

# Catholic Parish of Blackiriars



Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



Issue 40  
21st August 2022  
Year C

## 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  
Jim Smith

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[www.facebook.com/Holy-Rosary-Parish-Watson](https://www.facebook.com/Holy-Rosary-Parish-Watson)

**Mass Times**  
Monday - NO Mass  
Tuesday & Thursday  
8.00am  
Wednesday & Friday  
5:30pm  
Saturday - 9:00am  
Vigil - 5:pm  
Sunday - 8:00am, 10:00am,  
5:00pm

**Reconciliation**  
Saturday  
4pm—4.45pm

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

**Pray the Rosary**  
Before 10am Mass on Sundays

## Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

# CONFRONTING



# CONFUSION

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](mailto:watson@cg.org.au)

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

### Entrance Antiphon

- Cf. Ps 85: 1-3

Turn your ear, O Lord,  
and answer me;  
save the servant  
who trusts in you,  
my God.  
Have mercy on me,  
O Lord,  
for I cry to you all the day long.



## FIRST READING

### First reading - Isaiah 66:18-21

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord says this: I am coming to gather the nations of every language. They shall come to witness my glory. I will give them a sign and send some of their survivors to the nations: to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moshech, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan, to the distant islands that have never heard of me or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory to the nations. As an offering to the Lord they will bring all your brothers, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, on dromedaries, from all the nations to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says the Lord, like Israelites bringing oblations in clean vessels to the Temple of the Lord. And of some of them I will make priests and Levites, says the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

### Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 116(117)

*Go out to all the world, and tell the Good News.*

O praise the Lord, all you nations,  
acclaim him all you peoples!

Strong is his love for us;  
he is faithful for ever.

*Go out to all the world, and tell the Good News.*

## SECOND READING

### Second reading - Hebrews 12:5-7,11-13

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Have you forgotten that encouraging text in which you are addressed as sons? *My son, when the Lord corrects you, do not treat it lightly; but do not get discouraged when he reprimands you. For the Lord trains the ones that he loves and he punishes all those that he acknowledges as his sons.* Suffering is part of your training; God is treating you as his sons. Has there ever been any son whose father did not train him? Of course, any punishment is most painful at the time, and far from pleasant; but later, in those on whom it has been used, it bears fruit in peace and goodness. *So hold up your limp arms and steady your trembling knees and smooth out the path you tread; then the injured limb will not be wrenched, it will grow strong again.*

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 - Luke 13:22-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to him, 'Sir, will there be only a few saved?' He said to them, 'Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because, I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed.

'Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, "Lord, open to us" but he will answer, "I do not know where you come from." Then you will find yourself saying, "We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets" but he will reply, "I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!"

'Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. And men from east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.

'Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

### Communion Antiphon - Cf. Ps 103: 13-15

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord;  
you bring forth bread from the earth  
and wine to cheer the heart.

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## COMING WEEKS

In August the importance of science and water to humans' ability to live and thrive are marked in two separate ways. National Science Week (13-21 August) is Australia's annual celebration of science and technology, while World Water Week (23 Aug.-1 Sep) is the place to explore new ways of managing water and the challenges facing humans as regards food security, health, agriculture, biodiversity and climate.

We pray for those scientists and technicians who are responsible for developing solutions to the ongoing problems of Covid and climate change.

We also continue to pray for those whose lives have been affected by conflict, particularly in the Ukraine. This week's readings remind us that God gathers all people, from all corners of the earth. In particular, God's concern is for those who are most overlooked. Let us also work to ensure that all have a place at the feast of God.

## COMPLACENCY



We continue with the hard words of Jesus once more this week. This time Our Lord is teaching us two things, avoid complacency in the spiritual life and don't squander the graces you receive.

Contextually Jesus is talking to the people of his own nation, the Jewish people. As the prophet who has been sent to them he offers his listeners an ultimatum:

**Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because, I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed.**

This chilling admonition is seen to be a wake up call. The ultimatum Jesus announces is meant to arouse the people of Israel. Membership of the chosen people is not enough to gain access to the kingdom of heaven. One cannot presume that one will just waltz into God's kingdom, more is demanded. In the life setting of Israel this meant accepting Jesus as the Messiah. Jesus' failure to shape up to messianic expectation dismayed many, Jesus' response to this dismay is that Israel's narrow understanding of God's plans need to be revised. The narrow door is in effect getting over the narrowness of one's expectations. The many who try to enter the kingdom do their best to evade Jesus' messianic claims and think they can sneak in without calling Jesus Lord.

Yet, this was the case for Israel, what of us who have embraced Jesus as our Lord and Saviour, are we challenged by these words? There is a mentality of complacency even in the new Israel of the Church. Like Israel we must also guard against a presumptive mindset. One cannot merely turn up to Mass, mutter some prayers and relegate their religious duties to one day of the week, failing to integrate faith with life. Today's gospel challenges us to improve our faith life.

How do we do this? We are challenged today by Jesus to assess the health of our own spiritual lives: do I pray everyday spending some quality time with God? Do I examine my conscience periodically and avail myself of the sacrament of penance? Am I generous in my time to works of mercy? Do I give generously to charity or worthy works for the community? Am I attentive at Mass? Do I seek spiritual nourishment by the reading of scripture or devotional books?

Even if we are doing these things we also need to be attentive to the graces we are offered by God. For instance has God given me the opportunity to get to Mass at a time other than a Sunday? Has God given me an opportunity for some work of mercy or charity for someone? These opportunities are moments of grace which enable us to be more utterly disposed to God's kingdom. Lastly, we need to pray for the grace of final perseverance, that means praying that when our time comes to leave this world we will be found in a loving relationship with God, not as a stranger.

As we continue to ponder these challenging words of Jesus may we avoid presumption and complacency on one hand and despair on the other, rather let us be mindful of the words of the prophet Micah:

**"what does the Lord require of thee, but to act justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God."**

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

## WHAT MAKES THE GATE NARROW?

*Fr Peter Hunter OP contrasts the infinitely wide-open love of God and the fickleness of our wills that narrows the gate to salvation.*

Lots of Christians down the centuries have made the mistake of believing that God's salvation was a limited affair. "Very few will be saved, and most of those will be monks," the heresiarch Pelagius was supposed to have said.

But first of all, Scripture tells us, in the first letter of St Paul to Timothy, that God wants all people to be saved, and to come to the knowledge of the truth. Moreover, when St John records his vision of Heaven in the book of the Apocalypse, he says, "there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb..." This is hardly a limited affair.

Our first reading takes the same tack. The LORD is gathering people of all the nations on Earth. Israel had to come to accept that while the Jewish people were to have a special place in God's plan of salvation, his will to gather people to himself was much wider than the bounds of the nation of Israel.

Part of our Gospel today, however, seems to say the opposite: "Strive to enter by the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able." If God wants all to be saved, if salvation is not a limited affair, why is the door narrow? Why will many be unable to enter? Perhaps it feels like God says he wants us all, but then he sets the bar impossibly high, and indeed, maybe we feel anxious that we ourselves will not find that narrow gate.

John Chrysostom asks whether there is some contradiction here. Jesus says elsewhere that his yoke is easy and his burden light. Chrysostom points the way to the resolution of these tensions when he says, "the one was said because of the nature of temptations, the other with respect to the feeling of those who overcame them." He goes on to talk of the way that this narrow gate leads to wide-open space.

The other side of the gate, then, God's side, is wide open. It is as wide as the love of God, which is to say that it is, in fact, infinitely wide. The gate is narrow, not from God's side, but from ours.

What makes the gate narrow? Chrysostom tells us: temptation. St John puts it this way in his Gospel: "the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light." God offers us his love, calls us to the one thing that would satisfy us, love of him, and we close our hearts. The gate is narrow because of the fickleness of our wills. We are so easily called away from God's path to other things.

It's not that God has made a bad world. The things which attract us are desirable not because they are bad, but because they are good, but we love them too much or for the wrong reasons. We love things selfishly and short-sightedly. We close the door to the promptings of God in our hearts. We allow ourselves to be called away from the door by a million pleasures and



Cont...cares of the world.

So should the Gospel make us anxious? If we are living our lives carelessly, then perhaps it should. Jesus calls us back to ourselves. We become slack when we should strive to enter. The Gospel reminds us of the offer God is making to us. It calls us every day to repent.

But it also reminds us of the infinitely wide, saving love of God, who is quick to forgive and to set us on the path to the wide-open spaces of his company. We may make the door narrow or even sometimes slam it shut by our fickle wills, but we don't depend on our own strength, on our own ability to find the way. God wants us for himself and when we do not resist that love, he will himself lead us on the path to his wide-open pastures. <http://english.op.org/torch>

### CHURCH KEYS

Church keys: During the two break-ins all our spare keys were stolen and all locks needed to be replaced with a new set-up. You will need to contact the office on how to access the church. Parishioners issued with a key please return your key as soon as possible by placing the key in an envelope with your name and key number on it and place it in the 2nd Collection box.

### PARISH NOTES

Our guitarist Joseph Biggerstaff who plays At the Vigil Mass will be leaving us for three years. Thank you for your contribution to our Liturgy. Good luck on your new endeavour overseas.



On Monday 29 Aug. at 10.00am we say goodbye to Joseph de Riva O'Phelan who passed away during the week. Joseph was a major contributor to the Parish in many ways.

### ST DOMINIC GARDEN

**SAVE THE DATE: 17th September more next week.**

Based on a proposal initially discussed with Fr Kieran, Fr Mannes has approved a project to establish a garden in honour of St Dominic and incorporating a remembrance wall in the Church grounds over the next 16 months. The garden will be created in time for the Parish's 60th anniversary in October 2023. The approved concept plan and a project brief is on display in the church foyer. Fundraising is planned to offset costs and details will be provided closer to each event. For further details to the project, please contact Jacquie - Parish Office on 6248 5925 /email [watson@cg.org.au](mailto:watson@cg.org.au) . To make an online donation please use the Parish banking details below - Reference GARDEN

### 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

Bad chapters can still create great stories.  
Wrong paths can still lead to right places.  
Failed dreams can still create successful people.  
Sometimes it takes losing yourself to find yourself.

**PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED THURSDAY 25TH AUGUST.**

### PRAYERS

In Your Prayers please remember those in our community who are ill: Greg O'Neill, Frank Zobec, Mary Martin, Anne Corver, Barbara Wilson, Mimma Gia, Veronica & Paul Cornelly, Rosa Maria Santos, Philip Bailey, Beth Delos Santos, Ursula Ramsay, Peter Catlin, Sue King, Fr Ellis Clifford, Joe Schimizzi, June Pollard, Eddie Pook, Awny El-Ghitany, Mary Lou Pentony, Elizabeth Webster, Terry Stephens, Pamela Sandy, Maureen Blood, Una Bell, Anthony Parsonage, Neville Caulfield, Lily Copeland, Maggie McKeon, Alphonsa Bankovsky, Frank Higgins, Doug Gaudencio, Bruce Feehan, Fr Rafael Cabezon

### RECENTLY DECEASED

Our recently Deceased: May they find peace and comfort in the embrace of the Lord.  
Joseph de Riva o'Phelan, Carmello Abbondante, Patricia Zorzi, William (Bill) Harriden, Fred Grill, Br Brendan O'Hearn OP

### IN LOVING MEMORY

Ricardo Villalon

### BAPTISM

*Ted Howarth*

will be baptised this weekend.  
May his life be filled with God's peace,  
and his heart with God's love...  
on this Baptism day and always.



**HOLY ROSARY WOMEN'S FAITH CIRCLE** On Thursday evening 11 August at 8pm. Meeting fortnightly to connect, share, journey and grow together in faith. Please email Emily at [emilykathrynhall@gmail.com](mailto:emilykathrynhall@gmail.com) for further details.  
**BIBLE STUDY** Verbum: Bible study for Young Adults (18-35) Monday nights at 6pm (except public holidays) in the Parish Centre a group of young adults from around North Canberra come to study the scriptures and pray.  
**PRAY THE ROSARY** Sunday Mornings prior to 10.00am Mass the Rosary will be recited. Please join in.  
**HOLY MARY MOTHER OF GOD PRAYER GROUP** meets 2.00pm 1st, 2nd & 4th Thursdays in the Parish Centre. Contact the Office for information.  
**CRAFT GROUP** meets noon - 4.00pm in the Parish Centre on Wednesdays.  
**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 Michael Flynn 6257 1038 - [www.wccm.org](http://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

### ROSTER 27 / 28 August

**Saturday 5.00pm** - Acolyte - M. Tran  
Reader - M. Dawes  
**Sunday 8.00am** - Acolyte - K. Lindard  
Reader - N. Clarke, G. Thompson  
**Sunday 10.00am** - Acolyte - T. Johnson  
Reader - J. Cooke, C. Bergin  
**Sunday 5.00pm** - Acolyte - L. Kim  
Reader - M. Proctor