

Catholic Parish of Blackiriars



Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



Issue 32
2nd July 2023
Year A

VERITAS



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
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watson@cg.org.au

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www.cg.org.au/watson

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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
All Welcome

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

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



**Follow in the footsteps of Jesus
and let Him lead the way!**

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 - Ps 46: 2

All peoples, clap your hands.
Cry to God with shouts of joy!

FIRST READING

First reading - 2 Kings 4:8-11,13-16

A reading from the second book of Kings

One day as Elisha was on his way to Shunem, a woman of rank who lived there pressed him to stay and eat there. After this he always broke his journey for a meal when he passed that way. She said to her husband, 'Look, I am sure the man who is constantly passing our way must be a holy man of God. Let us build him a small room on the roof, and put him a bed in it, and a table and chair and lamp; whenever he comes to us he can rest there.' One day when he came, he retired to the upper room and lay down. He said to his servant Gehazi, 'Call our Shunamite. Tell her this: "Look, you have gone to all this trouble for us, what can we do for you? Is there anything you would like said for you to the king or to the commander of the army?"' But she replied, 'I live with my own people about me.' 'What can be done for her then?' he asked. Gehazi answered, 'Well, she has no son and her husband is old.' Elisha said, 'Call her.' The servant called her and she stood at the door. This time next year,' he said 'you will hold a son in your arms.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 88(89):2-3,16-19

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens.

Happy the people who acclaim such a king,
who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face,
who find their joy every day in your name,
who make your justice the source of their bliss.

For it is you, O Lord, who are the glory of their strength;
by your favour it is that our might is exalted;
for our ruler is in the keeping of the Lord;
our king in the keeping of the Holy One of Israel.

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

SECOND READING

Second reading - Romans 6:3-4,8-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life.

But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him any more. When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Gospel Acclamation - 1 Peter 2:9

Alleluia, alleluia!
You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood,
a holy people.
Praise God who call you out of darkness
and into his marvellous light.
Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Gospel - Matthew 10:37-42

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who prefers son or daughter to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who does not take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me. Anyone who finds his life will lose it; anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it.

'Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me; and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me.

'Anyone who welcomes a prophet will have a prophet's reward; and anyone who welcomes a holy man will have a holy man's reward.

'If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is a disciple, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

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. Ps 102: 1

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all within me, his holy name.

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NAIDOC WEEK

NAIDOC Week is an opportunity for all Australians to come together to celebrate the rich history, diverse cultures and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the oldest continuing cultures on the planet. National NAIDOC Week will

celebrated from **Sunday 2 July**
– **Sunday 9 July 2023.**

Every year, on the first Sunday in July, Catholics come together across Australia to acknowledge and celebrate the gifts of Australia's First Peoples in the Catholic Church.



FOR OUR ELDERS

2-9 JULY 2023

FAMILY OR CHRIST?



In his continuing discourse to his disciples Jesus makes some more outrageous statements. These statements are so offensive that one must ask, how can Jesus say such things?

First of all, Jesus places the disciple in an awful dilemma, whom should I be loyal to? Family or Christ? This demand seems, ostensibly, to be intractable. Can't I be loyal to both? As we know Jesus' answer will be a person cannot have two masters. One cannot equally serve two competing causes, one must finally claim a person's heart.

Cont...Furthermore, Christ's demands seem to run contrary to the commandments. The fourth commandment is to honour Father and Mother. This commandment was important because it is the only commandment bound with a promise "Honour your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land which the Lord your God gives you."(Exodus 20:12).

More crucially, family life was integral to the customs and practices of the Jews. Loyalty to one's tribe, people and land was in the DNA of the faithful Jew, very similar to the way many First Nations people see their familial and land ties. Hence, Jesus' demands run counter to the lived experience of the people to whom he was speaking.

The choice to leave family for a higher cause, a godly cause, however, was not unknown in the time of Christ. Those who are aware of the so called Dead Sea Scrolls, ancient parchments found in a place called Qumran in the 1940s, revealed the existence of a Jewish monastic community called the Essenes. These Jewish monks exemplified a break from the prevailing custom of familial loyalty. Why did these people engage in this lifestyle, a lifestyle so counter cultural? Well, because for these monastic practitioners union with God and the anticipated return of the Messiah were prominent in their minds. Family life and familial custom stood in the way of this outlook. Apart from the extremism of the Essenes even some contemporary rabbis of Jesus' time did encourage following God, or ones rabbi rather than one's parents.

Jesus' demands, however, are contingent on who he is. The disciples are challenged to give up all things to follow Jesus because Jesus is no ordinary prophet, religious teacher or sage, but rather God incarnate. Fundamentally the choice then is to be faithful to the teachings of Christ even in opposition to familial ties. Much like last week's gospel one will not be judged by one's parents or relatives at the end of time, but God himself. Our gospel today in its context reveals that for the disciple faith in Christ and his teachings would be divisive. We know that many of Jesus' followers were excluded from worship in the Temple and in the synagogue because of their belief that Jesus was the promised Messiah. This exclusion may have also seen ruptures in the family too and thus Jesus is emphasising this situation as the decider in one's commitment as a disciple. For us the choice to follow Christ may not always pose such dire disruption in family life, but our gospel today reminds us that in the final analysis fidelity to Christ must take priority. Today let us pray for the grace to remain faithful to Jesus even when it is difficult, and at times, strains our familial ties.

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

FAMILIAR WORDS, MIND-BLOWING TRUTHS

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fr Gregory Pearson OP says the Gospel challenges us to reflect on the immensity of the gift Christ offers us.

One of the things it's very easy to fall into, I think, when we come to Mass every week, and hear these various passages of the Gospel, is that we can stop noticing quite what it is they're saying – they become familiar, well loved words, like the words of a song we really like, perhaps, but we can fail to notice the astounding things that are actually being claimed. Today's Gospel passage from Matthew has a few such points: texts where we think, 'oh yes, find life – lose it, lose life – find it: I know that one,' for example.

Alongside such texts in the Gospels which become, we

Cont...might say, dangerously familiar – texts which, despite the magnitude of what they're saying, can sometimes wash over us as we listen – there are others which are much less likely to pass us by in that way. Specifically, I'm thinking of what are often called 'hard sayings' (after the complaints of some of the followers of Jesus in Jn 6:60): teachings of Jesus which stand out and stick in the memory for their apparent harshness. In today's Gospel we have one instance of a recurrent theme of hard sayings: we are unworthy of Christ if we prefer anything or anyone to him, ever our own parents or children (Mt 10:37).

And in fact, if we think about how we approach these hard sayings, there might be a connection with the casual familiarity with which we can treat the Gospels as a whole. If we think of the Gospels as something comfortable and comforting, nice and familiar, then the bits that don't fit in with that approach are really going to shock us, to challenge us. Talk about loving Jesus more than our mother and father, more than our children, can never be something which will sit comfortably with us; it speaks of hard choices and brings home to us in very concrete terms what the difficulties of following Jesus, the 'cross' we are to take up, might look like.

But as these hard sayings remind us of the cost of discipleship, they can also help us to discover – or rediscover – new depths in the texts and stories which we have, perhaps, allowed to become overly familiar. To put it bluntly, when we think more seriously about the cost of discipleship, we're more likely also to think more seriously about the benefits. We're challenged to be single-minded in following Christ, to place him above all else, because he shows to us the sheer immensity of the gift which he gives to those who follow him.

'Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me; and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me,' (Mt 10:40) Jesus says: another familiar saying, perhaps. Yet within this statement is contained the utterly mind-blowing notion that human beings can be so closely united to God that it's possible for Jesus to speak of our relationship with him in the same way as of his relationship with the Father. If we ask ourselves why we should love Christ more than our most dearly beloved relations and friends, then the answer we find is that the friendship, the closeness, already offered to us in Christ is something which goes further and deeper than even the very closest human relationship.

And of course, as we see in Christ's own life, union with God doesn't make life in this world of ours easy. But it does mean that this effort, this suffering, is not without value - 'if anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water ... he will ... not lose his reward' (Mt 10:42); in this following of Christ, this union with God, our suffering becomes a sacrifice in the true sense, an offering of what we have, of what we are, to God, united with Christ's own great sacrifice.

And, as St Paul reminds us in his letter to the Romans, in our baptism we have been given a share, not only in Christ's sacrifice but also in his victory, a share which transforms our lives and sets us free. Yes, that means being able to identify our sufferings with his, but it also invites us, rather dauntingly, to share in his work of transformation – by taking up our cross and following him, by working out our Christian faith in our lives, Jesus invites us to share in that work of saving and sanctifying the world which he has wrought through his cross and resurrection, and so also in the glory which is that work's fulfilment and reward.

A TASTE OF ITALY

Following on from the success of our taste of Vietnam function, we are planning the next Parish dinner as a 'Taste of Italy' on **Saturday 22nd July** at 6.00pm in the Parish Centre. In addition to great Italian food we are hoping to conduct the wine tasting that had to be postponed earlier this year. Entry by ticket only for catering purposes. Available for purchase after some Masses or the Parish office. Tickets \$20.00 adults and \$5.00 per child. Money raised will go to finishing off St Dominic's Garden.

HELP WITH TRANSPORT

'HELP' We are appealing to parishioners who live in the Watson area and who regularly attend the 10 am mass on Sundays. A female parishioner is in need of a lift to and from church at this time. If you can assist please ring the parish office or Carmel Lewis on 6249 8884 Thank you.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

The St Vincent de Paul Society is holding its annual Winter Appeal as a leaving collection at Masses on 15-16 July. There will be volunteers to take your Cash or electronic donations and provide receipts. Winter is a very difficult time for those struggling in our community but the assistance you provide to Vinnies can make a great difference. During the winter of 2022, Watson Vinnies was able to assist a woman in our community who was about to take custody of her very young nephew and needed to set up her house for a small child. Vinnies was able to arrange the supply of infant clothes, furniture and other supplies through another charity program. Vinnies volunteers then dropped off these goods to her before her nephew arrived which meant the woman was well prepared for her new role.

ARCHDIOCESAN MARRIAGE PREPARATION PROGRAM

12 July | CatholicCare / Archdiocesan Marriage Preparation Program | 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Marriage Preparation program for engaged couples. Includes FOCCUS questionnaire, dinner, evening formation program and a private, follow-up couple discussion with a CatholicCare counsellor. The cost for the whole package is \$300 per couple.

Information and registration - www.marriagefamily.org.au

Enquiries: Helena Zobec marriage.preparation@cg.org.au
OR 0405 440 463

PAMBULA PILGRIMAGE

The Catholic Parish of Pambula invites members of your community to join with Archbishop Christopher Prowse and other pilgrims, as he leads a pilgrimage to Eden on Saturday 19th August.

Archbishop Christopher will lead the pilgrimage leaving from St Christopher's Cathedral at 7.30am on Saturday 19th August and travel to Eden by private vehicle. It is hoped that pilgrims will travel from parishes and school communities within the archdiocese to join with the Pambula Parish community in Eden, to celebrate this important event and place in our church history.

As we are organising lunch, it would be appreciated if you could advise if you are attending so catering can be arranged, please book in via our website Catholic Parish Pambula or on the following link Archbishop's Mary MacKillop Pilgrimage. If there are any special dietary requirements, contact either Sue Heffernan (0405 251 947) or Bernadette Wood (0429 774 119)

PRAYERS

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

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, Una Bell, Terry Stephens, Maureen Blood, Lily Copeland, Neville Caulfield, Maggie McKeon, Maria Bankovsky, Carmel Slammon, Katey Tuite, Brian & Suzanne Brown, Sr Veronica Dunphy, Nat McGahey, Richard Fennessy Gloria Sibley, Fr Rafael Cabezon OP,

RECENTLY DECEASED

Our recently Deceased: May they find peace and comfort in the embrace of the Lord.

Mary Martin, Dominic Pangello

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, 10.30am - 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

Bible Study had restarted. Text Fr Mannes for details on 0414 396 532

ROSTER 8 / 9 July

Saturday 5.00pm - Acolyte - M. Tran / D. Gauci
Reader - C. Barbaro / M. Dawes

Sunday 10.00am - Acolyte - Hugh
Reader - C. Rheinberger. / A. Verzoza
Computer - J. Cortese

Sunday 5.00pm - Acolyte - L. Kim / S. Sedgwick
Reader - K. Watson
Computer - B. Joseph

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Our Vinnies Conference is urgently in need of some new recruits to assist with family visitation and other activities. Please contact our Vinnies President, Tony Malone, on 0431 542 531 for more information.

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