



Catholic Parish of Blackfriars

Issue 41
27 August 2017

Under the care of the Dominican Fathers

Year A



VERITAS

TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

HOLY ROSARY CHURCH

Parish Priest

Fr Kieran Adams OP

Assistant Priests

Fr Rafael Cabezon OP

Fr Bernie Maxwell OP

Holy Rosary Church

Cnr Phillip Avenue and
Antill Street, Watson ACT

Postal Address

PO Box 900, Dickson

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<http://www.cg.org.au/watson>

Office Staff

Jacquie Cortese

Jim Smith

Parish Council

Andrew Blakey

Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday,

Thursday, Friday

9.00am—12.30pm

Mass times

Wed 5.30pm

Tues & Thurs 6.45am

Fri 5.30pm

Saturday 6pm (Vigil)

Sunday 8am, 10am & 6pm

**From 2/3 September Mass
times will change to
Saturday 5pm & Sunday 5pm
Reconciliation
Saturday 4.00 pm—4.30pm**

Saturday & Public

Holidays Mass excluding Mondays
9am

Pray the Rosary

Wed & Fri before 5.30pm Mass

Saturday after 9am Mass

Reconciliation

Saturday 12pm—12.30pm

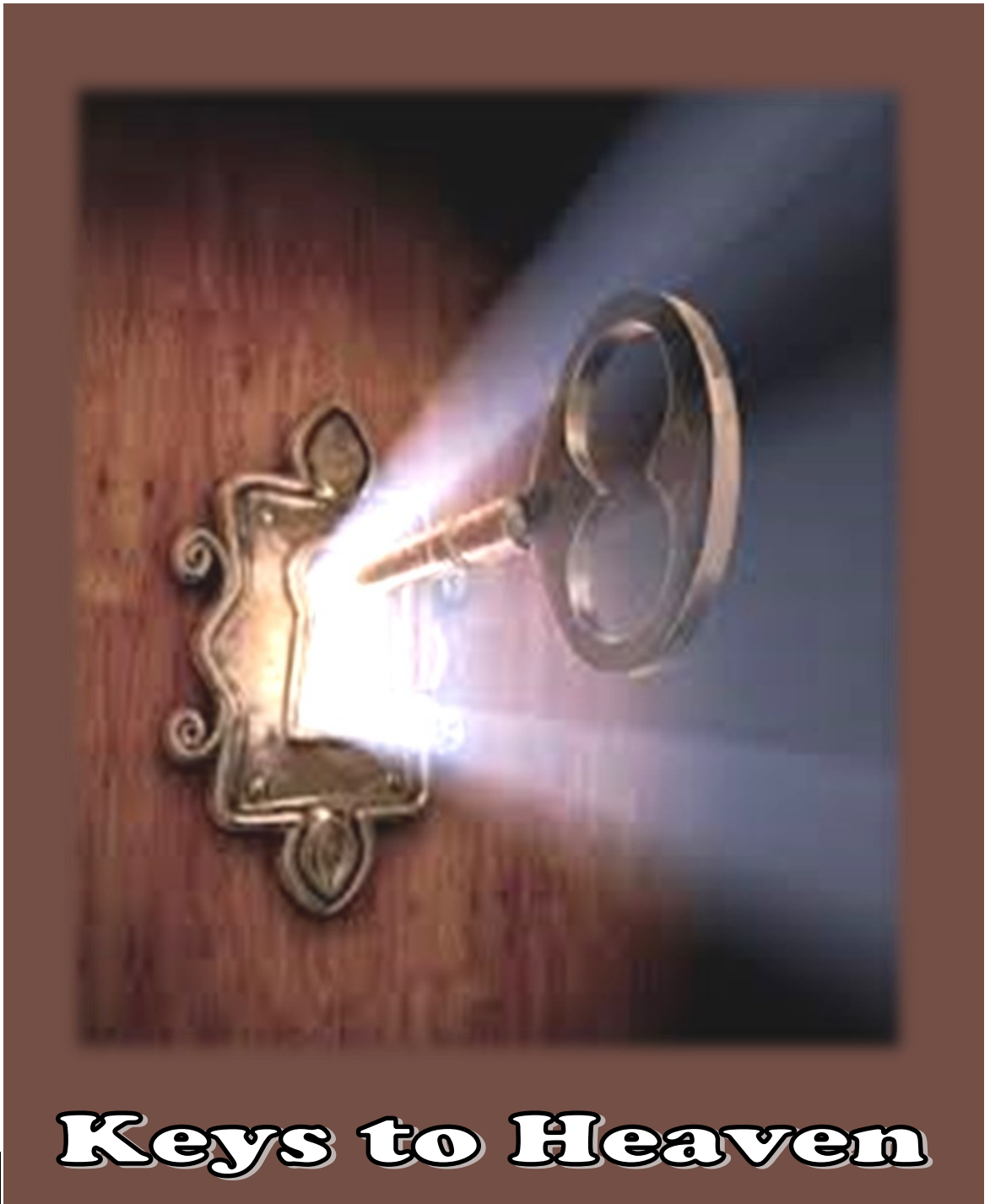
and 5pm—5.30pm

ACU Chapel Signadou

Tues 12.30pm

Wed & Thurs 12.30pm

**If you are in Urgent need of
a Priest Call - 6248 8253**



Keys to Heaven

A warm welcome is extended to guests & parishioners celebrating our Eucharist today.

ENTRANCE	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.
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	Alleluia, alleluia! You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church; the gates of hell will not hold out against it. Alleluia!
COMMUNION	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.
READINGS	Isaiah 22:19-23 Romans 11:33-36 Matthew 16:13-20

CONGRATULATIONS

***Congratulations to Fr Kieran
on 40 years of Ordination
on 20th August.***

This Sunday we are celebrating the 40th Anniversary of Fr Kieran's Ordination with the children who are making their commitment for the Sacrament of Reconciliation at the 10am Mass. This Mass will be followed by a Sausage Sizzle and refreshments. Please join us in this celebration.



SAVE THE DATE
PSALM: 137:1-3. 6. 8

Lord, your love is eternal;
do not forsake the work of your hands.

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.
Before the angels I will bless you,
I will adore before your holy temple.

I thank you for your faithfulness and love
which excel all we ever knew of you.
On the day I called, you answered;
you increased the strength of my soul.

The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly
and the haughty he knows from afar.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands.

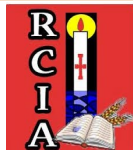
Lord, your love is eternal;
do not forsake the work of your hands.

CONGRATULATIONS ~ FR KIERAN



HOW DO I BECOME A CATHOLIC

Are you an adult interested in finding out more about the Catholic faith? The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process, based within a parish community, that starts by allowing interested individuals to make initial enquiries about the Catholic faith. Each year we have had the privilege of receiving new members into our community at Holy Rosary. Please contact the Parish office on 6248 5925 if you would like to attend or to discuss your interest with an RCIA team member. The program will begin on Tuesday 5th September.



MASS TIME CHANGES

Blackfriars Parish has been a place of worship for some five decades and over this time the Mass times have changed to suit the demographics, age and needs of parishioners. The Parish has received numerous requests from various members of the Parish on the lateness of our evening Masses. Since May 2016 the Parish Pastoral Council has discussed the work load, age, health and well-being of our Parish priests and Mass attendances which have been dropping significantly over the past 5 months. During these ongoing discussion the Council has endorsed the change of times for Saturday Vigil Mass and Sunday evening Mass with both changing from 6pm to 5pm. The confession times will also change in respect to the new Mass time changes. The time change will take place from next weekend of the **2nd / 3rd September 2017.**

Fr Kieran

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
MEETING**

The NEXT Meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council will be on held on Monday 11th September at 7.15pm.

**DOMINICAN FATHERS
SICKNESS & RETIREMENT APPEAL**

The Appeal for the Dominican Fathers Sickness & Retirement Fund will be held this weekend 26/27 August. Envelopes will be provided for your contribution. Your generosity is very much appreciated.



SAVE THE DATE

7th October after the 5pm Mass a Potluck Dinner will be held to celebrate the Feast of the Holy Rosary in the Parish Centre.

"Every great dream begins with a dreamer.
Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world."

In Your Prayers please remember those in our community who are ill:	Elizabeth Cronin, Maureen Blood, Fr Ellis Clifford, Dion Convine, Edith Jensen, Richard Johnson Alexia Harris, Joe Schimizzi, Trevor Dennis, Mary Harrigan, Elizabeth Webster, Philip Bailey, Eileen Liston, Rosa Maria Santos, Jim Burgess, Mary Bui, Rosemary Denmead Awny El-Ghitany, Barbara Wilson Beth Delos Santos, Elsie Laughton, Lynn & Richard Bale,
Please remember our deceased:	Kemble Thompson, Anne Perkins Roy Shirvington, Sebastiano Pelle, Adrian Newbond, Kathleen Heath,
In loving memory	Jason Tutalo, Adriano Focarile,

A SAVING FAITH

Jesus is roving and curing people. An odd thing happens in each case. He tells them, "Your faith has saved you."

Quite obviously Jesus does the healing, or they wouldn't be asking for cures, so why does he say their faith did it? Why didn't he just say "Go in peace, I have healed you"?

Let us seek the answer in Sunday's Gospel. I will tell it as a storyteller might. Jesus is in Caesarea Philippi and the disciples are just back from their mission of preaching. He asks them who people think he is. Maybe he is measuring the faith-status of the regions who have heard of him. The disciples laugh boyishly and give answers they have heard. Here is an approximation of what they said: Believe it or not, some think you are John the Baptist returned from the dead! The ones I talked to said you were the prophet Elijah! It was hilarious! A few of them said you are Jeremiah or one of the other prophets! They just don't know what to make of you. Laughter all around.

Love given must also be love being received. But Jesus had thrown a curve ball, and now it crosses the plate. He says abruptly, "And what about you? Who do you say I am?"

Eyes wander, laughter becomes coughs, feet scuff. The disciples' faith is still young and perhaps they are confused, not to mention the fact that they have never been required to profess anything out loud. Red faces.

Peter is bold (or maybe just enthusiastic). Figuratively, he is walking on water again. He stammers out a very good answer. "You ... you are ... the Christ, the ... the Son of ... You are the Christ, the Son of the living God!"

Silence. And then nods and relief all around.

"Simon, how great is your faith," Jesus replies. "Whatever you open with this faith will stay open. Whatever your faith shuts will remain shut, not only here but in heaven." A high compliment to Peter's tottering belief status.

But what does the story tell us? *That Jesus is always seeking a two-way relationship between himself and other people, not just one-way.* Look back and see it. He wants a mutual love-relationship, in which they open up their hearts and let the Godly lover in. Besides being a charismatic leader or a good friend, he is the very reality of God's love, present in the world, wide open to loving them. He wants them to relate to the fullness of who he is. The name of that openness to God's love on the part of the people is "faith." Maybe you see how this relates to our question from above, "Your faith has saved you"?

The people whom Jesus cured had at least a beginning relationship with him. Healing is at last able to take root because Jesus is never just acting on his own, like a mechanic replacing spark plugs: his cures are love being given. But love given must also be love being received. Otherwise love can't get in.

So, in fact, it is their faith (openness to God's love) that has in fact saved them. The healing power of Jesus could never get to them unless the openness named "faith" were not within them!

John Foley, SJ <http://liturgy.slu.edu/>

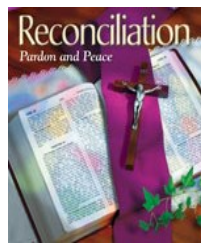
BREAK OPEN THE WORD

The innocent question Jesus puts to his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" quickly becomes personal: "But you, who do you say I am?" It's a question that has haunted every generation, and it bothers us still. It's a question that we want to shy away from and yet find alluring: it both threatens and promises. Our lesser self is threatened by the decision it demands of us. We sense that we are being asked for a commitment. Our settled ways are in jeopardy. We might have to re-evaluate our beliefs and behaviours. We suspect that we may be called to let go of familiar things and venture into unknown territory.

For all that, the question attracts us. It has an air of adventure about it, the promise of discovery. That promise centres on the person of Jesus. We are drawn to him. We find him endlessly fascinating. Our better selves know that we will find his company exhilarating. With him we discover the depths of our humanity, in him we see the face of God.

RECONCILIATION COMMITMENT MASS

We welcome the children from Rosary School & Parish School of Religion for their Commitment Mass. The Reconciliation Information Evening will be held on Wednesday 13th September. The Children will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation on 23rd/24th October and we commend them to your prayers as they begin their preparation program.



THE ROCK ON WHICH THE CHURCH IS BUILT

In the Gospel Reading, Christ tells Peter that Peter is the rock on which Christ will found his church. And, Jesus promises, the gates of hell will not prevail against this rock or against the church built on it. This is a comforting thought, isn't it? In the darkness of the world, there is something—the apostle Peter, the Church—that evil cannot wreck! The problem is that it so often looks as if the gates of hell have prevailed against Christ's church.

The Church is not a collection of the sinless, and it was not meant to be.

Actually, the problem begins with Peter. The apostle, who was supposed to be the rock of the Church, betrayed the Lord he loved in his Lord's worst need. A betrayal like that seems to have something hellish about it, doesn't it?

As far as that goes, how does Peter differ from Judas? Judas betrayed Christ too, of course. In fact, the Gospel of John says that Satan entered into Judas before he went to the Pharisees to conspire with them to get Jesus (John 13:27). There is certainly something hellish about the treachery of Judas if Satan entered into him.

So why not think that the gates of hell prevailed against Peter too, in his betrayal of Christ? What is left of Jesus' promise that the gates of Hell will not prevail against Peter or against Christ's Church?

But notice that there is a difference between Judas and Peter. You might think the difference is that Peter repented and Judas didn't. But there you would be mistaken. The Gospel of Matthew makes it clear that Judas repented, too (Matthew 27:3).

So, here is the real difference between them. When Judas saw the sin of his betrayal for what it was, he killed himself. He threw himself away as hopeless, as irredeemable. But Peter came back to Christ. He cleaved to the Lord he loved even in the face of his own betrayal of him.

And that is why Peter is the rock on which the Church is founded. The Church is not a collection of the sinless, and it was not meant to be. The Church was founded on Peter, who loved, and sinned, and held on to the Lord anyway. The gates of Hell cannot prevail against this kind of love.

This is a deeply comforting thought.

Eleonore Stump

HOLY ROSARY CHURCH ACTIVITIES

SCHOOL OF RELIGION Sunday A year long Faith Education Program including Sacraments for children who do not attend Catholic Schools. Contact the Office for further information.

BLACKFRIARS MEDITATION GROUP meets on **Thursday** evenings in the Parish Centre at 7.30pm. Enquiries John Jarvis 6296 2001 or Michael Flynn 6257 1038 Explore at www.wccm.org

CARDS Play social style 'Cards for fun', **Monday** 10am-1pm in the Parish Centre. All welcome!!!

CARE OF THE SICK If you know of anyone who is unable to get to Mass and who would like the Eucharist brought to them, please let the office know. If someone is in need of prayer or a visit at home, in hospital or by the Parish Priest - please, let us know.

COFFEE GROUP Our monthly coffee group will meet at Wilbur's, Hackett on the **third Thursday** of each month at 10.30 am. We look forward to seeing our usual friends, and newcomers most welcome.

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.

HOLY MARY MOTHER OF GOD PRAYER GROUP Divine Will Prayer Group meets 2.00pm **Thursdays** in the church. Details Heather 6247 7775.

WEEKLY READER FORMATION Reflections on the readings for the following Sunday are held **Wednesday** evenings at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. All Parishioners welcome.

PRAY THE ROSARY will be held the First Saturday of every month at 3.30pm in the Church. Confessions available afterwards followed by refreshments in the parish centre. Please bring a plate to share. For more information call Letty on 0418 518 033

CHRISTIAN SPIRITUAL PILGRIMAGE TO INDIA - "One Heart and One Soul" from February 19 - March 10, 2018. For further information, please contact: Marie Fonseca: 02 9344 0523 or 0418 265117. Email: info@spiceodyssey.net.au or Andre Rasquinha: 0403 569 079 Email: andre@traveltalk.com.au

When in doubt just take the next step.

COELIACS Parishioners who are coeliac (intolerant to Gluten) If you wish to receive a gluten free host at Mass you should advise the Celebrant or Acolyte prior to Mass.

NEW PARISHIONERS would you like to join our Parish? If you wish to register as Blackfriars Parishioner please fill out a card which you can find on the entrance tables and place on the second plate or give the card to Father.

Holy Rosary Church is fitted with an audio loop. It is accessible in all seating areas by using T- switch on your hearing aid.

PARISH BULLETIN - DEADLINE for notices is **NOON TUESDAY** Please contact Jacquie in the office Ph. 6248 5925 Fax.6248 7564 or Email: watson@cg.org.au

IMPORTANT

It is important that you contact the office by email or in writing (even a note on the collection plate) if you require a booking - for a Mass Intention, Booking of the Church or Parish Centre, Weddings and Baptisms.

If you would like to add a name to the prayers for the sick, anniversary or death list in the *Bulletin*, details must be with the Parish Office **NO** later than Tuesday of that week. For all other bookings Mass for an Anniversary or to use the Parish Centre etc. two weeks notice is required. It is difficult to keep track of Parishioners requests if they do not come through the Office. Fr Kieran

EVENTS

30 / 31 August - CALVARY HOSPITAL BOOK SALE

The Calvary Hospital Auxiliary is holding a Book Sale in the main foyer of the Hospital on Wednesday 30th and Thursday 31st August between 8.00am and 4.00pm. ALL BOOKS WILL BE \$2.00 EACH. Enquiries Mary Cruickshank 62544084

31 August - MERICI COLLEGE ENROLMENT

Come and experience the unique Merici College vibe, in a small supportive environment that puts your daughter's individual learning needs first and prepares them for the exciting future that awaits her! Merici College the Talk and Tour will consist of a brief introduction to the College by the Principal and a student-led tour while classes are in progress. Two sessions will be held on Thursday 31 August: Session 1: 9.30am-11.00am; Session 2: 12.30pm - 2.00pm. Go to www.merici.college to register online.

2 September - CATECHIST & FRIENDS RETREAT DAY

Parishioners are invited to attend the Catechist Retreat Days with Sr. Judy Bowe, mgl. Commence at 10am - 4pm will be held at Sacred Heart Pearce (2 September); BYO lunch. RSVP: kylie.bereza@cg.org.au

6 - September "BLACKFRIARS LECTURE SERIES"

Michael Cooney; National Director of the Australian Republican Movement, will discuss Diversity, Empathy and Tradition: Challenges for Australian Leadership.

6 - September "ST THOMAS MORE FORUM"

Mr Ross Fox, Director, Catholic Education, Archdiocese Canberra and Goulburn will speak on: "Fair funding for Catholic schools, a perspective on the continuing fight". 7.30pm at Holy Faith Hall, Campbell. RSVP (for catering purposes) by noon, Monday 4 September. Enquiries to 0484 355 786 or forum@stthomasmore.org.au

20 September - SAVE THE DATE

Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn - Join us for the official opening and blessing of St Christopher's Pastoral Centre on Wednesday 20th September at 2pm.

6 October - MOVIE NIGHT FOR HOME

"Home" in Queanbeyan is holding a fund raising movie night at the Q Theatre Queanbeyan commencing at 6.00pm.

8 - October - MARIAN PROCESSION

Archbishop Christopher extends an invitation to all Catholics of the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn to attend the 2017 Marian Procession at St Clement's Monastery, Galong. 9am: Youth Pilgrimage from Galong Village. 10.30: Confession. 11.30am: Mass with Archbishop Christopher. 12.30pm: Lunch. 2pm: Procession to the Grotto and sharing by Sr Mary Rachel (OP)

ROSTERS 2nd / 3rd September 2017

Saturday 6.00 pm Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	R. Paul	
Readers	P. English	E. Smith
Presentation of Gifts	N. Higgins	
EMOE	T. O'Neill	

Sunday 8.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	J. Smith	
Readers	M. Gallagher	E. Smith
Presentation of Gifts	P. Zorzi	
EMOE	E. M. Falk	

Sunday 10.00am Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	H. Beasley	
Readers	C. Barbaro	P. McDonald
Presentation of Gifts	E. Musilino	
EMOE	A. Moore	K. Murphy

Sunday 6.00pm Day Holy Rosary

Acolyte / Server	E. Kralikas	
Readers	K. Kralikas	T. Ryan
Presentation of Gifts	de Luca Family	
EMOE	M. Proctor	J. Curnow
Counters	F. Higgins	N. Higgins