



# 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

### 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time 4 August 2019

While waiting for the Archbishop's arrival, I thought to myself for about the tenth time, 'I really ought to get a new towel for him.' But there was not much time left - could I make it? Next moment I am at Roselands Shopping Centre and I already know why Elizabeth Gooley (Sacramental Coordinator) is calling me: 'Father, where are you? The Archbishop is here!' And so started the Archbishop's pastoral visitation here at Regina Coeli: as a forlorn guest, without the parish administrator to welcome him!

Our interview took well over an hour, at a local cafe whose staff seemed oblivious to the significance of the occasion (I tried to explain what an archbishop was, to little avail). Then there was lunch with the finance committee which actually turned out to be more business-like than I expected. The nursing home visit - intended to be a quiet affair concerning only our former parishioners - escalated into a largish gathering of over 30 Catholics - half of them residents, the other half St Ursula's marvellous girls who were volunteering. A few more clandestine visits to somewhat isolated parishioners who inevitably turned radiant with joy. It had been a long day already consisting of small and quiet meetings spread over 6 hours - a meaningful day but by no means an "electric" one, that is, until the elevator took us to the function room at Club Rivers and ushered us into a whole new world of *festive* Regina Coeli. No words needed to be spoken; it was as though the Archbishop intuited immediately that he was encountering something special. He quickly went about trying to greet everyone - more than 240 of them! How to describe the parish dinner? 'Better than expected' was a common response. 'Let's have it every year' was another one. For me, it was like a mini-version of "World Youth Day" - a mysterious event which is palpably charged with joy and leaves many feeling inexplicably elated even when it is over. Feeling sociable seemed to spread like gentle fever; even children seemed genuinely happy, unabated by whatever might have seemed foreign to their world under usual circumstances.

The Archbishop was articulate, interesting and even humorous during the Q&A. Using '[slido.com](https://www.slido.com)' in the lead-up to the Q&A had been something of a rollercoaster ride - some of the most popular questions turned out to be also the most challenging, requiring the Archbishop to give a yes or no answer about complex and sensitive matters (e.g. school expansion and the future of the parish). I thought these would be better addressed in a more private setting first. The Archbishop did confirm one thing though (during the day with me): that there was no current plan to combine Regina Coeli with another parish! He also said (publicly) something about how he would petition to ensure that I stayed at Regina Coeli, but then this part is a little hazy in my memory and I couldn't tell you exactly what he said or meant. What matters the most though is the fact that we might have some stability here at Regina Coeli for a while and I hope that we can make the most of it!

- Fr Peter -

#### Pastoral Team:

Fr Peter Kwak

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## The Week Ahead

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Sun 4 Aug</b><br>18th Sunday<br>in Ordinary<br>Time | 8.30am Mass<br>10.00am Mass                               |
| <b>Mon 5 Aug</b>                                       | No Mass   |
| <b>Tues 6 Aug</b><br>Transfigura-<br>tion              | 8:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament<br>9.15am Mass |
| <b>Wed 7 Aug</b>                                       | 7.00am Mass   |
| <b>Thurs 8 Aug</b><br>St Mary of the<br>Cross          | 9:15am Mass with School                                   |
| <b>Fri 9 Aug</b>                                       | 8:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament<br>9:15am Mass |
| <b>Sat 10 Aug</b><br>St Lawrence                       | 9.00am Mass<br>4:25pm Reconciliation<br>5:00pm Vigil Mass |
| <b>Sun 11 Aug</b><br>19th Sun in<br>Ordinary<br>Time   | 8.30am Mass<br>10.00am Mass                               |

## Please pray for...

### Recently Deceased

Peter Campbell, Ron Daniels, Carmen Aquilina, Zach & Josh, Neil Kirkness, Fouad Attia, Jeanette Cardoz, Kerry Elhourani

### In Loving Memory

Joe Poolice, Ivan & Mara Puljic, Vicko & Kate Hrdalo, Maurice Haddad, Maria Giuseppa Mascolo Amy Kathlee Caren, Elizabeth Dang, Bernie Crawford, Anna Maria Cicuto, Patricia Gates, Viet Dinh, Pio Gonano, Donato Tozzi, Damia & Assia Dagher.

### Please remember those who are in ill health

**especially:** George Dagher, Genevieve Shedden, Geraldina Civitarese, Pat Mortimer, Greg Weekes, Mrs Donald Burch, Mary Daniels, Geoff McDowell, Greg Daniels, 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.

### 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



A special thanks to Rula and her team for helping to find the new set of flowers—the ones which aren't real and yet are *really* beautiful!

## Catholic Works Fund Appeal - next weekend.

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney will be holding a CWF Parish appeal, **on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> August 2019**, (moved from 3rd and 4th on account of the Archbishop's pastoral visitation).



*Congratulations to Noel Smith for receiving the Demsey Medal from the Archbishop, thank you for making us proud!*

## Rosary Statue

**Mrs J. Maher**  
**27 Roseview Avenue**

**Ph: 02 9759 7136**



| Last Weekend<br>28 July 2019    |          | Attendance   |          |
|---------------------------------|----------|--------------|----------|
|                                 |          | 5PM          | ?        |
|                                 |          | 8.30AM       | 109      |
|                                 |          | 10AM         | 195      |
|                                 |          | <b>Total</b> | <b>?</b> |
| <b>2nd Collection \$1721.65</b> |          |              |          |
| 1st Collection                  | \$963.05 |              |          |



*A parishioner who lives in Midlothian Avenue, Beverly Hills, was wondering if someone living nearby would be happy to give her a lift to Mass on the weekend. She would be happy to attend any Mass. Please let me know, thank you. - Fr Peter -*

## **Help stop attempts to make abortion legal up until birth in NSW**

Earlier this week, the *Reproductive Health Care Reform Bill 2019* (**Bill**) was tabled in NSW Parliament. If passed, it will make abortion legal up until birth in NSW, for any reason, as long as two doctors agree if the baby is more than 22 weeks' old. There has been no community consultation on this Bill. Attempts to rush the Bill through Parliament intentionally exclude the voices of all concerned citizens, including people of faith, from the debate.

**We must act immediately to try and stop this Bill.** Please **urgently** contact your NSW State Member of Parliament and ask them to vote against this Bill. Your local member's details are:

- ⇒ **Sophie Cotsis, 9718 1234 [canterbury@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:canterbury@parliament.nsw.gov.au)**
- ⇒ **Chris Minns, 9587 9684, [kogarah@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:kogarah@parliament.nsw.gov.au)**

Simply phone the electorate office during business hours and let them know that you are from the local area, and would like to ask the Member to vote against the abortion bill. Some reasons you can provide for asking them to vote against the Bill include:

- It would allow abortion up until birth with the approval of two doctors, for any reason.
- It does nothing to provide alternatives for women who feel distressed at being pregnant and feel they have 'no other option.'
- It provides no protection for women experiencing violence (According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, 48 per cent of women who report violence from a former partner were abused during pregnancy, as are 18 per cent of women who report violence from a current partner.)
- It overrides conscience of doctors and other medical professionals or institutions, requiring them to disclose their objection and refer to another doctor or institution who will perform the abortion.
- It will leave unborn children and distressed pregnant women even more at risk.
- There has been no community consultation on the Bill.
- Voters have been denied the opportunity to have their voices heard in this debate.

### **Catholics believe that women and babies deserve better than abortion.**

If you know a woman experiencing difficulty because of an unexpected pregnancy, please know that there is help available. The Church, through its many agencies, can provide support to women who feel they have no choice available to them other than abortion.

### **Thank you for your willingness to help in building a culture of life in NSW!**

*- A notice from the Archdiocese -*

We say farewell to Ada and Don Zerafa who, after living in the parish of Beverly Hills for over 50 years, have taken up residence together in an aged care facility at Prestons. Both their sons Glenn and Bryan went to school and were married at Regina Coeli and their 4 grandchildren (Adam, Caitlin, Sienna and Kiara) were also baptized here. We wish Ada and Don all God's Blessings in their new home. Details are with the parish office should you need to contact them.

***End of Financial Year Tax Receipts are now available at the back of the Church. Receipts for donations to the St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal are also included in the envelopes. Thank you!***

# The Living Word

**Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C**

**4 August 2019**

## **First Reading Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23**

*What do people gain by all their work?*

Vanity of vanities, the Preacher says. Vanity of vanities. All is vanity!

For so it is that a man who has laboured wisely, skilfully and successfully must leave what is his own to someone who has not toiled for it at all. This, too, is vanity and great injustice; for what does he gain for all the toil and strain that he has undergone under the sun? What of all his laborious days, his cares of office, his restless nights? This, too, is vanity.

## **Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 89:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. v.1**

**(R.) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.**

1. You turn men back into dust and say: 'Go back, sons of men.' To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone, no more than a watch in the night. (R.)
2. You sweep men away like a dream, like grass which springs up in the morning. In the morning it springs up and flowers: by evening it withers and fades. (R.)
3. Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart. Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever? Show pity to your servants. (R.)
4. In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days. Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands. (R.)

## **Second Reading Col 3:1-5, 9-11**

*Seek the things that are above where Christ is.*

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

That is why you must kill everything in you that belongs only to earthly life: fornication,

impurity, guilty passion, evil desires and especially greed, which is the same thing as worshipping a false god; and never tell each other lies. You have stripped off your old behaviour with your old self, and you have put on a new self which will progress towards true knowledge the more it is renewed in the image of its creator; and in that image there is no room for distinction between Greek and Jew, between the circumcised or the uncircumcised, or between barbarian and Scythian, slave and free man. There is only Christ: he is everything and he is in everything.

## **Gospel Acclamation Mt 5:3**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

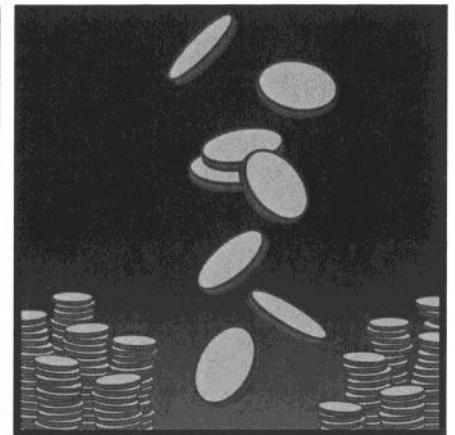
**Happy the poor in spirit;  
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!  
Alleluia!**

## **Gospel Lk 12:13-21**

*To whom will all this wealth of yours go?*

A man in the crowd said to Jesus, 'Master, tell my brother to give me a share of our inheritance.' 'My friend,' he replied, 'who appointed me your judge, or the arbitrator of your claims?' Then he said to them, 'Watch, and be on your guard against avarice of any kind, for a man's life is not made secure by what he owns, even when he has more than he needs.'

Then he told them a parable: 'There was once a rich man who, having had a good harvest from his land, thought to himself, "What am I to do? I have not enough room to store my crops." Then he said, "This is what I will do; I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and store all my grain and my goods in them, and I will say to my soul: My soul, you have plenty of good things laid by for many years to come; take things easy, eat, drink, have a good time." But God said to him, "Fool! This very night the demand will be made for your soul; and this hoard of yours, whose will it be then?" So it is when a man stores up treasure for himself in place of making himself rich in the sight of God.'



## **Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA**

Both the first reading and the psalm response speak about the transitoriness of life. Life is all we have and it is so fragile, so fleeting. When we realise this, we may fear that in the end we will have nothing to show for our lives. Such thoughts show that we have not learned the most basic lesson of life – life is to be lived!

The goods of the earth are both good and essential for survival and advancement. However, they do not satisfy the deepest longings of the human spirit. They provide us with pleasure and challenge, but they cannot shield us from the transitoriness of life itself. In the face of such impermanence, they are ultimately worthless. Life itself is the far greater good; goods only enhance life.

Recognising the transitoriness of life and the vanity of goods, we come to see that the only reality worthy of our total commitment is our relationship with God in Christ. Though made of dust and thus subject to perishability, we are joined with Christ and are promised imperishability. Having died to the vanities of this world, having taken off our old selves with their evil desires, we can now live as a new self, in generosity rather than greed, with openness to others rather than religious or gender or social biases. In our commitment to Christ we will discover that we can transform what is transitory in life by giving it away in love. If we can live in this way, life is anything but vanity!

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