

Catholic Parish of Blackfriars

Issue 13
16th February 2020
Year A

Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



VERITAS



HOLY ROSARY CHURCH

Parish Priest
Fr Kieran Adams OP

Assistant Priests
Fr Rafael Cabezón OP
Fr Mannes Tellis OP
(Please Text) 0414 396 532

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
and First Saturday each month
3.30pm

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

ACU Chapel Signadou
Thursday—12.30 pm

Sixth 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	Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!
COMMUNION	They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.
READINGS	Sirach 15:15-20 1 Corinthians 2:6-10 Gospel: Matthew 5:17-37

In Your Prayers please remember those in our community who are ill:	Maria Martiniello, Greg O'Neill, Una Bell, Mary Martin, Barbara Wilson, Mary Bui, Alexia Harris, Anne Corver, Bernard Slammon, Fr Ellis Clifford, Edith Jensen, Philip Bailey, Maureen Blood, Awny El-Ghitany, Joe Schimizzi, Elsie Laughton, June Pollard, Paul Neddrie, Beth Delos Santos, Margaret Sullivan, Rosa Maria Santos, Pamela Sandy, Elizabeth Webster, Frank Zobec, Zelma McManus, Mimma Giampietro, Catherine Feehan, Charlotte Woolner, Maureen Dawes, Fr Joe McGeehan
Deceased	Margaret Kirk, Elizabeth Cronin, Beth Hobson

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS TIMES

6.45am
10.00am - School Mass
6.00pm - **NO 5.30pm Mass**

PSALM: 118:1-2. 4-5. 17-18. 33-34

Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

They are happy whose life is blameless,
who follow God's law!

They are happy those who do his will,
seeking him with all their hearts.

You have laid down your precepts
to be obeyed with care.
May my footsteps be firm
to obey your statutes.

Bless your servant and I shall live
and obey your word.
Open my eyes that I may consider
the wonders of your law.

Teach me the demands of your statutes
and I will keep them to the end.
Train me to observe your law,
to keep it with my heart.

Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

MORNING TEA

A fund raising Morning Tea will be held in conjunction with ACU Canberra Campus to raise money for the Bushfire victims in the Parish of Batemans Bay.

Where: Garden in the Signadou Building

Date: Tuesday 18th February

Time: 10.30am - 11.30am

Entry: Donation

Please bring a plate to share.



ST VINCENT DE PAUL



Our Watson St Vincent de Paul Conference will once again be organising a donation stall at the Canberra Show across the last weekend in February (28 Feb – 1 March). We are calling for volunteers to do 2 hour shifts across the weekend manning the stall and collecting donations. Please contact Tony Malone on tonymalone@grapevine.com.au or 0431 542 531.

LENT

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on 26th February. Each year the forty days of Lent are given to us for prayerful reflection on the figure of Christ crucified and the journey He took through darkness to light. The theme of our reflection program this year is "Hope". In recent times we have seen natural disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis, terrorism, war, displaced persons seeking new homelands, floods, fires, and starvation shadowing the earth. Yet in these shadows we have seen people of faith, courage, prayer and action, perseverance and hope; and through these people we have caught a glimpse of the self – sacrificing love of Jesus himself. As in former years, we are invited to journey together in faith and if possible to set some time aside to reflect on God's Word as nourishment on our pilgrimage.

This year Rosary Parish is combining with other local Churches in holding the Lenten Program. The discussions will be based around the Brisbane Catholic Archdiocese program. The Lenten Program will be held in the local Anglican & Uniting Churches, noting that Rosary is running the Alpha Program throughout Lent. At this stage there are groups on Tuesday Evening, Wednesday Noon and Wed/Thu Evening. Please enter your contact details on the sheets in the foyer or contact Keith Linard on 0412-376-317.

BUSHFIRE APPEAL

Bushfire Appeal - Update: On 3 February the Parish sent \$14,555.00 (\$9,555.00 from parishioner donations and \$5,000.00 from Parish funds) to St Bernard's Parish Bateman's Bay. Since then a further \$1,110.00 has been received and forwarded to Fr Martins. Fr Martin Aloga, Parish Priest, has sent Fr Kieran an E-Mail thanking him and advising that he will, in due course, provide a list of beneficiaries. As concerns have been expressed in some quarters about the allocation of donations, parishioners are advised that the arrangements for the assistance to the South Coast parishes was set up by the Archdiocese and is not associated with any other organisation.

PARISH AS COMMUNITY

'Catholic Parishes add so much to their communities. They are a place for people to bond and communicate with one another. Parishes depend on the service and love of the people in the community, so a parish becomes a source of pride for a town. What is neat is the sense of belonging is so strong in a community parish that members are always looking for ways to help or to improve the parish. Although money must be donated to keep a parish going, it is the donation of time and talent that brings a parish alive.'

Excerpt from an article by Alice Lane



MERCY AND REINSTATEMENT

FORMATION: FAITH AND LIFE

*Pouring out the balm of God's mercy
within the ecclesial community*

The phone rang. A young woman was on the other side of the call. "My name is Katie, and my aunt is a member of your parish. I am getting married in a month in a Catholic church in another state, but we are living here with my aunt and her family until we start grad school in the fall. The priest at the church in Alabama says we need someone to do the paperwork so we can get married in the Catholic Church. Can you help us out?" The part of my brain that knows all the rules wanted to say, "I don't think so." But the other part of my brain encouraged me to inquire about this young couple's circumstances: "Have you done any marriage preparation?" "No, we tried but we could not find a Catholic Church within reasonable driving distance." "Where were you?" "We were in different cities. We each were doing a service year overseas, and we did not have many options." "Ok — well, who is the priest who is witnessing the wedding?" "He is the pastor of the parish, but we don't really know him."

I hear the sincerity in the young woman's voice — and the panic. I think of her aunt, our parishioner, and her goodness and generosity to so many people. I remember that I frequently mention how grateful I am when young adults come to the Catholic Church to celebrate the sacrament of marriage. Here was one such couple. So, I begin to think about how we can make this work. With compassion and flexibility, we made it work.

The phone rang. A woman of great faith and involvement in the parish community is on the other side of the call. "I cannot believe I am making this call. My nephew and his wife were scheduled for a C-section in a week. When they went for the pre-op meeting today, the baby did not have a heartbeat. They have lost the baby. We are all in such disbelief. I don't know what they will want. They were raised Catholic, but they did not get married in the church. But could you help if they want to do a service?" And I reply: "We would be happy to assist with whatever they would like to do. I know that they are reeling with this news. I am so sorry."

Twenty-four hours later, the woman called again. "My nephew and his wife do want to come to the church and bring Sarah Marie's remains for a Mass. My nephew says this is what our family does in times like these. Can we do that?" And I reply: "This is why we are here, and I am grateful they want to come to the church. Of course, we will do this."

Two days later, 200 family and friends gathered in the church for Mass for Sarah Marie. The parents of the infant daughter chose 1 Corinthians 13:1-13, a passage read at their wedding, and two excerpts from the Gospels of Matthew (18:1-5) and Mark (10:13-16). Sarah's mom liked Psalm 139, so we sang "You Are Near" as the psalm response, and Sarah's dad knew he wanted to sing "Be Not Afraid," "On Eagle's Wings," "Though the Mountains May Fall," and "Here I Am, Lord." When we sang that last hymn, it was impossible to stop the tears for many who came to pray that day. This couple may not have been married in the Catholic Church, but they prepared this service like two young Catholic adults, clinging to the familiar balm of faith's rituals and traditions. It seemed they had come home to bury their infant daughter.

Cont..... MERCY AND REINSTATEMENT

When I consider these privileged moments of pastoral care, I am reminded of what Pope Francis has written in his apostolic exhortation *Amoris Laetitia* ("The Joy of Love"):

There are two ways of thinking which recur throughout the Church's history: casting off and reinstating. The Church's way, from the time of the Council of Jerusalem, has always been the way of Jesus, the way of mercy and reinstatement ... The way of the Church is ... to pour out the balm of God's mercy on all those who ask for it with a sincere heart ... For true charity is always unmerited, unconditional and gratuitous ... It is a matter of reaching out to everyone, of needing to help each person find his or her proper way of participating in the ecclesial community and thus to experience being touched by an "unmerited, unconditional and gratuitous" mercy.

Nearly every day, parish ministers have the opportunity to put these words to work. Mercy and reinstatement take time, more time than casting off. But they also ensure the ability to sleep at night and to look at one's pastoral self in the mirror each morning, knowing we have done our best to do as Jesus would do.

By Peg Ekerdt - Celebration Publication

TRUE AND LOYAL SERVICE OF GOD

Christ's opening statement, that the attitude of his followers towards the commandments (and other precepts of the law) must be different, and superior to that of the scribes and Pharisees, clearly indicates how Christianity must differ from, and supersede, Judaism. Christ is not abolishing the ten commandments, but he is demanding of his followers a more perfect, a more sincere, fulfilment of them. The whole moral value of any legal observance (the Mosaic law included), comes from the interior disposition of him who observes or keeps the law. No man serves or honours God by any exterior acts, be they ever so arduous or continuous, unless these acts proceed from an intention and a will to honour and please God. This is the charter, the constitution, of the new law, Christianity. The old law is not abolished, but deepened and given a new life.

Avoiding murder therefore is not enough; the true Christian must remove any inclination to murder by building up true, brotherly love for all men in his heart.

We must not only not injure our neighbour or fellowman in his person, or in his character, but we must be ever ready to help him and prevent injury to him, whenever and wherever we can. We must not only not commit adultery, but must also develop a Christian respect and esteem for purity, the virtue which will preserve us not only from adultery but even from thoughts of adultery, or any other abuse of our sexual gifts given us by God for his sublime purpose.

We must be truthful always, and men of our word. This virtue is not only necessary for man's salvation, but is the basis of rational intercourse between men in civilized society. While our civil courts still deem it necessary to impose oaths on contestants and witnesses (since they have, unfortunately, to take account of the liars and deceivers who still are a menace to society), the truthful man need not be afraid of insulting or dishonouring God by calling him as his guarantor, if asked to do so.

True and loyal service of God therefore begins in the heart and has its value from this interior disposition. Keeping the ten commandments is our way of proving to God that we are grateful, obedient and loyal to him who gave us all we have and who has promised us future gifts infinitely greater still. And just as our love for God is proved by our true love for our neighbour, so the last seven of the commandments impose on us obligations regarding our neighbour. It is only by fulfilling these seven that we can fulfil the first three which govern our relations with God. This truth is expressed by our Lord in the words: It you are offering your gift at the altar, and remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there . . . first be reconciled to your brother and then come and offer your gift.

— Excerpted from *The Sunday Readings Cycle A*, Fr. Kevin O' Sullivan, O.F.M.

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. **Classes have started on Sundays at 9am.**

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

26 February - CLIMATE REFUGEES – PUBLIC MEETING 6.30pm Wednesday, 26 February, Copland Theatre, ANU
The effects of climate change are already having a devastating effect on many people. The World Bank estimated in 2018 that, by 2050, there could easily be 140 million people displaced by climate change. That is twice the current number of people displaced for all reasons. Many experts now believe that this is an underestimate.

How will we deal with this? Will we treat these people in the same way as we are currently treating those seeking asylum? This public meeting will explore these questions and argue for alternatives to the current refugee policies.

Our speakers are three important experts on climate change and its effects on the forced displacement of people.

8 February - CANBERRA REGIONAL AMICUS GROUP
Saturday 08.02.20 Canberra Southern Cross Club Woden meet At 7pm In The Patio for dinner at table booked in the name of AMICUS. RSVP Contact Patricia 0412351548

Only by giving are you able to receive more than you already have.

ROSTER

22 / 23 February

	Saturday 5pm	
Acolyte / Server	T. Johnson	
Readers	A. Blakey	M. Cox
Presentation of Gifts	Blakey Family	
EMOE	K. Murphy	
	Sunday 8am	
Acolyte / Server	K. Linard	
Readers	E. Smith	J. Smith
Presentation of Gifts	Flynn Family	
EMOE	N. Clarke	
	Sunday 10am	
Acolyte / Server	H. Beasley	
Readers	C. Barbaro	P. McDonald
Presentation of Gifts	Walpole/Jones	
EMOE	E. Musolino	M. Musolino
	Sunday 5pm	
Acolyte / Server	S. Sedgwick	
Readers	M. Brotohusodo	T. de Luca
Presentation of Gifts	B. Dobrowolska	
EMOE	J. Curnow	C. de Luca
COUNTERS	W. Wade	J. Smith

EVENTS

22 FEBRUARY - AMICUS

Dinner - SAIGON VIETNAMESE Restaurant Pearce Shops meet at 7 PM for DINNER at table booked in name of AMICUS. RSVP Contact Paul 0419 411 691

29 FEBRUARY - 1 Mar - MenALIVE WEEKEND

Sat 29th Feb & Sun morning 1st March St Brigid's Dickson. A terrific weekend of testimonies from ordinary men, discussion, time out to reflect on your life journey, and hospitality. Since their founding in 2003 MenALIVE have run 400 events in 25 dioceses in Australia and New Zealand for more than 15,500 men. For further details, contact Fr Emil 0414523036 or Najib Raya 0439581204."

15 MARCH - LENTEN CONCERT - 'ASHES TO EASTER'

with Peter Kearney. Sunday 15th March, 2.00-3.15pm in St. John Vianney Church, Waramanga. Peter Kearney is an Australian Catholic songwriter/singer and guitarist, his 'Ashes to Easter' concert weaves songs and stories and reflections on Lenten themes and looks ahead to Holy Week & Easter. Mainly for adults though upper-primary and older students could also enjoy. Entry by donation.

20 APRIL- 16 MAY- Jesuit led Canberra First Spiritual Exercises Retreat: Inner Peace in Friendship with Jesus.

This retreat in daily life is excellent for busy people, since it links prayer with our experiences and helps us to recognise the presence of God around us. It's a retreat for ordinary people leading ordinary lives. For more details and/or to express interest in attending: <https://www.clcaustralia.org.au/australian-capital-territory/> or 0407147540.

Reach Beyond: Become Simply Rich....

All trades and professions are being requested by communities abroad seeking to build the capacity of their organisations and the skills of their people. They're not asking for money or gifts that contribute to degrading dependence. Your assistance will help to develop self-reliance and sustainable solutions to poverty. Palms Australia will provide you with thorough preparation and support. You will be rewarded with riches greater than you might imagine. Look at www.palms.org.au and talk to Roger on 0422472567, or email palms@palms.org.au