

Catholic Parish of Blackiriars

Issue 50
3rd November 2019
Year C

Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



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

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Email: watson@cg.org.au
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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

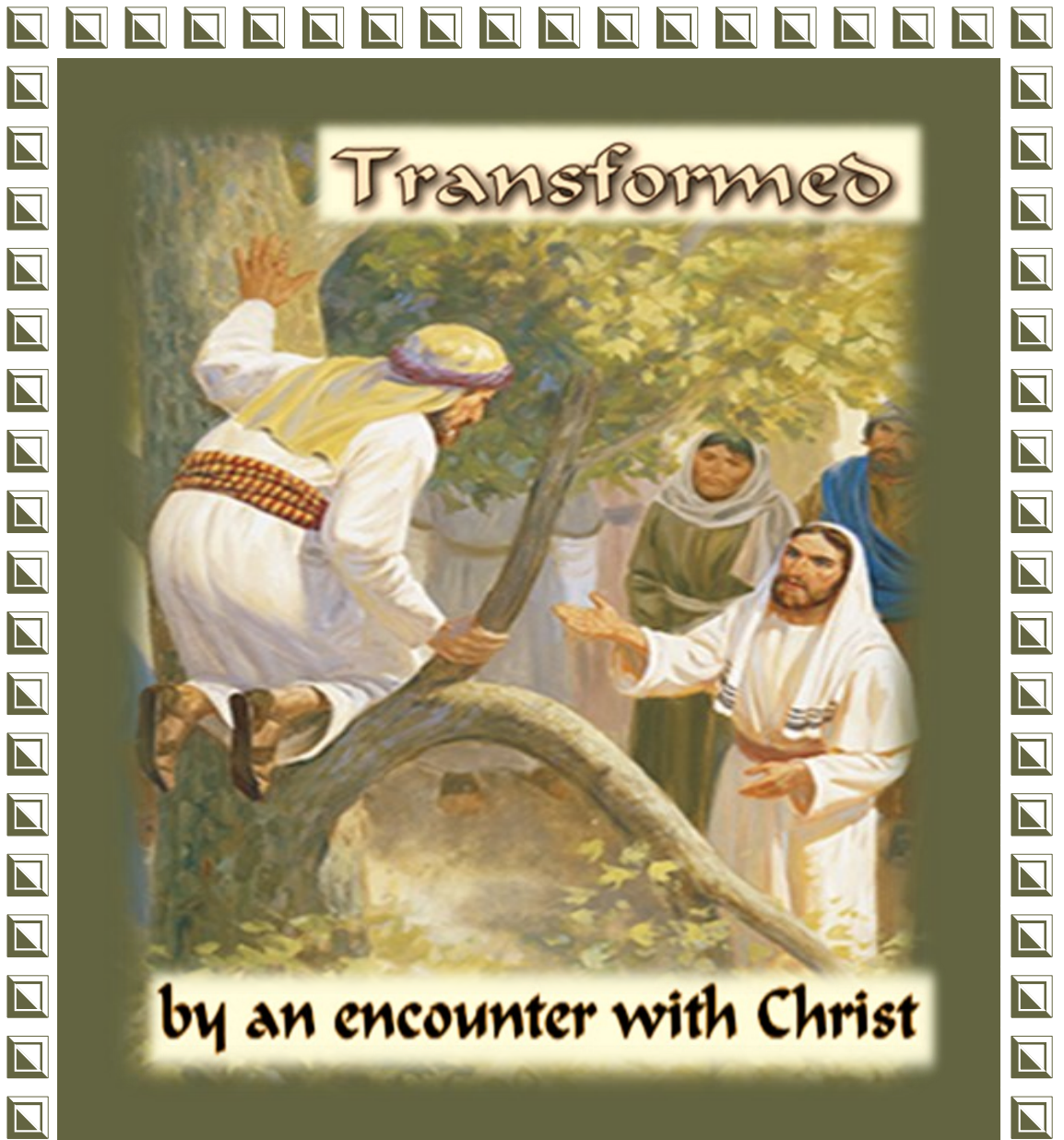
Reconciliation
Saturday 12pm—12.30pm
and 4pm—4.30pm

ACU Chapel Signadou
Thursday—12.30 pm

VERITAS



Thirty 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	Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me! Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation!
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	Alleluia, alleluia! God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life. Alleluia!
COMMUNION	You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.
READINGS	Wisdom 11:22 - 12:2 2 Thessalonians 1:11 - 2:2 Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

TRUE GREATNESS

In the Gospel Reading, Jesus comes to Zacchaeus' house for dinner, and it is an enormous honor for Zacchaeus that he does. Great honors come to great people. If you are a great scientist you might win the Nobel prize. If you are a great athlete you might win an Olympic gold medal. The people who get these honors seem amazing to us. And yet these are not the big honors. They pale in comparison to having God incarnate come to dinner. So what is it about Zacchaeus that makes him win an honor bigger than the Nobel prize or the Olympic gold medal? What are the standards of greatness on God's standards of value? **How does a life glorify the name of Jesus?**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM
144:1-2. 8-11. 13-14**

I will praise your name for ever,
my king and my God.

I will give you glory, O God my King,
I will bless your name for ever.
I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures.

All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,
and your friends shall repeat their blessing.
They shall speak of the glory of your reign
and declare your might, O God.

The Lord is faithful in all his words
and loving in all his deeds.
The Lord supports all who fall
and raises all who are bowed down.

I will praise your name for ever,
my king and my God.

AS EASY AS CLIMBING A TREE

The conversion of Zacchaeus embraces is not a way of getting Jesus onto his side or earning his Attention. It is the fruit of finding himself in the gaze of his Saviour, and that the life he has lived is too small a thing to contain the promises and the blessings Jesus brings. 'So salvation is as easy as climbing a tree. It's about not settling for merely hearing. Jesus is our teacher and tells us how to live a new life. But he is more than a teacher. He is *the* great event we have been waiting for, the thing we must not miss. Our faith is not just that Jesus tells us what to do or how to live, but that in seeing him we pass beyond the old way of seeing, in which we are the centre of all things, to the real world where God is the true centre, the alpha and the omega. 'The life of sin flattens reality around us, makes everything into an object for our use or our gratification. And God too can become like another object in the world, to be weighed up, evaluated, and put to one side. But coming to see Jesus is an experience that changes our whole way of seeing.'

Excerpt from a homily by Fr Timothy Calvert OP

YOU LOVE ALL THINGS THAT ARE

This column is being written not long after it was announced that the world has passed an ominous milestone, with the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere passing 400 parts per million. This is a density not seen in 3 million years. That news was followed by a report that 97 percent of scientists worldwide agree that global warming is happening and is significantly caused by human activity. That's about as close to unanimous as you can get in human scientific debate. Pope Francis has spoken several times already in his papacy about our obligation to care for the environment. In this he is in agreement with his two predecessors. Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI frequently called upon us to take seriously our moral responsibility to care for the earth and to address the ecological threats to the future of the planet and future generations. Yet Catholic parishes, like most Christian churches, seem largely silent on these issues. Whether this is due to fear of backlash from climate-change deniers, who have been misled by industry and political partisans, or whether it is because our morality seems stuck on matters of sex to the exclusion of most other moral issues, it is time to face the seriousness of this issue. Today's readings offer another ideal time to do so. The first reading reminds us that God loves everything that God created, and that God is willing to forgive our sins if we repent. We are called to love creation, too, and to repent of the ways that we continue to destroy what God has created for the use of all. The psalm calls for all God's works to give God thanks. The second reading offers encouragement that God will "bring to fulfilment every good purpose and every effort of faith" that we make. The gospel reminds us that God is always ready to forgive if we repent and also gives us an example of making restitution and going the extra mile to restore the proper order of things. While there is much for which we need to repent, it is best to encourage people to cherish the earth and care for it rather than just feel guilty. The challenge is so great that we can easily be overwhelmed. Yet each of us must do what we can to reduce our impact on the environment and to change the way we use, reuse and recycle the things we buy. Planners should work with the social justice committee or other parish groups to coordinate efforts to deal with these issues. This may well be the most important justice, pro-life and moral issue of our time.

Fr. Lawrence Mick

BAPTISM

Corey George Kayaba Overhall

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



In Your Prayers please remember those in our community who are ill:	Elizabeth Cronin, Mary Bui, Greg O'Neill, Una Bell, Fr Ellis Clifford, Mary Martin, Edith Jensen, Philip Bailey, Maureen Blood, Anne Corver, Barbara Wilson, Awny El-Ghitany, Joe Schimizzi, Elsie Lughton, Alexia Harris, June Pollard, Paul Neddrie, Beth Delos Santos, Rosa Maria Santos, Maria Martiniello, Elizabeth Webster, Frank Zobec, Mimma Giampietro, Zelma McManus, Catherine Feehan, Pamela Sandy, Margaret Suillivan, Fr Joe McGeehan, Charlotte Woolner, Alphonsa Bankovsky
Our deceased	Eileen English, Peter Ryan, Elizabeth Bohun, Luke Mahon, Sue Walker
In Memory	Francesco Barbaro

REAL PLEASURES

Thirty-First Sunday of the Year.

Fr Dominic White OP invites us

to open ourselves to Christ's transforming gaze.

I was travelling on the Tube today, and following the great tradition of reading someone else's newspaper. The words GUILTY PLEASURES, the title of what was obviously a popular series, were emblazoned across the top of the page. It made me think: why do we feel that the most pleasurable things are the ones we should feel guilty about, and why are life's naughty people so much more attractive than the good who are towing the line? Jesus certainly seems to have enjoyed the company of the naughty. In no way averse to a good night out, he was a popular guest of tax collectors and sinners, much jollier hosts than the poker-faced religious 'professionals' who only invited Jesus round in order to try and catch him out.

Today's Gospel is the endearing story of Zacchaeus. Zacchaeus, one of the much-hated tax collectors, and vertically challenged into the bargain, climbs up a tree so he can see Jesus arrive in Jericho. But Jesus sees him first, and invites himself round for the night. Zacchaeus is thrilled, but the crowd mutter among themselves, 'He has gone to stay at a sinner's house.'

We might conclude that God doesn't really mind how we behave, whether we respect 'moral standards' or not, provided we are loving and warm people who live life to the full. But of course the rub is that Zacchaeus repented.

People had good reason to dislike him. Tax collectors are never popular anywhere, but in the Palestine of Jesus's time they worked for the occupying Roman government, and made their money by putting extra on top of someone's tax bill. As Zacchaeus was wealthy, we can conclude that he put on big extras. An anti-social extortionist, then, however much fun his dinners might have been. So if anyone needed to repent, he did.

But the extraordinary thing is that Zacchaeus repented *without any word of rebuke from Jesus*. All Jesus asked was that Zacchaeus come down from the tree so that he could get things ready for him to stay. It was not that Zacchaeus was looking at Jesus: it was that Jesus was looking at Zacchaeus. That gaze, the gaze of God's love, transformed Zacchaeus. Something about what he'd heard of Jesus attracted him, but in spite of his efforts to make sure he saw Jesus, it was Jesus who saw him first. And that moment, that moment of Christ's gaze, transformed Zacchaeus, because Jesus recognised him and appealed to what was best in him.

The thought of being host to this amazing person who had called him by his name grabbed Zacchaeus, and he welcomed Jesus joyfully. Suddenly the old pleasure of getting money out of his neighbours didn't appeal any more. Perhaps it had been his way at getting back on people who looked down on him anyway because he didn't fit the image of the body beautiful. Being short might have excluded him from many kinds of work too. But now he has found what he is looking for, and right there in front of the people who are condemning him *and* Jesus, he pledges half of his property to the poor and fourfold restoration to anyone he has cheated.

So often we search for God and seem not to find him, and we turn for comfort to things that may be less than wholesome. So let's just allow Jesus to look on us, as he is looking out on us from so many icons and statues. He is calling us by our name, knowing and loving us. So let's allow him in. Not to condemn us, not to break us down, but to light the spark of genius within us, to reveal to us our true selves, our real pleasures.

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

NOVEMBER

During November we are reminded of the last days, of the shortness of this life, of not putting off those things we want to do before it's too late. It's appropriate, then, that today we hear that Zacchaeus wasted no time in taking Jesus' message to heart. Let us pray for hearts like his.

CARING FOR CREATION

November is traditionally the month to remember our beloved dead. The readings today suggest we might also give some attention to the death of whole species and the threat to all life on earth that is inherent in our continuing destruction of the environment in which we live.

The first reading reminds us that God is the ruler of the universe; before the Lord, the whole of creation is "as a grain from a balance or a drop of morning dew." It also reminds us that God loves "all things that are" and loathes nothing that God has made. The psalm calls on all creation to give God thanks. The story of Zacchaeus in the Gospel focuses on the salvation of human beings, yet even here, the repentance that Zacchaeus embraces can be seen in light of the sins we continue to commit against God's works. St. Paul speaks of God making us worthy of our calling, and certainly in our time that calling includes the responsibility to deal with the many ecological crises that humans have created. Both the pope and numerous national conferences of bishops in the past two decades have made it clear that ecological concerns are moral issues and should be the focus of our prayer on a regular basis.

The texts of today's readings can provide a rich lode to mine for the wording of petitions. This is often a useful approach to crafting the general intercessions.

They are described in the liturgical books as part of our response to the proclamation of the word of God, so it is certainly appropriate to draw on the readings for images and phrases to create our prayer texts.

Beyond preaching and prayer texts, planners might spend some time discussing how elements of creation are used in the parish's worship. How much do you know about the source of things you use in worship? Where is the wine made, and how are the grapes grown? Are workers treated justly and is the land renewed in a healthy way? Similar questions can be raised about the wheat used for Communion breads. Florists in this country often get their flowers from other countries. Are they grown with proper care for the land and the workers? Where does your water for baptism come from? What is the condition of the watershed? Is water pollution a significant problem, and is it being addressed? What is the source of the oil for anointing? Do you use other elements of creation for décor? Are seasonal harvest items grown in an ecologically responsible way? Answering such questions will take a lot of time and effort. Planners might confer with social justice groups in the parish or ecology groups in the area in this search for information.

[Celebration Publication](#)

NOVEMBER MASS OFFERINGS

November is a special time to pray for the dead. November Mass offering envelopes are available at the holy water fonts if you wish a Mass for your loved one.

Encouraging Others - Sometimes that kind word, that smile, that listening ear can make a big difference in a person's life.

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

GOD AND SCRIPTURE

'The Scriptures are a gift from God. Through Scripture, God meets people with great love and speaks tenderly with them. The word of God in Scripture is not simply marks on paper; it is living and active when it is proclaimed in worship, or meditated on in quiet prayer.'

From Call and Response

To give real service, you must add something which cannot be bought or measured with money, And that is sincerity and integrity

ROSTER

2 / 3 November

Saturday 5pm

Acolyte / Server	T. Johnson	
Readers	M. Pentony	J. de Riva O'Phelan
Presentation of Gifts	Higgins Family	
EMOE	K. Murphy	

Sunday 8am

Acolyte / Server	F. Bertrand	
Readers	B. Bandle	C. Bandle
Presentation of Gifts	P. Zorzi	
EMOE	E. Smith	

Sunday 10am

Acolyte / Server	Q. Vu	
Readers	A. Hopkins	C. Barbaro
Presentation of Gifts	Vu Family	
EMOE	B. Affas	S. Tanzer

Sunday 5pm

Acolyte / Server	D. Gomez	
Readers	M. Tuckwell	T. Malone
Presentation of Gifts	K. Turrise	
EMOE	C. de Luca	T. de Luca

COUNTERS F. Higgins N. Higgins I. Buckley

EVENTS

MEMORIAL MASS FOR LOVED ONES WHO HAVE DIED BY SUICIDE: St Joseph's Parish O'Connor will have a special Mass to remember those who have died by suicide. It will be held on **Friday 9th November at 6pm**. If you would like a loved one remembered at this Mass (even if you cannot attend) please email Catherine at catherine.m.paice@gmail.com or call/text 0415 154 784.

Mission Adventure?

Communities in Africa, Asia, and the Pacific seek medics, teachers, tradies, business and admins to assist their development

Learn more: 11 am, Saturday 16 November. King O'Malley's Pub 131 City Walk, Civic

SCAFFOLDING: Would the parishioner who recently inspected the scaffolding, please contact the Parish Office—6248 5925 or [Watson@cg.org.au](mailto:watson@cg.org.au)—as soon as possible

ST. PAUL IN THE LIGHT OF MODERN SCHOLARSHIP

— A seminar by Dr Patricia Moroney. Christian and non-Christian scholars alike agree that St. Paul was one of the greatest philosophers, saying he has the answers to the current political situation. We will reflect on fresh insight into Paul's teaching. A single session on Wednesday 20th Nov. at 6.45 p.m. at Holy Trinity Parish Centre, Strangways St., Curtin. Entry free. Kindly register name & phone by calling 6286.3388.



RACISM EXPLAINED FOR DUMMIES