

# Catholic Parish of Blackiriars



Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



## VERITAS



Issue 51

7 November 2021

Year B

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  
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**Office Hours -**

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

**Office Staff**

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**Facebook:**

[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 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 Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



### COURAGEOUS GIVING

**MASKS MUST BE WORN IN THE CHURCH**



THIS POOR WIDOW PUT IN MORE THAN ALL THE OTHER CONTRIBUTORS. FOR THEY HAVE ALL CONTRIBUTED FROM THEIR SURPLUS WEALTH, BUT SHE, FROM HER POVERTY, HAS CONTRIBUTED ALL SHE HAD.

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

### Entrance Antiphon - Cf. Ps 87: 3

Let my prayer come into your presence.  
Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

## FIRST READING

### First reading - 1 Kings 17:10-16

A reading from the first book of Kings

Elijah the Prophet went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks; addressing her he said, 'Please bring me a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please' he said 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives,' she replied 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel:

"Jar of meal shall not be spent,  
jug of oil shall not be emptied,  
before the day when the Lord sends  
rain on the face of the earth."

The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

### Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 145(146):7-10

*Praise the Lord, my soul!*

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,  
who is just to those who are oppressed.  
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,  
the Lord, who sets prisoners free.

*Praise the Lord, my soul!*

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,  
who raises up those who are bowed down.

It is the Lord who loves the just,  
the Lord, who protects the stranger.

*Praise the Lord, my soul!*

The Lord upholds the widow and orphan  
but thwarts the path of the wicked.

The Lord will reign for ever,  
Zion's God, from age to age.

*Praise the Lord, my soul!*

*Praise the Lord, my soul!*

## SECOND READING

### Second reading - Hebrews 9:24-28

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

It is not as though Christ had entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgement, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

### Gospel Acclamation - Matthew 5:3

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Happy the poor in spirit;  
the kingdom of heaven is theirs.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

### Gospel - Mark 12:38-44

A reading from the Gospel of Mark

In his teaching Jesus said, 'Beware of the scribes who like to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market squares, to take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets; these are the men who swallow the property of widows, while making a show of lengthy prayers. The more severe will be the sentence they receive.'

He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

### Communion Antiphon - Cf. Ps 22: 1-2

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures  
where he gives me repose,  
near restful waters he leads me.



# 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 parishioners will no longer be allowed into the church.

**Try booking Links for November:**

**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.

## THE LITTLE THINGS...

Little things can be really important. On Wednesday the discovery of the little girl Cleo Smith, who had been abducted from a campsite in northern Western Australia eighteen days ago, brought a whole nation great relief and joy. One of the photos released by the Police show her in hospital beaming with a big smile and an ice cream, possibly oblivious to the fact that a whole nation was anxious for her return to her grief stricken family. Although Cleo was small, she was a big deal.



Small things matter. This is the genius behind our gospel for this weekend. We encounter Jesus observing people putting in their contributions for the upkeep of the Temple. Amongst the more ostensibly generous benefactors is a poor widow who gives two small coins, in the eyes of the world not a great deal, in fact almost nothing.

One commentator gives the full background to this small episode:

*These little coins are called lepta, meaning 'light', hardly more than shavings of copper, hardly worth picking up.*

*Obviously this brief vignette evokes the fundamental intentions we have when we do anything for God. Do we give our all in the cause of the gospel, that is do we go over and beyond in our practice of our faith, or do we do the bare minimum? Is our charity meaningful or cursory? Is our prayer life scant, or when we do pray, do we do it in such a hurry that it becomes cold and insincere?*

*Our Lord, in observing the practice of this widow shows us that ordinary holiness is not son et lumiere (lights and sound) but meek, sincere, real, not dissimulated, pretentious or false. "Do not let your left hand know what your right is doing" Jesus teaches us. Our charity, our prayerfulness, our conduct must be sincere. It's not what we do but how we do it.*

*Speaking of little things, the real thinking behind our gospel this week is the simple little way of the Little*

*Cont... Flower, St Therese of Lisieux who realised that she wasn't called to magnificent missionary work like a Francis Xavier, nor was she called to pick the dying poor off the street like her fellow Theresa, Theresa of Calcutta, nor was she called to high ecclesiastical office. Her role, she discovered, was to love, and do all things, even the smallest things with great love of God.*

*This week let us try to follow this "little way", let us do even the most mundane of works with great love, care, and for the glory of God because small things do matter.*

God love you.  
Fr Mannes OP

## PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL MALNUTRITION

'When Elijah confronted the widow, she was on the verge of accepting her death and the death of her son, because of malnutrition. How many thousands, even millions, of people in our world face the same slow death because we live in a world suffering from inequality, greed and selfishness.

'Jesus drew the attention of his disciples to the action of the poor widow who had put in "more than all who have contributed to the treasury ... everything she possessed". She had done just as Jesus had advised the rich young man to do, who had sought his advice on how to inherit eternal life earlier in Mark's Gospel, by giving everything she possessed.

'Contrast with that his scathing condemnation of the Pharisees' hypocrisy of proclaiming to help the poor while "swallowing the property of widows".'

*Excerpts from a homily by Fr Leo Edgar OP*

## INEQUALITY

The Gospel passage for this Sunday in full is a two-parter. In Act I we see a religious and political system that is run by a few wealthy and powerful individuals in the culture. These are the entrepreneurs of the religious establishment, who "as a pretext" to fleecing the poor and the vulnerable "recite lengthy prayers" in show of their religious commitments and to paint the financial exchange as "of God."

Prior to witnessing the widow's offering, Jesus had been teaching his disciples about some systems of social inequality, of imbalance in the religious, political, and social structures of his day. This is not simply to contrast the wealthy with the poor, those who have a "surplus of wealth" from which they offer their gifts at the Temple versus those who have only their subsistence from which to draw. No, Jesus is painting a much starker picture that is, in effect, more about the wealthy scribes than it is about the poor, destitute widow.

Most absurdly, what Jesus observed in his day remains true today — those with the least continue to give more, by percentage of their resources, than the wealthy!

Jesus is not endorsing this behaviour, but blatantly naming it for what it is and challenging us to see the structures that allow this to continue. What can we do to make society and the our faith communities more equitable? Why do we let this continue to happen such that the poor give until it hurts and the wealthy seem to so often benefit from this self-defeat of the impoverished?

Hopefully this Sunday we don't miss the point of the widow's mite, but instead follow Jesus's line of thinking and make a difference in our world.

## PARISH FINANCES

Over the past 11 weeks with the absence of weekend masses neither the Fathers nor the Parish have been able to receive any receipts using envelopes, the collection boxes or Tap & Go machines. Thankfully the Fathers and Parish did receive income from parishioners using electronic methods (Direct Debit, EFT, Credit Cards) to make contributions to both the Fathers' and Parish accounts. Thank you to those parishioners for their continued support.

Our largest loss of income was from those parishioners who could not use their envelopes to make their normal contribution due to the lack of Masses. We need to have those using envelopes to recommence as soon as possible hopefully including any contributions which were put aside pending the resumption of Masses. If you have several weeks of contribution to make and to assist out counters please try to fit your contribution in as few envelopes as possible.

## MASS BOOKS

Liturgical Year C; because of the financial strains of Covid parishioners and readers who require a copy of the Daily Missal or Readers' Break Open the Word will need to purchase their own copy for the new liturgical Year C year. Copies are available from The Catholic Bookshop at the Archdiocesan Office adjacent to the Cathedral at Manuka. Should you have difficulty in getting to Manuka please phone the Office which will order items in for you. The Daily Missal and Break Open the Word cost \$25.00 each if ordered through the Office.

## ARCHBISHOP'S DAY

**Come back to the Father! Archbishop's Day of Teaching - Saturday 11 December 2021 - 9:30am to 4:30pm - St Peter Chaneles Church, Yarralumla.** A day for all interested in Catholic Charismatic Renewal. Holy Mass, reconciliation, talks, testimonies and prayer ministry. Free sausage sizzle lunch! Free entry, collection taken to cover costs. All welcome! Limit 100 persons to book, go to <https://www.trybooking.com/BUTGN>. Or text Maida 0423 658 326.

**HOLY MARY MOTHER OF GOD PRAYER GROUP** meets 2.00pm 1st, 2nd & 4th **Thursdays** in the Parish Centre. Contact the Office for information.

**BLACKFRIARS MEDITATION GROUP** will meet on **Tuesday** evenings during Lent in the 7.30pm Parish Centre. Enquiries John Jarvis 6296 2001 / Michael Flynn 6257 1038 / [www.wccm.org](http://www.wccm.org)

**CRAFT GROUP** meets noon - 4.00pm in the Parish Centre every **Wednesday except the Third week**,

**DOMINICAN LIBRARY** will open **Saturday** mornings, 9.30am - 12.00 noon in the Parish Centre. All welcome.

**WEEKLY READER FORMATION** - Formation sessions have are on Wednesday evenings. These sessions provide reflection on the Scripture readings for the following Sunday. All parishioners are invited. - Meet at the door of the office at 7.30pm OR join us online using Zoom. Zoom details are - <https://zoom.us/j/91493407836>

**pwd=eVBQR0hnZ05CL1YzWU93YmJLNm53UT09**  
The Meeting ID is 983 138 1937 and the passcode is 815443.

**People will never truly understand something until it happens to them.**

## 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](http://bit.ly/WalkingTogether_Advent)

The short videos and discussion questions will be available for download week by week starting Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November to be used in small discussion groups.

Enquiries: [lara.kirk@cg.org.au](mailto:lara.kirk@cg.org.au) 0429 192 869

## PRAY THE ROSARY

On Sunday Mornings prior to 10.00am Mass the Rosary will be recited.

If you would like to join in you would be most welcome.

**Focus on the step in front of you, not the whole staircase.**

## ROSTER 13 / 14 November 2021

Saturday 5pm		
Acolyte / Server	T. Johnson	
Readers	P. Farrelly	
Welcome Minister	K. Murphy	A. Moore
Sunday 8am		
Acolyte / Server	F. Bertrand	
Readers	M. Falk	Volunteer
Sunday 10am		
Acolyte / Server	R. Tanzer	
Readers	J. Cooke	S. Coles
Data Projector	C. Bailey	J. Cortese
Welcome Minister	K. O'Brien	C. Bergin
Sunday 5pm		
Acolyte / Server	P. Tran	
Readers	M. Proctor	
Data Projector	D. Cheyne	
Counters		