

Catholic Parish of Blackfriars

Issue 50
10th November
2019

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

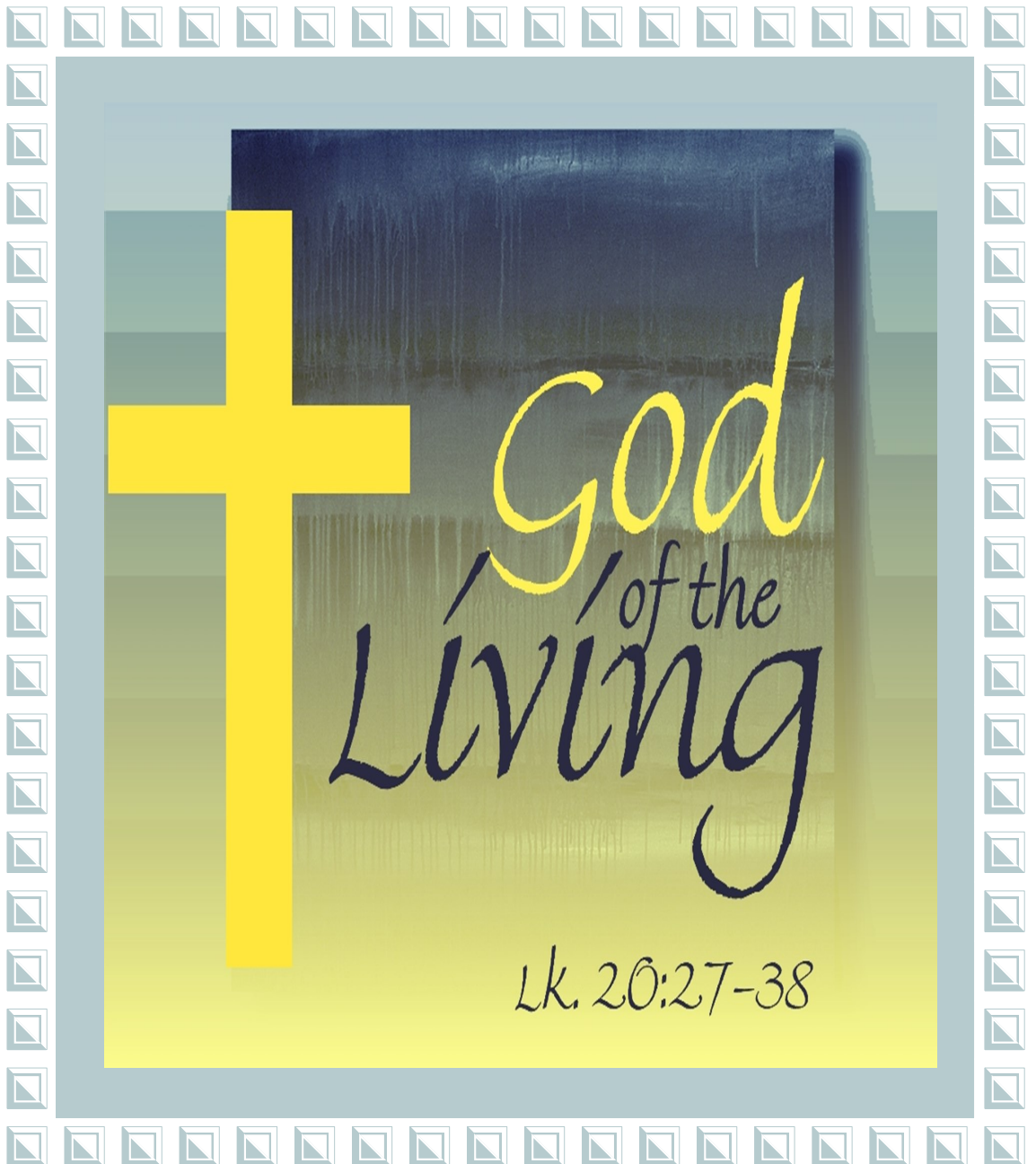
9am Mass Saturday & Public
Holidays
excluding Mondays

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

Thirty 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	Let my prayer come into your presence. Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the dead; glory and kingship be his for ever and ever. Alleluia!
COMMUNION	The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose, near restful waters he leads me.
READINGS	2 Maccabees 7:1-2, 9-14 2 Thessalonians 2:16 - 3:5 Gospel: Luke 20:27-38

CHRISTMAS SINGING

Holy Rosary Church Choir will start practices for Advent and Christmas on Monday 18th November, at 7.30 pm, in the church. If you are not a regular choir member but would like to join in for this special music, please come along. No auditions. An extra pianist/organist would also be welcome. Enquiries: 61617100.

PARISH CHRISTMAS DINNER

Keep the date. The Parish Christmas dinner will be held on Saturday 30 November after the 5pm Mass. More details next week.

PSALM: 16:1. 5-6. 8. 15

Lord, when your glory appears,
my joy will be full.

Lord, hear a cause that is just,
pay heed to my cry.
Turn your ear to my prayer:
no deceit is on my lips.

I kept my feet firmly in your paths;
there was no faltering in my steps.
I am here and I call, you will hear me,
O God.
Turn your ear to me; hear my words.

Guard me as the apple of your eye.
Hide me in the shadow of your wings.
As for me, in my justice I shall see your face
and be filled, when I awake,
with the sight of your glory.

Lord, when your glory appears,
my joy will be full.

SCAFFOLDING

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

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL
CHRISTMAS HAMPER DONATIONS**

A box is now in the back of the church for your hamper donations. Hamper List: Biscuits (tins for seniors are very popular), short-breads & savoury biscuits also. Puddings this includes plum puddings, jellies, fruit or pudding mixes. Jams, Pickles, Tomato Sauce, Vegemite, Pasta, Rice. Some tinned Food eg. beetroot, peas, beans, corn, baked beans, spaghetti, salmon & ham. Cake mixes eg. cup cakes, muffins pancakes etc. Tea & Coffee, Packets of Cereal, Lollies. Gift vouchers for teenagers would be appreciated. Small gifts for older persons.

We are no longer permitted to include nuts or nut products.

For health and safety reasons we CANNOT accept food stuffs that are out of date.

Your donations are greatly appreciated.

‘A SILENCE FILLED WITH GOD’S PROMISE’

‘Our Christian faith does not gloss over death and its enormous impact. In fact, the very central symbol of our faith is the Cross. It is so powerful, so unavoidable, so unable to be watered down. But we also believe that it’s a sign of God’s absolute commitment to us humans. God, revealed in Jesus, stayed in there with us, through the best and the absolute worst that life throws at us. And even underwent death – and not just any death, but the worst kind – and went through that and rose up to defeat the power of it and promise us that God will never give up on us, never abandon us, even if it feels like it at times. ‘In the face of death we search and listen – and we hear silence. It’s a silence filled with the power of God’s promise: “I will raise you up. I will bring life out of death.” And that is not just in the next life but also, God is constantly at work, striving to bring resurrection and new life to all of this life’s endings and failures. For, our Lord promises us, he is the God of the living – for all are alive to God.’

Excerpt from a homily by Fr Paul Kelly

GOD OF THE LIVING

Today’s liturgy affirms our faith that “the dead rise again” and our “God-given hope of being restored to life” after death. This faith and hope are founded in Jesus Christ, “the first-born from the dead,” the source of our “eternal consolation and hope.” Our “God is not the God of the dead but of the living,” and our religion is not a religion of death but of resurrection and life.

Faith in eternal life has energized Christians for centuries. It has also, unfortunately, caused some of them to neglect the immediate task at hand: the right ordering of the world in preparation for the coming of the kingdom.

Today’s liturgy counteracts that tendency with a message of doing God’s work on earth and giving our lives in service to all. “The King of the world will raise us up to live again forever.” In the meantime, there are the “burdens and challenges of life” which must be met head-on if we are to be “a kingdom of priests to serve our God and Father.”

All too often Christians are faulted with a certain indifference toward earthly projects, as if one could not fully count on us for radical social reform. The charge may be unfair, but the danger is real enough.

Our hope in another life must not be allowed to seduce believers into neglecting our task in the present one.

U.S. Bishops, Pastoral Letter on Marxist Communism, 1980:4 Gerald Darring

GETTING READY TO PRAY

We can live prayerfully these days with the increased awareness of all the other presences of God. Traditionally we clasp our hands together in prayer. This speaks of begging or pleading. We petition God with hearts and hands in a posture of poverty and diminishment. We kneel in a attitude of deep need.

Our reception of the Eucharist is the acceptance of that always-present offering of life into our hands, and received while standing. Open hands speaks of an abiding sense that the divine generosity is available and expected.

SOME THOUGHTS

These days as we prepare for celebrating this Divine Presence, we might practice open-handed praying and receiving of all the other ways the Divine Generosity is revealed. We can pray with open hands with what has already been offered and maybe not accepted totally just yet.

We can live prayerfully these days with the increased awareness of all the other presences of God which can quite easily slip past our closed hands and hearts.

Larry Gillick, SJ <http://liturgy.slu.edu/>

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 Laughton, 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 Sullivan, Fr Joe McGeehan, Charlotte Woolner, Alphonsa Bankovsky
Our deceased	Eric Marson, Ugo Stellati, Isaac Alvero Moran, Eileen English, Sandra Wilson, Peter Ryan, Elizabeth Bohun, Luke Mahon, Sue Walker
In Memory	Francesco Barbaro, Theresa De Marco

BAPTISM

*Milly Cathcart
Brodie Power*

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.



NOVEMBER ENVELOPES

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.

THE REAL THING

In the Gospel Reading, the Sadducees come to show Jesus up. Here is their case: if there were a resurrection and a life with God in heaven, as Jesus teaches, then what a mess there would be for people who had married more than once! The problem with the Sadducees is that they can't imagine anything bigger or better than the small world they know. In that world, a man needs a wife and gets a wife and certainly hopes not to share her with anybody. But, they think, if there were a resurrection of the dead, then any man whose wife outlived him and remarried would find that in heaven his wife had another husband in addition to him. Since *that* is plainly an intolerable thought, there can't be any such thing as heaven. Is there no sex in heaven? Then how could it be heaven? When you see their view this way, it seem so childish. They are like a child who reacts with dismay when he is told that he won't be sucking his thumb when he grows up. But, of course, we have our own version of this sort of Sadducee position; and Jesus' answer to the Sadducees prompts it. People aren't married in heaven, Jesus tells them; they are like the angels of God, who also don't marry. What?!! some people say. Is there no sex in heaven? Then how could it be heaven? Obviously, our contemporary Sadducees think, there can't be any such thing as heaven since the best things in life couldn't happen there! These contemporary Sadducees must pity the angels. The angels *never* had bodies. So, they were never able to have what these people think of as the best things in life—sex or even marriage. When it is spelled out in this way, the childishness of this contemporary Sadducee-like position is clear. It supposes that the little goods of embodied creatures are as good as things ever get. But God created the angels much bigger than human beings. They unite with each other not in the limited way that bodies can unite but with their whole selves, in an intimate and joyful way, through their union with the mind of God. By comparison with the power of that union, sex, even sex in happy marriage, is small. And *that* is why human beings don't marry, or have sex, in heaven. In heaven, they finally have the real thing.

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

MADE GREAT IN HIS GREATNESS

Thirty-Second Sunday of the Year.

Fr David Goodill OP urges us to see how through Jesus Christ our failures can be made into God's great work.

Today's Gospel forms part of a series of encounters between Jesus and his opponents. In Luke's version of these controversies the gap between Jesus and his opponents, who represent the elite of society, is emphasised. This gap is demonstrated by Jesus at the end of the series of encounters, in his contrast between the actions of the poor widow in throwing two copper coins into the temple treasury and the hypocrisy of the Scribes. Those at the top jealously hold on to their wealth and position, whereas the widow who has nothing gives away the little that she has. The elite have reached the top and cling to their privileges: the only way is down. The widow is at the bottom and is free to give what she has. In the episode narrated in today's Gospel it is the Sadducees who take on Jesus. The issue concerns the resurrection of the dead, and we are told that the Sadducees did not believe in this doctrine. Jesus refutes them by arguing that there will be a new order in the world to come, in which those who are resurrected from the dead no longer marry or die. From their position as the rich and powerful of society the Sadducees can see nothing beyond the current world order. Yet in clinging to their privileges they set a deadly limit to their ambitions. They have nowhere to go but down (literally in this case where the grave will be their resting place), and thus furiously hold onto their position, opposing those who challenge them even to the point of killing.

It is not only the rich and powerful in society who are prone to this clinging to position. Each of us faces the temptation of replacing the Kingdom Jesus promises to the children of the resurrection with our own limited ambitions; and if we do succeed in our ambitions what then? Once you reach the top the only way is down. So should we give up all ambition, content ourselves with coasting along in life? There is no doubt that giving up certain ambitions can be immensely freeing. Frustrated ambition can crush our spirits, but to completely give up on our ambitions is to succumb to a melancholy which leads towards despair. In his classic comic Novel, *A House for Mr Biswas*, V S Naipaul tells the story of a man with a simple ambition: to build his own house. Mr Biswas is a tragically comic figure, yet for all his foolishness he retains something of his dignity. The house is a botched job, his life is in many respects tragic, yet his ambition sets him apart from those who are willing to sit and wait passively for what life will throw at them. Those of us with seemingly more successful lives (I write from the dizzy heights of being editor of *Torch!*), may be inclined to sympathise with Mr Biswas, yet would find little in common with him. But each of us at some time has to face the fact that our lives are a botched job. Wittgenstein in the preface to his *Philosophical Investigations* writes that he would have liked to have produced a good book, but it did not come about. Fear of producing a work somewhat less than perfect can cripple many writers, yet it is in accepting our limitation, rather than in pretending to a perfection beyond us that great works can emerge.

So ambition in itself is not wrong, but it has to be exercised in humility and always with an eye to that which is the only ambition that really counts: 'to be considered worthy of reaching that world.' Now we are incapable of being able to do this on our own. Our lives are botched jobs, and we cannot obtain by our own merits the perfection of the children of God. But we are not to despair. In sending us His Son Jesus Christ, the Father has offered us the possibility of becoming His adopted children. The cross is not so much a botched job as an utter failure. But the failure is on our side, not on His. Out of this failure God the Father through the resurrection of His Son Jesus Christ has given us the chance to become His children, through the power of His Holy Spirit. If we place into His hands the limitation of our botched lives, and even the times of utter failure, He will transform our poor ambition so that we become His great work: the New Creation in which there will be no limit to ambition as there will no limit to how great we can become by sharing in His greatness. <http://english.op.org/torch>

HELP: If you can spare an hour on Friday mornings to help set-up the church for the weekend liturgies please contact the office.

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

27 - 28 NOVEMBER - CHRISTMAS STALL

Calvary Hospital Auxiliary is holding its annual Christmas Stall on Wednesday 27 and Thursday 28 November, 8am- 4pm, Lewisham Building Foyer, Calvary Public Hospital Bruce. A huge range of homemade goodies, craft items such as children's clothes and knitted toys, and quality gifts will be available for purchase. As this is the last fundraising event for the year the Auxiliary would like to thank the Canberra/ Queanbeyan community for its wonderful support during 2019. Over \$51,000 is now being donated by the Auxiliary for the purchase of much needed equipment including medication trolleys, phototherapy unit, defibrillator monitors and paediatric resuscitation trolleys. The Auxiliary looks forward to continuing community support for its events in 2020. New members are welcome. For further information contact Pat Graham, Secretary, on 0403797192.

ROSTER

16 / 17 November

Saturday 5pm

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

Sunday 8am

Acolyte / Server	J. Smith	
Readers	T. Klekner	C. Widdowson
Presentation of Gifts	E. Falk	
EMOE	M. Falk	

Sunday 10am

Acolyte / Server	R. Tanzer	
Readers	A. Bankovsky	P. McDonald
Presentation of Gifts	Musolino Family	
EMOE	A. Moore	K. Murphy

Sunday 5pm

Acolyte / Server	L. Kim	
Readers	M. Brotohusodo	J. Curnow
Presentation of Gifts	Dobrowska Family	
EMOE	M. Proctor	K. Sneddon

COUNTERS	R. Walpole	J. Smith
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EVENTS

12 NOVEMBER - SOCIAL JUSTICE IN THE JEWISH TRADITION

All are warmly invited to the next Regional Gathering for the Canberra Marist Association 5.00pm to 6.45pm at the Marist College Canberra Mission Centre, Pearce. We hope that you will join us for a moment to be still, enjoy friendly conversation and dialogue with the Jewish faith. Our special guest speaker is Rabbi Shimon Eddi who will break open the topic of Social Justice in the Jewish Tradition. Refreshments will be served from 5-5.30pm and please RSVP Monday 11 November to na-thanahearn@mcc.act.edu.au

7 DECEMBER - COME LET US ADORE HIM

This is a Christmas program with a difference! Please join us for carols, reflection and more from 3.00pm-6.00pm in the St Monica's School Hall, Evatt.

10 NOVEMBER - KALEIDOSCOPE CHOIR CONCERT

Kaleidoscope Choir concert on 10 November at Holy Cross Church Hackett. The concert is a joint effort between Kaleidoscope and the Good Faith Choir (the combined choir of Holy Cross and St Margaret's).

11 TO 15 DECEMBER - NORTH CANBERRA NATIVITY FESTIVAL

Wednesday 11th - Sunday 15th December at St Margaret's Hall, Hackett. More details on noticeboard in the Church foyer.

14 DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Looking Glass Percussion: Join musicians of the Canberra Symphony Orchestra for a free concert. Saturday 14th December 7pm Holy Cross Anglican Church, Hackett at 7pm. More details on noticeboard in the Church foyer.

15 DECEMBER - COMMUNITY CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Sunday 6pm - Free community carols by candlelight and BBQ in the church grounds at St Margaret's and Holy Cross Church, Hackett. More details on noticeboard in the Church foyer.

THE JOURNEYS OF NIÑO THE SUPERHERO on the modern adventures of the Child Jesus. It is a book for children. A large part of the book sales will go to orphans and street children in the Philippines (The Trinity Home for Children) and poor Australian school children in Canberra. There is a form in the foyer if you wish to purchase a copy.

Success isn't about how much money you make;
It's about the difference you make in people's lives.