

Catholic Parish of Blackiriars

Issue 9
19th January 2020
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

Jacque 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 in 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	All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	Alleluia, alleluia! The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us. He enabled those who accepted him to become the children of God. Alleluia!
COMMUNION	You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.
READINGS	Isaiah 49:3. 5-6 1 Corinthians 1:1-3 Gospel: John 1:29-34

In Your Prayers please remember those in our community who are ill:

Elizabeth Cronin, Greg O'Neill, Barbara Wilson, Bernard Slammon, Fr Ellis Clifford, Mary Martin, Edith Jensen, Philip Bailey, Maureen Blood, Anne Corver, Awny El-Ghitany, Joe Schimizzi, Elsie Loughton, Alexia Harris, June Pollard, Paul Neddrie, Beth Delos Santos, Margaret Suillivan, Rosa Maria Santos, Maria Martiniello, Pamela Sandy, Elizabeth Webster, Frank Zobec, Mary Bui Mimma Giampietro, Zelma McManus, Una Bell, Catherine Feehan, Charlotte Woolner, Fr Joe McGeehan,

Our deceased Lyn Horvat, Dominico Pham Khai Hoam

In Memory John Collett, Violeta Taviolo, Jack O'Brien, Maureen Patricia Dawes

NEW ZEALAND

The folks in New Zealand are very concerned for us. A phone call from my cousin, a parishioner, of the Catholic Parish of New Plymouth, told me, that Australians' sufferings from the bushfires are prayed for in their prayers of the faithful at Sunday Masses. Ruth Zochling

BLACKFRIARS PARISH BUSHFIRE APPEAL

Blackfriars Parish will be making a contribution to the Parish of Batemans Bay to help the seven families in the Parish who have lost their homes. Our Parish will sponsor one of the families.

- We will hold a leaving appeal for these families.
 - Envelopes are provided for your contribution to these families.
 - If you wish to pay by Credit Card please fill-in your details on the back of the envelope.
 - The envelopes can be put on the second collection plate.
 - Contributions can be made by Electronic Funds Transfer to:
Blackfriars Parish Watson
BSB: 062 786
A/C: 000013341
Reference: Bushfire Appeal & Name
- Your kind generosity is most welcome.

CHANGE THE HEART PRAYER SERVICE

In January, Auntie Jean Phillips, one of the most senior Aboriginal Christian Leaders, is calling all Australian Christians to come together in prayer in the lead up to the Change The Heart prayer services. This is the fifth year these prayer services have been run nationally. The local service is on 23 January at 6:00pm at The Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, Barton. Join in and support Aboriginal Christian Leaders, Common Grace, and pray for our nation. More information about the service and Aboriginal Sunday (19th January) can be found here: https://www.commongrace.org.au/jan26_2020

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 39:2, 4, 7-10

Here I am, Lord;
I come to do your will.

I waited, I waited for the Lord
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry.
He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God.

You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,
but an open ear.
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.
Instead, here am I.

In the scroll of the book it stands written
that I should do your will.
My God, I delight in your law
in the depth of my heart.

Your justice I have proclaimed
in the great assembly.
My lips I have not sealed;
you know it, O Lord.

Here I am, Lord;
I come to do your will.

BAPTISM

Genevieve & Humphrey Groat
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.



THE DOMINICAN COMMUNITY

Fr Kieran, Fr Bernie and Fr Raphael
Would like to thank everyone for their
kind wishes and gifts that you have
shared with us at this special time.
We really appreciate your thoughts and
wishes and we thank you.
The people of this parish are always in our prayers
and one Mass each week is celebrated for our
parish community. Thank you for being a wonderful
example of God's love.



90th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



PARISH RENEWAL

Over the past year, a group of parishioners, inspired by Plenary Council conversations, have been praying and reflecting on Parish Renewal in Blackfriars Parish. As part of this process Fr. James Mallon's book "Divine Renovation" was the focus of two parish reading groups over the last couple of months. Now, following on from this, there is a desire to explore running an Alpha course in the parish next year. Alpha is a series of sessions exploring the Christian faith based on a series of short films. Each film looks at a different question and is designed to create conversation. It is run in cafés, churches, universities and homes around the globe. The three key elements are: food, a talk and good conversation. It is currently being run in several dioceses in Australia, including ours. If you are interested in participating in Alpha in the parish, you are warmly invited to get in touch with Roger Paul 0421612572; rpaul2572@gmail.com or Siobhan Tanzer 0432 292 498 for more information.

TO THE CHURCH OF GOD

Second Sunday of the Year.

Fr Brendan Slevin OP finds a approach to the Church in the second reading of today's Mass.

There are times when our Lectionary, the collection of readings from scripture we use at Mass, gives us short and apparently pointless passages. This Sunday is one of those occasions. We hear the first three verses from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians; what is the point of hearing that, it's only an introduction to a letter? To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Just as I was about to turn away from this extract and look at the other readings something began to draw my attention back to it. These Torch homilies that we write are perhaps more like letters than homilies. We write them, post them via email to our web host and you eventually get to read them on a computer, or perhaps a phone. But you read them, they are sent to you. So there is some similarity in what I am doing to what Paul was doing, except this homily or letter reaches the four corners of the world, not just Corinth. There are, however, two major differences, I am not an apostle and I do not know what problems are facing your community. Paul is writing to the Church in Corinth to guide and support them in their Christian life knowing something of the problems of that community. It is at this point that this introduction by Paul begins to open up a new understanding of the world. Despite our differences there is something that unites us. We are called to be saints with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours. We belong together one family that spans the globe.

This short passage then opens to us the reality of our unity and the universality of the Church. This might seem obvious but we must go one step further. If we are all called to be saints and we are all on our pilgrim journey together, why do we show such disregard for each other? Why do we fail to recognise the needs of our sisters and brothers in the Lord? Why do we not tell others of the problems we face? We hear so little of the good that goes on in the world; instead we hear only of the horror, the natural disasters and the only-too-human atrocities. We could be forgiven for thinking that there is only bloodshed and death, that there is no hope in the world. But this is a distorted view of the world and it remains the image because we focus on what divides rather than on what unites. Imagine a different world, or at first a different Church, a Church made up of disciples who speak to one another, or write to one another; and more importantly a Church of disciples who listen to one another and try to understand their situation. It is together that we follow the Lord, not as individuals, and Paul's greeting reminds us of this. How can we speak to an unbelieving world when we as Church ignore each other and ignore the plight of our sisters and brothers as well as their joys?

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

LAMB OF GOD

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fr Thomas Skeats OP considers the implications of Jesus being called 'Lamb of God'.

John the Baptist has been described as the parting voice of the Old Testament and it is to the Old Testament that we must look to begin to understand his description of Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. The lamb occupies an important place in the story of the people of Israel. In the first few pages of their sacred text we encounter Abel, son of Adam and Eve, offering a lamb in sacrifice to the Lord. An atonement sacrifice of lambs would become part of the daily ritual of the Temple in Jerusalem. When God asks Abraham to go to one of the mountains in the land of Moriah – perhaps the mount on which the Temple would later be built – and offer his son Isaac as a burnt offering, the unsuspecting Isaac asks his father 'where is the lamb?' Abraham's responds 'God will provide' – words which only become at the close of the Old Testament when John the Baptist points to Christ and says 'Here is the Lamb of God'. The prophet Isaiah speaks of a suffering servant of God, a man who would be despised and rejected by men and wounded for the transgressions of the people. He compares this suffering servant to a lamb that is led to the slaughter. From the very beginning of his life, Jesus is on a trajectory that will lead to the sacrifice of the Cross.

Jesus would be crucified on the feast of the Passover. This feast recalled the Exodus of the people of Israel from Egypt. At the moment of their deliverance from slavery in Egypt lambs had been slaughtered and eaten. The blood of those lambs had been painted on the houses of the Hebrews so that when the Lord 'passed over' the land of Egypt those within were kept safe from the plague that was to be unleashed. The yearly remembrance of Passover, which inaugurated the journey of God's people towards the Promised Land, still involved in Jesus's day the slaughtering of lambs in the Temple. John the Baptist was the son of a priest, Zechariah, who would have participated in the daily Temple sacrifice. The blood of the Passover Lamb delivered the Israelites in Egypt from death in Egypt. When John describes Jesus as the Lamb of God he pointed to the definitive sacrifice that would deliver humanity from everlasting death. So Jesus is the fulfilment of the Old Testament story. The golden thread that had run through that story was God's covenant relationship with his chosen people which began when God had said 'I will be your God and you will be my people'. Everything recounted in the Old Testament records the fortunes of that covenant-relationship and, more importantly, looks forward to its consummation in the advent of the Messiah, the Christ. What also becomes clear in the story is that this Jewish Messiah, this servant of the chosen people, would be a Saviour not just for the people of Israel, but for all people. He would take away the sins of the world. Until he came, the task of the chosen people of the Old Testament, as Isaiah insists in our first reading, was to act as a light to the nations. And this task of being a light to the nations is one that we must continue. We have just emerged from Christmastide with its great celebrations of the Nativity, the Epiphany, and the Baptism of the Lord. We have seen Jesus revealed to his own people - Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, Simeon, Anna. We have seen Jesus revealed to the Gentiles, represented by the Magi. We, who through the gift of faith, recognise Jesus as the Son God who takes away the sins of the world have the ongoing mission, like John the Baptist, of pointing out Jesus to the world. Strengthened by the grace given to us in the Eucharist, the sacrament which makes present the sacrifice of Christ on the Cross, we must go out as signs and instruments of the love, mercy, and forgiveness that Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God, offers to all peoples of the world.

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

We pray for patience and strength, for courage and hope, to face another day and walk another mile and share another road in the strong name of Jesus. Amen.

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 the start of the school term.

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** Ph. 6248 5925 or Email: watson@cg.org.au

POSITION VACANT— Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, North Belconnen, is seeking a **Parish Sacramental Program Coordinator**, five hours per week, to commence duties for the school year of 2020. For skills and experience required, please visit www.cg.org.au/belconnennorth. Applications must be submitted online via email by 31st January 2020.

TRIBUNAL OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Marriage breakdown is usually a traumatic experience for all those concerned with many divorcees unsure of the validity of this marriage within the Catholic Church. The Church reaches out in support of those whose marriage has broken down, while upholding the permanence of a true Christian marriage. If you are divorced or in the process of finalising your divorce and would like information about the annulment process, please contact the Tribunal on 6239 9813 or by email tribunal@cg.org.au. All enquiries remain confidential to the Tribunal.

TRANSPORT - Due to bus timetable changes a couple who live in the Ainslie area are unable to attend the 10am Mass. If you can help with transport please contact the office.

ROSTER

25 / 26 January

Saturday 5pm		
Acolyte / Server	T. Johnson	
Readers	P. English	T. Dennis
Presentation of Gifts	F. Higgins	
EMOE	K. Murphy	
Sunday 8am		
Acolyte / Server	K. Linard	
Readers	E. Smith	J. Smith
Presentation of Gifts	D. Robertson	
EMOE	N. Clarke	
Sunday 10am		
Acolyte / Server	H. Beasley	
Readers	R. Ciaccia	I. Ciaccia
Presentation of Gifts	Ciaccia Family	
EMOE	R. Zochling	J. Munro
Sunday 5pm		
Acolyte / Server	S. Sedgwick	
Readers	M. Proctor	
Presentation of Gifts	Malone Family	
EMOE	J. Curnow	K. Sneddon
COUNTERS	W. Wade	J. Smith

EVENTS

FINANCIAL REPORTS - The financial reports for 2019 are on the Notice Board in the foyer.

3 FEBRUARY - CALVARY HOSPITAL

Calvary Hospital Auxiliary will hold its first meeting for 2020 on Monday 3 February at Calvary Public Hospital, Bruce. Guest speaker will be award winning, internationally best selling Australian author Ms Karen Viggers. Ms Viggers will speak about her latest book, *The Orchardist's Daughter*, her work as a veterinarian and her work and travels in out-back Australia. Meeting at 12.30, guest speaker approx 1pm. New members and visitors most welcome.

HOME TO RENT

Young family moving to Canberra is looking for a house to rent in the inner north. Requirements - 4 bedrooms, 2 living spaces and 2 bathrooms (frail elderly father coming as well), or 3 bedrooms and granny flat. Please contact Rahab Wilson 0406 686 454 or Gabrielle Jarvis 0429 413 562.

PRAY FOR AUSTRALIA

 - With Bruce Downes (online)

Australia is currently being devastated by Fire! Join me and Pray each night at 8pm AEDT on Facebook, Instagram and Youtube! [Facebook.com/TheCatholicGuyBruceDownes](https://www.facebook.com/TheCatholicGuyBruceDownes) [Instagram.com/TheCatholicGuy](https://www.instagram.com/TheCatholicGuy) [Youtube.com/TheCatholicGuytv](https://www.youtube.com/TheCatholicGuytv) Or pray with me wherever you are! May we experience God's power and love amidst the tragedy!

14 February - A Pilgrims' Walking Retreat

From 6.00pm Friday 14th to Sunday 16th at 3.00pm. Enjoy a two-day retreat following the way of the Pilgrim walking the Shalom Labyrinth and around the beautiful Carcoar Valley. This retreat is about reconnecting with your spirituality and your God through the Pilgrim's Camino and the Christian labyrinth. **Cost: \$200 (Includes all meals and accommodation)**. Phone: 63673058 Em: shalomcarcoar@gmail.com WWW: <http://shalomcarcoar.com/events/>

15 & 16 February - Engaged Encounter

How prepared are you for marriage? Engaged Encounter provides you with deeper insights into each other and into married life. We give you a chance to spend time together to strengthen and enrich your relationship. For further information visit: www.engagedencounter.org.au Choose any of the coming Weekends:

May 2-3, August 1-2, November 7-8.