

# The Living Word

First Sunday of Lent, Year B

18 February 2018

## First Reading Gn 9:8-15

*I will recall the covenant between myself and you...the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.*

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 24:4-9. R. see v.10

*(R.) Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.*

1. Lord, make me know your ways.  
Lord, teach me your paths.  
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:  
for you are God my saviour. (R.)
2. Remember your mercy, Lord,  
and the love you have shown from of old.  
In your love remember me,  
because of your goodness,  
O Lord. (R.)
3. The Lord is good and upright.  
He shows the path to those who stray,  
he guides the humble in the right path;  
he teaches his way to the poor. (R.)

## Second Reading 1 Pt 3:18-22

*The water of the flood is a type of the baptism which saves you now.*

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

## Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:4

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!*

*No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.*

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!*

## Gospel Mk 1:12-15

*He was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him.*

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

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## Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Today's readings show us that Lent is a time for us to receive God's grace. We are not the ones who, through our penance, are meant to accomplish great things. Rather, it is God who acts; it is God who makes the sacrifice; it is God who accomplishes great things for us.

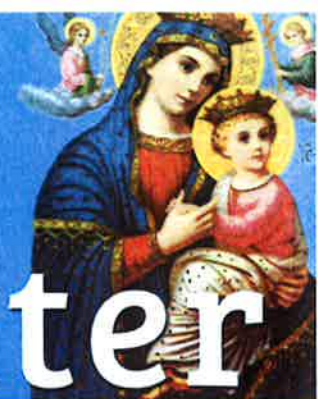
Each reading describes a different kind of conflict within which we might find ourselves: a world-wrenching upheaval, such as happens during social discord, war or natural disaster; the struggle between right and wrong, between fidelity and disobedience; the struggle with temptation. In the midst of the conflicts of life, God initiates a covenant with us. God saves the world from the chaos into which it was thrown, makes a covenant with all living things and with the earth, and sets a bow in the heavens as a perpetual reminder of the covenant. Christ dies for sinners, and offers them baptism that will save them from the chaos of their lives. The Spirit drives Jesus into the desert, there to be tested, but to emerge triumphant. His victory is not for him alone, but for all who will heed his words and follow his example.

The bow in the sky is a sign of the good news of the covenant; baptism is both the good news of salvation for us and our pledge of fidelity to God; Jesus' proclamation is that the reign of God is at hand. With the psalmist we praise God for inviting us into this covenant relationship.



Regina Coeli Parish  
Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney

# Weekly Newsletter



## Liturgy Times

### SUNDAY:

8:30am, 10:00am.

Children's Liturgy during school term

TUESDAY: 8:30am Adoration, 9:15am Mass

WEDNESDAY: 7:00am

THURSDAY: 9:15am

FRIDAY: 8:30am Adoration, 9:15am Mass

SATURDAY: 9:00am

(Adoration and Reconciliation after Mass)

5:00pm (Vigil Mass)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 9:30-10:00am; 4:25-4:50pm



## Pastoral Team:

Fr Peter Kwak  
beverlyhillspriest@gmail.com

## Parish Office Address:

5 Tarrilli Street

Postal Address:

PO Box 100

Beverly Hills NSW 2209

Telephone: 9554 8155

Email: reginaparish@gmail.com

Web: reginacoeliparish.org.au

First Sunday in Lent  
18 February 2018

I will probably never subscribe to Sydney Morning Herald, but since they promised to do 'a major series on the wealth of the Catholic Church' I have been perusing their online articles. I even walked into a cafe and bought a coffee last Tuesday, just to read the paper (too bad that this particular cafe turned out to have only Daily Telegraph)! Anyway, the claim made by SMH is that the Catholic Church in Australia is worth...\$30billion! Well, here are some of my thoughts:

There is clearly a lot of resentment toward the Catholic Church at the moment. Some of this justified; some of it is not. Either way, it seems wrong that mere resentment becomes the driving force that shapes public discourses and actions. After all, resentment is a feeling and a violent one at that. If feelings always got what they wanted, then, the world would be in utter chaos. Feelings ought to be subordinated to reason, especially in public matters.

What is meant by "wealth" of the Catholic Church has to be qualified. A lot of people in Sydney are millionaires but not all of them feel that they are. Why not? Because most of their wealth is tied to their beloved home, just as it is the case with church assets. As explained in a statement from the Archdiocese, many of our assets are valuable as 'spiritual and artistic patrimony of the Church and nation.' Do we always look after them accordingly? Perhaps we ought to do better.

Finally, there is the issue of compensation for abuse victims. According to the report from the Royal Commission, the average amount of compensation paid by the Catholic Church in Australia has been around \$88,000 per victim which seems infinitesimal by comparison to \$30billion. And yet this is roughly four times the average amount of compensation paid by government institutions toward each of their victims. Of course, given that we are a church, we should do much better than secular institutions when it comes to caring for victims, not least by compensating them more wholeheartedly. Yes, definitely.

Let's pray that a spirit of magnanimity may help us overcome the temptation of money and wonderfully renew us!

Fr Peter

## The Week Ahead

<b>Sun 18 Feb</b> 1st Sun Lent	8.30am 10.00am	Mass Mass
<b>Mon 19 Feb</b>		OFFICE CLOSED
<b>Tues 20 Feb</b>	8:30am 9.15am 12:00pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Mass (Yr 4 Class Mass followed by Reconciliation) Funeral Mass Marie Therese Rierchy
<b>Wed 21 Feb</b>	7.00am	Mass
<b>Thurs 22 Feb</b>	9.15am	Mass
<b>Fri 23 Feb</b>	8:30am 9.15am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Mass
<b>Sat 24 Feb</b>	9.00am 4.25pm 5.00pm	Mass & Reconciliation & Benediction Reconciliation Vigil Mass
<b>Sun 25 Feb</b> 2nd Sun Lent	8.30am 10.00am	Mass Mass (Parish/School Mass)

## Please pray for...

### In Loving Memory

Marie Therese Rierchy, John Trisley, Jim Campisi, Frederika Streiff & Buyung Elias, Christina Salim, Alexander Arifin, Agnes Arifin, Pauline Elias, Tony Tesoriero, Gino Morassut, Anna Maria Cicuto, Mirta Lodi, David Shannon, Carmelo Algozzino, Joe Costa, Max Chipman, Lucy Sul Ing Wong, Onofrio Tesoriero, Flintan Lawlor, Sam Xerri, Antonio Mattiussi, Dea Mattiussi, Donato Tozzi, Angelina Tozzi, Francis Son H Tran, Josephine Aguis, Antonino Puglia, Adel Hakim, Louis Goveia, Giovanni Battiato, Alfia Laspina Giuseppa Leotia, Rosa Ferlito, Frank Meaney Snr., Frank Meaney Jnr, Fichera Al Fio, Joseph Agius, Fichera Cal Fio, Francesco Aversa, Iris Sceri, Paul Lauria, Lina Paolercio, Margaret Wilkie, Frank Meaney Jnr, Monsignor John Lyle, John Brogan, Mary Crawford, Maria Dos Santos, Tereza Dos Santos, Manuel Vieira, Gloria Vieira, Bernard John Mortimer, Pat Smith, James Roebuck, Ugo Buracchi, Dan Hall, Margherita Falsone, Maria Mandich, Neville Zacka, Anthony Nguyen, Norm Farrell, Joyce Hansen, Rosario Bombaci, Bartolo Tesoriero, Martin Mifsud, Stephen Xuereb, Marc David Sollazzo, Edmund Banfield, Ken Fleeton, Herman Holtz, Anna & Joseph Pham, Peter Repole, Pat Simpson, Elaine Brooksby, Antoni Pomes, Mary Meaney, The Waters' Family, Connie Fedele, Darren Seymour, Mark Phillips, Frances Spinella, Catherine Lin Siew Ngik, Chris Franchella, Neville Gittany, Gail Moore, Theresa Nguyen, Terzino Ventresca, Delfina Morassut, Sandra Cesarano, Jason Connolly, Paul & Vienna-Marie Agius, Gabriella Pittino, Columba Doherty, Aileen Host, Thomas Tran, Audrey English, Edward Cantwell, Irene McCarthy, Carl John Sollazzo, Joseph Owens, Romeo Vassalo, Thomas Mendes, Salvatore Licari, Vicko Hrdalo, Kate Hrdalo, Joe Poolice, Ivan and Mara Puyic, Patty Woods, Clarice Redshaw, Chris Pezzutti, Bob Pettit, Peter Pezzutti, Maria Addolorata Tesoriero, Nicolino Poreu, Madeddu Filomena Gonario, Sidney Falson, Valerie Zacka, Dea Mattiussi, George & Linda Darrell-Edwards, Maria Cristofaro, Dominico Cristofaro, Tim Mitchell, Donato Carnevale, Mary McGregor, Elizabeth Tesoriero, Theresa May Cantwell, Lambert Claudemans, Vicky Brown, Maria Serravalle, Loretto Davenport, Roberto and Filomena Gartano, Judith Farrell, Pasquale Raglini, Joseph Lin Kee Choo, Graham Daniel, Mildred May Mitchell, Mark Byrne, Carl El-Khoury, Maria Mansour, Joseph Mealing, Maria Giuseppa Mascolo, Cono Reale, Caterina Tesoriero, Leonardo Battiato, Imelda Garcia, Fulvia Maria Tonitto, Myriam Barbe, Maureen Whelan

### Please remember those who are in ill health especially:

Ron Zacka, Sam Hy, Mary Sortwell, Georgia Brown, Leontia Jule Jo, Antonia Falzon, Liam Ajaka, Luke Compton, Paul Camelotti, June Roebuck, Anne Thompson, Anne Maree Michels, Chris Byrne, Dr Antonio Braga, Anne Courtney, Erifilli Vorias, Ann McDowell, Alice Nelson, Terry Wall, Paul Kensey, Mary Emery, Micaela & Theresa Trujillo, Slavica Markotic

<b>Parish Secretary</b>	<b>Sacramental Coordinator</b>	<b>School Principal</b>
Mrs Margaret Doherty-Brady 9554 8155 Tuesday to Friday 8.30am-3.30pm	Mrs Elizabeth Gooley 9554 8155 reginasacramental@gmail.com Tuesday and Thursday 11.30am - 3.30pm	Mr Chris Egan Asst. Principal Mr Peter Busch

## Lent Programme 2018—Surrender

Our Lent Programme this year has an extra feature – daily reflections for Lent and Easter.

Sr Pat is running our Parish Lent Programme in the Parish Centre at 5 Tarrilli Street, every Tuesday after 9:15am Mass.

If you are interested in attending, you will be most welcome to come along to any or all of the sessions.

**World Day of Prayer 2018** will be celebrated here at Regina Coeli Church on Friday 2 March at 10:00am. After the service a morning tea will be held in the Parish Centre. For catering purposes, please note down the number of adults and children planning to attend, on the clipboards available inside each door of the Church.

## RCIA 2017-2018

Our RCIA members will attend St Mary's Cathedral this Sunday 18 February for the Rite of Election.

Since October 2017, Sr Rosemary has been instructing Christian Garcia, Annie Okuthe and Marcel Vaca.

At our Easter Vigil, Christian and Annie will be baptised into the Church and Marcel will be received into full communion with the Church.

Please keep Christian, Annie and Marcel in your prayers as they continue their journey to Easter.

## Life Ascending 2018

Life Ascending is a lay movement approved by the Holy See for older members—be they Catholic or non-Catholic. The members meet to pray together, join in friendship and are of service to others.

The groups in Regina Coeli parish have been meeting for nearly 20 years and would welcome with open arms anyone who is interested in joining them.

- Group One: meets 2nd and 4th Friday of the month after the 9:15am Mass
- Group Two: meets 3rd Friday after the 9:15am Mass in the Parish Centre at 5 Tarrilli Street
- Group Three: meets 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:30pm

**Enquiries: please contact Sr Pat: 9554 3227**

**Book keeper**  
Mrs Maria Awad

**Business Manager**  
Mr Peter Crawford

**Rosary Statue**  
**Mrs M Costa**  
**15 Kooemba Road**  
**Ph: 9150 4113**

## Project Compassion Sunday—18<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed "A Just Future", celebrating the Year of Youth.

As Pope Francis said, "Cultivate with love the seeds of goodness, beauty and truth that God sows in every new generation."

Through your generosity during Project Compassion this year, you are empowering young people to build a just future for themselves, their families and their communities.

### A Just Future starts with your support!

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, or by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.

Rattanak in Cambodia contracted polio as a child and also became deaf. The Deaf Development Program, supported by Caritas Australia, helped him become a barber. He can now use sign language to communicate. He is successfully supporting himself, his wife and baby. The Program has been one of transformation for Rattanak. His experience of 'a just future' started with community and the blessing of support.

## ONE MEAL—It Makes a Difference

ONE MEAL-it makes a difference, is launching a new food service in March for the homeless and those doing it tough in Riverwood, with the hope of reaching as many people in need as possible. Volunteers make a dish from home, such as a pasta, rice, meat, soup or muffins, which are served with coffee, tea, bottled water and a breakfast pack of milk, cereal and a muesli bar. This service is being co-ordinated by the Lending a Hand team at Our Lady of Fatima, Peakhurst.

It will operate out of the Riverwood Community Centre on a Monday between 6.30pm and 8:00pm. We would love to have some volunteers on board from Regina Coeli Parish. If you are interested, please contact Emma on 0418451276 or [emma.williams75@bigpond.com](mailto:emma.williams75@bigpond.com)

## PARISH ROSARY STATUE

Our weekly roster requires further participants. Please consider joining the Parish Rosary roster and welcome the statue of Our Lady into your home for one week of the year. Ring me to join or if you have any queries contact: Margaret Weeks 9554-3250

## Grief to Grace

**Healing the Wounds of Abuse** – is a spiritual retreat for anyone who has suffered degradation or violation through physical, emotional, sexual or spiritual abuse. The retreat will be held April 8th – 13th 2018. To request an application contact Anne by emailing [info@griefftograceaus.org.au](mailto:info@griefftograceaus.org.au) or phone 0407 704 539. For more information visit [www.griefftograce.org](http://www.griefftograce.org)

## Piety Stall

On sale now in the Piety Stall;  
St Paul Sunday Missal, \$9  
Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers, \$4  
A Year with the Angels (Daily Meditations with the Messengers of God) by Mike Aquilina, \$5  
The Piety Stall is open after all weekend Masses, located in the main foyer of the Church

## Parish news

Contributions are invited for the next issue of the Parish News. If you want to complain, congratulate, express an opinion, or write an article of interest; place them in the Parish News box at the back of the church or email [parish-news@optusnet.com.au](mailto:parish-news@optusnet.com.au) by Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> January.

## Christian Brothers High School Lewisham

Open Day will be Tuesday, 20 February 2018. Tours will be conducted at 9:15am and 7:00pm for parents who are considering enrolment of their sons for 2019, 2020 & 2021

Enquiries: contact 8585 1744 or 8585 1702.

Over the coming months St Bernadette's Parish, Carlton, is hosting a series of eight talks by prominent Catholic speakers addressing the Challenges of the Times in our Changing World.

Details of the full programme including those of the speakers can be found in the brochures available at the Church. Please feel free to take one.

The opening speaker for the series will be the Archbishop of Sydney, Most Rev Anthony Fisher. An invitation is extended to all parishioners, and their friends, to attend these talks which will be held at St. Bernadette's Parish, 10 Argyle Street, Carlton starting on Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm.