

Catholic Parish of Blackiriars



Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



Issue 26
21st May 2023
Year A

VERITAS



The Ascension of the Lord

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

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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

ACU MASS - 12pm Wednesday

ACU Signadou Chapel

If you are in Urgent need of a Priest
out of office hours call - 6248 8253



PARISH BULLETIN - DEADLINE for notices is

NOON TUESDAY

Please contact the office Ph. 6248 5925

or Email: watson@cg.org.au



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Entrance Antiphon - Acts 1: 11

Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens?
This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven
will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

FIRST READING

First reading - Acts 1:1-11

A reading from the Act of the Apostles

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 46(47):2-3,6-9

*God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.*

All peoples, clap your hands,
cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,
great king over all the earth.

God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise,
sing praise to our king, sing praise.

God is king of all the earth,
sing praise with all your skill.
God is king over the nations;
God reigns on his holy throne.

*God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.*

SECOND READING

Second reading - Ephesians 1:17-23

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him.

Cont...May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named not only in this age but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Gospel Acclamation - Matthew 28:19. 20

Alleluia, alleluia!
Go and teach all people my gospel.
I am with you always, until the end of the world.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Gospel - Matthew 28:16-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**Communion Antiphon is NOT recited when
hymns are sung.**

Communion Antiphon - Matthew 28: 20

Behold, I am with you always,
even to the end of the age, alleluia.

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THE ASCENSION

Go to any airport, train or bus station in the country and often you will find tear-filled relatives farewelling the ones they love. Saying good bye is hard. For some of you this may have been felt through the death of a relative, a parent, a grandparent, perhaps a brother or sister. All in all we hate saying goodbye to those whom we love.



Today celebrates a kind of farewell to Christ. The disciples are gathered and Jesus rises, ascends above them and returns to the existence he had from all eternity; the life of heaven. The disciples, however are far from sad, in fact they are joy filled, they are now the bearers of the good news, the news that we are made for life with God, and it is through Jesus that we get there.

Cont...Our celebration today then tells us most importantly about who Jesus is. As Catholics we believe Jesus Christ to be no ordinary man. Rather he is God become a human being. For some people that sounds weird or stupid. How can God become a man? Well if we realise that God is all powerful, that God created all things out of nothing, that he provides us with a multitude of miracles each day, then there is no problem in coming to the conclusion that God could become a man. The idea of a God becoming a man was no problem to the peoples of Jesus' own time. Greek and Roman religion was certainly quite open to the fact that Gods could regularly descended from Mt Olympus to take on the disguise of human beings.

Christ is nothing like the gods of ancient mythology. In his behaviour, in his love for humanity, our Lord and God Jesus Christ sacrificed himself on our behalf to show us how much God loved us not matter what we had done. Our God who became man, Jesus Christ, rather than come to earth for pleasure, like the Greek or Egyptian, or Roman gods did, came to earth to suffer, die and rise again gloriously.

St Thomas Aquinas, the great Dominican theologian of the 13th century explained it was entirely fitting that God could become man- St Thomas says then that:

"the very nature of God is goodness... And it belongs to the essence of goodness to communicate [or give] itself to others... Hence it belongs to the essence [to the very nature] of the highest good to communicate itself in the highest manner to human beings, and this is brought about chiefly by [Christ] in his joining created nature [to his divine person]"

Fundamentally in God assuming a human nature God opens up to us his goodness, and invites us to the joy of this experience. In Jesus Christ god embraces humanity and lifts it up to the life of heaven.

Yet once Jesus' message of goodness, love and peace had been achieved he went back to his heavenly throne. This is what we celebrate today. We remember Jesus' victory over death and his enabling us to come to eternal life with him. Jesus ascends to heaven but that is not the end of the story, no. We who are baptised, we who have put on Christ continue to live that story today, whether we are conscious of this or not. Each of us is made to worship, each of us is made for unending happiness, unending and perfect joy.

How do we know we are made for perfect joy? We know this because sometimes we are bored with life, we are bored with our job, with assignments, with the monotonous humdrum of life. What would we rather be doing? Perhaps for some it would be sitting on a beach in the Bahamas drinking a Pina Colada, or listening to music, or playing sport, or having nice meal. But even with those things we would not be satisfied. Really we are made for more than just material realities; we really want to be fulfilled in a way which will never leave us unhappy or dissatisfied. Jesus' ascension points the way to that happiness. However, we don't just get there like that, we can't enter heaven without some effort, we have to learn the etiquette of heaven. This etiquette or behaviour which is suitable to heaven is able to be discovered while we are on earth; it is in following the example of Christ that we can learn to enjoy eternal life. Jesus' ascension basically indicates to us that heaven is the place where we can be totally fulfilled. Today then we must be mindful then that our destiny, our desires, our needs, can only be filled by that which is infinite, and that infinite something is not just a thing, but a

Cont...person and his name is Jesus Christ ascended to heaven and waiting for us.

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

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Dear friends,

I am writing to inform you of my intention to revive the Parish Pastoral Council. After an absence of almost five years it seems appropriate now to work towards setting up this integral part of our parish community.

The church's law makes provision for a PPC which recognises the importance the faithful have in the mission of the Church.

In our Archdiocese it has been required each parish have a Parish Pastoral Council since the 1989 Diocesan Synod. Due to the absence of a PPC at Rosary for some time, the re-establishing of this pastoral organisation is a matter of priority as we move towards the administrative changes in the parish on November 26th.

That being the case, I have decided to nominate some parishioners to be an interim Parish Council during the handover to the next administration. I will be seeking nominations from both our Parish Finance Council and from our Renewal group, two from each team. I then will be seeking a nomination of one (1) person from each Mass time.

Criteria for nominees

- A healthy, vibrant, and deep, prayer life.
- A skill set which will contribute to the well being, renewal, and mission of the parish.
- A desire to promote a mission oriented

community not just a maintenance one (knowledge of Divine Renovation will be an advantage).

Thank you, you all continue to be in my thoughts and Prayers.

Fr Mannes OP - Email address mannes.tellis@op.org.au
Mobile 0414396532

TAIZÉ PRAYER

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2023
@ Holy Rosary Church, THIS Sunday 21 May, 6.30pm

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S TASKFORCE

Three parishioners joined 25 or so other women of faith representing many parishes across the Archdiocese for a sumptuous morning tea on 6th May at St Christopher's Pastoral Centre.

We gathered to support the Catholic Women's Taskforce who advocate for and enhance the participation of women in the Catholic Church within the Archdiocese.

The taskforce (title about to change) was formed in 2019, the purpose of which was at that time threefold:

Ways of Being - *Formation*

Ways of Relating - *Connection*

Ways of Transforming - *Advocacy*

Since its inception, reflection afternoons have been held including input from Spirituality groups within the archdiocese, raising funds for outreach to families in rural areas affected by bushfires, an information session on 'Women and Homelessness' which sparked, financial and pastoral care supporting MacKillop House by the taskforce. Themes from Laudate Si' were also covered.

A talk on what it is actually life for women in the workforce was comprehensively covered. The taskforce values the relationship and honesty of women and the opportunity to hear their stories regardless of whether they have a grievance or not with the Catholic Church, which may have



Cont....caused pain or excluded them.
Healthy verbal contributions and discussion took place with each individual asked to speak briefly on a positive aspect of their experience and feelings about their parish today.
This gathering of like-minded women of faith, was an inspiring and gratifying one for all present with thanks to Andrea Dean and members.

Contact – Andrea Dean: andrea1959@gmail.com -
Monica Phelan: monphel@bigpond.com -
Alison Weeks: alisonweeks@bigpond.com

PARISH GARDEN UPKEEP

Wanted Volunteer(s) for Parish Garden Upkeep.
Parish is looking for Parishioner 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 Jacque Cortese at the Parish office for further details.

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. Registration: <https://bit.ly/ChrisPadgett> Any enquiries can be directed to **Lara Kirk** lara.kirk@cg.org.au 0429 192 869

MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE

Tuesday 23 May | Marriage & Family Life Cocktail Dinner | 6:45 pm. **Venue:** Veritas Building, ACU Watson.
Enquiries: Lara Kirk lara.kirk@cg.org.au 0429 192 869
Registration: <http://bit.ly/PadgettCocktail>

Laudato Si Week

The theme for this year's Laudato Si week 16-24 May is **Hope for the Earth, Hope for Humanity**. The Archdiocese will launch its draft Laudato Si action plan at 11am Sunday Mass in the Cathedral on 21-May (streamed live at and recorded at <https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/mass-online/>). The draft Laudato Si action plan is at <https://cgatholic.org.au/services-directory/caring-for-creation/> and aims to encourage and enable action plans by parishes, schools and other bodies. With consultation (LaudatoSiACT@gmail.com) the draft Plan will be finalised in September 2023 (for Season of Creation) and will be regularly reviewed.

BIGGEST MORNING TEA

The Parish will once again hold our Cancer Biggest Morning Tea on Thursday 25th May at 10.30am. Entry is by donation and all money raised will go to the ACT Cancer Council for Cancer Research. Everyone is welcome - young and old.
Please come and support this function and have some fun.

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

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, Michelle Brotohusodo, 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.
Graeme Clarke , Dan Quigley, Sam Oliva, Reid Wood

IN LOVING MEMORY

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 - P. Farrelly / B. Basu
Sunday 10.00am - Acolyte - R. Tanzer
Reader - A. O'Donnell / L. Fardell
Computer - J. Cortese
Sunday 5.00pm - Acolyte - P. Tran
Reader - J. Schwingamer /
B. Joseph
Computer - C. Bailey

EUCCHARISTIC RETREAT DAY

Behold , I make all things new. (Rev. 21:5)

A women's Eucharistic Retreat Day with the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia.
Saturday 24th June - 10.00am - 4.00pm
St John Vianney School, Waramanga
Registration :
<https://www.trybooking.com/CGYGI>

Questions: sydney@op-tn.org
Nashvilledominican.org - @dominicansistersaustralia

