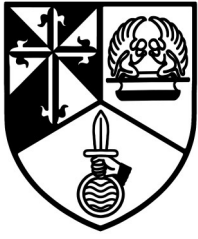


Catholic Parish of Blackiriars

Under the care of the Dominican Fathers



Issue 01
29 November 2020
Year B

VERITAS



First Sunday of Advent

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

Jacque 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

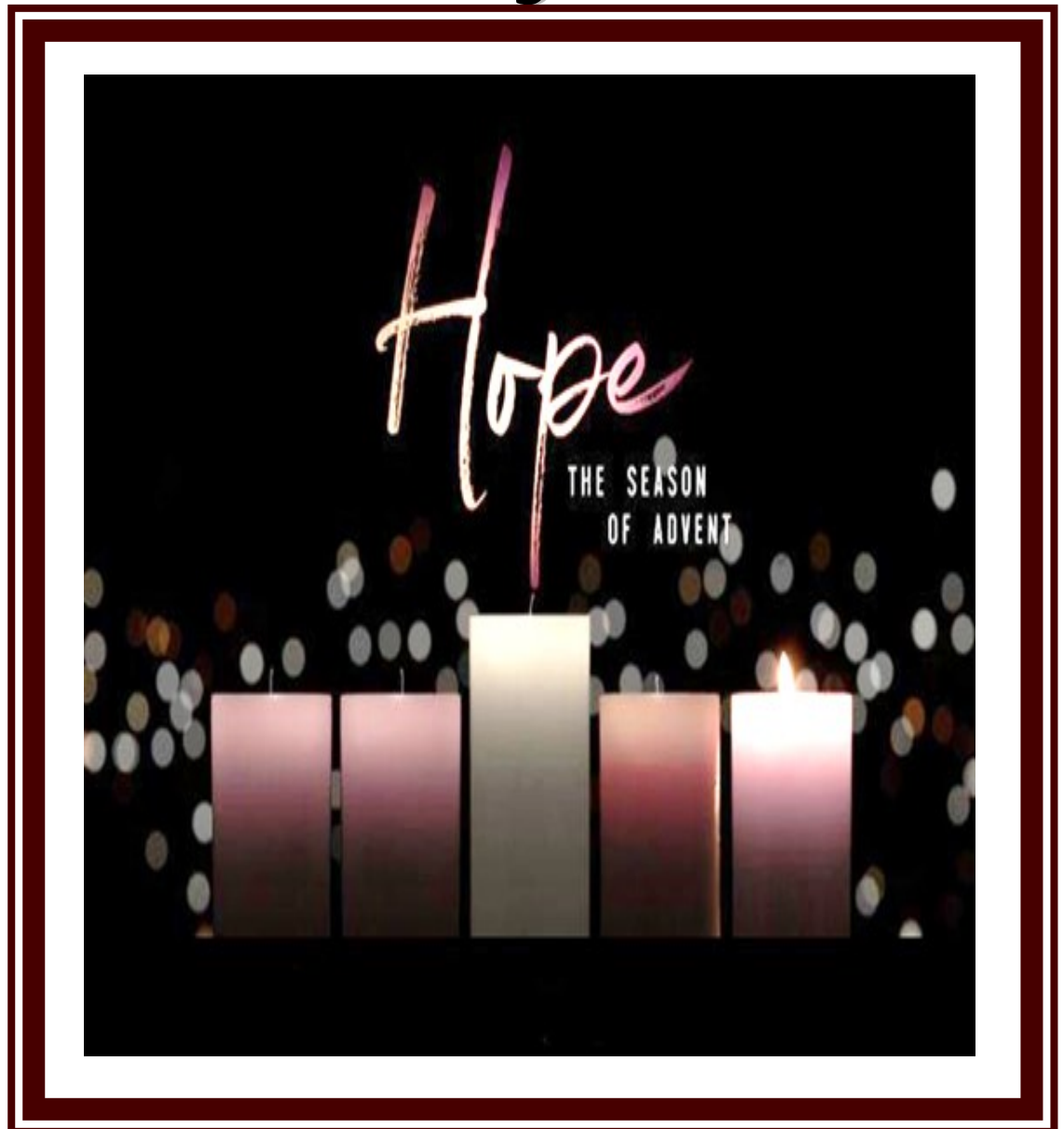
Adoration - Holy Hour

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.**

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

To you, I lift my soul, O my God.
In you I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.
Nor let my enemies exult over me.
And let none who hope in you be put to shame.

FIRST READING

First Reading: Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1.3-8

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

You, Lord, yourself are our Father, Our Redeemer is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you?
Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance. Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down - at your Presence the mountains would melt. No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him. You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind. You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you.
We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours is like filthy clothing. We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind. No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you. For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins.
And yet, Lord, you are our Father; we the clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your hand.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Responsorial Psalm: 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19

Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face
and we shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.

O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help.

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see,
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted.

May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.

And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name.

Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face
and we shall be saved.

SECOND READING

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Gospel

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

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Gospel: Mark 13:33-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus said to his disciples:

'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord will bestow his bounty,
and our earth shall yield its increase.

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.

FAITH & HOPE

It would be fair to say that most of us are waiting for this year – 2020 – to end. Even though there is unlikely to be an immediate change to circumstances, there is a promise of a vaccine for COVID-19 and hope for a return to 'normal'. In the meantime the new liturgical year begins on 29 November with the First Sunday of Advent. Here too we are in a period of waiting – **preparing for the coming of the Lord**. Advent is a season of hope, one **where Mary's wholehearted 'yes' inspires us** to face the turmoil of our day with faith and hope-filled energy. As we go about our tasks this week let us pray for the coming of the Lord with faith and hope.

BE READY FOR THE LORD'S RETURN

"Many of the readings of Advent are from the final chapters of the Book of Isaiah (40-66). These chapters, coming from the time of the Exile, are filled with a renewed hope and confidence in the great future God has promised. Today's magnificent text is typical: 'You are our Father, our Redeemer ... tear open the heavens and come down ... we are the clay, you are the potter, we are all the work of your hand.'

"One of the insistent themes of the prophets of Israel was 'The Day of Yahweh', when God was to come to rule the earth. Writing to the Corinthians, Paul affirms the Saviour's sharing in the fullness of divine authority, calling this final day, 'the day of our Lord Jesus Christ'. He tells his people that, in this present time of 'waiting', they should look forward to the Saviour's coming with confidence.

"During the coming year, our gospel readings will be from Mark. Today's reading recalls a parable of Jesus, urging constant readiness for his return. We have no way of knowing how the end will come upon us. But the first 'Coming' of the Saviour – as truly one of us, born like us and sharing in what we all experience – makes it clear that we can look forward to the final 'Coming' with confidence."

By Fr John Thornhill, SM

WEEKS OF WATCHING

*First Sunday of Advent.
Fr Benjamin Earl OP asks*

if Christians are to be sleep-deprived this Advent.

I am given to understand that sleep deprivation is one of the records which is no longer supported by the Guinness Book of Records, for reasons of health: the previously listed world record holder lasted for eleven days without sleep, but suffered from problems with concentration, memory, paranoia and hallucinations.

So I think we can probably be fairly sure that the command that we hear in today's gospel at the beginning of Advent, that we are to "watch", to "stay awake", lest we be found asleep, is not to be taken literally. Either that or critics of our faith are correct in suggesting that Christians can't think straight, refuse to accept historical fact, are paranoid and delusional.

"Well, of course," you might say, "Our Lord tells us to 'watch', to 'be awake' in the context of a parable, and therefore spiritually rather than physically." And you would be right. But play along with me for a moment, and let us suppose he was in fact speaking about staying awake in a literal sense.

There are some innocent-looking words that our lectionary adds at the beginning of our gospel reading to put it into context: "Jesus said to his disciples." Which disciples? Well, if we look earlier in the chapter we find that it is in fact four disciples: Peter, James, John and Andrew, the first four of the apostles to be called. And the gospel reading divides the night into four parts in which the master of the house might come: the evening, midnight, cockcrow and the morning, just as the Romans divided the night into four watches. And who is to watch in the parable? Not all the servants of the master, who have their own work to be getting on with, and no doubt need their sleep, but the doorkeeper. It is not unreasonable then to suppose that it is these four apostles, as doorkeepers, holders of the keys to the kingdom, who take turns to watch through the four watches of the night. That, I think, puts a slightly different spin on things. Of course, the whole household has to be ready for the coming of the master, "each with his work", but in the first place it is the apostles who actually keep the four watches so that the house can be roused when the master comes.

This apostolic ministry is extended to all of us by the fact Christ says at the end of the parable, "and what I say to you" - that is, to Peter, James, John and Andrew - "I say to all: Watch!" But we watch in the same way as those apostles: not just looking out for ourselves, depriving ourselves of sleep and making ourselves ill in the process, but looking out for each other and depending on each other. We watch for Christ in the watch assigned to us: watching for Christ in the poor, the sick, the hungry, the prisoner; watching too for the hope of the gospel. We watch for Christ not just as individuals, but as part of a community, his household, the Church.

As we prepare for the liturgical coming of the master at Christmas, the Church gives us four Sundays of Advent, four watches you might say, when we look out for him: four different aspects of the Lord's coming that we look for. In the second, third and fourth watch we will see how it is that the Lord will come. Today, though, we are reminded not only what it is we do in Advent, but who it is who is coming: it is the Triune God, the God of Abraham, recognised by Isaiah both as our Father and our Redeemer, the God who formed us as a potter forms clay. We watch for the one who enriches us with speech and knowledge and the gifts of the Spirit as we wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ.

So over these four weeks, let us watch with the Church for the Lord, and watch out for each other and those around us, that we may be better prepared to receive the Lord when he comes at Christmas, or indeed whenever he comes.

Fr Benjamin Earl OP <http://english.op.org/torch>

PREPARE FOR THE ADVENT OF CHRIST'S RETURN

"Today's passage comes at the conclusion of Jesus' warnings to his disciples. Jesus emphasises the need for watchfulness. The Son of Man will come without warning; only the Father knows the exact hour. The disciples must not be caught unprepared when this time comes.

"Scholars believe that Mark's Gospel was written around the time of the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in A.D. 70. Mark's audience consisted of Christians who were living in difficult social and political times, times of conflict. They were likely beginning to face persecution as followers of Jesus. In this difficult time, it helped to recall that Jesus had foretold of such difficulties. Early Christian communities took courage from Jesus' warning to remain alert and watchful, and they found in his words a way to persevere through suffering.

"Today's Gospel reminds us that Advent is about more than our preparation for the Church's celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas. Advent is also about preparing ourselves for Christ's return in glory at the end of time. Like the disciples and the faithful in Mark's community, we must also stay alert and watchful. Our faithfulness to God, through the good times as well as the difficult times, shows us to be ready for the coming of the Son of Man."

Loyola Press website

WAITING FOR THE LIGHT

In the northern hemisphere Advent season, we are made aware that the hours of darkness are lengthening. The days grow shorter. Night seems to consume the world. Perhaps we feel the darkness in our own hearts, our own lives, our own prayer: we look for some sign of God and see nothing. Perhaps we are oppressed by the darkness of the world around us: we notice the poor living without shelter on our streets, we hear the cry of the hungry, we are alerted to war and rumors of war. We yearn to see the day when Christ will come in all his glory to put an end to darkness of every kind. It has been said that in Advent we live in the night with our faces turned toward the unseen dawn. Hosea reminds us of the central conviction of the Advent spirit: "as certain as the dawn is His coming." Let us pray in hope for the rising of the Sun.

*My soul yearns for you in the night,
yes, my spirit within me keeps vigil for you. (Is 26:9)*

SAUSAGE SIZZLE

If you are available to help with the sausage sizzle on the 6 December after the 10am Mass, could you please contact the office. All help appreciated.

THE LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

Suffering, Poetry and Faith in the Nazi Concentration camps of World War 2.

Fr Mannes and 23 parishioners were amazed and captured by Dr Belle Joseph's talk on the above subject on Sunday afternoon 22nd November. Belle delivered an inspirational PowerPoint presentation sharing with her audience extracts from poems written by French Catholic detainees during their incarceration. Their spirit was undaunted by the horrors that engulfed them and they wrote poetry. Most were not professional poets. Writing poetry became a way of discerning the presence of God in their ordeal. Belle was able to interview a surviving Catholic priest poet in 2013 in France and other survivor families. These interviews assisted Belle in writing her thesis completing it in 2017. Thank you to Michael Fitzgerald for setting up the Parish Centre and to Gwen Gleeson for help in tidying up.

Carmel Lewis

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

The appeals for donations to the Dominican Fathers Retirement & Sickness Fund raised \$6,390.00 and for Catholic Missions \$1,550.00. Thank you to all who donated.

SOCIAL DISTANCING

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

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

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 is in the back of the church 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.

The Vinnies Watson Conference is conducting its annual Christmas appeal next weekend – the 5th and 6th of December. Donation buckets will be available at the exits. If you want a receipt, donate via a Vinnies envelope which will be available at the rear of the church. Complete your details on the envelope and Vinnies will send you a receipt.

If you are unable to donate cash, please consider making an on-line donation by depositing money into BSB: 062-786, ACC: 14760. Please make sure you enter the reference: CHRISTMAS APPEAL WATSON. If you require a donation receipt, please email finance.cg@vinnies.org.au with your name, donation amount, donation date and our parish location.

SINGING CHRISTMAS

How marvellous that we are singing again at Mass, and can look forward to singing Christmas music! This year, preparation for Advent and Christmas, is in the church on Monday evenings at 7.30 pm. Covid restrictions will be observed. It would be great to have some new singers come along. Singing Christmas makes it so much more alive and meaningful. No auditions, no age barriers. If you want to sing, come and join us! For more about the music, phone Maureen 61617100

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.

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 on the form in the foyer if you will be attending on . Please do not bring a plate to share.

Carols, chants, hymns & readings to prepare for Christmas.
Sunday Nov 29 & 7.30pm - St Joseph's Church O'Connor.

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.

Colin Campbell, Patrick Crowley, David Shepherd

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.

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

WANTED: LOVING MARRIED COUPLES

Become a Sponsor couple

SmartLoving is a Catholic marriage ministry and is calling for enthusiastic married couples to journey with an engaged couple as they prepare to be married in the Catholic Church. Find out more at this free information session: Wed, 9 December - 8pm AEDT| www.smartloving.org/webinar

There are souls in this world which have the gift of finding joy everywhere and of leaving it behind them when they go.

ROSTER 5 / 6 December

Saturday 5pm		
Acolyte / Server	I. Buckley	
Readers	J. de Riva O'Phelan	
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	L. Kim	
Readers	K. Watson	