



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

4th Sunday in Lent

31 March 2019

In my last week's homily I briefly critiqued the so-called *mainstream* - mainstream culture/media/politics/business/ethics/education/ ...and religion! Instead of 'mainstream' I could have said 'movers & shakers of the mainstream' or the 'elite' (so-called). There has been a *myth* for quite some time that whatever the elite want will happen *inevitably*; that the narrative they promote will be the only "orthodoxy" by which all must abide. But now that *myth* is being debunked. A case in point was the election of Donald Trump in 2016. When he was running for presidency the vast majority of the "elite" denounced and mocked him with a united voice. Well, Trump still won the election, or rather people voted for him. I noticed that for the first day or two there were more than a few in the media who felt somewhat repentant and called for self-examination: *Perhaps we have been a little conceited and out of touch?* But alas! An evolved narrative quickly took over: *Trump colluded with Russia and stole the election from us!* For the past two years this has been the backdrop for every attempt to discredit the new president (whether one likes him or not is a separate matter). Well, at the end of an arduous investigation, Trump was finally declared 'not guilty'. Was anyone ready to apologise? Of course not, just as no one - including the then prime minister M. Turnbull - apologised for having pressured Archbishop Philip Wilson to resign even though he went on to become exonerated of "cover-up" upon appeal. The *myth* is working overtime in a desperate attempt to preserve itself, silencing anyone who challenges it by resorting to cheap tactics. But why don't the "elite" realise that by acting so...*superciliously* they are further alienating ordinary people who still have common sense?

Of course, what we really want is to *build up* and not just to tear down. And 'building up' needs to begin in our own household, including the spiritual household of our communal faith, namely, the parish. Ours is a very blessed parish for numerous reasons but, to be quite frank, its long-term future seems not so clear, especially as an independent parish. What we really need are more parishioners who display a real sense of loving stewardship over the parish which is their spiritual home. We have legendary volunteers whom I cannot thank enough, but they also tend to be the same people who have done the same work for many years. This is neither ideal nor sustainable. **3 reasons why we need YOU to become a parish volunteer:** 1. **The needs of the parish (your home) are real and pressing** 2. **You'll hopefully grow spiritually through the role of service** 3. **When more are helping, work becomes more manageable, enabling us to be more confident in our mission to evangelise!** Please turn to page 3 for the list of roles, thank you.

- Fr Peter -

Pastoral Team:

Fr Peter Kwak

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Beverly Hills NSW 2209

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The Week Ahead

Sun 31 Mar 4th Sunday in Lent	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass
Mon 1 Apr	No Mass
Tues 2 Apr	8:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass 10:00am Reconciliation Yr 6
Wed 3 Apr	7.00am Mass
Thurs 4 Apr	9.15am Mass
Fri 5 Apr	8:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9:15am Mass
Sat 6 Apr	9.00am Mass 9:30am Adoration and Reconciliation 4:25pm Reconciliation 5.00pm Vigil Mass
Sun 7 Apr 5th Sun of Lent	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass

Please pray for...

Recently Deceased

In Loving Memory

Margherita Campisi, Jim Campisi, Giovanni Battato, Alfia Cocco, Giuseppa Leotta, Rossa Leotta, Donato Tozzi, Angela Maria Pinto, Nicola Repole, Peter Repole, Doris Micallef, Judith Partlin, Annamaria Cicuto, Vicko Hrdalo, Kate Hrdalo, Joe Poolice, Mara & Ivan Puljic, Lambert Glaudemans, Vicky Brown, Carmelo Algozzino, Vito Maida, Patricia Freeman, Henry Walter Bullock, Christopher Pezzuti, Tony Tesoriero.

Please remember those who are in ill health especially:

Geraldina Civitarese, Pat Mortimer, Greg Weekes, Mrs Donald Burch, Mary Daniels, Geoff McDowell, Peter Campbell, Greg Daniels, Elena Mura, Carmen Aquilina, 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.

Safeguarding and Sacristy

In the current climate - when the shadows of sexual abuse within the Church still loom large - we ought to minimize reasons for concern about children's safety. Accordingly, as a general principle, we would do well to ensure that there are at least two adult supervisors whenever children are on church premises. Therefore I ask that our readers, whenever physically possible, gather in the sacristy before and after Mass, for as long as children are still around, and be part of the procession and recession. Also, a parent or two of our altar servers are encouraged to accompany the children in the sacristy before and after Mass in order to strengthen the safeguarding measures. In my view the sacristy is an open space which anyone can approach at anytime respectfully. Thank you for your cooperation. Let us all become more conscious of the need for vigilance so that our parish can become a truly safe place for children and any unnecessarily doubt can be dispelled.

- Fr Peter -

Life Ascending Meeting times are:

Third Thursday at 7:30pm
Second and fourth Fridays after the 9.15Mass.

Seeking - Singers & Musicians to join the musical ministry at Regina Coeli Parish

Rehearsals - Take place every Tuesday night in the church 6pm to 7:30pm - **next rehearsal is 2nd of April 2019**

Singing - The choir sings at 8:30am mass and other masses such as Christmas and Easter as requested.

The choir is currently preparing for the season of Lent leading up to Easter and would love to encourage parishoners to join one of the musical ministries at Regina Coeli.

If you would like to be part of this ministry please come along to a rehearsal on Tuesday night.

Any questions or enquiries, please contact
Natasha - nat_demel@live.com.au or
Wendy - wendyp013@gmail.com

Rosary Statue

Mrs M Weeks
23 Yoorami Road

Ph: 9554 3250



Parish Secretary

Mrs Margaret Doherty-Brady
9554 8155
Tues, Wed, 8.30-3.30
Fri 8.30am-2.30pm
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

Last Weekend
24 Mar 2019

2nd Collection \$2011.05

1st Collection \$1209.05

Attendance

5PM	178
8.30AM	152
10AM	246
Total	576

The Redemptorist Community Kogarah is seeking a part time cook (30 hours) Monday to Friday. For further details, please call Stephanie Machee (02) 9553 3777

RCIA Profile: Xie (Cici) Wei

Why do I want to become a Catholic? First of all, for my dear father. My father had an accident in Australia about 1 year ago and he is really in pain at the moment. I feel it was my fault; if he wasn't coming to visit me in Australia, he might not have had the accident or the pain. I want to find a way to pray for my father. I hope and believe that God can help me with my problem and protect my dear father. The second reason is for myself. I feel challenged especially by relationship issues. I am confused about what to do, how can I do better in the future and bring about harmony. I hope that Dear God can help me become happy again. Thirdly, for my kids. I hope that they will learn faith and love from their mum, share their love with their mum and dad and friends, and become happy by loving. This is my prayer. Amen.

Roles for Parish Volunteers

Evangelisation

Adult/Family Formation Team
Catechist
Children's Liturgy (Sunday 10am Mass)
Hospitality Team (morning tea & other events)
Life Ascending (for the retired)
Parish Pastoral Advisory Committee
RCIA Team
Rosary Group
St Vincent de Paul Ladies & Mens Conferences
Youth Group
Young Adult Group

Liturgy

Acolyte
Altar Server
Altar Society
(cleaning and beautifying the sanctuary)
Audio/Visual Operator
Choir (5pm, 8:30 & 10am)
Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion
Liturgy Committee
(planning/organising liturgical celebrations)
Piety Stall
Reader
Sacristan
Warden (collecting at Mass)
Welcomer (greeting at Mass)

Administration

Building & Maintenance Committee
Finance Committee
Safeguarding Committee

Woronora Outdoor Stations of the Cross Pilgrimage

A warm invitation is extended to you to join me in making the journey to Woronora Cemetery this coming Tuesday, 2nd April, to walk the beautiful outdoor Stations of the Cross. If you have not been to these outdoor stations before you will be moved by the beautiful sculptures and silent surrounds. Little ones are very welcome, you will just need to keep them close by you. This is a lovely opportunity to join in quiet contemplation of the Way of the Cross as Holy Week approaches. Nothing is expected of you. This is your time to hopefully discover some peace and connection in prayer and reflection. Afterwards if you would like, we will have morning tea on the grounds. We plan to meet in the main school playground by the flagpole at 9am, returning to Beverly Hills approximately 12.30pm. You are welcome to car pool with others making the journey from the school grounds, or you can of course make your own way there independently. If you could please call or email me if you would like to come, whether you think you would like to meet on the school grounds or at the Cemetery, I would be most grateful. Please feel very welcome also to call or email if you would like any further information.

In faith, Abby Claridge,
Family Educator, Regina Coeli Primary School
abigail.claridge@syd.catholic.edu.au Ph: 0488 151 390

Parish Lent Group—Open invitation to join our parish Lenten Programme, which takes place on Tuesdays in the parish centre at 5 Tarrilli Street, after the 9.15am Mass. Thank you. Sr Pat.

Walk the Lenten Journey on your Mobile Phone

In his message for Lent 2019, Pope Francis emphasised that we should “not allow this season of grace to pass in vain.” With new content daily, the Lent Calendar App can help those who desire to journey through Lent with purpose. The App includes the daily Gospel, a suggested Lent act, and a multimedia feature to pray and reflect upon.

Available as an App on Apple and Android devices, and online at
www.sydneycatholic.org/xt3lent

Men's Lenten Retreat Day at Notre Dame Broadway

On Saturday, April 13 from 9am to 4:00pm. The day will include Mass, time for reflection and reconciliation, lunch and afternoon tea, and inspiring talks from three speakers. The retreat will take place at The University of Notre Dame Australia on Broadway campus. Event is free, registration essential: Sydney.chaplaincy@nd.edu.au or (02) 8204 4189 or Trybooking.com/475522

First Reading Jos 5:9-12

The people of God went to the promised land and there kept the passover.

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.'

The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 33:2-7. R. v.9

(R.) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. (R.)
2. Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us praise his name.
I sought the Lord and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free. (R.)
3. Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called; the Lord heard him
and rescued him from all his distress. (R.)

Second Reading 2 Cor 5:17-21

God reconciled us to himself through Christ.

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on his reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 15:18

*Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
I will rise and go to my Father and tell him:
Father, I have sinned against heaven and
against you.*

*Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus
Christ!*

Gospel Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Your brother here was dead and has come to life.

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them:

'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father.

'While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate.

'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening."

'The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found."

**Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA**

In the midst of Lent we are given a moment for rejoicing, Laetare Sunday. All of the readings provide us with reasons for rejoicing. The overarching theme is the prodigal goodness of God. The responsorial psalm sets the context for the reflections. The other readings show how needy people were showered with divine favour. Even in the midst of this rejoicing, we find a challenge. We must undergo a change of heart if we are to rejoice in God.

The goodness of God is strikingly portrayed in the radically new image of father. This is a God who allows us to follow our own dreams, who is partial to no one, who faithfully and patiently waits for us to return, who gently corrects our misperceptions. God longs to be reconciled with us even more than we long to be reconciled with God.

The challenges placed before us set out some of the conditions required if we are to be a new creation. We are called to a profound and total reconciliation, first with God and then with each other. Christ was identified with sin so that we might be identified with God's righteousness. Reconciliation requires that we be open to giving and receiving forgiveness. It requires that we both remember and forget. We must always remember the causes of alienation, so that we not succumb to them again. However, we must forget the resentment that we felt so that we not allow it to influence our lives.

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