

Catholic Parish of Blackfriars

Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



VERITAS



Issue 55

15 November 2020

Year A

Thirty Third 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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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.**



GOSPEL

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out. The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir", he said "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Next the man with the two talents came forward. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Last came forward the man who had the one talent. "Sir," said he "I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back." But his master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth."

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction.
You will call upon me, and I will answer you,
and I will lead back your captives from every place.

FIRST READING

First Reading: Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

A reading from the book of Proverbs

A perfect wife - who can find her? She is far beyond the price of pearls. Her husband's heart has confidence in her, from her he will derive no little profit. Advantage and not hurt she brings him all the days of her life. She is always busy with wool and with flax, she does her work with eager hands. She sets her hands to the distaff, her fingers grasp the spindle. She holds out her hand to the poor, she opens her arms to the needy. Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty; the woman who is wise is the one to praise. Give her a share in what her hands have worked for, and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Responsorial Psalm: 127:1-5

Happy are those who fear the Lord.

O blessed are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be happy and prosper.

Your wife like a fruitful vine
in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive,
around your table.

Indeed thus shall be blessed
the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion
in a happy Jerusalem
all the days of your life.

Happy are those who fear the Lord.

SECOND READING

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

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

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times and seasons,' since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is,' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it. But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;
my branches bear much fruit.
Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

To be near God is my happiness,
to place my hope in God the Lord.

CATHECHESIS ON THE MASS

The four reasons we come to Mass



In our investigation of the nature of the Mass we have seen that it is primarily a sacrifice offered to God for the intention of adoring, thanking, petitioning and apologising to God.

The primary ingredients of sacrifice are seen first in the gift or sacrifice offered, namely a victim. In the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass the victim is none other than Jesus himself.

Secondly there must be some procedure in offering the sacrifice, so a ritual or ceremony of some sort. We have seen in our appraisal of the Church's ritual that there is a procedure comprising the reading of God's word and then the action of the 'breaking of the bread' which is the ritual destruction of the victim portraying ritually the redeeming death of Jesus.

Thirdly the sacrifice must be offered by one duly appointed to

Cont...represent the community, this is the office of the priesthood. In the Church there are two priestly realities, the priesthood of the faithful and the ministerial priesthood. The ministerial priesthood is at the service of the priestly people and enables it to discharge its office of priestly ministry namely divine worship and personal sanctification. The ministerial priesthood acts on behalf of the priesthood of the faithful to accomplish the sacrifice which reconciles humanity to God. The priestly people are then impelled to mediate the blessings and life of God to the world from what they have received in the Mass.

The last element of sacrifice is the intention with which one brings to sacrifice. The intention or reason we offer the sacrifice of the Mass is to discharge, primarily, our duty as priests. This duty expresses itself in a fourfold way:

- To adore God
- To thank God
- To petition God
- To apologise to God

These are the four reasons we celebrate the Mass. This is why we are called to the community of the Church to do these four things through Christ our high priest and the victim for our sins. Through the Mass we fittingly and becomingly adore God as he has commanded us to do. Through the Mass we fittingly thank God for what we have received. Through the Mass we efficaciously petition God for the things we need contingent on God's will. Lastly we make perfect reparation for our sins by apologising to God through the redeeming work of Jesus Christ made real and present to us in the Mass.

So when we come to Mass let us be mindful that through Jesus who is present amongst us in the liturgy we perfectly adore, thank, apologise and petition the Father in the Holy Spirit who calls us to worship.

Thus the doxology at the end of the Eucharistic prayer encapsulates what we do as the people of God:

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all glory and honour is yours Almighty Father, forever and ever.
Amen

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.

TOLERANCE

It's been a long week but there is finally a result in the US election. For many millions the result is a joy. However, the election result made it clear the US remains a divided and polarised nation. While Joe Biden won the popular vote convincingly, millions of people voted for Donald Trump. A survey from *America Magazine* found the two candidates split the 2020 Catholic vote almost evenly. How then is it possible to heal the divide? Perhaps the answer lies in celebrating tolerance and understanding. Tolerance is a minimum requirement for a just and equitable social order.

This week let us pray for the US that it finds ways to bridge its divides; and for the President-elect Joe Biden that the use of his talents brings the praise 'Well done, good and faithful servant'. australiancatholics.com.au

Tolerance is giving to others
the right that you claim for yourself.

THE TRUTH THAT SETS US FREE

Thirty-Third Sunday of the Year.

Fr Richard Ounsworth OP

preaches on the parable of the talents.

Like many priests, I am asked from time to time to preach at a school Mass – often for the end of term or the beginning or end of a school year. I would estimate that about two-thirds of the time, the teacher responsible for organising the Mass chooses the Parable of the Talents as the Gospel. It is not hard to see why: the staff of the school want the children to feel encouraged to share their talents and abilities, to make the most of them, for their own advantage and to the enhancement of the life of the school.

I confess that I take a certain amount of delight in telling the children (and the teachers) that this is a completely fallacious reading of this gospel passage. The word 'talent' has come to mean such innate and/or practised abilities as singing, sporting skill, mathematical ability or juggling, *because of this well-known passage and the way in which it has sometimes been understood.* But at the time that the Lord spoke these words, a talent was – as is obvious from the passage itself – simply a very substantial amount of money. The parable is not a general exhortation to exert one's abilities to the benefit of society, but a dramatic lesson about the judgement that will fall upon Christians.

For there are two striking things about this parable that the common, banal and moralising reading of it has to overlook: the first is that the servants are entrusted with something of extraordinary value. We are not speaking here of being a good violinist, but of the treasure of grace and mercy that is entrusted to every Christian. These 'talents' are nothing less than a share in the very life of God himself, which is granted to each of us through baptism and is nourished in the Eucharist and the other sacraments of the Church.

This share in God's life is indeed granted to some to a greater extent than to others – are we not all aware that some are extraordinary saints, while many of us find ourselves somewhat less blessed? But even the least of the children of the Kingdom is greater than the greatest of the Prophets. All of us have been granted something absolutely extraordinary. There is no reason why this should overflow into great skill in any earthly activity; it will overflow rather in that superhuman charity which is the love of God himself.

The second striking thing is a consequence of this: from those to whom much is given, much will be expected. The parable invites us to recognise that God expects, nay demands, that the gift he has given us should bear fruit. Even though that gift is the all-powerful Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of Life, yet that life can be petrified, fossilised, by our lack of response to it. Just as the very Word of God, having assumed human flesh, placed himself into the hands of men and allowed them to nail him to a tree, so the Spirit places himself, as it were, into our hands. We can allow it to transform our lives, and through that transformation to participate in the coming-to-birth of the Kingdom. Or we can allow fear, cowardice and timidity to rule us.

God is not a puppet-master. If we will not co-operate with the Spirit, if we listen instead to the voices of fear, to the murmurers who tempt us to give in, to do nothing, God will allow us to do nothing, to dissociate ourselves from the often-hidden but yet inevitable and inexorable spring that is even now overcoming the winter of sin. But when that spring at last bursts into blossom, as it surely will, then we will weep and grind our teeth when we realise what we have done, what an extraordinary privilege we have neglected.

Fr Richard Ounsworth OP <http://english.op.org/torch>

GROWTH ~ This Gospel reminds us that Christian spirituality is not passive or inactive. Our life of prayer helps us to discern the gifts that have been given to us by God. This prayer and discernment ought to lead us to use our gifts in the service of God and our neighbour. God's grace allows us to share in the work of serving the Kingdom of Heaven.

FIRST RECONCILIATION

CONGRATULATIONS to students who completed the Sacrament of Reconciliation this weekend.

May you find strength in walking humbly before our God as you continue your journey.

FIRST COMMUNION

CONGRATULATIONS to Ruchir, Filip, Jaramogi, Noah, Daniel who are receiving their First Holy Eucharist this weekend.

We pray God's Blessings on their families, their teachers and all who have helped them prepare for this special day.

We pray too for the children that they may come to receive Jesus with faith and love today and always.

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.

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=eVBQRohnZo5CL1YzWU93YmJLNm53UT09> The Meeting ID is 914 9340 7836 and the Passcode is 389526.

LITURGY ROSTER

If you have not received your Liturgy Roster via email there is a copy of the roster in the box in the Sacristy. Readers, you can pick up your of Break Open the Word.

SAUSAGE SIZZLE

The Parish will be having a sausage sizzle after the 10am Mass on Sunday 6th December. To keep Covid safety and numbers in the church parishioners are asked to attend their usual Mass. For catering purposes please indicate the form in the foyer if you will be attending on . Please do not bring a plate to share.

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, Mary Lou Pentony

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

Damian Ambrosini, Colin Campbell, Patrick Crowley, David Shepherd

Anniversaries - In Loving Memory

Mary Boyle, Eileen Liston, Helen (Jelica) Zobec

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

GIVE YOUR HANDS TO SERVE AND YOUR HEARTS TO LOVE. Mother Teresa		
ROSTER 21 / 22 November		
Saturday 5pm		
Acolyte / Server	T. Johnson	
Readers	M. Kraaz	
Sunday 8am		
Acolyte / Server	K. Linnard	
Readers	E. Smith	L. Smith
Sunday 10am		
Acolyte / Server	R. Tanzer	
Readers	A. O'Donnell	L. Fardell
Sunday 5pm		
Acolyte / Server	S. Sedgwick	
Readers	M. Brotohusodo	T. de Luca