



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

Fourth Sunday in Advent 22 December 2019

When it comes to organizing events, it seems that I tend to err on the side of being a skeptic – someone who imagines the worst scenario rather than the best. Fortunately for everyone, I was not the key organizer behind last Saturday's Parish Christmas Party which was, all in all, a delightful success! Connie and Rita, with the help of other dedicated volunteers, expertly planned for the event and gracefully held it together. In spite of a last minute family emergency which took one of them out of action on the day – in regard to which we now offer our prayers – the "ship" which they had been preparing to launch sailed on with remarkable efficiency and glad tidings.

Having done very little, apart from saying 'yes, that sounds good, thank you,' I went out to the venue around 2pm in order to welcome the volunteers who were supposed to be arriving then. It was dead quiet. A skeptic or not, it was hard for me to believe that a communal party would come to life there before too long. Then a sign of hope appeared: three teenage boys – members of our Youth Group – who, at the encouragement from one of the mums, agreed to help with setting up! Other volunteers soon joined in and, with plenty of time left before the start of the vigil Mass, the pre-party preparation seemed all but done.

A noticeably larger than usual crowd at the 5pm Mass signaled that, yes, the party was definitely happening. The mass is ended, let's enjoy our Christmas party! As I led grace before meal, it seemed to me that the crowd was slightly smaller than last year's but, then again, someone else thought it was larger. Either way, it did not matter because there were not enough seats for everyone and (I was told) most of the food was gone without delay. Children attacking the jumping castle with endless ferocity made me feel proud in the knowledge that we might be getting our money's worth. They still had more than enough energy for an informal disco later on – something which might become part of the official program in our future parties.

My one regret was that I did not see the full view of the food/dessert tables (plates were brought to me instead while I was talking!) because I really wanted to thank all those who made beautiful efforts to add to our festivity by bringing something (not that they had to). The heartfelt solicitude toward the parish which was evident in so many of our parishioners was truly edifying! With amazing help from both signed-up and spontaneous volunteers we were flawlessly packed up by 9pm, roughly at which point I started to feel drops of rain falling on my face. I could not help but look up and say 'thank you!'

- Fr Peter -

Pastoral Team:

Fr Peter Kwak PP

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The Week Ahead

| | |
|--|---|
| Sun 22 Dec Fourth Sunday in Advent | 8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 3:00pm-5:00pm Reconciliation |
| Mon 23 Dec | No Mass |
| Tues 24 Dec Christmas Eve | 11:30pm Carols followed by Midnight Mass |
| Wed 25 Dec Christmas Day | 8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass |
| Thurs 26 Dec St Stephen martyr | 9:15am Mass |
| Fri 27 Dec St John apostle, evangelist | 8:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9:15am Mass |
| Sat 28 Dec Holy Innocents martyrs | 9.00am: Mass 4:25pm Reconciliation 5:00pm Vigil Mass |
| Sun 29 Dec Feast of Holy Family | 8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass |

Please pray for...

Recently Deceased

In Loving Memory

Jim Knight, Dea Mattiussi, Jovito Canonizado, Asia & Damia Dagher

Please remember those who are in ill health especially:

Damiano Serravalle, Michelle Makin, Pat Johnson, George Dagher, Mrs Saba, Josephina Algozzina, Geraldina Civitarese, Pat Mortimer, Greg Weekes, Mrs Donald Burch, Mary Daniels, Geoff McDowell, Elena Mura, Mr TD (Terry) Wall, Kim Delaney, Mary Emery, Lauren Sotano, Sam Hy, Mary Sortwell, Georgia Brown, Luke Compton, Paul Camelotti, Anne Maree Michels, Slavica Markotic.

Rosary Statue

Mr & Mrs F Capra
168 Moorefields Road

Ph: 0490 532 693



Parish Secretary

Mrs Margaret
Doherty-Brady
9554 8155
Tues 8:30am – 1:30pm
Wed & Fri 10.30am-
3.30pm
Business Manager
Mr Peter Crawford

Sacramental Coordinator/

PSSO
Mrs Elizabeth Gooley
9554 8155
reginasacramental@gmail.com
Tuesday **and** Thursday from
11.30am - 3.30pm

School Principal

Mr Chris Egan
Asst. Principal
Mr Peter Busch
REC
Mrs Elizabeth Webster

Christmas Mass Times

Tuesday 24 December 2019

Christmas Vigil Family Mass
Christmas Eve at 7:00pm
Christmas Midnight Mass
commencing with Carols—11:30pm



Wednesday 25 December 2019

Christmas Day Masses
8:30am & 10:00am

Reconciliation—First Rite

Thursday 19 December 6:30pm-8:30pm
Sunday 22 December 3:00pm-5:00pm

For Families in Need

Are you experiencing difficulties in providing your family with those extra needs you hadn't expected, for example, uniforms, shoes, shirts suddenly too small or maybe sports gear, etc.? There are many ways in which we can help you, so please do not feel shy or embarrassed by your needs. We are just a phone call away, waiting to assist you. Confidentiality is guaranteed at all times. If you would like to chat with us just ring any of the telephone numbers listed below. God bless.

Anne 02 9759 2357

Joy 02 9150 4996

- *The Ladies Conference of the Saint Vincent de Paul Society, Regina Coeli Parish* -

Catechist Required

Next year, our Parish will be in need of catechists for the following classes-

Year 5 & Year 6 Beverly Hills North Public School on Wednesdays at 11.50am.

Year 4 Narwee on Thursday at 10.05am.

If you have a little time and are interested in becoming a catechist or a catechist helper, please speak to Fr. Peter or contact the Parish office. Also, if you have a WWC check, you are most welcome to attend and observe a class with another catechist to see if this ministry may be for you! Training courses and teaching materials are provided by the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine.

Last Weekend
15 December 2019

2nd Collection \$2,158.00

1st Collection \$1,119.75

Attendance

| | |
|--------------|----------|
| 5PM | ? |
| 8.30AM | 131 |
| 10AM | 146 |
| Total | ? |

Seventy years! In retrospect quite a long time; a lifetime for many.



In these last years of my long life that joy was very much in being a part of Regina Coeli parish for just on twenty five years. Thank you for your support and friendship during those years.

- Sr Patricia -



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First Reading Is 7:10-14

The virgin will conceive.

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No', Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.'

Then Isaiah said:
'Listen now, House of David:
are you not satisfied with trying the
patience of men
without trying the patience of my God, too?
The Lord himself, therefore,
will give you a sign.
It is this: the maiden is with child
and will soon give birth to a son
whom she will call Immanuel,
a name which means "God-is-with-us".'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 23:1-6. R. see vv 7. 10

**(R.) Let the Lord enter;
he is king of glory.**

1. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm. (R.)
2. Who shall climb the mountain of the
Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure
heart,
who desires not worthless things. (R.)
3. He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 1:1-7

Jesus Christ, a descendant of David, is the Son of God.

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures.

This news is about the Son of God, who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead.

Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 1:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

A virgin will give birth to a son;

his name will be Emmanuel:

God is with us.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 1:18-24

Jesus was born of Mary, the betrothed of Joseph, a son of David.

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to
a son
and they will call him Emmanuel,

a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Despite all of the excitement associated with eschatological fulfilment, despite all of the assurance we have that it will be an experience of peace and abundant life, the mystery for which we long requires the risk of faith. Despite all of the times that we have celebrated the Nativity, we still do not have full comprehension and understanding. Still we are invited to enter deeply into the event that is before us. Will we step into a life of deeper faith and commitment, or will we merely participate in the external celebration of the feast? Only we can decide, and only we will really know the decision that we make.

The circumstances of our lives influence the way we live out our faith. As Christians, we are called to devote ourselves to the service of Christ. Our primary commitment must be to Christ and to the way of being human that he has shown us. We must be committed to what enriches life and not to what diminishes it. We must be committed to the good of people and not to the hoarding of things. We may not be official heralds of the gospel, but we proclaim our faith in the way we live our lives, in the kindness with which we treat others, in honesty of our business transactions. We proclaim the gospel when we stand for justice, when we forgive those who have offended us, when we show compassion to those who suffer. As we step into the eschatological age, we are called to recommit ourselves to genuine Christian living.