up to as "first" (the winners in our world) may turn out to be "last" in the kingdom. We just don't know. And where others are with God is really not our concern. The question is: where do YOU want to be with God? How can YOU stay close to Jesus? Praise the Lord All You Nations - In the first reading and in the responsorial psalm, all the nations of the world are encouraged to praise the Lord. Jesus reminds us that we are not to judge others as "worthy" of the kingdom or not. Our human judgment is faulty. We only see so much. God sees the entire person, heart and soul, past, present, and future. Some who seem to be "last" ("losers" in our current slang) may well be "first" with God. And some we look up to as "first" (the winners in our world) may turn out to be "last" in the kingdom. We just don't know. And where others are with God is really not our concern. The question is: where do YOU want to be with God? How can YOU stay close to Jesus?

Proclaiming Faith

APPEALS

BEYOND EXCLUSIVENESS

To date donations to Project Compassion raised \$11,900.00 and to the Dominican Fathers Retirement & Sickness fund raised \$3685.00. Thank you for your generosity .

"Will there only be a few saved?" Jesus had no intention of entering into this discussion; his whole purpose was to lead people beyond the exclusiveness they took for granted. Israel's calling was, in fact, for the sake of the other peoples of the world. They were to be a "light to the nations", leading them to come to know the life-giving ways of the one true God. The "narrow door" of his parable does not imply that salvation is available to only a few; it refers to the conversion called for if his hearers are to accept his teaching, and thus become the people God wants them to be. 'Similarly, the point of the parable of the "locked door" is not exclusion, but the need to hurry in - the opportunity brought by Jesus is coming to an end. Only conversion from the constricted ways the nation has come to take for granted will give entrance to "the master's house". Jesus was calling Israel back to a sharing in the generous ways of God that was their true faith tradition. But, as he makes his way to Jerusalem, time is running out.'

Excerpt from a commentary by Fr John Thornhill sm



If you don't like something change it;
if you can't change it,
change the way you think about it.



We cannot solve our problems with
the same thinking
we used when we created them.

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 Neddrie, 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	Anna Xuan

BAPTISM

Allegra Rose Raad

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.



FROM EAST AND WEST

One of the features of God's creation is the great variety there is the world. Not only a variety of terrains, plants and animals, but also of human cultures. Despite the basic humanity shared by all people, there are great differences in social structure, dress, customs and food. This all helps to make the world an endlessly fascinating place.

However, there can be a downside to this diversity. People can be afraid of difference, and this can lead to ethnic and national conflicts, as the whole history of the world attests.

Other solutions have been tried, and these attempts have tried to make everyone conform to one particular way of being. The totalitarian regimes of Nazi Germany, Soviet Russia, and Communist China tried this solution with disastrous consequences. Others can try and overcome such differences by dreaming of utopian one-world governments, where all differences will be eradicated. The historian Michael Burleigh, in his book *Earthly Powers* describes one such utopian dreamer from the 16th/17th century, the Dominican friar Tommaso Campanella. Campanella wrote of the "City of the Sun". This fantasy world would consist of a communist style regime ruled by the 'Metaphysician'; people's diet would be regulated as would their sex lives, according to 'complex astrological calculations and the rules of stock-breeding.' (p.21). Pictures of Moses, Alexander, Christ, Caesar and Mohamed would encourage people to live moral lives. Religion would be a mixture of paganism, astrology and Christianity. While many of these ideas may seem laughable and bizarre, many were taken seriously at the time, and have influenced political thought since Campanella's time. Even today, there are theories, both approving and disapproving, of a 'new world order.'

The picture presented to us in the scripture readings for today creates quite a different scenario. One of the great themes of the Old Testament is that although the People of Israel are the chosen people, they have this role on trust. They are to act as a beacon to the rest of the nations, to bear witness to the creating love of the one God, and to act as prophets for the day when all people will be united by God himself.

Excerpt from a commentary by Neil Ferguson O.P <http://english.op.org/torch>

ST VINCENT DE PAUL



Over the next two weeks **Tony Malone, president of the Holy Rosary St Vincent de Paul Conference will be talking at the Masses.**

The Holy Rosary Conference of Vinnies is looking for new members to help them undertake their important work in the local community. For further information, contact Tony Malone on 0431 542 531.

TO LIVE IS TO MOVE

*Twenty-First Sunday of the Year.
Fr Colin Carr OP tells us that God
welcomes the badly brought-up.*

Why does the Church get us to listen to the Bible at Mass week by week? Why do we have to hear about Put and Lud and Moshech, which were marginal places even in Old Testament times, and certainly don't make the headlines - or even footnotes - in our times?

Is the Bible simply an old book which is interesting and instructive to those who are interested in ancient history? The church would not be commending it to us if it were just that: it's our belief that God speaks to us now through the Bible, in which we hear his Word. So if what the prophets said thousands of years ago challenged the people of their time, it continues to challenge us today; if Jesus divided people in his day by what he said, offending some and cheering others, we need to check out whether what he says offends us or cheers us now.

But first, let's look at the beginning of the gospel for today: 'Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem.' Luke's Gospel and Luke's other book, the Acts of the Apostles, are full of the idea of journeying. Jesus doesn't just sit in one place and wait for people to come and listen to his teaching: he himself is moving forward in obedience to his destiny; those who want to hear him must travel with him, and for us that means being willing to move, to be changed, to learn new things.

We can never say of the Gospel, 'I've got it.' If you say that, you haven't got it. We dare not be stuck in complacency; nor need we be stuck in self-despising; neither of those attitudes helps us to hear the Gospel.

The whole Bible is about movement - away from Egypt, to the Promised Land, away into exile, back to the promised land; and not only do God's chosen people get moved: the people of all these foreign places like Put and Lud and Moshech are invited to move, to come to Jerusalem, the place of God's glory. (They are even promised a chance to minister in God's sanctuary, which is a pretty shocking idea to the purists). To live is to move - away from our smaller world into God's bigger world. The fact that we are known as God's people doesn't mean that God isn't interested in other people. God may possess us; we don't possess God.

So Jesus challenged his hearers not to imagine that just because they had had contact with God through the scriptures read in the synagogue, or had been visited by Jesus as he went round preaching, they were assured of a place in the kingdom: the question was, had they responded to God, and desired a place in the kingdom, like hungry and needy people? Had they desired him, like the people from east and west and north and south, the outsiders who would be welcomed into the feast with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob simply because they wanted to be there?

We can gain admission to the heavenly banquet on one condition: if we are hungry to be there. Those who think they have a right to be there will get a shock; they have not tried their best to enter by the narrow door, which paradoxically welcomes countless unexpected guests through it; it is the door of humility, of need, of poverty in spirit. Those who have had a good, godly upbringing may think that that is all they require; somehow they're already in the club, and they needn't bother to apply. But the fact is that we can only come into God's presence if we come as needy people who know we have nothing to offer but everything to receive.

Jesus scandalised the well brought-up by showing that God welcomes the badly brought-up too; each has the same way into the heavenly feast: hunger. <http://english.op.org/torch>

PROCLAIMING FAITH

When someone asks Jesus how many will be saved, he answers by using the image of the narrow door. Those who do not remain faithful to him will be left outside. Jesus is warning people of faith not to take their salvation for granted. Just because we worship every weekend, we cannot assume that we can squeeze through the narrow door. We may be surprised to discover that some who seem less worthy will enter the kingdom before us.

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 Jacque 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/>

CATHOLICS FOR RENEWAL Inc. Newsletter can be found at this link - www.catholicsforrenewal.org.au

1 - September "National Prayer Crusade for Vocations"

On this day, the Knights of the Southern Cross will launch their 13th National Prayer Crusade for Vocations. The Crusade will run until Saturday, 23 November 2019 and all Catholic organisations/schools and colleges, parishes and individual Catholics throughout Australia are invited to participate. Participants are asked to choose one week during the Crusade period to pray the following Crusade Prayer each day:

Heavenly Father, you know the faith, courage and generosity of your people throughout Australia including the men and women serving at home and overseas with the Australian Military Services. Please provide your people in Australia with sufficient Priests, Deacons and Religious to meet their needs and be with them always as they endeavour to meet the challenges of their daily lives. We ask this through Jesus Christ, Your Son. Amen

ROSTER

31 August / 1 September

Saturday 5pm	
Acolyte / Server	R. Paul
Readers	M. Cox Volunteer
Presentation of Gifts	C. Lewis
EMOE	K. Murphy
Sunday 8am	
Acolyte / Server	F. Bertrand
Readers	B. Bandle C. Bandle
Presentation of Gifts	Bandle Family
EMOE	E. Smith
Sunday 10am	
Acolyte / Server	H. Beasley
Readers	M. Fitzgerald K. McCluskey
Presentation of Gifts	Musolino Family
EMOE	R. Marson H. Zobec
Sunday 5pm	
Acolyte / Server	S. Sedgwick
Readers	M. Brotohusodo J. Curnow
Presentation of Gifts	Dobrowolska Cheyne Family
EMOE	V. Van der Sanden K. Sneddon
COUNTERS	
	F. Higgins N. Higgins I. Buckley

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 Cagliari 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.cagliari.org.au

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;

31st August - FREE PUBLIC LECTURE

"Living, Dying and the Power of Presence"
Kevin Dunn - International Film Maker and Speaker - Saturday 31st August from 2.30-4.00pm
Haydon Hall (behind St Christopher's Cathedral) Manuka.
No need to RSVP. Enquiries lara.kirk@cg.org.au 0429 192 869

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

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED is an international Catholic Charity that supports suffering and persecuted Christians. Currently over 200 million Christians worldwide cannot freely exercise their faith; Christians are persecuted, discriminated against or oppressed in more than 40 countries. The primary work of *Aid to the Church in Need* is focussed on providing spiritual and pastoral support to keep the Catholic faith alive. We support projects at the request of bishops and religious superiors who have nowhere else to turn. We invite you to stay informed by receiving news from the suffering Church. Visit www.aidtochurch.org and click 'subscribe'. If you prefer to receive our newsletter via post, call **1800 101 201** during business hours to arrange.

Believe that life is worth living
and your belief will help create the fact.