

# Catholic Parish of Blackiriars

Issue 43  
15 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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PO Box 900, Dickson  
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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

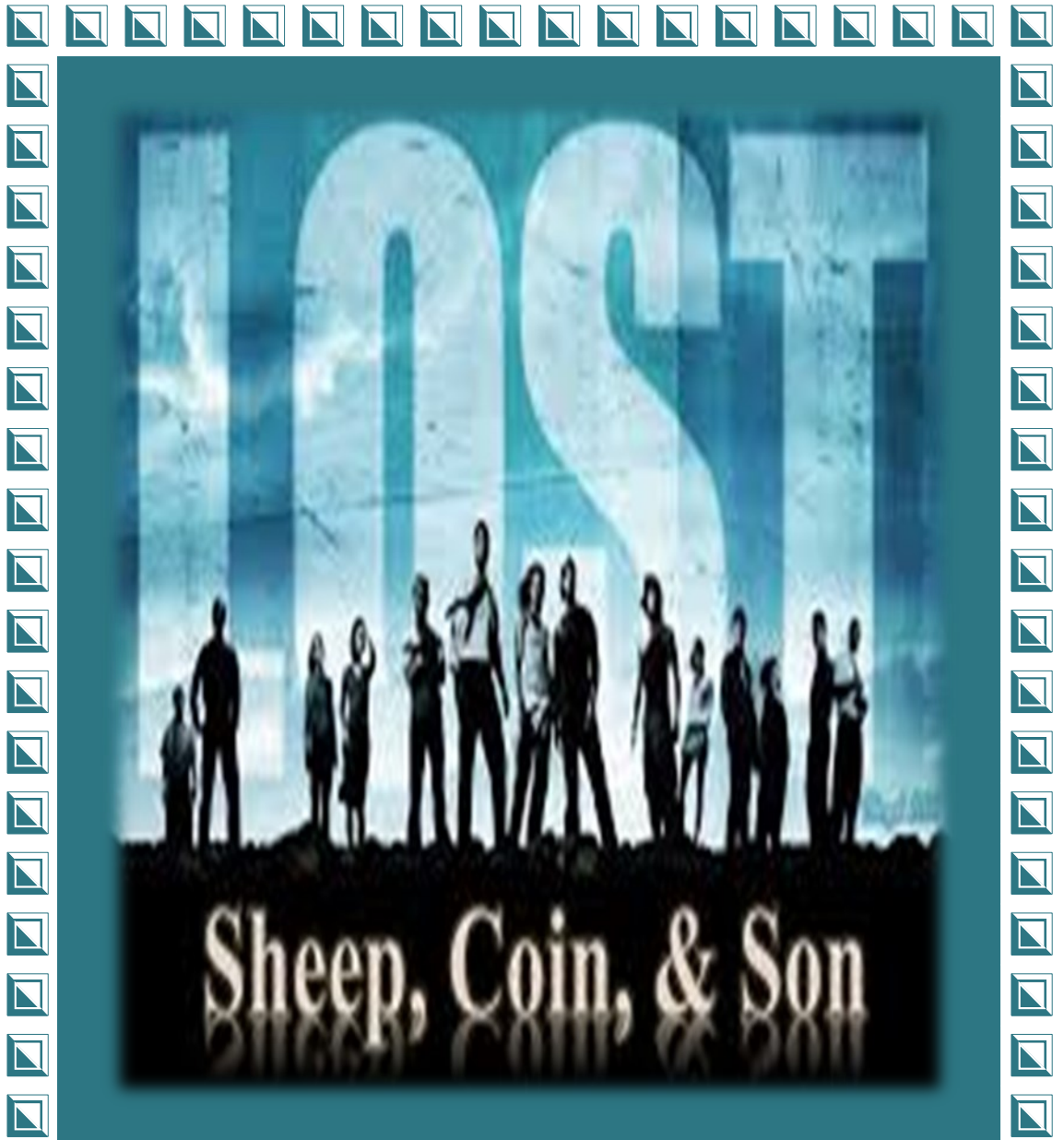
**Saturday 5pm (Vigil)**  
**Sunday 8am, 10am & 5pm**  
9am Mass Saturday & Public  
Holidays  
excluding Mondays

*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 Fourth 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.

<b>ENTRANCE</b>	Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.	
<b>GOSPEL ACCLAMATION</b>	Alleluia, alleluia! God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. Alleluia!	
<b>COMMUNION</b>	How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.	
<b>READINGS</b>	Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14	1 Timothy 1:12-17 Gospel: Luke 15:1-32

**CONFIRMATION**

Friday 20 September  
at 6.00pm, the  
students from  
Rosary School and  
Parish School of  
Religion will receive  
the Sacrament of  
Confirmation .



**There will be NO  
5.30pm Mass.**

Let us pray for all these young people  
that they will always be open to the  
working of the Holy Spirit throughout  
their adult lives.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM  
50:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19**

I will rise and go to my father.  
Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.  
In your compassion blot out my offence.  
O wash me more and more from my guilt  
and cleanse me from my sin.  
A pure heart create for me, O God,  
put a steadfast spirit within me.  
Do not cast me away from your presence,  
nor deprive me of your holy spirit.  
O Lord, open my lips  
and my mouth shall declare your praise.  
My sacrifice, a contrite spirit;  
a humbled, contrite heart you will not spurn.  
I will rise and go to my father.

**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.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL**

The Holy Rosary St Vincent de Paul conference will hold its annual Ozanam appeal as a leaving collection at the end of masses on the weekend of 21-22 September. The Ozanam Appeal provides money to assist St Vinnies conferences in developing countries, such as Indonesia and Thailand. Please give generously to assist this important work.

**'WEEPING IS HEALTHY'**

'Weeping is healthy. It's a wholesome expression in the face of loss. Moreover, when we weep we are giving expression to a sorrow that speaks not just of some private loss and pain, but somehow too of that same sadness within the entire world. The loss we are mourning may seem a private thing, like the death of a loved one, but, if the focus of our grief is on the one lost rather than on ourselves, our weeping is essentially empathic. Our deep sadness then mourns a universal condition and connects us more deeply to the world, where death and loss spare no one. Everyone, ultimately, carries that same sadness.

Excerpt from a reflection by Fr Ron Rolheiser OMI

**PARISH RENEWAL & DIVINE RENOVATION**

As the next step in seeking renewal for Holy Rosary parish, all parishioners are invited to read and reflect together on Fr. James Mallon's book "Divine Renovation". On Tuesday 24 September 7.30pm there will be a meeting in the parish hall to present this resource and to organise small groups to meet & reflect weekly on a chapter at a time. If you are interested please sign up at the doors or let the parish office or Roger Paul ([rpaul2572@gmail.com](mailto:rpaul2572@gmail.com) 0421 612 572) know. The groups will start meeting in the week of October 14 and will meet for 7 weeks. Even if you can't commit to a weekly group you are warmly invited to join us in reading this resource.

**SUCH IS THE LOVE OF GOD FOR US'**

'All three of these parables stress the great joy that comes when what is lost is found. We have to take in the full force of what it meant for the son to be lost, before we can appreciate just how much joy his father felt when the son returned. 'In one sense, the loss is that of the person who had the sheep or coin or son and no longer has them. But in the deepest sense, and especially in this parable where a human being is involved and not an animal or a coin, to be lost is worse than to lose. The father does not celebrate the ending of his own loss of a son as much as the ending of the lost condition of his son. The younger son was lost, was dead. 'The father does not give up on either of his sons, wanting both of them to be at home with him and with each other. Such is the love of God for us. It is a persistent, tenacious kind of love. Throughout the Bible we are shown just how much care God lavishes on us, despite a catalogue of infidelities and betrayals and failings on our part.'

Excerpt from a homily by Fr Robert Ombres OP

**PARABLES OF GREAT ASSURANCE'**

'God loves in a way that does not hedge bets, does not count the cost, computes no formulae, calculates no interest rates. God loves, and that is that. As proof of this we are told of the absurd fixation of the shepherd on a single sheep; by human standards, anyone risking the rest of the flock for one lost sheep is a madman! Or to neglect nine silver pieces for the pursuit of one piece, and then throw a party costing much more than the value of the amount found does not add up in our estimation. 'And the treatment of the loyal, hardworking son in favour of the reckless spendthrift younger son prompts a "fair go, mate!" from our lips. But, divine Love is not bound by such standards. The whole history of salvation shows this, prompting St. John to make the point, "God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him.... We love because he first loved us." The parables that we have considered today may be described as the "parables of great assurance" - that God's love does not count the cost.'

Excerpt from a commentary by Fr Noel Tobin, Geraldton WA.

To live God's word is the duty of every Christian. But people cannot answer the call of duty if they are not sure what God's word says.

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 Laughton, 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, June Pollard, Leone Richter
Our deceased	Richard Johnson, Monica Stewart, Nidalyn Rendon

## THE HOMILY I DID NOT PREACH

### Twenty-Fourth Sunday of the Year

*Fr Euan Marley OP focuses on a curious phrase found in the original Greek text of the parable of the Prodigal Son which leads us to find God.*

Every three years, the parables of the lost sheep, the lost coin and the prodigal son are read in the church. For me they are bound up with the attack on the twin towers, as this was the Gospel read in every Catholic church, on the Sunday



after those attacks. It was my first time in the States, and by Sunday I had managed to make it from Pennsylvania, to Stanford University, where the Dominicans were chaplains. There, in the University Church, I heard this Gospel. I was a guest and did not preach on that day, but I did compose a sermon in my head based on this Gospel. The sermon I heard, did not mention the Gospel at all, but I wanted to know what that Gospel was saying to us.

I answered the question by focusing on a curious phrase in the Greek, which describes the Prodigal Son. Where the translation says, 'he came to his senses', the literal translation would be 'he entered into himself.'

To understand this phrase, it helps to take all three parables together, as they should be. All three parables are about finding. The prodigal son was lost and found, just as the sheep and the coin were. The first two say, what man or what woman would not do this? The two parables prepare for the great parable of the Prodigal Son, which does not begin by saying, 'What Father would not do this?' because it is by no means obvious that any father would take the son back in these circumstances. This is how the parables shine light on each other. There are similarities and there are contrasts. The prodigal son, is a bit like the shepherd, in his going out looking for something, in the far country. He is a bit like the woman in his taking money with him. He loses the money and he does not find whatever he was looking for. Then he enters into himself.

If all three are about losing and finding, losing a human being, is quite different from losing a sheep or a coin. It is not that we care more about things than human beings, but losing a human being is a different kind of loss. The prodigal son chooses to be lost. He also chooses to come back. He does not expect to be found again. Taking back someone who has hurt us, can seem a bit like losing ourselves. That is because we don't understand what it is to be a self. We have to enter into ourselves to find out who we are. Yet the strange paradox of interiority is that it is there, that we find true community. The self is always a relational self. All three parables end with a party. The man and the woman are in fact separated by their external preoccupations. The man endlessly searching for his sheep, the woman for her coin. It is only when they find what they want, that they are able to call in their friends and neighbours to rejoice with them. The prodigal son enters into himself and remembers his father. The elder son refuses to enter in, the same phrase as used of his brother. You might think it is the house, or the celebration he won't enter, but it is really himself. Interiority does not separate us from others but unites us. The father explains to the elder son, that he is with him always. 'All that is mine is yours'. If we pray, we discover the truth of that. He is with us; we have all that we need. We possess what he possesses. If I had preached, I would have said something like that. That was fifteen years ago, and people were angry, frightened and hurt then. They are angry, frightened and hurt now. If that is to change, it won't happen through external action, however necessary that is. Wars begin and end in the human heart. That is where we have to go, inside of ourselves, and that is where we will find God. Then we can rejoice, then the party begins.

*Fr Euan Marley OP* <http://english.op.org/torch>

## BAPTISM

### Spencer James Macpherson

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.



## MERCY AND MORAL IDIOCY

In the First Reading, the Israelites have made molten metal into the statue of a calf and declared that the calf is their God who brought them out of Egypt.

In consequence, God is very angry at the people. They are hopeless, God says to Moses; I ought to destroy them and make a new Israelite people out of you, Moses. But God means to be merciful to the Israelites, and he is inviting Moses to be merciful by first showing Moses the evil of the people. If you don't see the evil in what others are doing, you aren't merciful. You are just a moral idiot.

In response to God's anger at the Israelites, Moses is merciful; and he wants God to be merciful too. And so the reply of Moses to God's anger teaches us something about mercy.

Moses does not try to see what the Israelites are doing as not so bad, as somehow acceptable or excusable. If he did, then Moses really would be a moral idiot. But he doesn't. Rather, Moses entreats God to be merciful by reminding God of the past history of the Israelites. Don't you remember Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, Moses asks God? They were your servants and so pleasing to you! For the sake of what the Israelite people were in the past, have mercy on them now!

The Second Reading is about mercy too. Paul explains that he once was a persecutor of God's people. He doesn't gloss over his own evil then or make himself a moral idiot, any more than Moses did. But Paul obtained mercy from God anyway, Paul says, because God could see the man Paul could become. For the sake of the man Paul could be in the future, God had mercy on him.

Here is one moral of the readings then. You must not be a moral idiot. When you look at the conduct of your father, or your friend, or your boss, if that person is being sinful, then you need to see clearly that he is. But what you see when he is evil is not all there is to him. There is what he was in the past, the small boy his mother loved, for example. He wasn't always the sinner he is now. And then there is what he could become. Maybe like Paul, who once was the chief of sinners, your sinning friend could become glorious in the service of the Lord in the future.

So see clearly the evil in your neighbor now, but remember that what you see is not all there is to him. Like the Lord in the Readings, have mercy on him, for the sake of all the rest of him, the person that he once was and the person that he can still be.

*Eleonore Stump, liturgy.edu.au*

## HUMOUR

Several churches now serve coffee after the sermons.

Maybe this is to make sure they are fully awake before driving home.



## 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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.catholicsforrenewal.org.au)

**CENTRAL CANBERRA PARISH MSSION:** *A joyful encounter with Jesus, Experience His power* with Fr Hugh Thomas Csr & Fr Doug Harris. The focus is on Eucharistic Adoration so it will interest especially those involved in this ministry in their parish. At St Brigid's Church Dickson: 16 to 20 September at 7.30pm. Flyers available in the church foyer. For more Information on the web at <http://cg.org.au/canberracentral> The opening healing ministry night at 7.30pm, open to all.

"Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world." Harriet Tubman

## ROSTER

21 / 22 September

Saturday 5pm		
Acolyte / Server	I. Buckley	
Readers	K. Markcrow	D. Hinds
Presentation of Gifts	Tran Family	
EMOE	K. Murphy	
Sunday 8am		
Acolyte / Server	K. Linard	
Readers	M. Falk	E. Smith
Presentation of Gifts	Lestone Family	
EMOE	N. Clarke	
Sunday 10am		
Acolyte / Server	H. Beasley	
Readers	C. Rheinberger	J. Schwinghamer
Presentation of Gifts	School Family	
EMOE	E. Musolino	M. Musolino
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
<b>COUNTERS</b>	W. Wade	J. Smith

## EVENTS

**JAM FOR REFUGEES... a day of music raising awareness and support for refugees.** **Where:** All Saints Church, Ainslie  
**When:** Friday 20 September, from 12.30pm until 8.30pm  
**Who:** Oriana Chorale, Musica da Camera, Igitur Nos, the Daramalan String Group, South Sudanese Anglican Church Youth Ministry Choir, soprano Maartje Sevenster and individual performers on piano, flute, organ and strings, including from ANU's Open School of Music. The event will be opened by Bishop Pat Power at 12.30pm, and closed by Dr. Sue Packer, Senior Australian of the Year, at 8pm. **Cost:** Entry is by donation. Funds raised go to Companion House, Canberra Refugee Support and Manus Lives Matter.

### 28 SEPTEMBER - AMICUS

Meet at 6.30pm for dinner at Mawson Club, Mawson. Table booked in the name of Amicus. Contact Rosemary 0428 599 342

### 7 OCTOBER - INTERFAITH YOUTH TRIVIA NIGHT

Young people are invited to attend the first ever for Interfaith Youth Trivia Night organised by Canberra Interfaith Forum at 3 Mulley Street, Holder, from 5.00pm to 8.00pm. Youngsters aged between 18 and 35 will be able to participate in the trivia. Please note the registration is online on below link by 21st September for catering purposes. <https://bit.ly/2ZtejEO> Please RSVP your attendance at <https://bit.ly/2ZtejEO> by 21 September. E-mail any queries to [bonnie.choi@sukyomahikari.org.au](mailto:bonnie.choi@sukyomahikari.org.au)

### 11 OCTOBER HOME IN QUEANBEYAN 10<sup>TH</sup> MOVIE FUND RAISER

Where Am I Going? At the Q Theatre, Queanbeyan. \$75 ticket includes hot meal and drinks. Purchase tickets [www.theq.net.au](http://www.theq.net.au) or at the Q Box office 62866290.

### 13 OCTOBER - ANTI-POVERTY WEEK

This week will be held from 13 to 19 October. On 17 October the Raise the Rate campaign led by ACOSS will be the focus of a Day of Action on solutions to end poverty. Parishes are encouraged to promote and include in 'prayers of the faithful'.

### 18 OCTOBER - ONE MILLION CHILDREN PRAYING THE ROSARY

Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) is inviting children worldwide to take part in the campaign "One Million Children Praying the Rosary." For more information and for prayer resources visit, [www.millionkidspraying.org](http://www.millionkidspraying.org).