

Catholic Parish of Blackiriars

Issue 41
1 September 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

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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 Second 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	Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	Alleluia, alleluia! Take my yoke upon you; learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart. Alleluia!
COMMUNION	How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.
READINGS	Sirach 3:17-20. 28-29, Hebrews 12:18-19. 22-24 Gospel: Luke 14:1. 7-14

FATHER'S DAY



Father's Day is a celebration honouring fathers and celebrating fatherhood, paternal bonds and the influence of fathers in society. A customary day for the celebration of fatherhood in Catholic Europe is known to date back to at least 1508. It is observed on March 19, as the feast day of Saint Joseph, who is referred to as the fatherly *Nutritor Domini* ("Nourisher of the Lord") in Catholicism and "the putative father of Jesus" in southern European tradition. This celebration was brought to the Americas by the Spanish and Portuguese. The Catholic Church actively supported the custom of a celebration of fatherhood on St. Joseph's Day from either the last years of the 14th century or from the early 15th century, apparently on the initiative of the Franciscans. Father's Day was not celebrated in the US, outside Catholic traditions, until the 20th century.

God, bless all the fathers in the world. Guide them to be good role models and loving to all their children. Help them to be a father like you are. Give them grace and patience to handle situations in a loving way. Amen

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 67:4-7. 10-11

God, in your goodness,
you have made a home for the poor.

The just shall rejoice at the presence of God,
they shall exult and dance for joy.
O sing to the Lord, make music to his name;
rejoice in the Lord, exult at his presence.

Father of the orphan, defender of the widow,
such is God in his holy place.
God gives the lonely a home to live in;
he leads the prisoners forth into freedom.

You poured down, O God, a generous rain:
when your people were starved
you gave them new life.
It was there that your people found a home,
prepared in your goodness, O God, for the poor.

God, in your goodness,
you have made a home for the poor.

TRUE HUMILITY

In the Gospel Reading, Jesus censures people who take the seats of honour at a feast. Take the least honourable places, he tells them, and then the host can invite you to a more honourable place.

The Pharisee knew that every good in him was a gift from God. But he was glad that he had God's gifts and that the publican didn't. Jesus is rebuking the pride of those people who go for the honourable seats. But what is the solution to the problem of pride? If you race your friends to the least honourable seat because the reward for doing so is that you get one of the best seats, isn't this pride too?

So what is true humility? Well, think about pride. There is a childish kind of pride, of course, where you brag about your accomplishments while everybody else tries to be polite enough not to roll their eyes while you are talking. And then there is also the grown-up version of that childish pride, the pride of the self-made man. A multi-millionaire who explains that he has gotten where he is all by himself has this kind of pride. He has failed to notice all the gifts he has been given that have helped him get where he is. He thinks he himself is responsible for the good he has.

A more complicated kind of pride can be found in a person who knows that all his good comes from the grace of God. But he is sure that God has given such grace to him and not to his neighbours, because God knew that *he*, unlike his stupid worldly neighbours, would make good use of God's gifts. This is the pride of a prig.

Finally, the worst and most sophisticated kind of pride is found in the Pharisee who thanked God that he was not like other men, especially not like that sinner, the publican, praying next to him in the Temple. The Pharisee knew that every good in him was a gift from God. But he was glad that *he* had God's gifts and that the publican didn't. The Pharisee liked looking down on the publican.

Here is what humility is, then. It is recognizing that every good in yourself is a gift from God and is meant to be given back to the Lord by being shared with others.

So you can't get true humility by racing for the least honourable seat. If the least honourable seat is, in the Lord's view, the best place to be seated, then true humility requires you're sharing it with others in gratitude to the Lord who gave it.

Eleonore Stump <http://liturgy.slu.edu/>

ST VINCENT DE PAUL



This week Tony Malone, president of the Holy Rosary St Vincent de Paul Conference will be talking at Vigil and 10am 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.

INTRODUCTION

Today's readings focus on humility and helping those in need. These readings seem especially relevant now. How do we conduct ourselves in a culture that promotes success, power, self-aggrandizement at every level? Awareness — both of self and others — is essential. Jesus calls us to look beyond ourselves to others and expect no reward in return. That sounds easier than it is, which is why we're still talking about it.

Joan DeMerchant Celebration Publication

PLANNED GIVING

If you donate to the Planned Giving by Credit Card please advise the office if there is any change (the expiry date, new card, etc) by phone, letter or E-mail as soon as the changes occur.

LIFE THEMES

Being pro-life is really all about the humility of which today's first reading and Gospel speak. Humility allows us to see each other and ourselves honestly, as neither more nor less than what we are. Because we see the worth of our own lives and those of our neighbors, we are not led by pride to either oppress or ignore those lives. Rather, humility leads us to serve those lives. Humility keeps us from being fooled by appearances, and led to pay more attention to those who are more rich, famous, or powerful. Instead, we respect and serve the small and lowly. We don't determine their value, and neither does the law. "When you have a reception, invite beggars and the crippled, the lame and the blind. You should be pleased that they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid in the resurrection of the just."

Here, Jesus urges us to have "eschatological realism." We are to evaluate today's choices in the light of what will happen on the last day.



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	Sr Frances Maher, Jan Winmill
In Memory	Peg Butz, Mark Schwinghamer

BAPTISM

Hugh Lawrence Anthony Allison

who will be baptised this weekend.
May his life filled with God's peace,
and his heart with God's love...
on this Baptism day and always.



HUMILITY AND MERCY

Soon after he was elected, Pope Francis told an audience of some 5,000 journalists, "How I would like a church which is poor and for the poor!"

Many people wondered just what he meant. Certainly Pope Francis urges us to care for the poor and needy among us, and such care involves living more simply ourselves. He is very aware of the power that wealth and consumerism have in the modern world, and he invites us often to embrace a simpler life. At the same time, I think his vision goes beyond material poverty and simplicity. It requires what today's readings emphasize — the virtue of humility. One of the big problems with being well-off is that we quickly begin to think of ourselves as self-sufficient, often leading us to look down on those who appear needy and unable to take care of themselves. That pride can keep us from manifesting the mercy of God, because it keeps us from embracing the gift of mercy that God offers us. If we are self-sufficient, we think we are not in need of mercy. So Sirach urges us, "My child, conduct your affairs with humility, and you will be loved more than a giver of gifts. Humble yourself the more, the greater you are, and you will find favour with God." Humility is not a matter of grovelling. It is simply a matter of recognizing the truth about ourselves. Part of that truth, as Hebrews reminds us, is that we have been blessed by God to be able to approach "Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem" — not in fear and trembling but with confidence. That confidence stems not from self-sufficiency but from knowing how much God loves us. The other part of our truth is that we are all limited, weak, and sinners. We need the mercy of God, and when we recognize that, we find it much easier to offer mercy to others.

So what does all this mean for those entrusted with the liturgy? For starters, it means that we need to remember that we are servants and stewards of the liturgy, not its masters. We can easily begin thinking that we make good liturgy happen by our own efforts. We can and should prepare well and do our best, but the power of the liturgy flows from the presence and grace of God in our midst.

Secondly, we are also servants of our brothers and sisters at worship. Humility enables us to treat each person with respect and care. We do not disdain those who seem less committed or less educated or less liturgically aware. There is no room for egotism among those who seek to be servants of the Lord and his people.

Fr. Lawrence Mick <http://liturgy.slu.edu/>

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

A PARABOLIC PUZZLE

*Twenty-Second Sunday of the Year.
Fr Benjamin Earl OP preaches
on the parable that isn't. Or is it?*

Today's gospel passage is a puzzling one, if we look at it closely. We hear that 'Jesus told a parable to those who were invited'. But what follows doesn't look like a parable at all. We are used to parables starting with phrases like, 'A father had two sons,' or 'A sower went out to sow seed,' or 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a mustard seed.' They are stories or images whose purpose is to illustrate some deeper point. What we have today, though, is not a story or an image; Jesus simply gives instruction on how to behave. 'When you are invited... to a marriage feast, do not sit down in a place of honour,' he says to those present. It doesn't seem to be a parable at all. Instead, Jesus seems to be giving some simple moral advice to his listeners: don't be puffed-up and arrogant, but instead show a little bit of humility.

This is all very well, but it is hardly an original idea: Jesus ben Sira wrote the words we heard in our first reading two hundred years before Jesus of Nazareth uttered the not dissimilar words recorded in today's gospel. The idea, in fact, is fairly obvious: nobody likes someone who is full of self-importance, and a little bit of mild self-deprecation can help you get on in life.

But if this is all so unoriginal and obvious, why is it in the gospels? We can take it as read that there is little that is in the gospels needlessly. Surely there must be some deeper meaning to the words of Jesus. What is really going on here?

There are a couple of clues in the passage. At the very end of our reading, Jesus talks about not being repaid in this world for our kindnesses, but 'at the resurrection of the just.' Is this an indication that we're perhaps not just talking about a single feast, but rather should have a more cosmic timeframe in mind?

Then we might look at the way Jesus sums up this 'parable': Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.

It is interesting that Jesus talks of 'every one' who exalts himself, but just 'he'—just one person—who humbles himself. This may simply be a turn of phrase; but we should consider the possibility that Jesus really does mean to say that many, even all, have exalted themselves, but that only one person truly humbles himself.

This, then, is what makes Jesus' advice about table etiquette into a parable. All humanity has 'exalted itself' through the sin of pride: that desire of Adam and Eve to be like God, a desire in which we have all shared. As a result of that sin, all have been humbled, cut off from God.

Yet, in response, God has humbled himself by becoming incarnate. Jesus Christ is the one just man who has humbled himself; Jesus Christ is the one who was lifted up—exalted, that is—on the cross, and who has been exalted to the heights of heaven. He it is who has invited all the sinners of the world to his feast, lifting us up in turn from our sinful state, inviting us to follow his example and join him at his heavenly feast.

Of course, we must still follow Jesus' teaching at its most basic level, unoriginal and obvious though it is. But when we do so, we must remember that our humility is not something we do simply in order to help ourselves advance in this life. Rather, it is in imitation of the immense humility of Jesus Christ, who, though he is God, reduced himself to share in our state. We do this too in imitation of his charity to the disadvantaged of the world. Our reward is not in dinner invitations, nor in being invited to a higher place at the table, but in enjoying with Christ the marriage feast of the lamb at the resurrection of the just.

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

Compare yourself not to others, but only to the vision you hold within your heart. Dedicate your life to a cause greater than yourself and watch you get beyond yourself. The very thing that someone told you that you would never be able to do may just be the very thing you are destined to do.

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.

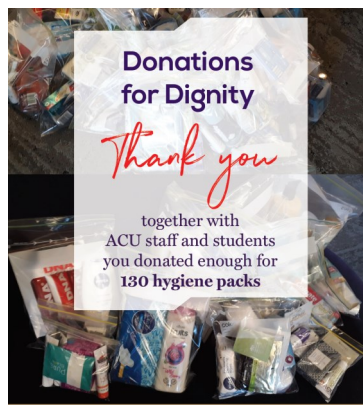
PARISH BULLETIN - DEADLINE for notices is **NOON**

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/>

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



14 - September
"Social Media - The Good, the Bad and the Ugly"

Interested parishioners are invited to a free workshop on this year's Social Justice Statement, *Making It Real: genuine human encounter in our digital world* from 10am-12noon in the Haydon Hall, St Christopher's Pastoral Centre, For catering and notes, please RSVP by 10 September to the 0412 145 088 or e-mail: SocialJustice@cg.org.au .

ROSTER

7 / 8 September

Saturday 5pm		
Acolyte / Server	T. Johnson	
Readers	M. Pentony	J. de Riva O'Phelan
Presentation of Gifts	Higgins Family	
EMOE	C. Lewis	
Sunday 8am		
Acolyte / Server	N. McGahey	
Readers	N. Clarke	G. Thompson
Presentation of Gifts	Flynn Family	
EMOE	E. Smith	
Sunday 10am		
Acolyte / Server	R. Tanzer	
Readers	I. Ciaccia	R. Ciaccia
Presentation of Gifts	Ciaccia Family	
EMOE	E. Musolino	M. Musolino
Sunday 5pm		
Acolyte / Server	D. Gomez	
Readers	M. Tuckwell	T. Malone
Presentation of Gifts	K. Turrise	
EMOE	C. de Luca	T. de Luca
COUNTERS		
	G. Gleeson	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 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

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*

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.