

# Catholic Parish of Blackiriars

Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



Issue 54  
8 November 2020  
Year A

## VERITAS

### Thirty Second 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

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



## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

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

## FIRST READING

### First Reading: Wisdom 6:12-16

A reading from the book of Wisdom

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim. By those who love her she is readily seen, and found by those who look for her. Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she makes herself known to them. Watch for her early and you will have no trouble; you will find her sitting at your gates. Even to think about her is understanding fully grown; be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you. She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her and graciously shows herself to them as they go, in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

### Responsorial Psalm: 62:2-8

My soul is thirsting for you O Lord my God.

O God, you are my God, for you I long;  
for you my soul is thirsting.

My body pines for you  
like a dry, weary land without water.

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary  
to see your strength and your glory.  
For your love is better than life,  
my lips will speak your praise.

So I will bless you all my life,  
in your name I will lift up my hands.  
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,  
my mouth shall praise you with joy.

On my bed I remember you.  
On you I muse through the night  
for you have been my help;  
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.

My soul is thirsting for you O Lord my God

## SECOND READING

### Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

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

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them, to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Be watchful and ready:  
you know not when  
the Son of Man is coming.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

### Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said, "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

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.

## THE PRIESTHOOD OF THE FAITHFUL



We have already seen that the ministerial priesthood, the priesthood we normally associate with priests, is ordered towards the sanctification of the common priesthood of the baptized. This week we will explore the priesthood of the baptized in more detail.

As we established last week it was the whole nation of Israel that was considered to be priestly, we recall once more Exodus 19:5-6:

***Listen, then, to my voice, and keep your covenant with me; and I, to whom all the earth belongs, will single you out among its peoples to be my own. 6 You shall serve me as a royal priesthood, as a consecrated nation***

The importance of this passage has ramifications for the new Israel, that is the Church established by the new high priest, Jesus Christ. The new inhabitants of the new Israel inherit the character of a priestly people and a consecrated nation.

Yet now we must look to the purpose of the priestly people. The fundamental understanding of the priestly nation is to mediate God and God's promises to the world. This task is first of all energized by the priestly people's reception of the sacraments. The sacramental life, particularly of the Eucharist and the Sacrament of Penance, help the priestly people to live constantly in a living relationship with the God they are called to

Cont...mediate. More acutely, the priestly character of the baptized impels the baptized person to divine worship, hence the obligation of the baptized to offer worship on the Sunday. The idea of the Sunday obligation makes more sense when we understand it through the lens of the priesthood of the baptized. As priests are ordered towards sacrifice, mediation and worship, so too the priesthood of the baptized is called to this work albeit via the ministerial priesthood which serves it and enables it to offer such worship.

Secondarily, the priesthood of the baptized is meant to mediate God and God's life to the world. Israel was deputed this work as we see in Isaiah 56:6-7:

**6And foreigners who bind themselves to the LORD to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants, all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it and who hold fast to my covenant-- these I will bring to my holy mountain and give them joy in my house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations."**

Israel's office as a priestly nation was to assist in drawing all people to the knowledge and worship of the true God. Thus, the idea of an expanded, new Israel, not contingent on tribal or ancestral connection, was to be the object of Israel's priestly consecration. Furthermore, this drawing of the nations into the worship of the one true God saw that the priesthood once associated with tribalism, whether that be of the nation of Israel as a whole or in particular the tribe of Levi, was now to be open to the foreigner, for Isaiah prophesies the following:

**18"And I, because of what they have planned and done, am about to come and gather the people of all nations and languages, and they will come and see my glory... 21And I will select some of them also to be priests and Levites," says the LORD. (Isaiah 66: 18, 21)**

The mediatory office of the faithful's priesthood also involves the preaching of the kerygma-the fundamental understanding of the Christian faith namely that Jesus Christ died for our sins and is risen now and wishes to share that new life with all people. The role of the faithful then is not to primarily be liturgical ministers, although it does not preclude it, but rather to be the frontline evangelisers in the office, the workshop, the factory, the classroom and the public square.

The Second Vatican Council Document *Lumen Gentium*, which gives a blueprint for the Church in the modern world, states quite clearly in its chapter on the Laity that:

**the laity, by their very vocation, seek the kingdom of God by engaging in temporal affairs and by ordering them according to the plan of God. 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. ( Lumen Genitum #4)**

Whilst all are priests by virtue of baptism, both laity and clergy, the laity's priesthood can be fully discharged in this understanding as given in *Lumen Gentium*. The role of being mediators of God's life and love to the world is enunciated most acutely in

Cont... *Lumen Gentium's* outline for the lay faithful:

**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**

It is our heartfelt prayer that the Church, particularly in its priestly people, may continue to work for the sanctification of society and work within it as leaven so that all people may come to know, worship and love God-Father, Son and Spirit.

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.**

## NOT JUST WAITING FOR GOD

Today's Gospel, the parable of the ten girls at a wedding, is a homely tale which climaxes in the crunch line, "Stay awake because you do not know either the day or the hour."

"In the Garden of Gethsemane Jesus would ask, "Could you not have stayed awake with me one hour?" This is the moment when a new world is to be born; when God made man is to make the ultimate sacrifice of his infinitely precious life; when the endless energy that sacrifice releases is about to pour back into the world as the One we call the Holy Spirit – the Spirit who makes all things new, the Spirit who renews the face of the earth.

'Our faith invites us to see the death and resurrection of Christ as the central events in the history of the world. Through them, God's Spirit is sent abroad to remake humanity in the image of his Son, to gather men and women into that union with him we call his mystical Body. And in such we see what human nature can become if only we let grace do its stuff. This is our remedy as Christians for the ills of the world: the new start, the new energy, the new hope for the world of the risen Lord.'

Excerpts from a homily by Fr Aidan Nichols OP

## SOME THOUGHTS ON TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

Readiness, being alert, a sense of expectancy and hope, these are all things that Jesus tries to communicate through some of his parables. The foolishness of the five was not only that they forgot to bring extra oil, but because they assumed the exact time that the groom was going to come. I ask yourself: Who am I in the parable? Am I willing to wait on God even when I don't know how long it will take? Can I faithfully entrust myself to the unknown with the certainty of God's goodness? Talk to Jesus about these things.

## FIRST COMMUNION

On Sunday **15th November**, we celebrate the institution of the Sacrament of Holy Communion at the Last Supper. Our parish will be celebrating the First Reception of the Eucharist for our young parishioners who attend the Parish School of Religion, at the 10:00am Mass.

**Let us remember these children and their families as we pray that Our Eucharistic Lord may always be a very important part of their lives.**

[Covid restrictions \(4 square metre rule\)](#) allows Holy Rosary to host 100 parishioners. It would be appreciated if parishioners would think about attending either the Vigil or 8:00am Mass that weekend. The students and relatives will be given priority. Thank you.

## ST VINCENT DE PAUL HAMPER DONATIONS

With the support of the Holy Rosary Primary School, the Parish Vinnies Conference will again be organising Christmas Hampers this year for local families in need.



A box will be in the back of the church from next weekend for your hamper donations.

**We are looking for donations of:** Biscuits (tins for seniors are very popular), shortbreads, chocolate and savoury biscuits. Puddings this includes plum puddings, jellies, fruit or pudding mixes. Jams, Pickles, Tomato Sauce, Vegemite, Pasta and Rice, Packets of Cereal. Cake mixes eg. cupcakes, muffins, pancakes etc. Lollies. Tea & Coffee. Gift vouchers for teenagers would be appreciated. Small gifts for older persons.

**We cannot accept nuts or nut products for health and safety reasons.** We will also need to sanitise goods before we pass them on. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

## 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.

## COFFEE MORNING

Coffee morning on Thursday 19th November from 10-30am at 'Gang Gang' in Frencham Place Downer. Regulars and newcomers especially welcome.

## 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 office at 7.30pm OR join us online using Zoom. Zoom details are - <https://zoom.us/j/91493407836?pwd=eVBQRohnZ05CL1YzWU93YmJLNm53UT09> The Meeting ID is 914 9340 7836 and the Passcode is 389526.

## THE LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

Dr 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 will last 20-30 minutes, followed by 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.

Giovanna Italiano, Damian Ambrosini, Colin Campbell

## Anniversaries - In Loving Memory

Adrian Campos

## 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](http://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](mailto:watson@cg.org.au)

Bad habits are like a comfortable bed, easy to get into, but hard to get out of.		
ROSTER 14 / 15 November		
Saturday 5pm		
Acolyte / Server	M. Tran	
Readers	K. Markcrow	
Sunday 8am		
Acolyte / Server	J. Smith	
Readers	N. Clarke	G. Thompson
Sunday 10am		
Acolyte / Server	H. Beasley	
Readers	M. Fitzgerald	K. McCluskey
Sunday 5pm		
Acolyte / Server	D. Gomez	
Readers	M. Proctor	