Catholic Parish of Blackfriars

Issue 36 5 July 2020 Year A

Under the care of the Dominican Fathers





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Mass Times Monday - NO Mass Tuesday & Thursday 6:45am Wednesday & Friday 5:30pm Saturday - 9:00am Vigil - 5:pm Sunday - 8:00am, 10:00am, 5:00pm

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

Adoration - Holy Hour Tuesday 12 Noon - 1:00pm

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



Come to me all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest.

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN THE BULLETIN TO THE TABLE

YOU MUST FILL - IN THE REGISTER WHEN ATTENDING MASS, PRIVATE PRAYER, CONFESSIONS , PARISH GROUP OR FUNCTION PLEASE SANITISE YOUR HANDS ON ENTERING THE CHURCH OR PARISH CENTRE. WIPES ARE FOR YOUR USE IN WIPING SURFACES YOU TOUCH BEFORE LEAVING

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Your merciful love, O God, we have received in the midst of your temple. Your praise, O God, like your name, reaches the ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with saving justice.

FIRST READING

First Reading

Zechariah 9:9-10

A reading from the prophet Zechariah The Lord says this:

'Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion!
'Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Jerusalem!
Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem!
See now, your king comes to you;
he is victorious, he is triumphant,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
He will banish chariots from Ephraim
and horses from Jerusalem;
the bow of war will be banished.
He will proclaim peace for the nations.
His empire shall stretch from sea to sea,
from the River to the ends of the earth.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 144:1-2. 8-11. 13-14

I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

I will give you glory, O God my King, I will bless your name for ever. I will bless you day after day and praise your name for ever.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures.

All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord, and your friends shall repeat their blessing. They shall speak of the glory of your reign and declare your might, O God.

The Lord is faithful in all his words and loving in all his deeds. The Lord supports all who fall and raises all who are bowed down.

I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

SECOND READING

Second Reading

Romans 8:9, 11–13

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 8:9, 11-13

Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him, and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.

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!

GOSPEL

Matthew 11:25-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Gospel

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed the man who seeks refuge in him.

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

Alexia Harris, Maria Martiniello, Greg O'Neill, Moya McGrath

Mary Martin, Barbara Wilson, Mary Bui, Anne Corver, Ursula Ramsay, Edith Jensen, Maureen Dawes, Philip Bailey, Fr Ellis Clifford, wny El-Ghitany, Fr Joe McGeehan, Joe Schimizzi, Elsie Laughton, June Pollard, Paul Neddrie, Pamela Sandy, Beth Delos Santos, Rosa Maria Santos,

Margaret Suillivan, Frank Zobec, Zelma McManus, Elizabeth Webster, Mimma Giampietro, Maureen Blood

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

Bob Drury

A SPIRIT OF PRAYERFULNESS

THE PRAYER OF CONTRITION



Have you ever listened to Allegri's *Miserere*? This exquisite piece of music from the 17th century is a haunting and soulful arrange -ment of Psalm 50, "Have mercy on me God in your kindness..."

This particular arrangement of the psalm was composed by Gregorio Allegri for the Office of Tenebrae during Holy Week. The music's solemn melodies capture the

essence of contrition, the essence of sorrow for sin.

We can say much too about the actual lyrics of this piece of music, namely Psalm 50 itself, which is a psalm of sorrow, of contrition. Traditionally Psalm 50 is attributed to King David after he had been found out to be not only an adulterer with the woman Bathsheba, but also a murderer having thrown Bathsheba's husband, Uriah the Hittite, into the thick of a siege happening at that time in one of David's many wars, Uriah was subsequently killed. When the prophet Nathan confronts David with his sin the Lord's anointed realises his behaviour with the very honest statement "I have sinned against the Lord". The whole story can be read in 2 Samuel 11 &12.

The importance of the prayer of contrition is that it reflects the reality of one's soul after sin has been committed. In psalm 50 we read the following: My transgressions, truly I know them; my sin is always before me. 6 Against you, you alone, have I sinned; what is evil in your sight I have done. So you are just in your sentence, without reproach in your judgment.

Cont... The sinner David admits his faults honestly **"truly I know them".** His sin, until it can be removed is **"always before me",** meaning that not only remembrance of what one has done but the attendant guilt which accompanies sin hangs around like a foul odour. Lastly the sinner acknowledges that his sin is an offence against God, a destruction of the relationship **"Against you, you alone, have I sinned; what is evil in your sight I have done."** This understanding is at the core of the prayer of

contrition, namely, that the fundamental issue is the destruction of the relationship one has with God when one sins. As we know in Catholic moral theology there are two types of sin Mortal Sin and Venial Sin.

Mortal Sin is the death of the soul in some way, the life of grace is temporarily cut off. We find reference to this deadly sin in the first letter of St John when he says:

16 If a man knows his brother to be guilty, yet not of such a sin as brings death with it, he should pray for him; and, at his request, life will be granted to the brother who is sinning, yet not fatally. There is a sin which kills; it is not over this that I bid him fall to prayer.[4] 17 Sin may be wrong-doing of any kind; not all sin is fatal. (1 John 5:16-17)

The inference that not all sin is fatal leads us to the understanding of Venial Sin which tarnishes our relations with God but does not destroy them.

The prayer of contrition then deals with both encounters with sin. Certainly this prayer of sorrow should, when we've committed venial sin, lead us to a quick act of sorrow or some kind of immediate repentance. When our conscience reveals to us the gravity of our sin as something which is far reaching then the prospect of mortal sin may be in our heart and only sacramental confession can remove that sin. Mortal sin destroys our relationship with the Church and with God, by confessing our sins to the Church's minister we are restored to the life of God and the community of the Church.

Yet the prayer of contrition can be hopeful too. Psalm 50 also prays:

Cleanse me with hyssop, and I shall be pure; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Let me hear rejoicing and gladness, that the bones you have crushed may exult. Turn away your face from my sins, and blot out all my guilt. Create a pure heart for me, O God; renew a steadfast spirit within me

Within the heart of the sinner the prayer of contrition is also tinged with the firm belief that God can and will cast the sinful behaviours of the past aside. There is always the hope of conversion, a new creation and the grace of renewal.

This is the fundamental attitude then we must have when we pray our prayer of contrition that we realise the gravity of our faults, own up to them but also remind ourselves that God's forgiving grace does not just cast out sin or cover it over, rather by God's forgiving grace we are transformed anew "Create a pure heart for me, O God; renew a steadfast spirit within me".

God love you all. You're all in my prayers.

Fr Mannes OP

COMMENTARY

Today we approach the middle section of Matthew's gospel. We read one short passage from the two chapters (11 and 12) that lead from the Mission Sermon (10:1 - 11:1) to the Parable Sermon (13:1–53). Fundamental aspects of the mystery of the divine and human Jesus are revealed to us today. Jesus' ecstatic prayer offers us a precious insight into his loving communion with the Father. This heavenward gaze is complemented by the open arms of an earthly embrace: "Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened". In accordance with the vision of the prophet Zechariah, Jesus comes among us as a humble man of peace, not as a warrior king. We are enabled to live like Jesus – in peaceful communion with God and with one another - because we possess the Spirit of God. As Paul taught the Romans, "the Spirit of God has made his home in you". We remain flesh-and-blood human beings but enlivened by the Spirit "who raised Jesus from the dead". Liturgy Brisbane

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER SUNDAY

On this day 250 years ago, 5 July 1770, Captain Cook's Endeavour was stranded in what was then named the Endeavour River undergoing repairs. Tupia the Tahitian navigator and the English botanist Joseph Banks were ashore looking at botanical specimens. But Tupia was happy to try out using a gun, hunting for wildlife. According to Banks' journal, they encountered two natives 'digging in the ground for some kind of roots; on seeing him they ran away with great precipitation'. The popular writer Peter Fitzsimons describes the 'two natives peacefully collecting bush tucker as Tupia stands about them, gun brandished'. Tupia went on hunting, firing many shots at wildlife. What must the local Guugu Yimithirr people have thought? Their first encounter with foreign cultures - English and Tahitian. Their first sighting and sounding of a gun. What sort of beginning was this for coming 'Together in the Spirit' – the theme of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday exactly 250 years later?

Today we hear those consoling words of Jesus, 'Come to me all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest.' We gather 'Together in the Spirit' during the COVID-19 pandemic and in the wake of riots and protests in the US following on George Floyd's death under the knee of a white police officer. Here in Australia we have joined the chorus that 'Black Lives Matter', drawing attention yet again to the appalling statistics of Aboriginal deaths in custody.

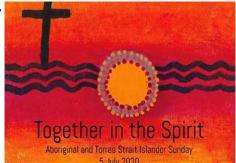
St Paul in his Letter to the Romans reminds us that our interests 'are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home' in us. In the Uluru Statement from the Heart, Indigenous representatives told us that their 'sovereignty is a spiritual notion: the ancestral tie between the land, or 'mother nature', and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who were born therefrom, remain attached thereto, and must one day return thither to be united with our ancestors. This link is the basis of the ownership of the soil, or better, of sovereignty.'

Let's hope that the 2017 Uluru Statement from the Heart can help to change hearts, providing a more secure place for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the life of the Australian nation. At this Eucharist, we gather in the hope expressed by the prophet Zechariah in today's first reading when the Lord says: 'He will proclaim peace for the nations. His empire shall stretch from sea to sea, from the River to the ends of the earth.' Despite the chaos and uncertainty of these days, we gather, uplifted by the message of the Amazon Synod, and hoping for better times in our Church with the coming of the 2021 Plenary Council. After the Amazon Synod Pope Francis published his document Querida Amazonia in which he said (##20-21):

'Efforts to build a just society require a capacity for fraternity, a spirit of human fellowship. Hence, without diminishing the importance of personal freedom, it is clear that the original peoples of the Amazon region have a strong sense of community. It permeates "their work, their rest, their relationships, their rites and celebrations. Everything is shared; private areas – typical of modernity – are minimal. Life is a communal journey where tasks and responsibilities are apportioned and shared on the basis of the common good. There is no room for the notion of an individual detached from the community or from the land'. Their relationships are steeped in the surrounding nature, which they feel and think of as a reality that integrates society and culture, and a pro-

longation of their bodies, personal, familial and communal:

"The morning star draws near, the wings of the hummingbirds flutter; my heart pounds louder than the cascade: Excerpt Fr F. Brennan SJ



PARISH

MASS INTENTION - please email or phone the Parish Office

HOLY MARY MOTHER OF GOD PRAYER GROUP meets 2.00pm Thursdays in the church. Contact the Office for information.

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

 $\mbox{CRAFT GROUP}$ 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.

PARISH BULLETIN - DEADLINE for notices is <u>NOON_TUESDAY</u> Ph. 6248 5925 or Email: <u>watson@cg.org.au</u>

WEEKLY ENVELOPES

Please <u>DO NOT</u> use 2019/20 envelopes after this weekend. Envelopes for 2020/21 are now available in the foyer. Envelope numbers have been reallocated please destroy any left over 2019/2020 envelopes.

Receipts for 2019/20 contributions will be sent post / email after June 6th.

PROJECT COMPASSION

If you have donations in boxes or share packs envelopes for Project Compassion, please leave then in the sacristy or drop off to the office as soon as possible.

DONATIONS FOR DIGNITY

Dear Parishioners, ACU Engagement are collecting the following items, to be provided to Companion House, St Vincent De Paul and Communities at Work. Any contribution is appreciated. **Personal Hygiene** - Unused personal hygiene products.

- Soap, Hand Sanitiser Moisturiser, Body Wash, Shower Gel, Shampoo, Conditioner, Brushes & Combs, Toothpaste, Lip Balm, Toothbrushes, Razors, Sunscreen, Female Sanitary products, Deodorant and Perfume.
- Winter Warm-Up Well maintained and clean winter clothing and accessories for men and women, such as:
- Coats, Jackets, Jumpers, Cardigans, Hoodies, Skivvy's, Scarves, Beanies, Gloves, Mittens, Long Pants, Long Johns, Socks, Sleeping Bags, Blankets.
- Threads of Change Well maintained and clean professional attire and accessories for men and women, such as:
- Suits, Shirts, Pants, Dresses, Skirts, Handbags, Shoes, Belts, Makeup, Ties, Jackets, Blouses, Jewellery, Watches.

Donations can be left in foyer in the boxes provided, thank you.

HELP WITH ACCOMODATION

An International student from Myanmar who is studying English at CIT is urgently seeking affordable accommodation. International students do not qualify for financial assistance from the Australian government and, like many, he is struggling to meet living costs while his course is suspended. Please contact Jane Schwinghamer on 0420 215 660 if you can help.

URGENT

The Parish is urgent need of volunteers to help prepare/arrange flowers for our weekend Liturgies. If you can spare time once a month to help please contact the Office 6248 5925

NEW LITURGY ROSTER

The new Liturgy Roster will be prepared this week. Please contact the Office 6248 5925 or watson@cg.org.au if you are available to volunteer for the new roster or would like to come off the old roster.

ADORATION

Would you like to spend some special time with our Lord? Visit Him in the Blessed Sacrament. Adoration will be held each Tuesday from 12 noon until 1:00pm in the Church. A roster is available for Parishioners to sign-up.

PLANNED GIVING & DONATIONS

CDF are making available a CBA secured CDF Bpoint payment page for payment of donations on the following link.

https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/

CATHOLICDEVELOPMENTFUNDARCHDIOCESEOFCANBERRA

INVITATION TO ALPHA

'Alpha runs here', pronounces the banner facing the roundabout outside Holy Rosary Church. What does it mean? Alpha was run in our parish between February and May this year, with a number of parishioners participating as part of their faith journey. See the Parish bulletin of 14 June 2020 for some of their experiences (http://cg.org.au/watson/home.aspx). And Alpha is continuing to run in the parish, with a new Alpha that started on 23 June 2020 via the online Zoom platform. You can still join in. There's an online meeting on Tuesday, 7 July 2020, starting at 7.30pm: see the meeting details below. If you know anyone who has lost touch with the Church or might be interested in finding out more about Christianity, you're very welcome to invite and/or let them know too.

Alpha is a series of sessions that explore life and the basics of the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment. It's an opportunity to listen to talks on a number of topics, typically over a 11 week period, and then to gather in small groups for discussion where you can ask questions and share your point of view. The 14 June 2020 bulletin has more information. **Meeting details**. Video and discussion topic: *Why did Jesus die?* URL: https://zoom.us/j/94566794613?

pwd=VkFLMU45Q1Z1TTNHNGwzTIZPY1Jodz09.

Meeting ID: 948 3018 3319. Meeting password: 050711. Contact Parish Office (6248 5925, watson@cg.org.au) with any queries.

Someday our kids will have kids. Those kids will complain that they're bored and want to go somewhere.

So our kids will tell them they couldn't leave their house for a month because of a pandemic.

ROSTER	11 / 12 July	
	Saturday 5pm	
Acolyte / Server		
Readers	P. English	T. Dennis
Register	A. Moore	
	Sunday 8am	
Acolyte / Server	N. McGahey	
Readers	T. Klekner	
	Sunday 10am	
Acolyte / Server	H. Beasley	
Readers	M. Fitzgerald	K. McCluskey
Register	C. Lewis	K. O'Brien
	Sunday 5pm	
Acolyte / Server	S. Sedgwick	
Readers	M. Brotohusodo	T. de Luca

If too many people enjoy the free ride... and not enough people help pull, the wagon isn't going anywhere!

