

Catholic Parish of Blackiriars

Issue 2
8th December 2019
Year A

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

Second Sunday of Advent



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	O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!
COMMUNION	Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.
READINGS	Isaiah 11:1-10 Romans 15:4-9 Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

The Children's Mass Eve Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday 24th December at 6pm in Holy Rosary Church. Come and be a part of our Children's special Mass to celebrate the birth of our Lord. Children who would like to be involved in this Mass are invited to come and join the celebration. The children must first have permission from their parent/s and an assurance that they will be attending this Mass. Children will be required to attend two practices. We would love to see lots of angels and shepherds looking after Mary, Joseph and the three wise men and there are many reading parts for older children. Please put your name on the form in the foyer if you would like to be part of the Mass.

PSALM: 71:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17

Justice shall flourish in his time,
and fullness of peace for ever.

O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement.

In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails:
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to earth's bounds.

For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor.

May his name be blessed for ever
and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,
all nations bless his name.

Justice shall flourish in his time,
and fullness of peace for ever.

BREAK OPEN THE WORD & DAILY MASS BOOKS

Readers on the roster for Jan–Dec 2020 your **BREAK OPEN THE WORD** can be collected from the Sacristy before you leave after Mass.

DAILY MASS BOOKS for the new liturgical year are now in the Church for use during Mass. We ask that you **PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE THEM FROM THE CHURCH** as they are there for all parishioners.

LITURGICAL ROSTER

The Liturgical Roster for the new year January to June 2020 will be prepared shortly. Please consider volunteering. Volunteer sheets are available on the exit tables and a box is in the foyer for the completed sheets. It would be appreciated if all current volunteers could return a sheet. Names need to be in by this weekend. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS ROSTER

The Christmas Liturgical Roster is in the foyer for parishioners who would like volunteer during these special liturgies.

The Christmas Mass Schedule is available.
Please make sure you take one home.

RECEPTION INTO THE CHURCH

Mary Alexandra and Samuel Li will be received into Full Communion of the Catholic Church at the 10am Mass. We commend these faithful candidates for steadfastly participating in the process of coming into the Church and receiving the Sacraments of Initiation.



Our prayers are with each of you as you begin the adventure of living the challenging life of a faithful Catholic.
Please welcome them to our faith community.



ISAIAH

During Advent in Year A, the First Reading always comes from the prophet Isaiah. It is useful to pay particular attention to his voice, noticing the development of the vision and images he puts before us relating to the meaning of Jesus for the Church and the world. In last week's reading, Isaiah sees what is to come: the nation assembling, surrendering to the Lord, laying down the weapons of war, beating them into the useful tools of farming and peaceful life. Today, Isaiah describes the qualities of the Spirit of the Lord and the just judgements this brings, resulting in a world of no conflict. In next week's text, Isaiah describes the glorious and triumphant coming of the Lord and the healing of all that is broken. In the final week of Advent, Isaiah speaks of the maiden who will conceive and give birth to one who is 'God-is-with-us'.

[The Summit, Journal of the Liturgical Commission, Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne](#)

DARKNESS INTO LIGHT

"Darkness Into Light" – a special ecumenical service of readings and carols for Advent, hosted by Holy Cross Anglican Church, with the participation of Holy Rosary choir, was a great success and enjoyed by all who attended this special evening.



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, Angela Fleming, Alphonsa Bankovsky, Bernard Slammon,

Our deceased

Mary Boyle, Joan Lever, John Coggan

PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY

A wonderful evening of good food, good cheer and fun was had by all who attended the Parish Christmas Party.

A BIG Thank You to the ladies on our Social Committee for their hard work in organising the evening.

Thank you to The Knox, Watson Pharmacy, Watson Takeaway and Cocos Hair & Beauty Salon for their support with the prizes for our raffle.



FOYER NATIVITY

THANK YOU to Ian Buckley, Joseph de Riva O'Phelan and Ruth Walpole with help setting up this year's Nativity Setting in the foyer.

HOPE FULFILLED

Second Sunday of Advent.

Fr Neil Ferguson OP explores the extraordinary fulfilment by Christ of the hopes of the prophet Isaiah.

St Paul tells us in the second reading today that - Whatever was written in the former days was written for our instruction, that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. The scriptures then give us hope, and Advent is precisely the time of hope, when we wait to celebrate the great mystery of the Incarnation. Paul is referring in the first place to the Old Testament scriptures. At daily and Sunday Mass during Advent we join the patriarchs and prophets of the Old Testament in a pilgrimage towards God. A pilgrimage of understanding the beauty of the prophecies and insights these inspired seers received. By meditating on these prophecies we come to see how wonderfully and perfectly they are fulfilled by Jesus Christ. Along with the book of Psalms, St Thomas Aquinas regarded the book of Isaiah as more like a gospel than a prophecy, so full and beautiful are its visions of the coming divine and human Messiah. Indeed, it is part of the belief of the New Testament that when Isaiah had his vision of the Lord in the Temple (Isaiah 6), it was truly a vision of the pre-incarnate Christ; as it says in John 12:41

Isaiah said this because he saw his glory and spoke of him. Of course any vision of Christ, whether bodily or intellectual, or both, implies a certain awareness of the persons of the Father and the Spirit. In Isaiah's Temple vision this is provided by the Trinitarian hymn of the angels: the 'Holy, Holy, Holy.' This hymn, which is possibly the oldest part of the Mass, reminds us that we join in the worship of all the saints and angels in heaven, in their unending praise of the Trinity.

In today's prophecy Isaiah presents another vision of the Christ. This time he links him clearly with the person the Holy Spirit, and indeed, points to him as the giver of the Spirit, and of the Spirit's gifts. The Spirit of the Lord 'rests' upon the Messiah because the Messiah possesses the fullness of the Spirit, this fullness does not decrease or vary. This vision is parallel to another very early vision preserved in the Book of Revelation. At Rev 5:6 the Lamb as though slain, that is, the Messiah, is seen with seven horns and seven eyes. These represent the fullness of the gifts of the Spirit he gives to the world. Thus the Messiah will be full of the Holy Spirit, and the gift of the Spirit will be connected with his death. John combines these two crucial doctrines, the death of the Messiah and gift of the Spirit, in his preaching. He hails Jesus as the 'Lamb of God' and in today's Gospel proclaims 'he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.' He clearly portrays both the sacred humanity and the divinity of the Messiah. He will be fully human with eyes to see and ears to hear; with a waist and loins which will be girt; but he will exercise the divine prerogatives of judging the earth and slaying the wicked with spiritual power. The future kingdom of the Messiah is described in the following verse; where the original justice and peace of the world will be restored, and raised to an even greater degree of harmony, 'for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord.' The mission of the Messiah to bring all peoples into friendship with God and each other is shown in verse ten: The nations will seek him as he will be raised as an ensign, or a signal, of salvation offered to everyone. Jesus refers to this when he says: And I, when I am lifted up, will draw all men to myself.

The primary meaning of Christ as an ensign, then, is his death. In Isaiah 13:2 God says through the prophet: On a bare hill raise a signal, cry aloud to them, raise your hand. This action prefaces the terrible 'day of the Lord.' This surely refers to the cross raised on the hill of Calvary, when Christ raised his hands on the wood and cried out 'It is accomplished!' God's generosity has given us more than one sign, however. In this season we have the sign of the star that lead the Magi to the infant Christ; we can also think of the Resurrection and Ascension which are signs to the whole world of the divinity and humanity of Christ. 'The Root of Jesse shall stand as an ensign to the people.'

The greatest sign in our everyday lives is, of course, the effective sign of the sacrifice of the Mass; here Jesus is truly present as a saving sign for us and for the whole world.

Fr Neil Ferguson OP <http://english.op.org/torch>

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. In recess until next year.

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

COMMUNITY CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

All Welcome on **Sunday 15th December 6pm** - Community Carols by candlelight with a Free Community BBQ / Sausage Sizzle (& Nativities Viewing) followed by Carols by Candlelight at **7pm**. St Margaret's & Holy Cross Church Grounds, Hackett. Initiative of Holy Rosary Catholic, Holy Cross Anglican & St Margaret's Uniting Churches.
Contact: Anna at linard.anna@gmail.com



NORTH CANBERRA ECUMENICAL NATIVITY FESTIVAL

St Margaret's Hall, Cnr. Antill St. & Phillip Ave., Hackett
Wed 11th to Sun 15th December **VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED**
As its contribution to the Christmas Nativity Festival, Rosary Parish is organising & running the display of some 200 Nativities.

Volunteers are required for Saturday 14th & Sunday 15th
(To protect displays from "little fingers" and to explain or chat as occasion requires) Please fill in Day & Time availability & contact details on the form at the Exits.

ROSTER 14 / 15 December

Saturday 5pm		
Acolyte / Server	I. Buckley	
Readers	K. Markcrow	D. Hinds
Presentation of Gifts	Tran Family	
EMOE	A. Moore	
Sunday 8am		
Acolyte / Server	N. McGahey	
Readers	N. Clarke	G. Thompson
Presentation of Gifts	Flynn Family	
EMOE	E. Smith	
Sunday 10am		
Acolyte / Server	J. Wade	
Readers	L. Fardell	A. O'Donnell
Presentation of Gifts	Collett Family	
EMOE	R. Zochling	J. Munro
Sunday 5pm		
Acolyte / Server	L. Kim	
Readers	M. Brotohusodo	J. Curnow
Presentation of Gifts	Dobrowolska/Cheyne Family	
EMOE	K. Sneddon	Volunteer
COUNTERS	R. Walpole	J. Smith

EVENTS

8 DECEMBER - CAROL SERVICE

St Caecilia's Choir will hold its annual Carol Service on Sunday, 8 December at 7.30 PM at the Chapel of St John the Evangelist, ANU. All welcome. Contact: Maria Henry on mrhny@gmail.com

12 DECEMBER — CAROLS AT THE CATHEDRAL

St Christopher's Cathedral Choir with brass, organ and timpani and the St Thomas More's Primary School Choir. Thursday 12 December, 7.30pm

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.

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), shortbreads & 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 pan-cakes 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.



CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Vinnies will holds its annual Christmas Appeal this weekend as a leaving collection after masses. If you require a receipt, pls go directly to volunteers in the foyer. Electronic transfers will be available. Please give generously.

'It is precisely when we see and experience poverty – whether far away, close by, or in our own hearts – that we need to become the Church, that is hold hands as brothers and sisters, confess our own brokenness and need, forgive each other, heal each other's wounds and gather around the table of Jesus for the breaking of the bread.'

Henri Nouwen, *Bread for the Journey*