

### **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:

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# **Regina Coeli Parish**

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney

Weeklu

# 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 8 September 2019

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Next weekend is going to be the First Holy Communion weekend here at Regina Coeli, with two groups of children making their communion at the 5pm and 10am Mass. Depending on your taste when it comes to such out-of-theordinary festivities, you might want to rethink which mass you will be attending. But please do note that the 10am Mass in particular is probably going to be severely crowded! The following are some of the points I tried to get across to the children (and their parents) who had to endure four lessons with me: Our church of Regina Coeli is not only gloriously beautiful but also prominently placed on top of the hill as one of the most significant landmarks in Beverly Hills. Why? Partly as a public statement that something inexpressibly important takes place here, and partly for the benefit of all those who might behold it from a distance (or visit it) and be reminded of their spiritual nature which is the deepest reality of who they are. In the end there is really one primary reason why our forebears went through a lot of trouble in order to build the church which has become so dear to so many: in order that Mass may be celebrated here for the community of believers (and non-believers who, surely, will not be totally immune to the overflowing grace of the sacrifice of Mass).

The Mass has four main parts: Introductory Rites, Liturgy of the Word, Liturgy of the Eucharist and Concluding Rites. There is a strange expression we use just before Holy Communion: 'Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof(!)' What has a roof? A house - the "house" of our soul! Every time we pray, come to Mass or prepare to receive holy communion we tend to start by acknowledging the fact that the "house" of our soul is not in perfect order. But that's ok because the humility of knowing our own unworthiness is precisely what accentuates the breathtaking magnitude of God's mercy! Mercy is the love we get even though, strictly speaking, it is unearned/ undeserved; mercy is the absolute key to the heart of God revealed in Jesus Christ who died and rose again for us, hence the reason why we begin every Mass with 'Lord, have mercy!' Contrary to popular belief, Christianity is not a religion of "the Book." Not that this makes the Bible any less important but that the Bible does not (and cannot) fully contain who it is that enters into a personal (and communal) relationship with humanity, namely, the Word of God. The Bible is, as it were, the portal that connects us to the Word of God without fail; however, due to the real possibility of the Bible being read erroneously, the Church has been entrusted with not only the inspiration of composing the scriptures in the first place but also the authority of key interpretations which safeguard the faithful against falsehood. We discern traces of divine providence in the way that select scripture readings have been presented to us according to the Church's liturgical calendar. Hearing the Word of God awakens in us the longing for our destiny - the perfect communion with God and with one another. Then we begin to understand that Jesus is the Word of God become flesh and that full communion with him is the surest way to our ultimate heaven. Fortunately for us, communion with Jesus does not depend on our meager ability to find him; instead, He is the one who has gone to hell and back in order to *get through* to us. At the heart of the paschal mystery (Jesus' death and resurrection) is the fire of divine love no icy human heart can truly withstand. At Mass the altar becomes the stage upon which the eternal drama of God's passionate love for us is revealed as the Eucharist is celebrated. If the most beautiful sight of what we behold through the eyes of faith cannot heal our poor soul, then, probably nothing else can. - Fr Peter -

#### The Week Ahead

Sun 8 Sept 23rd Sun in OT	8.30am 10.00am	Mass Mass
Mon 9 Sept St Peter Claver		No Mass
Tues 10 Sept	8:30am 9.15am 10:00am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Mass Reconciliation Yr 4
Wed 11 Sept	7.00am	Mass
Thurs 12 Sept	9:15am	Mass
Fri 13 Sept St John Chrysostom	8:30am 9:15am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Mass with First Holy Communion Candidates
Sat 14 Sept Exaltation of the Holy Cross	9.00am 4:25pm 5:00pm	Mass Reconciliation Vigil Mass—First Holy Communion
Sun 15 Sept 24th Sun in OT	8.30am 10.00am	Mass Mass—First Holy Communion

#### Please pray for...

**Recently Deceased** Greg Plummer

#### In Loving Memory

Cono Reale, Colleen Bresnan, Patricia Atkins, Carmelo Algozzino, Vito Maida, Marc David Solazzo, Damia & Assia Dagher, Bartolo Tesoriero, Donato Tozzi, Peter Repole, Charlie Lo Russo, Joe Poolice, Ivan & Mara Puljic, Vicko & Kate Hrdalo, Maurice Haddad, Maria Giuseppa Mascolo,

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

Pat Johnson, George Dagher, Mrs Saba, Josephina Algozzina, 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 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

#### **First Holy Communion**

The Sacrament of First Holy Communion will be celebrated next Saturday 14 September 5.00pm Mass & Sunday 15 September 10.00am Mass.



#### Life Ascending Anniversary

To mark the 20th anniversary of the founding of Life Ascending Australia you are invited to the celebratory Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Peakhurst at 11:00am on Wednesday 2 October 2019.

> Fr Geoff Plant and Fr Paul Hilder will be the celebrants.

This is a special occasion for all Life Ascending members and friends, especially for Regina Coeli Parishioners as Regina Coeli was the founding parish.

You are invited to attend both Mass and Luncheon.

Sr Patricia Nichols OP Founding President

#### Planned Giving Envelopes 2019-2020 now available for collection

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To the many parishioners of our Planned Giving Envelope scheme, we gratefully acknowledge your contribution with sincere thanks.

The knowledge that we will receive your contributions weekly enables us to forward plan for our parish.

The packets of weekly envelopes for 2019-2020 are now available from the table in the foyer at the back of the Church.

The first of these envelopes commence on 6 October 2019

#### **Rosary Statue**

Mr & Mrs B Murray 4 Leon Avenue



Ph: 9750 0776

Last Wee 1 Septemb	Attendance 5PM		
	8.30AM	124	
2nd Collection	\$2,264.05	10AM	215
1st Collection	\$1,243.15	Total	?





# **STAND FOR LIFE**

# SUNDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER

2:30PM - 5PM ARCHIBALD FOUNTAIN, HYDE PARK SYDNEY CBD NSW PARLIAMENT IS ABOUT TO PASS AN EXTREME ABORTION

LAW, ALLOWING ABORTION ON DEMAND UP UNTIL BIRTH.

# IT IS TIME TO BE THE VOICE FOR THE VOICELESS. AGAIN.

WWW.STAND4.LIFE

#### Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

#### 8 September 2019

#### First Reading Wis 9:13-18

Who can comprehend the will of God?

What man can know the intentions of God? Who can divine the will of the Lord? The reasonings of mortals are unsure and our intentions unstable;

- for a perishable body presses down the soul,
- and this tent of clay weighs down the teeming mind.
- It is hard enough for us to work out what is on earth,
- laborious to know what lies within our reach;
- who, then, can discover what is in the heavens?
- As for your intention, who could have learnt it, had you not granted Wisdom

and sent your holy spirit from above? Thus have the paths of those on earth

been straightened

and men been taught what pleases you, and saved, by Wisdom.

#### **Responsorial Psalm**

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

- (R.) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.
- 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.)
- 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.)
- 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.)
- 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 Phlm 9-10, 12-17

Receive him, not as a slave anymore, but as a very dear brother.

This is Paul writing, an old man now and, what is more, still a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for a child of mine, whose father I became while wearing these chains: I mean Onesimus. I am sending him back to you, and with him - I could say - a part of my own self. I should have liked to keep him with me; he could have been a substitute for you, to help me while I am in the chains that the Good News has brought me. However, I did not want to do anything without your consent; it would have been forcing your act of kindness, which should be spontaneous. I know you have been deprived of Onesimus for a time, but it was only so that you could have him back for ever, not as a slave any more, but something much better than a slave, a dear brother; especially dear to me, but how much more to you, as a blood-brother as well as a brother in the Lord. So if all that we have in common means anything to you, welcome him as you would me.

#### Gospel Acclamation Ps 118:135

Alleluia, alleluia! Let your face shine on your servant, and teach me your laws. Alleluia!

#### Gospel Lk 14:25-33

All who do not renounce their possessions cannot be my disciples.

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. 'If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

'And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, "Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish." Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.'



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The wisdom tradition from which the first reading is taken is rooted in the fact that life is a series of choices. The epistle and the gospel reading provide us with examples of the way Christians should choose. Finally, the psalm's description of the fleeting nature of life sets the context and tone of our decision-making.

Discipleship demands that, in the face of all the choices available to us, we keep our priorities straight. In the gospel, Jesus insists that we must be single minded. We must cling to the one thing necessary, and that one thing is authentic discipleship. In choosing Jesus, we choose other things as well. We choose new relationships with the very people to whom we have already been committed. Those who were slaves, or lower class, or employees, or providers of service are now regarded as sisters and brothers in Christ. In choosing Jesus, we also choose the cross. We choose to live in a way that calls us to travel the high road: to forgive offences committed against us; to live simply so that others can simply live; to take responsibility for the moral character of society.

The fleeting nature of life as characterised in the psalm forces us to look at the meaning of life. When the day dawns for us to return to dust, what will we have gained from life? The realisation of our finiteness and the transitory nature of life should help us to set our priorities right and should give us the courage to remain faithful to them.

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