

Catholic Parish of Blackiriars

Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



VERITAS



Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Issue 52
25th October 2020
Year A

HOLY ROSARY CHURCH

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

Assistant Priest
Fr Rafael Cabezon 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
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

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**



**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.**



**IF YOU GIVE GOD
YOUR ATTENTION,
HE'LL ALWAYS EXCEED
YOUR EXPECTATION.**

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice;
turn to the Lord and his strength;
constantly seek his face.

FIRST READING

First Reading

Exodus 22:20-26

A reading from the book of Exodus

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this, "You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

"If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

"If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Responsorial Psalm

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: 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread - and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

Matthew 22:34-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: You must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

We will ring out our joy at your saving help
and exult in the name of our God.

THE PRIESTHOOD OF CHRIST

Christ the Priest in scripture



To understand the person and work of Christ it is to the Gospels one may wish to go to first, however, there is one caveat and that is that these fundamental documents about Jesus do not explicitly refer to his priesthood. Fr Benedict Ashely OP, comments that there is no doubt the people of Jesus' day, and into the early church, saw Jesus as a prophetic figure and as a kingly figure. Ashely goes on that Jesus "was not a 'priest' as Jews understood the term. He was not even an ordained rabbi. In the eyes of his contemporaries Jesus was just a layman." In fact, if one were to propose Christ's priesthood from the gospels alone one would be bitterly disappointed. Jesus' tribal grouping amongst the twelve tribes of Israel was the tribe of Judah, the tribe of King David, so Christ's royal lineage is certainly implied by this, priests however came from the tribe of Levi.

A parallel to the person of Christ is Moses, and yet we see Moses and Aaron, for instance, were drawn from that priestly clan (Ex 2:1). For further Old Testament evidence Psalm 99:6 also makes reference to Moses' sacerdotal character. Thus it is Moses, who having received a new covenant from God, bestowed a new priesthood on Aaron in order for him to minister to that new observance.

In chapter 40 of Exodus we see Moses wash and clothe Aaron and his sons Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar. A clue, though, to Christ's priesthood is drawn then from this Old Testament reference for it is this same gesture Jesus does in the washing of the feet at the Last Supper, creating a new priesthood for a new covenant, the covenant in Christ's blood. Logically as well, based on that old scholastic axiom *nemo dat non quod habet*, you can't give what you don't have, it would seem absurd for Christ to bestow the priestly ministry on the twelve if he himself did not in some way possess a priestly nature. The power of the priesthood given to the twelve logically requires that same power to be in its cause, namely Christ; therefore, the priesthood of Christ is implied.

Cont... It is to the Letter to the Hebrews we must call upon to assert Christ's priesthood from scripture. The crucial point of Hebrews is to claim Christ's priesthood not by virtue of physical descent or relation to a particular tribe but by virtue of who Christ is, and what he does. Christ's priestly mission is directly from God himself as Hebrews teaches:

"His vocation comes from God, as Aaron's did; nobody can take on himself such a privilege as this. 5 So it is with Christ. He did not raise himself to the dignity of the high priesthood; it was God that raised him to it, when he said, Thou art my Son, I have begotten thee this day,[2] 6 and so, elsewhere, Thou art a priest for ever, in the line of Melchisedech.[3] 7"

Christ's priesthood then is contingent on his sacred humanity, and like Melchizedek's priesthood, completely unrelated to inheritance or tribal affiliation. In his very being Christ is priest and victim, offerer and offered. Hebrews states the role of the priest is one "chosen from among his fellow men, and made a representative of men in their dealings with God, ... to offer gifts and sacrifices in expiation of their sins."(Heb 5:1-2) This function adequately describes the ministry of Christ in the world, he is one who has been chosen from among men to represent humankind to God and to offer up himself as the victim expiating the sins of humanity.

From scripture then there is no doubt that Christ's priesthood is actually a major theological theme when it comes to exploring and indeed explaining Christ's person and work. Jesus' entire life was one priestly act, made concrete in his offering of himself as a perfect victim upon the altar of the Cross.

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

CHURCH CAPACITY

Please make sure you arrive before the start of Mass to register. The 10am Mass is now reaching capacity (100 parishioners). Once the 100 has been reached, the door will be locked and no one else will be admitted to fulfill Government requirements.

BAPTISM

Gwenivere Clare Pearson

will be baptised this weekend.
May her life filled with God's peace,
and her heart with God's love...
on this Baptism day and always.



LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR

Love of neighbour has been an essential part of our Covid-19 response. As we wear our masks, obey government rules and defer individual wants to the needs of the all, we show our care and commitment to our neighbour.

In his encyclical, *Fratelli Tutti*, Pope Francis says that God willing, after the pandemic 'we will think no longer in terms of "them" and "those", but only "us". . . . If only this immense sorrow may not prove useless, but enable us to take a step forward towards a new style of life. If only we might rediscover once for all that we need one another.'

In the end, as Jesus says, the greatest commandment is: 'you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind . . . [and] the second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself.' Lord we pray for your help in keeping these, the greatest commandments.



The theme uniting today's readings, the unity between the love of God and love of neighbour, goes to the heart of the Christian religion. It seems that the two commandments, existing separately in the Old Testament (see Deut 6:4-5 and Lev 19:18), were brought together by Jesus. But in uniting them he drew directly on the tradition of his people where all commandments regulating behaviour towards others were enclosed within the overall covenant commitment to God.

Fr Brendan Byrne SJ

THE LAST QUESTION?

Packed away in this short scene is the unpalatable truth that we too must take up our crosses if we are to love, forgive, heal, and so worship God in spirit and in truth. We can expect scorn and even persecution because that's what love sets off in those who hold and abuse power. In which case, we can see again why this last question put to Christ leads to his questioning of the Pharisees. If we are really in the business of loving God and neighbour, we shall need the power and victory of the Messiah. It is not enough to have a humanistic ethic. The 'great and the good' in our secular materialistic society grossly under-estimate the forces of evil which confront us. We depend on God's grace in history, the power of the Messiah at work in our lives, and in the Church, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit; we shall ultimately need His judgement and vindication of the martyrs.

Excerpt fr Richard Finn OP <http://english.op.org/torch>

LOVING ONE ANOTHER, WITHOUT EXCEPTION

'Love your enemies', these words were addressed to a people whose traditions urged them to care for their own; but saw no place for good will and generosity to foreigners in general - whom they looked upon as rivals and enemies. Old Israel had been taken into covenant with the living God, shown in the Exodus to be the champion of the poor and oppressed. Through the covenant they were called to identify with the ways of God. In fact, their traditions - as today's reading from the book of Exodus makes clear - were remarkable compared with the outlook of other peoples of their time. As they began to learn what identification with God's ways involved; they recognised that they must care for the powerless - the poor, widows and orphans, the strangers who had settled among them. But they still had much to learn - their good will was not extended to all of God's children without exception. In advocating this as the ideal as his New Law of love, Jesus was not abolishing the old Law, but bringing it to 'fulfilment'. The ideal held up by Jesus as the fulfilment of the Law was clear: 'I say this to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; so that you will be children of your Father in heaven' (Mt 5:44).

From a sermon by Fr John Thornhill SM

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

St Vincent de Paul thanks the Watson Parish for its generosity. The recent Ozanam Appeal raised more than \$2700 to assist St Vincent de Paul conferences in the developing world support the poor.

DAILY MASS BOOK

Daily Missals that are normally available for use at Mass have been withdrawn due to Covid 19 restrictions. For the new Liturgical Year B commencing on the First Sunday in Advent Parishioners who wish to purchase a personal copy should let the office know or put your name on the list in the foyer by 6th November. Cost is \$22.

Is love for God and for neighbour only a vague sentiment, an emotion, a passing motion or a reality that affirms your whole person: heart, will, intelligence and human relationships?

CALVARY CHRISTMAS STALL

Christmas Stall - Calvary Hospital Auxiliary will hold its annual Christmas Stall at Belconnen Fresh Food Markets on Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 November 2020, 8am- 5pm. A huge range of Christmas gifts and homemade goodies will be available. All proceeds will go towards the purchase of equipment and items for the comfort of Calvary Public Hospital patients.

ARCHBISHOP'S TEACHING DAY

Archbishop's Teaching Day - Saturday 7 November.

Each year the Archbishop calls together all people in the Catholic Charismatic Renewal for a day of teaching. This year the theme is "Do not be Afraid!" All are welcome to join us at St Peter Chanel Church, Weston St, Yarralumla from 10am to 4:30pm. Talks, testimonies, praise and worship and prayer ministry. Holy Mass at 12:15pm. Sausage sizzle lunch \$5. The day is free, a collection will be taken for the work of the CCR. To register, go to <https://www.trybooking.com/BLXWI> or text your name to Maida on 0423 658 326

ANNE GRIEVE

Remembering Anne Grieve. An occasion to remember Anne, who died on 8 April this year at Calvary Hospital, will be held Saturday, 31st October, 12.00 midday, at Neil Harrigan's house, 197 Antill St. (on corner opposite the church). Time for personal sharing and BBQ lunch commencing around 12.30. If planning to attend, RSVP to raymond.canning@hotmail.com

ROSTER

Please contact the office by 2 November if you would like to volunteer for the Liturgy Roster. At present we need Acolytes, Readers, People to operate the Data Projectors for the Vigil, 8am & 5pm Masses and volunteers for the register table.

WEEKLY READER FORMATION

Weekly Reader Formation sessions have resumed 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 church at 7.30 pm.

THE LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

Belle Joseph will be giving a talk **The Light in the Darkness: Suffering, Poetry and Faith in the Nazi Concentration Camps** in the Parish Centre on Sunday 22 November at 3pm. The talk to go for 20-30 minutes, and another 20-30 minutes for questions. The talk will be followed by refreshments.

Description: Seventy-five years after the liberation of prisoners from the Nazi concentration camps, the stories of camp survivors are still well known. Yet few people are familiar with the poems that a number of prisoners wrote in the camps. In poetry, these prisoners not only expressed their fears, desires, pain, and consolations, but they also found meaning in their traumatic experiences. For some Catholics in the camps, poetry became a way of discerning the presence of God in their ordeal. In this presentation, Belle Joseph will share the story of some of the French Catholic prisoner-poets and discuss what their lives and their poetry can tell us today about discovering the light of Christ in times of suffering.

Belle studied French at ANU and taught French there between 2010 and 2018. Her doctorate, completed in 2017, investigated the French poetry written in concentration camps during the Second World War.

If you are interested in attending there is a sign up sheet in the foyer.

SOCIAL DISTANCING

Please check the notice board in the foyer for Covid 19 rules for the Church.

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

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

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

Anna Koenigkamp, Marie Shaw, Trinidad Briones, Giovanna Italiano, Damian Ambrosini

Anniversaries - In Loving Memory

Mary Agnes Bergin

PARISH

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION - Parish School of Religion is in recess. Families wishing for children to receive Sacramental preparation should 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.

PRAY THE ROSARY - First Saturday each month 3.30pm

HOLY MARY MOTHER OF GOD PRAYER GROUP meets 2.00pm **Thursdays** in the Parish Centre. 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

ROSTER 31 October / 1 November

ROSTER 31 October / 1 November		
Saturday 5pm		
Acolyte / Server	T. Johnson	
Readers	K. Markcrow	D. Hinds
Sunday 8am		
Acolyte / Server	F. Bertrand	
Readers	E. Smith	J. Smith
Sunday 10am		
Acolyte / Server	H. Beasley	
Readers	M. Fitzgerald	K. McCluskey
Sunday 5pm		
Acolyte / Server	D. Gomez	
Readers	M. Proctor	