

Catholic Parish of Blackfriars

Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



Issue 50
31 October 2021
Year B

VERITAS

HOLY ROSARY CHURCH

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

Assistant Priest
Fr Rafael Cabezon OP

Dominican in residence
Br Francis McKinnon OP

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

Postal Address
PO Box 900, Dickson
Ph. 6248 5925

Office Hours -
Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday, Friday
9am to 12.30pm

Office Staff
Jacquie Cortese
Jim Smith

Email:
watson@cg.org.au
Website:

www.cg.org.au/watson

Facebook:

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 12pm-12.30pm
and 4pm-4.30pm

Adoration - Holy Hour

Tuesday 12 Noon - 1:00pm

Pray the Rosary

First Saturday each month 3.30pm

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

Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

OCTOBER

PRAY
THE
ROSARY



Greatest Commandment

L
O
V
E

As some may know I was a close contact with a parishioner who recently was diagnosed with COVID. I am now isolating till the 3rd Nov. I will be retested on Monday 1st Nov. As a precaution I am cancelling all Masses and liturgies till the 3rd Nov. Since Fr Rafael is also in close proximity to me he too will be unavailable, once again as a precaution till all is clear.

I know this will be difficult since we have come out of Lockdown but it is a real facet of our current predicament and your health and well-being are a priority. Please continue to pray and keep close to Our Lord in this time, we shall soon gather once more around his Altar.

In Christ, Fr Mannes OP

MASS RESTRICTIONS

Under current Government restrictions only 100 parishioners can attend each Mass.

YOU ARE REQUIRED TO BOOK for Vigil and Sunday Masses. Once numbers are reached parishioner's will no longer be allowed into the church.

Try booking Links for November:

6 / 7 Nov <https://www.trybooking.com/BUVVZ>

13 / 14 Nov <https://www.trybooking.com/BUVWA>

20 / 21 Nov <https://www.trybooking.com/BUVWB>

27 / 28 Nov <https://www.trybooking.com/BUVWD>

Bookings **CLOSE** on the Thursday 6.00pm for Trybooking and Thursday 12.30pm for office bookings. Office bookings will only be available to parishioners who **DO NOT** have access to online booking. **NO** bookings will be taken after the closing times. Bookings will need to be made every week until numbers attending are increased to full capacity. Office hours - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday - 9am to 12.30pm. **NOT** open Wednesday.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Entrance Antiphon - Cf. Ps 37: 22-23

Forsake me not, O Lord, my God;
be not far from me!
Make haste and come to my help,
O Lord, my strong salvation!

FIRST READING

First Reading: Deuteronomy 6:2-6

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people: 'If you fear the Lord your God all the days of your life and if you keep all his laws and commandments which I lay on you, you will have a long life, you and your son and your grandson. Listen then, Israel, keep and observe what will make you prosper and give you great increase, as the Lord God of your fathers has promised you, giving you a land where milk and honey flow.

'Listen, Israel: The Lord our God is the one Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength. Let these words I urge on you today be written on your heart.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 17:2-4. 47. 51

I love you, Lord, my strength.

I love you, Lord, my strength,
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.

My God is the rock where I take refuge;
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.

The Lord is worthy of all praise:
when I call I am saved from my foes.

Long life to the Lord, my rock!

Praised be the God who saves me.
He has given great victories to his king
and shown his love for his anointed.

I love you, Lord, my strength.

SECOND READING

Second Reading: Hebrews 7:23-28

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

There used to be a great number of priests under the former covenant, because death put an end to each one of them; but this one, Christ, because he remains for ever, can never lose his priesthood. It follows then, that his power to save is utterly certain, since he is living for ever to intercede for all who come to God through him.

To suit us, the ideal high priest would have to be holy, innocent and uncontaminated, beyond the influence of sinners, and raised up above the heavens; one who would not need to offer sacrifices every day, as the other high priests do for their own sins and then for those of the people, because he has done this once and for all by offering himself. The Law appoints high priests who are men subject to weakness; but the promise on oath, which came after the Law, appointed the Son who is made perfect for ever.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Gospel Acclamation: John 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!
All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them
and we will come to them.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Gospel: Mark 12:28-34

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him, 'Which is the first of all the commandments?' Jesus replied, 'This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.' The scribe said to him, 'Well spoken, master; what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength and to love your neighbour as yourself, this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice.' Jesus, seeing how wisely he had spoken said, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' And after that no one dared to question him any more.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Communion Antiphon - Cf. Ps 15: 11

You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.

Text - Copyright © 1996-2020 Universalis Publishing Ltd

**Accept both Compliments and Criticism.
It takes both Sun and Rain for a flower to grow.**

THIS WEEK

The first week of November is an important week in the religious calendar. On 1 November, we celebrate the Feast of All Saints and on 2 November, we have the All Souls commemoration.

On Tuesday, 2 November, let us remember all our loved ones who have passed away, and especially pray for those who have died during the past 18 months as the COVID-19 pandemic has raged.

An event of global importance will occur during the first couple of weeks of November. From 31 October to 12 November, the 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) is being held in Glasgow, Scotland. We pray the world's political leaders will come together and commit to firm, ambitious and achievable targets in the quest to limit the effects of climate change.

SAINTS AND SOULS

This coming week we enter into the month of November, traditionally celebrated as the month of the Holy Souls.

But to kick November off we remember all those souls who've made it, who now experience that for which every human being was created, namely beatitude.

All Saints day reminds us that our goal is heaven, nothing less. All Saints' day is also a commemoration of those the Church does not formally salute as saints. I'm sure there are plenty of holy women and men who did not have sufficient backing or interest through the formal channels for the Church to recognise them officially. All Saints' day is the day of the little saints whom nobody realised were living lives of heroic virtue. This is the mark of the saint though, one who doesn't blow their own trumpet or continuously provide miracles. The ordinary saint flies under the radar, their deeds only approved of by God himself.

All Souls' Day is, likewise, a joyful day though also tinged with sorrow because it is a day when we commemorate those who have not yet reached heaven but still know that that is where they are heading. More importantly All Souls' Day brings home to us the merciful doctrine of Purgatory which highlights the fact that many people leave this life with the unfinished business of holiness still needing to be addressed. By all means we should hope our loved ones are in heaven but because we are not God we are unaware of the true nature of their souls. "Nothing impure shall enter heaven" (Rev 21:27) the Book of Revelation teaches us, furthermore Jesus teaches that only the pure of heart shall see God (Mt 5:8). Purgatory's object is to purify the soul of all stain of sin, to take away that temporal punishment due to sin and to root out all tendencies toward sin so that the soul may only have place for God.

The celebration of All Souls' day likewise reflects the constant practice of the Church to pray for its dead, this practice has existed from the earliest days of the Church. Turning to early literary sources regarding prayer for the dead, we find evidence in the apocryphal



Cont... "Acta Joannis", composed about A.D. 160-170, that at that time anniversaries of the dead were commemorated by the application of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass (Lipsius and Bonnet, "Acta Apost. Apocr.", I, 186). The same fact is witnessed by the "Canons of Hippolytus" (ed. Achelis, p. 106), by Tertullian (De Cor. Mil., iii, P.L., II, 79), and by many later writers. Tertullian also testifies to the regularity of the practice of praying privately for the dead (De Monogam., x, P.L., II, 942)" (<https://www.catholic.com/encyclopedia/prayers-for-the-dead>).

The month of November then, as usual will be a good time to offer a Mass for your loved ones and Fr Rafael and myself will only be too happy to accede to these wishes. November Mass Envelopes will be available in the foyer.

Lastly, on 3rd November is the feast of St Martin De Porres the wonder working cooperator brother of the Dominican Order. For many years we have had a small statue to St Martin in the corner at the Antill St side of the church. Recently a much larger picture of St Martin was found in the parish centre. The painting hung once in the cloister of the old Priory, now once more it has been hung again this time on the Philip Ave side of the Church. It is quite an imposing picture and I would exhort you to pray often for St Martin's intercession. St Martin once had a very strong devotional following, it would be worthwhile, once more, to re-acquaint ourselves with this humble saint, whose intercession is quite powerful.

As I write I am still in isolation but I shall be hopefully cleared by November 3rd to celebrate St Martin and inaugurate the new picture in our church.

God love you.

Fr Mannes OP

THE HUMAN VOICE OF GOD

Thirty-First Sunday of the Year.

Fr Euan Marley OP preaches on the dialogue between God and humanity.

The voice of the Lord is something fearful in the Old Testament, as in the 29th Psalm, where the voice of the Lord strips the forest bare, and shakes the wilderness. Perhaps we could never have heard the voice of God without fear, still less could we look in his face. So in the Old Testament God has to speak increasingly through prophets, who themselves hear God through their own speech. As the Prophets struggle and ultimately fail to speak for God, the way is prepared for the coming of the Christ.

Jesus is truly the embodied voice of God. It is a voice that still inspires fear of a sort. The high priests and scribes are afraid of him because the people are astonished at his teaching. Yet it is a human voice, and as such a voice that can be treated with disrespect.

Far from hiding from this voice, the various parties that Mark speaks of come up to Jesus and try to silence him by their questions. These are questions which are asked not with a view to finding answers but with a view to avoiding answers. They ask him about his authority, try to trap him in regard to the question of paying taxes to the Romans, and the Sadducees seek to show the

Cont...impossibility of the Resurrection through a question about marriage.

In doing this, the opponents of Jesus damage their own speech. We can not force the truth out of others, but we can choose to speak the truth, just as we can choose to love, but not to be loved. Yet in speaking truth, we make it possible for the truth to come to us. It is in giving that we receive and this is especially true of truth itself.



It is remarkable how many of the great sayings of the Gospel of Mark are not from Jesus himself but are drawn out from those who speak to Jesus. 'Lord, I believe, help my unbelief', 'Even the dogs under the table, eat from the children's crumbs.' When the scribe comes into the conversation, he not only asks a question but shows his willingness to speak of his own conviction, that these two commandments are greater than any sacrifice and holocaust.

So the voice of God has become flesh, and in doing so, part of the meaning of the incarnation is that from now on, all the truth of God will be spoken in dialogue with humanity, not in a monologue. In Jesus, we have heard the voice of God, and we are not afraid.

<http://english.op.org/torch>

POPE FRANCIS

The Pope warns about viewing freedom as "doing what you want and what you like" which only leads to the realisation "that we are left with a great emptiness inside and that we have used badly the treasure of our freedom."

Pope Francis said Christians need to "rediscover the communitarian, not individualistic, dimension of freedom," especially in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic.

"The pandemic has taught us that we need each other, but it is not enough to know this," he said. "We need to choose it in a tangible way every day. Let us say and believe that others are not an obstacle to my freedom, but rather the possibility to fully realize it because our freedom is born from God's love and grows in charity."

AS LEAVEN WITHIN THE WORLD

The lay faithful 'are by baptism made one body with Christ and are constituted among the People of God; they are in their own way made sharers in the priestly, prophetic, and kingly functions of Christ; and they carry out for their own part the mission of the whole Christian people in the Church and in the world.

'What specifically characterizes the laity is their secular nature. They live in the world, that is, in each and in all of the secular professions and occupations. They live in the ordinary circumstances of family and social life, from which the very web of their existence is woven. They are called there by God that by exercising their proper function and led by the spirit of the Gospel they may work for the sanctification of the world from within as a leaven. In this way they may make Christ known to others, especially by the testimony of a life resplendent in faith, hope and charity.' [Excerpts from Lumen Gentium](#)

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

Greg O'Neill, Ruth Burke, Frank Zobec, Carol Hallam, Mary Martin, Barbara Wilson, June Pollard, Anne Corver, Ursula Ramsay, Edith Jensen, Philip Bailey, Fr Ellis Clifford, Mimma Gia, Awny El-Ghitany, Bob Hackett, Joe Schimizzi, Rosa Maria Santos, Margaret Sullivan, Mary Lou Pentony, Elizabeth Webster, Pamela Sandy, Maureen Blood, Beth Delos Santos, Peter Catlin, Terry Stephens, Una Bell, Bernard Druett, Veronica & Paul Cornelly, Denis Lawrence

IMPORTANT WWVP CARDS

Please forward to the Parish Office any confirmation emails from Access Canberra or new cards for anyone who has been volunteering especially those who will continue volunteering after the lockdown period. If anyone has not provided a new card or email confirmation, can you please ensure that you do so before volunteering again in a role requiring a WWVP. Please check to see if your card will expire over the next few months and remember to renew.

ADVENT PROGRAM

Parishes and individuals can now register their interest for the family-themed *Walking Together* Advent program produced by the local Archdiocese at:

bit.ly/WalkingTogether_Advent

The short videos and discussion questions will be available for download week by week starting Sunday 21st November to be used in small discussion groups. Enquiries: lara.kirk@cg.org.au 0429 192 869

Don't start your day with the broken pieces of yesterday. Every day is a fresh start. Each day is a new beginning. Every morning we wake up is the first day of our new life. Some days are better, some days are worse. Look for the blessing instead of the curse.

ROSTER 6 / 7 November 2021

Saturday 5pm		
Acolyte / Server	I. Buckley	
Readers	K. Markcrow	
Welcome Minister	K. Murphy	A. Moore
Sunday 8am		
Acolyte / Server	K. Linard	
Readers	Webb Family	
Sunday 10am		
Acolyte / Server	H. Beasley	
Readers	M. Fitzgerald	K. McCluskey
Data Projector	J. Cortese	
Welcome Minister	K. O'Brien	C. Bergin
Sunday 5pm		
Acolyte / Server	D. Gomez	
Readers	K. Watson	J. Curnow
Data Projector	T. Malone	
Counters	F. Higgins	I. Buckley