

Catholic Parish of Blackiriars



Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



VERITAS



Issue 43
23 August 2020
Year A

Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

HOLY ROSARY CHURCH

Parish Priest

Fr Mannes Tellis OP
(To contact Please Text)
0414 396 532

Assistant Priest

Fr Rafael Cabezon OP

In residence

Fr Bernie Maxwell OP

Holy Rosary Church
Cnr Phillip Avenue &
Antill Street, Watson ACT

Postal Address

PO Box 900, Dickson
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Office Hours -

Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday, Friday
9am to 12.30pm

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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**



I will give you
the keys of the
kingdom of heaven

**If you are feeling unwell please DO NOT come to church.
Please record your name & contact number on the Register
provided in the foyer.**

**PLEASE sanitise your hands on entering the foyer or parish centre.
Please DO NOT return your bulletin to the basket, if you are not taking
it home put it in the bin.**

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

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 22:19-23

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace: I dismiss you from your office, I remove you from your post, and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiyah. I invest him with your robe, gird him with your sash, entrust him with your authority; and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the House of Judah. I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder; should he open, no one shall close, should he close, no one shall open. I drive him like a peg into a firm place; he will become a throne of glory for his father's house.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Responsorial Psalm 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.

SECOND READING

Second Reading Romans 11:33-36

How rich are the depths of God - how deep his wisdom and knowledge - and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

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!



GOSPEL

Gospel Matthew 16:13-20

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said, 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

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.

A CATECHESIS ON THE MASS

The Liturgy of the Word



The Liturgy of the Word is the first of the two major divisions in the structure of the Mass, the other being the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Its nature is fairly self-explanatory in that it gives the faithful time to hear the Word of God, that is God speaking through his written word mediated by the variety of scriptural writers in their own particular way.

This special time in our Mass allows us to enter more deeply into what God wants to say to us. Often Catholics have been accused of not "reading their Bibles" or failing to give due honour to the written word of God. Whilst this may have been the case in times past, there is no excuse now for us Catholics to somehow disregard or ignore the written word of God, Catholics should read their Bibles! Fundamentally there are two ways in which we can penetrate God's will for humanity and that is by reading God's word in the Bible and being sensitive to the historic and theological musings of the Church through her early leaders, and indeed by the lives of holy women and men, this mode of revelation as it is understood is known as Tradition. Scripture and Tradition are the pillars on which God's self-revelation to us is made apparent. More basically how we can know about God and his plan for humanity is spelled out in both a written form and an unwritten way and these two ways do not contradict each other but rather complement each other giving us a broad blueprint for human happiness, which, in the final analysis is found in God himself.

The Liturgy of the Word on a Sunday comprises of the **First Reading** (often from the Old Testament but occasionally from the New) which often relates to the gospel for the day. Then comes a **Psalm** which is often proclaimed in a responsorial fashion, the psalm really being a hymn should be sung but individual occasions often necessitate varying ways of proclaiming these beautiful examples of Hebrew poetry. What follows is the **Second Reading** always from the New Testament, though never from the gospels. The Second Reading is often drawn from the writings of St Paul, though not exclusively.

Cont...The Second Reading usually presents another theological message other than the theme often present in the First Reading and the Gospel.

The Gospel reflects the crescendo of the Liturgy of the Word as it commemorates the very words of Jesus himself. The gospel, ideally if there are suitable ministers, should be accompanied by servers with candles lit and with incense, the deacon or priest who is to proclaim the gospel incenses the gospel book to highlight the divine nature of what is to be read, this understanding is contingent on the fact that incense is only ever offered to venerate God.

The Homily, the General Instruction of the Roman Missal directs, should open up the scriptural texts for the people, likewise it is never to be omitted on a Sunday or Solemnity. Likewise, a brief homily should be given during special seasons on weekdays even particularly during Lent and Advent.

The Creed is recited after the Homily and is placed there so that all the faithful can once more re-assert their belief in the fundamentals of the faith, namely: that there is one God who created all things visible and invisible.

Next the faithful assent to the fact that God became incarnate, that for the sake of us human beings who had erred this God-man took upon himself the consequences of that sad error and received the penalty for transgressing God's loving will. Furthermore, we joyfully proclaim the God-man's resurrection from death and that he will judge us at the end of our lives.

We acknowledge throughout this statement of belief that God is a triune God that he is "Father Almighty", that this same divine nature is possessed fully by the Son and likewise we confess the divine nature of the Holy Spirit who proceeds from the Father and the Son's love for each other, this love so true, so real and so perfect it finds itself manifest as a person, God the Holy Spirit.

Lastly we proclaim that the Catholic Church is the community founded by Jesus. Next we affirm the Communion of Saints, that is we commemorate those Christians, and indeed men and women of good will, who have fought the good fight and who pray for us and with whom we wish one day to be associated.

We likewise acknowledge that sins can be forgiven through belief in Christ's salvific mission and the Church's power, conceded to it by Christ, to apply that forgiveness in Baptism and the Sacrament of Penance.

The resurrection of the body is also confessed, that is we believe as Christians that body and soul go together, that they are one composite created by God to be so and that after the final judgment where the just will enter heaven and the damned sent to their fate the bodies of all human persons will be returned to them.

For those who have merited heaven a glorified body like that of the risen Christ is bestowed upon the soul, which like a lover awaiting her beloved, seeks its rest and completion. In confessing the restoration of the body, and so to become once more truly human creatures as envisaged by God, the faithful reflect that eternity will be spent in this existence that is in "life everlasting". Jesus in John 10:10 says "I have come that they may have life and life to the full". It is to this life which the final phrase of the Creed points.

May we aspire in Christian hope that that life becomes truly ours for the possession.

Cont...Concluding our Liturgy of the Word, and in full connection with one of the fundamental aspects of why we come to Mass, we bring our petitions to God asking him to accede to them insofar as these humble requests conform to his loving providence for humanity. Ultimately, our petitionary prayer rests on what God wants to provide for us, all we can do is humbly ask and allow his wisdom and kindness to be made manifest.

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

DOMINICAN FATHERS SICKNESS & RETIREMENT APPEAL

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

PETER'S KEYS

*Fr David Sanders OP preaches
on the power of the keys entrusted to Peter and his successors.*

If we have Jesus why should we bother about a church? You sometimes hear this view expressed, especially when the Church has been accused of scandals such as child abuse or cover-ups by bishops. Is not a close relationship with Jesus enough? Is the Church with all its failings really necessary for our salvation?

In today's Gospel Jesus tells us that not only is a Church necessary but that we also need a human leader to direct it.

Thou art Peter and upon this rock I will build my church. Jesus promises that his Church will be protected from the power of destructive evil, and then he gives to Peter, and we believe, to his successors, the power to govern, the keys which give access to the kingdom of heaven. A power to bind and to loose. But how should we interpret this power?

Some understandings of it divide Christians into camps. On the triumphalist extreme there are some who see this passage from St Matthew as a guarantee that every word that comes from the pope's mouth is more or less infallible while, on the liberal wing, there are those who see the exercise of too much papal power as oppressive and stifling the initiative of local Churches. The latter group insists that the Gospel passage today should have continued with the rest of the chapter and included the warning from Christ that Peter could not only be a rock but he could also become a scandal, that is, as soon as he started interpreting things from a worldly point of view. In fact he tells Peter to get out of his way: Get behind me Satan! you are a stumbling stone in my path.

So why is this fallible Peter chosen? He is certainly presented as the first of the disciples but he is chosen to be the foundation rock of the Church not so much for the exercise of an absolute power but because he confesses the true faith about Jesus: You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.

It is Peter's confession of that revelation, given to him by the Father, which alone can be the foundation of Christ's Church. But then what is the nature of the power of the keys which Peter is given? The first reading from Isaiah gives us a clue. The authority which is bestowed on the prime minister Eliakim, son of Hilkiah, gives him the power to give or refuse access to the king. I place the keys of the house of David on his shoulder. Should he open, no one can close; should he close, no one shall open.

Keys still open and close doors. But they must be used with care. Unfortunately in the Church today extreme groups want to exclude their opponents from the Church and invite the Pope to use his keys to excommunicate them. But the power of the keys should be exercised more in keeping with the way we see Peter fulfilling his role in the rest of New Testament. We know that there were groups which fought one another in the early church.

Cont...The conservative party of James in Jerusalem insisted that Christians should be circumcised and practice the Jewish law, while Paul, founding local Churches in his Gentile mission territory, objected to the attempt to impose that same law. Each disapproved of the other. In this situation we are shown how Peter acted as bridge between the two parties. He was the leader who kept the others in communion with the wider Church. Peter's keys were a symbol of unity, not to be used to shut the door in the face of one group but rather to open the door to both and invite them to be part of the Catholic Church.

Some people think that the individual free spirit of Jesus was re-streined and confined by the building up of a church. The spirit, they say, should guide each of us without too much ecclesiastical bureaucracy getting in the way.

But the New Testament itself shows us that Jesus message would never have survived without Church institutions which could preserve it and protect it from heresy. The work of the spirit is always to build up the Church.

So we should not give just a grudging acceptance to the Church which Jesus himself willed but learn to love it. It is too easy to try to get other members of the Church excluded because they do not share our views.

Today especially we give God thanks for the gift of Peter and his crucial role of guiding and maintaining the unity of the Catholic Church. Our Church needs to be constantly reformed because of the sinfulness of us, its members. But if we are to receive that salvation that Jesus willed for us, today we see how necessary are his Church and its Petrine ministry.

VINNIES COVID-19 APPEAL

Vinnies will not be holding a winter appeal in 2020. Instead, Vinnies supporters are encouraged to donate to the COVID-19 Crisis Appeal. You can donate online at www.vinnies.org.au/covid19crisisappeal or by calling the Vinnies hotline 13 18 12.. As always, the support of our Watson parishioners is greatly appreciated. The Vinnies Canberra Night Patrol is also seeking donations of warm items such - blankets, jackets, new socks. Anyone able to assist with these items can donate at any of the Vinnies shops in Canberra, including in Dickson and Gungahlin.

PARISH

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION - Parish School of a religion will resume this Sunday at 9am in the Parish Hall. Families wishing for children to receive Sacramental preparation are to please contact Nicole Webb on 0414139170. A friendly reminder to observe COVID precautions by keeping children who are unwell or who have been exposed to unwell family members, at home.

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

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 NOON TUESDAY Ph. 6248 5925 or Email: watson@cg.org.au

WOMEN'S REFLECTION AFTERNOON

Women's reflection afternoon, livestreamed to all corners of the Archdiocese 2-4:30pm Saturday 29th August. Register at www.bit.ly/WomensReflectionAfternoon Enquiries email catholic.women@cg.org.au or ring/text Lara on 0429 192 869

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

Alexia Harris, Maria Martiniello, Greg O'Neill, Barbara Parsonage Moya McGrath, Mary Martin, Barbara Wilson, Anne Corver, Ursula Ramsay, Edith Jensen, Frank Zobec, June Pollard, Maureen Dawes, Philip Bailey, Fr Ellis Clifford, Mimma Gia, Awny El-Ghitany, Rosa Maria Santos, Margaret Sullivan, Zelma McManus, Elizabeth Webster, Joe Schimizzi, Bob Hackett, Elsie Loughton, Paul Neddrie, Pamela Sandy, Beth Delos Santos, Maureen Blood

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

Fr Joe McGeehan, Rod Richardson, Mark Shephard, Ricardo Villalon

Anniversaries - In Loving Memory

Richard Johnson, Harry Gaudencio, Victoria Gaudencio, Richard Gaudencio, Josephine Gaudencio, Cynthia Robinson, Margaret Phillips, Ozzie Phillips, Daphne La'Porte, Iris La'Porte, Ernest La'Porte, Cedric Spanos, Richard La'Porte, Alice Phillips, Simon La'Porte, Rosy La'Porte, John Baptist Gaudencio, Kenneth Tully, Mary Cesary, Julian Hitchcock, Olinda La'Porte, Rev. Mother Aime, Rev Bishop Alan deLastic, Vera Fernandez, Ralph Myers, Christine Kleeberg, Oswald Beale, Wendell Nigli, Alan La'Porte, Margery Gaynor, Dorothy Alloy, Brian Fitzgerald, Millicent Gaudencio, Marjorie La'Porte, Stanley Rowe, Felix Fernandez, Viviane Lynda Ruiz, Patrick Rowe, Rev Bro. Oswald Ballantyne, Rev Fr. Jordan Perry.

ADORATION

Spending special time with our Lord: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction will be held in the Church each Tuesday from noon until 1pm.

On the 23 September the Archbishop will be visiting the Parish and will preside over the Adoration. The Adoration for that week will be moved from Tuesday 22 to Wednesday 23 September.

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>

ROSTER 29 / 30 August		
Saturday 5pm		
Acolyte / Server	M. Tran	
Readers	Volunteer	Volunteer
Sunday 8am		
Acolyte / Server	J. Smith	
Readers	B. Bandle	C. Bandle
Sunday 10am		
Acolyte / Server	Q. Vu	
Readers	C. Barbaro	P. McDonald
Sunday 5pm		
Acolyte / Server	P. Tran	
Readers	J. Curnow	T. Malone



Don't wait for things to get better.
Life will always be complicated.
Learn to be happy right now,
otherwise you'll run out of time.