

# Catholic Parish of Blackiriars



Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



## VERITAS



Issue 43  
17th September 2023  
Year A

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

# Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



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. Sir 36: 18

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you,  
that your prophets be found true.  
Hear the prayers of your servant,  
and of your people Israel.

## FIRST READING

### First reading - Ecclesiasticus 27:33-28:9

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

Resentment and anger, these are foul things,  
and both are found with the sinner.  
He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance  
of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin.  
Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you,  
and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.  
If a man nurses anger against another,  
can he then demand compassion from the Lord?  
Showing no pity for a man like himself,  
can he then plead for his own sins?  
Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment;  
who will forgive him his sins?  
Remember the last things, and stop hating,  
remember dissolution and death, and live by the  
commandments.  
Remember the commandments, and do not bear your  
neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the  
Most High, and overlook the offence.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

### Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 102(103):1-4,9-12

***The Lord is kind and merciful: slow to anger,  
and rich in compassion.***

My soul, give thanks to the Lord  
all my being, bless his holy name.  
My soul, give thanks to the Lord  
and never forget all his blessings.

It is he who forgives all your guilt,  
who heals every one of your ills,  
who redeems your life from the grave,  
who crowns you with love and compassion.

His wrath will come to an end;  
he will not be angry for ever.  
He does not treat us according to our sins  
nor repay us according to our faults.

For as the heavens are high above the earth  
so strong is his love for those who fear him.  
As far as the east is from the west  
so far does he remove our sins.

***The Lord is kind and merciful: slow to anger,  
and rich in compassion.***

## SECOND READING

### Second reading - Romans 14:7-9

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the romans

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life: it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

### Gospel Acclamation - John 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!  
I give you a new commandment:  
love one another as I have loved you.  
Alleluia.

## GOSPEL

### Gospel - Matthew 18:21-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.'

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time" he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me" he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

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 35: 8

How precious is your mercy, O God!  
The children of men seek shelter  
in the shadow of your wings.

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## PARISH 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION 29 OCTOBER 2023

After the 10 am Mass on Sunday 29 October, we will celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Parish with feasting and activities including an Anniversary cake and the opening of St Dominic's garden.

Please save the date and more details will be provided in October

## FORGIVE OR YOU WILL NOT BE FORGIVEN



Of all the teachings that Jesus imparts to us, the instruction to forgive those who have harmed us ranks right up there as one of the hardest. It's up there with carrying the cross and other such counterintuitive practices.

Peter asks how often one should forgive, thinking there was some kind of breaking point. Jesus in teaching to forgive seventy times seven really promotes the idea that forgiveness is not something that one counts or chalks up on the board. In essence, Jesus promotes a culture, perhaps a virtue, of forgiveness. That means, if we understand the psychology of virtue, that forgiveness needs to be very much a part of the nature of a Christian.

The powerful parable Jesus uses to illustrate his point first of all paints a picture of what the kingdom of God is like, Jesus then introduces a king who is owed money by a servant. These players in the story represent on one side God (the king) and on the other humanity (the servant). The debt the servant owes is a ridiculous sum of money. This scenario then betrays the fact that sinful humanity cannot pay its debt to God, it is too much. The king's benevolence, after the pleading of his servant, represents God's fundamental benevolent and compassionate nature. As the psalmist repeatedly says in Psalm 118 "his steadfast love endures forever" and again as psalm 103 prays "He does not deal with us according to our sins; nor requite us according to our iniquities."

Keeping in mind the forgiving nature of God an onus is placed on humanity to do likewise. This is put to the test in the now forgiven servant and a fellow servant who owes far less than does the servant who was in debt to the king. The illustration here focuses us on the fact that in the final analysis earthly debts will be settled one way or another, they are not eternal and therefore really of no consequence. Yet, in our small, closeted, view of things they are enormous and we really do seek justice and sometimes revenge if we "feel" the scales have not been balanced. Some people even take it to the extreme and never forgive; this is where we begin to enter deep water.

A fundamental aspect of some humans' inability to forgive is that they do not believe that there will be any reckoning. If one does not believe in some kind of transcendent form of justice all one has left is human justice, the law courts, lawyers, and complex and convoluted legal systems which often leave victims scratching their heads, or even worse, feeling deep anger towards the perpetrators of the crime. It would only be natural then to give up on giving the aggressor the benefit of the doubt or perhaps endeavouring to understand the context of those who have transgressed. A purely human justice, sometimes will never do.

In all of this as Christians we must remember that this is the way the kingdom of God will be and that there is a safety

Cont....net in that no ordinary justice will be around to decide on things. Having faith that God's justice will settle every debt, right every wrong, and balance the scales we should not fear forgiving others nor should we fear being forgiven if we ask for mercy. The clincher for us is really believing that God will settle things and that our capacity to forgive can be strengthened and enlarged. The true take away of this parable however is that how can we expect forgiveness if we are not ready to forgive? Our Old Testament reading from Ecclesiasticus really highlights this when meditating on this perplexing and difficult aspect of human life:

***He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord,  
who keeps strict account of sin.  
Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you,  
and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.  
If a man nurses anger against another,  
can he then demand compassion from the Lord?  
Showing no pity for a man like himself,  
can he then plead for his own sins?***

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

## CARITAS EMERGENCY APPEALS – MOROCCO / LIBYA

Caritas Australia needs your support to respond to the devastating earthquake in Morocco and floods in Libya. Thousands of people have died and others have been injured. Communities need shelter, food, water and medical assistance. **Please support our emergency appeal.**

Donate at [www.caritas.org.au](http://www.caritas.org.au)



## NEEDS OF LAY CATHOLICS TODAY

What do adult lay Catholics need today to help them live a committed Catholic life amid the circumstances of modern society? To find out and to help improve their services to our Archdiocese, the Canberra Circle of The Catenians, an international association of lay Catholics, is conducting an Archdiocesan-wide online survey.

Please help by completing this brief, anonymous, tick-box survey via this URL or QR code. Thank you. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CLTZGM>



Contact: Phil Murray, President, Canberra Catenians  
0419 695 927 or [phil13murray@gmail.com](mailto:phil13murray@gmail.com)



## CELEBRATION OF CREATION

In this Season of Creation, the annual Christian celebration when we pray and respond to the cry of creation, there will be an ecumenical celebration on Sun, 24 Sept 2023, at 9.30am. A partnership of Holy Cross Anglican, Holy Rosary Catholic and St Marg's Uniting (the 'Holy Roundabout').

The service will be held at Holy Cross and St Margaret's just across the road. Meet us under the cherry tree for an ecumenical celebration of creation, worship and thanksgiving, stories and song, tree planting and practical discussion on caring for our shared home. Morning tea will follow the service.



## CATHOLIC WOMEN'S FUNDRAISING DINNER

The Archdiocese's Women's Taskforce is holding its annual fundraising dinner for MacKillop House on Friday, 27th October at the Southern Cross Club in Woden.

Genevieve Jacobs will reflect on her experience of her Catholic faith in both her professional and personal life. Tickets are \$80, early birds are \$70 (until 29 Sept), and tables of 10 are discounted to \$700. Visit [www.cgwomen.org.au](http://www.cgwomen.org.au) to purchase tickets through Humanitix. For further information contact Samantha Hazlett at [samanthahazlett@icloud.com](mailto:samanthahazlett@icloud.com).

Tickets will go on sale at the end of September.

## 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:

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, June Pollard, Awny El-Ghitany, Pamela Sandy, Elizabeth Webster, Una Ford, Maureen Blood, Una Bell, Lily Copeland, Neville Caulfield, Maggie McKeon, Maria Bankovsky, Carmel Slammon, Brian & Suzanne Brown

## RECENTLY DECEASED

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

Laurie-Ann Marchesani, Sylvia Mantinaos, Joyce Thomson, Joe Schimizzi, Terry Stephens,



## Vinnies

This year's Vinnies **Ozanam Appeal** will be held as leaving collections at masses on the weekend of 6-7 October. The Ozanam Appeal **supports Vinnies Conferences in developing countries to assist the needy of their own communities**. Cash and electronic donations will be accepted.

## GANG-GANG CAFÉ GET TOGETHER

Our first Spring gathering at GangGang, Frencham Place, Downer will take place at 10-30 am on the third Thursday of September 21/9.

A table is always reserved for us. Newcomers to the parish are always welcome. See you there.

**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](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.

**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](mailto:emilykathrynhall@gmail.com) for further information.

## ROSTER 23/24 SEPTEMBER

**Saturday 5.00pm** - Acolyte - M Tran / D Gauci  
Reader - E and J Smith  
Computer - Volunteer

**Sunday 10.00am** - Acolyte - K Linnard  
Reader - C Rheinberger/ A McCarthy  
Computer - Volunteer

**Sunday 5.00pm** - Acolyte - L Kim  
Reader - T de Luca / M Brotohusodo  
Computer - J Kim