

Catholic Parish of Blackiriars

Issue 14
23rd 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 Cabezon 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

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

and First Saturday each month
3.30pm

Reconciliation

Saturday 12pm—12.30pm
and 4pm—4.30pm

ACU Chapel Signadou

Thursday—12.30 pm

Seventh 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	O Lord, I trust in your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	Alleluia, alleluia! Whoever keeps the word of Christ, grows perfect in the love of God. Alleluia!
COMMUNION	I will recount all your wonders, I will rejoice in you and be glad, and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.
READINGS	Leviticus 19:1-2. 17-18 1 Corinthians 3:16-23 Gospel: Matthew 5:38-48

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, Maureen Dawes, Edith Jensen, Philip Bailey, 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, Maureen Blood, Charlotte Woolner, Fr Joe McGeehan
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Deceased	Margaret Kirk, Elizabeth Cronin, Beth Hobson, Anna Lechowicz
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In Memory	Domenico Musolino, Domenica Laria, Pasquale Laria, Antonio Laria, Dionisco Perrera
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WELCOME

Welcome to our all who have come to our Family Mass to Farewell Fr Kieran. There will be a sausage sizzle and morning tea in the Parish Centre following the 10am Mass., please join us.

FAREWELL FR KIERAN

Dear Fr Kieran,
thank you for your devotion and hard work, guiding our Parish.
Thank you for bringing us closer to Christ.
You are a wonderful example of God's love at work.
You have given hope and encouragement to so many.
Now, as the day dawns on the next chapter in your life,
May God continue to richly bless you and watch over you,
may the God of peace grant you peace now and always.
May God look upon you with favour for your faithful care of His people. Praying you continue to be renewed through the power of the Gospel and through the grace of Christ, Our Lord.
We're going to miss you!
God's blessings upon you.



PSALM: 102:1-4. 8. 10. 12-13

The Lord is kind and merciful.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings.

It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion.

The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults.

As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.
As a father has compassion on his sons,
the Lord has pity on those who fear him.

The Lord is kind and merciful.

TURNING THE OTHER CHEEK

In the Gospel Reading, Christ commands us to turn the other cheek. How are we to make sense of this command? If a schoolyard bully beats up your child, are you supposed to instruct her to turn the other cheek and let him do it again? Or should you alert the principal of the school and get him stopped? Christ's command to turn the other cheek seems to insist on that first alternative. And so it looks as if Christ is commanding us to help people do bad things with impunity. But to think this is to be focused only on yourself and what you take to be your virtue. It is to forget entirely the wellbeing of the person engaged in evil.

Think about the matter this way. In the Gospel Reading for last Sunday, Christ says that anyone who hates his brother is shut out of heaven. If mere hatred is enough to get a person excluded from heaven, how about hatred in action, like physical attack? A schoolyard bully has hate in his heart and hate in action too. If you enable him to keep attacking, you are helping him to hell. But in the Gospel Reading for this week Christ is asking us to love those who hurt us. How is love shown to a person by helping him towards hell?

So in exhorting us to turn the other cheek Christ is not commanding us to be an enabler of people doing bad things. He is exhorting us to love even our enemies as ourselves. If we love our enemies in this way, we will want to help them be what we ourselves want to be: people trying to love and obey Christ.

Think of Christ's command to turn the other cheek this way, then.

Ordinarily, a person given to evil will become worse and worse if he thinks he can hurt others with impunity. That is why to threaten him with reprisal is to tug him back from his own moral destruction. But sometimes a person is so sunk in evil that no threat of punishment would deter him. And then your best bet is to let him hit you again. If he does, he may finally understand the evil in himself and hate it.

So turning the other cheek might make a schoolyard bully worse; but, this attitude expressed in non-violent resistance did help get the British out of India.

Christ's command, then, is to do whatever it takes to love our enemies. [Eleonore Stump http://liturgy.slu.edu/](http://liturgy.slu.edu/)

ASH WEDNESDAY



Join us to celebrate the beginning of Lent,
a time for penance, prayer, and fasting.

A day of abstinence from meat.

6.45am Mass

10.00am - School Mass

6.00pm Mass

NO 5.30pm Mass

LENT

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.

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 **DESPERATELY IN NEED OF 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.

PROJECT COMPASSION

Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed **"Go Further Together"**.

As Teresa of Calcutta said, "Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things, with great love."

You will be helping empower our world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and share their strengths with their communities to lift themselves out of poverty.

When we **Go Further Together** in love and compassion, the whole world thrives.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, or by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

MORNING TEA

THANK YOU to parishioners and ACU

Staff who attended the Bushfire Appeal morning tea, \$270.00 was raised for the appeal.



GOD'S WAY TO BE MAN

Fr Fabian Radcliffe OP encourages us to think differently and so share Jesus's truly creative and loving way of being human.

In today's Mass, Jesus says that the Father loves us all, because he sends his rain equally on the righteous and on the unrighteous. The rhyme may be witty and light-hearted. But Jesus's Sermon is a serious and profound call that we should treat ourselves, our enemies and our friends as God does. Jesus proposes the kind of justice that is creative and healing. It is based on the way our Father treats us, the way Jesus himself lived.

The old Jewish law said: 'Eye for eye and tooth for tooth'. This was enacted to limit revenge, rather than encourage it. If someone takes out one of your eyes, you are not entitled to take out both of his. That would only escalate the violence. So the old law aimed to limit human wickedness, but could not eradicate it. In contrast, Jesus says: 'Turn the other cheek'. To be slapped with the back of the hand on the right cheek was a gross insult; it implied that the person hit is inferior. Our natural instinct is to hit back. Jesus says it is far better to find a creative way forward, reflecting the patient love of God himself. By offering the other cheek, you are effectively saying: 'Hit me again if you wish; but this time, treat me as an equal, not as an inferior'. Similarly, Jesus says that if your opponent in law would take the shirt off your back, give him your vest too. In those days in Palestine, a poor man would have just two garments: a cloak and a shirt. By surrendering both of them, you show your opponent what he is really doing: reducing a poor man to nakedness and shame.

Again, you may be obliged to carry some equipment for a Roman soldier. The military had the right to make civilians do this, but only for one mile, not more. Very well then, says Jesus: surprise him by offering to go two miles. That is far more constructive than making an official complaint, or plotting revenge by joining a resistance movement. You would be showing the Romans that there is a different way to be human, a way which reveals God's victory over all oppression, injustice and inequality. These three little scenes give glimpses of God's way for us to live a truly human life. They are not easy; and perhaps they were not intended always to be taken literally. But they should certainly urge us to think about our own behaviour, and realise that we are often oppressive or domineering. They should encourage us to share Jesus's truly creative and loving way of being human. Some people reject the Sermon on the Mount, thinking that it offers us totally unreal objectives; or that it presents a subtle way to control other people by non-violence; or even that God is teasing us by pointing towards something that is in fact impossible to do.

But no. It's not like that at all. Jesus is giving us good news, not good advice. He is not asking us to do anything that he did not do himself. When they challenged his teaching, he told Parables, quizzical and often humorous stories, which forced them, and us, to think differently. When they mocked him, he did not respond. When they struck him and scourged him, he accepted the pain, uncomplainingly. When they made him carry the burden of the cross, the ultimate symbol of Roman domination, he carried it as far as he was able, and then had the humiliation of someone helping him with it. Together they brought it to the place of execution; and as the soldiers hammered in the nails he prayed for them.

We are inclined to think of the Sermon on the Mount as a blueprint for our moral behaviour; but when we try to live by it, it seems to make impossible demands. But try reading it differently. Try seeing it as a description of Jesus himself, and the way he himself lived. He is poor in spirit, he is meek, he is merciful. He does not resist the one who is evil, but turns the other cheek. He loves both neighbour and enemy. In short, he shows us God's way to be man. And if he shows us the way, he will certainly also lead us the truth and the life. <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. **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.

Calvary Hospital Auxiliary will be holding its autumn plant stall on Thursday 12 March, from 7.30 am- 4 pm, near the main foyer, Calvary Hospital, Bruce. There will be an excellent variety of indoor and outdoor plants for sale, including succulents, natives, exotics, roses, geraniums, lilies, iris and more. All funds raised go towards the purchase of equipment for Calvary Public Hospital patients and staff. Contact: Jan on 0437790980

ROSTER	29 February	1 March
Saturday 5pm		
Acolyte / Server	M. Tran	
Readers	K. Markcrow	D. Hinds
Presentation of Gifts	F. Higgins	
EMOE	A. Moore	
Sunday 8am		
Acolyte / Server	M. Falk	
Readers	B. Bandle	C. Bandle
Presentation of Gifts	Bandle Family	
EMOE	Volunteer	
Sunday 10am		
Acolyte / Server	Q. Vu	
Readers	M. Fitzgerald	K. McCluskey
Presentation of Gifts	Volunteer	
EMOE	S. Tanzer	B. Affas
Sunday 5pm		
Acolyte / Server	P. Tran	
Readers	K. Watson	M. Tuckwell
Presentation of Gifts	Malone Family	
EMOE	M. Proctor	K. Sneddon
COUNTERS	I. Buckley	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.

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

ST VINCENT DE PAUL - NEW EXTENDED OPENING HOURS

Vinnies Dickson is now opening longer on Thursday - Saturdays each week and are in need of volunteers to help in the store. If you are able to help please contact Dickson Vinnies, manager Isla Smith on 6234 7495.

ACU - Short courses in theology - Envisioning the Church in the future. Please see noticeboard for details.