

Catholic Parish of Blackiriars



Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



Issue 24
7th May 2023
Year A

VERITAS



Fifth Sunday of Easter

HOLY ROSARY CHURCH

Parish Priest

Fr Mannes Tellis OP
(To contact Please Text)
0414 396 532

Dominican in residence
Br Francis McKinnon OP

Holy Rosary Church
Cnr Phillip Avenue &
Antill Street, Watson ACT

Postal Address
PO Box 900, Dickson
Telephone: Ph. 6248 5925

Office Hours -
Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday, Friday
9am to 12.30pm

Office Staff
Jacquie Cortese
Jim Smith

Email:
watson@cg.org.au

Website:
www.cg.org.au/watson

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/Holy-Rosary-Parish-Watson

Mass Times
Week Day
Monday - NO Mass
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
& Friday
5:30pm

Weekend
Saturday - Vigil - 5:pm
Sunday - 10:00am & 5:00pm

Reconciliation
Saturday
4pm - 4.45pm

Adoration - Holy Hour
Friday's 6pm - 7pm

Pray the Rosary
Before 10am Mass on Sundays



PARISH BULLETIN - DEADLINE for notices is

NOON TUESDAY

Please contact the office Ph. 6248 5925
or Email: watson@cg.org.au



NEW MASS TIMES

Week End ~ Saturday - Vigil - 5:pm
Sunday - 10:00am & 5:00pm

Week Day from 9th May - Monday - NO Mass
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
5:30pm

**9am Saturday morning Mass will
Discontinued 13th May**

Reconciliation - Saturday 4pm - 4.45pm
Adoration - Holy Hour - Friday's 6pm - 7pm

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Entrance Antiphon - Cf. Ps 97: 1-2

O sing a new song to the Lord,
for he has worked wonders;
in the sight of the nations
he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

FIRST READING

First reading - Acts 6:1-7

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 32(33):1-2,4-5,18-19

**Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.**

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.

Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp,
with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs.

For the word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love.

The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine.

**Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.**

SECOND READING

Second reading - 1 Peter 2:4-9

A reading from the first letter of † Peter

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house.

Cont....As scripture says: *See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed.* That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Gospel Acclamation - John 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord;
no one comes to the Father, except through me.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Gospel - John 14:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

'Do not let your hearts be troubled.

Trust in God still, and trust in me.

There are many rooms in my Father's house;
if there were not, I should have told you.

I am going now to prepare a place for you,
and after I have gone and prepared you
a place,

I shall return to take you with me;

so that where I am

you may be too.

You know the way to the place
where I am going.'

Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?'

Jesus said:

'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.

No one can come to the Father except
through me.

If you know me, you know my Father too.

From this moment you know him
and have seen him.'

Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me?

'To have seen me is to have seen the Father,
so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"?

Do you not believe

that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?

The words I say to you I do not speak as from
myself:

it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work.

You must believe me when I say

that I am in the Father and the Father is in me;

believe it on the evidence of this work,

if for no other reason.

Cont...I tell you most solemnly,
whoever believes in me
will perform the same works as I do myself,
he will perform even greater works,
because I am going to the Father.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Communion Antiphon is NOT recited when hymns are sung.

Communion Antiphon - Cf. John 15: 1, 5

I am the true vine and you are the branches,
says the Lord.

Whoever remains in me, and I in him,
bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

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I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE



The last will and testament of Jesus forms the gospel reading we hear this weekend. These seminal words "I am the way, the truth, and the life" are at the heart of this farewell discourse Jesus proclaims at the last supper.

Crucial to this final discourse is the revelation that Jesus goes ahead of his disciples, and by extension us, to make a place for us: "so that where I am—you may be too." Yet, integral to this sought after prize is belief in Jesus that he is the only way to human fulfilment. "I am the way" is an awfully arrogant claim to make, no founder of any world religion claimed to be THE way. Some have said that their teachings are 'a way' or that their ethical blueprint may inspire or give direction on how to live better, but Jesus claims to be THE way.

This is the great difference between Christianity and other religions. It's founder Jesus Christ claimed to be THE way. 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me.

Much like in last week's gospel Jesus saw himself as the gate of the sheepfold, this week he uses this new and shocking image that indeed he is not just the entrance point to the Father but is also its roadmap. No one can come to Father except through me. This absolute claim then forces us to make a decision about Jesus. Is what he is saying really true, can there be only one way? Or, do we have to accept that there is a smorgasbord of ways of achieving human fulfilment?

C.S.Lewis in his masterful work *Mere Christianity* sums up our dilemma quite succinctly:

I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: "I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept His claim to be God." That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic—on a level with the man who says he is a poached egg—or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God: or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronising

Cont...nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to.

Jesus' extraordinary claims then challenge us in this Easter period to be disciples that thoroughly believe him to be the only way to God. If we conceive of this then the next commission is to make this known, to remind those who once believed this to be so and to reveal to those who have no belief there is indeed a way to true human fulfilment. Jesus' teaching is not the stuff of mere moral guidance, his claims are cosmic, serious and life giving.

Today let us pray for the grace to live the conviction that Jesus is the way and by living the truthful teachings he offers we too may have life with him in the Father's house.

God love you all. You're all in my prayers.
Fr Mannes OP



HEARING THE GOSPEL

When we hear today's Gospel, we may be reminded of the times that people have told or asked us about whether we love them or not, or whether we are willing to make sacrifices in the name of some form of love. The big difference is that it is Jesus who is presenting us with this statement: 'If you love me, you will keep my commandments.' 'Gone are the dubious or uncertain grounds for making or breaking a promise, as we know that Jesus will never let us down. And we know that not only does Jesus love us, but that he knows us more than we can even know ourselves. So it stands to reason that he knows what is best for us; hence his commandments. They are not there to imprison us or to force us to co-operate in things whose value we doubt, but instead they are there to help us lead the life that will lead to eternal happiness.

Excerpt Fr Rudolf Loewenstein OP

ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

Just as members of our own families have certain responsibilities toward one another, so did the early Christians. The Twelve, who had been chosen by Jesus, were primarily responsible for prayer and the ministry of the word. They served the others by handing on all that Jesus had taught them. In today's reading, we see the Twelve choosing seven men to serve as deacons. Their primary ministry would be to distribute food to the needy. The role of the deacon in the Church has expanded since the time of the apostles, but deacons are always to be true to their vocation of service. (The word deacon comes from the Greek word diakonia, which means "service.")

SECOND READING

Have you ever noticed the cornerstone of your church or of any public building? The cornerstone is a large stone at the bottom corner of a building where two walls come together. It is often inscribed with the date when the building was built. This reading gives us the wonderful image of Jesus as the cornerstone of the Church. And we are the "living stones" built on the foundation of Christ. Imagine the cornerstone first and then the many small bricks that form the walls. Each brick has its own place and fulfills an important function in that place. Imagine the cornerstone first and then the many small bricks that form the walls. Each brick has its own place and fulfills an important function in that place. How can you be a "living stone" in the building of the Church?

TAIZÉ PRAYER

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2023

Jointly hosted by: St Margaret's Uniting Church, Hackett ~ Holy Rosary Catholic Church, Watson ~ Holy Cross Anglican Church, Hackett

Holy Rosary Church, Watson Sunday 21 May, 6.30pm

CALLING ALL BOOK LOVERS

Please join us at Holy Rosary Watson as we read together the international best-seller *Divine Renovation: From a Maintenance to a Missional Church* by Fr James Mallon. Starting Tuesday 2 May at 7.30pm reading groups will meet in-person at the Parish Centre and online (from Wednesday 3 May) for 8 weeks. You'll leave the reading group with practical, faith filled and powerful techniques to help renew your spiritual life and parish community. Please contact Emily at emilykathrynhall@gmail.com

BUILDING THE COMMUNITY OF WOMEN

The Catholic Women's Taskforce invites all women of faith to join us for morning tea. We are inviting you to join the taskforce, either as a member or a friend.

Please register your interest in person or for Zoom at:

www.cgwomen.com.au

Details: 10 am; Saturday 6 May, Haydon Hall, St Christopher's Pastoral Centre, 55 Franklin Street, Manuka. Zoom on Monday at 7.30 pm, 8 May; link will be sent on registration.

Contact: Andrea Dean: andrea1959@gmail.com or Monica Phelan: monphel@bigpond.com or Alison Weeks: alisonmweeks@bigpond.com

CATHOLIC MEN'S BREAKFAST

Tuesday 23 May | Catholic Men's Breakfast | 7:00 – 8:45 am. Have breakfast at Haydon Hall with like minded men and a Catholic Author, Speaker, and Entertainer, Chris Padgett. From the Diocese of Syracuse (New York), Chris Padgett uses humour and personal stories to inspire and encourage men young and old to take hold of the awesome vision the Church proclaims for developing our lives and relationships to the full. Cost: \$38. (Tables of 8 for schools only at \$220) Enquiries Frank Stanford fstanford200@gmail.com 0417 664 110

Registration: <https://bit.ly/ChrisPadgett> Any enquiries can be

MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE

Tuesday 23 May | Marriage & Family Life Cocktail Dinner | 6:45 pm. Enjoy a fun night out with parishioners from across the Archdiocese while Catholic author, comedian and theologian - Christopher Padgett - helps us laugh our way to a more hopeful vision of the Church's proclamation of marriage and family life. All welcome – single, married, young and old. Tickets are \$45 and include wine, soft drinks, hot finger food and dessert.

Venue: Veritas Building, ACU Watson,.

Enquiries: Lara Kirk lara.kirk@cg.org.au 0429 192 869

Registration: <http://bit.ly/PadgettCocktail>



PARISH GARDEN UPKEEP

Wanted Volunteer(s) for Parish Garden Upkeep.

Parish is looking for Parishioners who are keen gardeners in the upkeep of its gardens. Current areas requiring this service are Roses around Parish office and Stage 1 of St Dominic's Garden adjacent to Parish Centre carpark. Stages 2 A/B of St Dominic's Garden will not come into line until spring or early summer 2023. These areas are either been established or under construction. If you can spare 1 or 2 hours per month for the upkeep of Parish gardens, please see Jacquie Cortese at the Parish office for further details.

PRAYERS

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

Mary Martin, Anne Corver, Barbara Wilson, Mimma Gia, Philip Bailey, Veronica Cornelly, Rosa Maria Santos, Peter Catlin, Beth Delos Santos, Ursula Ramsay, Sue King, Fr Ellis Clifford, Joe Schimizzi, June Pollard, Awny El-Ghitany, Pamela Sandy, Elizabeth Webster, Una Ford, Terry Stephens, Maureen Blood, Una Bell, Lily Copeland, Neville Caulfield, Maggie McKeon, Carmel Slammon, Katey Tuite, Brian & Suzanne Brown, Fr Rafael Cabezon OP

RECENTLY DECEASED

Our recently Deceased: May they find peace and comfort in the embrace of the Lord.
Rex Carmody, Dan Quigley, Sam Oliva, Reid Wood

IN LOVING MEMORY

Antonio Cortese, Norma Jean Baker, Patricia Brown, Caterina, Marianna & Francesco Barbaro, Albertina dos Santos

PRAY THE ROSARY Sunday Mornings prior to 10.00am Mass the Rosary will be recited. Please join in.

CRAFT GROUP meets noon - 4.00pm in the Parish Centre on Wednesdays. Contact the office for details.

DOMINICAN LIBRARY will open **Saturday** mornings, 9.30am - 12.00 noon in the Parish Centre. All welcome.

BLACKFRIARS MEDITATION GROUP meets on Thursday evenings in the 7.30pm Parish Centre. Enquiries John Jarvis 6296 2001 or www.wccm.org

WEEKLY READER FORMATION - Formation sessions are on Wednesday evenings. These sessions provide reflection on the Scripture readings for the following Sunday. All parishioners are invited. – Meet in the church Office.

HOLY ROSARY WOMEN'S FAITH CIRCLE The Holy Rosary Women's Faith Circle returns on Thursdays. Please join us as we share life, break open the word, pray for and with each other. Contact Emily at emilykathrynhall@gmail.com for further information.

VERBUM BIBLE STUDY FOR YOUNG ADULTS 18-35

On recess at the moment. It will restart in late May with the Eucharist in Scripture.

ROSTER May

Saturday 5.00pm - Acolyte - M. Tran / D. Gauchi
Reader - C. Barbaro, M. Dawes
Computer - Volunteer required

Sunday 10.00am - Acolyte - Hugh
Reader - M. FitzGerald, K. McCluskey
Computer - J. Cortese

Sunday 5.00pm - Acolyte - S. Sedgwick
Reader - T. de Luca, M. Brotohusodo
Computer - T. Malone

DONATIONS TO PARISH & PRIESTS

Parish details to contribute to the Planned Giving.

Bank details – Account Name: Blackfriars Parish Watson

BSB: 062786 - A/C : 000013341 - Reference: Name

Priests details to contribute to the First Collection.

Details – Account Name: Dominican Fathers Watson

BSB: 083 347 Account number: 97 310 5044

Reference: Your Name - Donation