



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 PP

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

Third Sunday of Lent 15 March 2020

How bad is the coronavirus? Since the first outbreak two and half months ago, over 4000 people are said to have died from it, mostly in China and then in South Korea and Italy (FYI, under ordinary circumstances, every two months, over 9 million people are dying around the world). Most of the articles I have come across say the same thing: the symptoms of the coronavirus are awfully similar to the symptoms of a seasonal flu. And yet it is still maintained that the coronavirus isn't quite like any other seasonal flu. Why not? Because of what we do not know yet about the coronavirus - because of the 'unknown.' Yes, they do know that, statistically speaking, the mortality rate for the coronavirus appears to be higher than that of a seasonal flu: between 10~30 times higher (the statistics themselves are contested). But, then again, most of the casualties were suffered in places which were undergoing *real winter* (not like Australian "winter"). There have been more than a few times in my life when I was terribly bedridden and had to accept the real possibility that *I would have died* if I did not have warm shelter, proper diet and the luxury of rest - things we tend to take for granted but are not always afforded to everyone. Surely, circumstances have a lot to do with how we recover or not from sickness; the simplest flu can kill even a young person who has been placed in the worst of conditions.

How bad is the coronavirus? I guess the answer is that, as the "experts" tell us (those who are covered by the mainstream media), we don't really know, not yet anyway. A few days ago I spoke to a person who was actually one of those people quarantined for two weeks in Darwin upon their return from China! Please relax, she was cleared ;) Unfortunately, she seemed convinced, after having heard from the locals in China through their *social media*, that the coronavirus was definitely a force to be reckoned with. She thought that the Australian government should do what the Chinese government has done, namely, impose a two-week public holiday across the board (so that everyone can self-isolate and come out safer in a fortnight). Coronavirus or not, deadly or not, I must confess that the idea of a two-week public holiday appeals to me personally (not that I am actually advocating such a radical response)! But I would wholeheartedly advocate for a *slower pace of life* and a *return to simplicity*, and for us to move in that direction would be a marvellous way to recover from the corona-pandemic. Here at Regina Coeli until further clarification:

- * Precious Blood (chalice) will not be distributed at Mass.
- * We are asked to refrain from shaking hands at the sign of peace.
- * Holy Communion on the tongue (a practice still allowed at St Mary's Cathedral) will be given only by me (Fr Peter). A salient point has been raised that the person receiving on the tongue could still breathe on me and risk spreading the virus. I am still deliberating on this, aware that any public gathering ipso facto risks airborne transmission.
- * Holy water fonts have been emptied earlier than usual this Lent!
- * We hope to eat well and rest well, relying on the soothing medicine of prayer, whilst making the most of our relatively warm climate and sterilising sunlight!

- Fr Peter -

The Week Ahead

Sun 15 Mar Third Sunday in Lent	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass
Mon 16 Mar	12:45pm Funeral Mass for Luigia (Gina) Ponticello RIP
Tues 17 Mar St Patrick bishop	8:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9:15am Whole School Mass
Wed 18 Mar	7.00am Mass
Thurs 19 Mar St Joseph Spouse of the BVM	9:15am Mass 10:00am Reconciliation with Yr 4
Fri 20 Mar	8:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9:15am Mass
Sat 21 Mar	9.00am: Mass, Adoration and Reconciliation 4:15pm Reconciliation 5:00pm Vigil Mass
Sun 22 Mar Fourth Sun- day in Lent	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass

Please pray for...

Recently Deceased

Jusuf Susanto Oentojo, Luigia (Gina) Ponticello

In Loving Memory

Jovito Canonizado, Carmela Cutelli

Please remember those who are in ill health especially:

Beven Kelly, Ann Mc Dowell, Christopher McDowell, 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.

Life Ascending Meetings

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

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2020

First Reconciliation – Thursday 2 April
5.30pm-6.30pm & 7.30pm-8.30pm.
(Children in Year 3 and above)

Confirmation – Friday 29 May at 7.00pm by
Bishop Richard Umbers.
(Children in Year 6 and above)

First Holy Communion - Saturday
12 September 5.00pm Vigil Mass &
Sunday 13 September 10.00am Mass.
(Children who have received
First Reconciliation)

Enrolment information will be made available two months prior to each Sacrament

Project Compassion Donations

The Archdiocesan Project Compassion Fund-raiser is running again this Lent Season.

Project Compassion helps those who are in need both here in Australia and communities abroad.

If you would like to help, kindly take a Project Compassion box or packet of envelopes located at each Church Door

The Parish Lenten Program is held each Tuesday during Lent after 9:15am Mass in the Parish Community Centre at 5 Tarrilli Street.

If interested please contact Sister Patricia on 9554 3227.

Rosary Statue

Mrs J Maher

27 Roseview Avenue
Ph: 9759 7136



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

Last Weekend 8 Mar 2020		Attendance	
2nd Collection \$2,078.40		5PM	?
1st Collection		8.30AM	139
\$ 1,123.45		10AM	189
		Total	?

SHARE A STORY PROJECT

Mrs Agathe Pua was hospitalised in Papeete Central Hospital because she was suffering from tuberculosis along with other ailments, for which the doctor of the hospital advised the family that her days were numbered. It was early in the week when Angelo interrogated the doctor who advised that it would be prudent to assemble the family as soon as possible before her imminent death.

Once the whole available family was assembled by Wednesday we requested that our local priest Fr Henri Danot from our Roman Catholic church be asked if he could come and pray over Agathe as a last resort to prepare her for her passing away. At the time she hadn't eaten in three days and her weight was 45kgs at the age of 64 years old. She was taking a "foetus" position in bed and was little coherent.

Once the priest, along with the assembled family, began his prayers Agathe looked up from bed and joined in the prayers and sat back in bed looking conscious of what was going on. Once the prayers were finished she said 'I'm hungry.' This was late at night but we brought her food and drink. When she was satisfied after eating she sat in bed and recognised all around her. All the family were happy to see her conscious and talking.

Angelo who witnessed this was quite amazed at the recovery before his eyes along with the rest of the family. So to find out the reasoning of the doctor, he asked the doctor for his analysis of the situation. The doctor's response was very clear - he could not explain the recovery medically but suggested that we should be happy about the outcome as probably Agathe would be discharged by weekend. She lived for further 6 years before succumbing to a heart failure. - Angelo & Regina Camillos -

**Please share your story by emailing Fr Peter (beverlyhillspriest@gmail.com), handwriting to him or speaking to him, thank you!*

Healing After Abortion

Rachel's Vineyard Ministries, Sydney offers healing retreats for those who have experienced an abortion. The retreat offers a sanctuary in which to renew, rebuild and redeem hearts broken by abortion in a safe, supportive, confidential and non judgmental environment. Information and a brochure can found at: www.rachelsvineyard.org.au or call us on our confidential voicemail number 0400 092 555 or email info@rachelsvineyard.org.au. The next retreat will be on 1-3 May 2020.

Music Ministry over Easter

If you'd like to be part of the music ministry over Easter please contact Natasha - 0402785196

Musicians and vocalists most welcome
Rehearsals in church @6:30pm on Tuesdays

Key dates For Easter

5/4- Palm Sunday Mass @8:30am
5/4- Easter rehearsal 9:30-11:30am
9/4- Holy Thursday Mass @7pm
10/4- Good Friday Mass @3pm
11/4- Easter Saturday Vigil Mass @7pm
12/4- Easter Sunday Mass @8:30am

EASTER LITURGY TIMES 2020

Holy Thursday: 7.00pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after Mass.

Reconciliation available during Adoration

There will be no Mass at 9.15am on Holy Thursday

Good Friday: 10.00am - Stations of the Cross followed by Reconciliation
3.00pm - The Lord's Passion followed by Reconciliation

Holy Saturday: No morning Mass or Reconciliation

Easter Vigil Mass: 7.00pm

Easter Sunday Masses: 8.30am & 10.00am

Next Weekend: 22 March 2020

	Welcomers	Readers	Extraordinary Ministers
5PM	Eliz C, CW, Iris O	Louisa B, Adriana H	Margaret M, Charles
8.30AM	Brian M, Anne K, Connie C	Anne K, Loretta	Tasha D, Anthony
10.00AM	Mildred P, Colleen B, Maureen P	Jessica M, Pene V	Maria T, Kim L

First Reading Ex 17:3-7

Give us water to drink.

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?' Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' The Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 94:1-2. 6-9. R. v.8

(R.) If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. (R.)
2. Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. (R.)
3. O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my
work.' (R.)

Second Reading Rom 5:1-2, 5-8

The love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

Gospel Acclamation See Jn 4:42. 15

*Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world;
give me living water, that I may never thirst again.*

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel shorter form

Jn 4:5-15, 19-26, 39-42

The water that I shall give will turn into a spring of eternal life.

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied:

'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you:
Give me a drink,
you would have been the one to ask,
and he would have given you living water.'

'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied:

'Whoever drinks this water
will get thirsty again:
but anyone who drinks the water that I shall
give
will never be thirsty again:
the water that I shall give
will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to
eternal life.'

'Sir,' said the woman, 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water. I see you are a prophet, sir. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said:

'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming
when you will worship the Father
neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.
You worship what you do not know;
we worship what we do know;
for salvation comes from the Jews.
But the hour will come – in fact it is here
already –
when true worshippers will worship the Father
in spirit and truth:
that is the kind of worshipper
the Father wants.
God is spirit,
and those who worship
must worship in spirit and truth.'

The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.'

Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony, so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

All people thirst for meaning, but of what does that meaning consist? The people in the desert thirsted for water, but they misunderstood their thirst. The woman of Samaria thirsted. Her conversation with Jesus showed that she thirsted for understanding and insight as well as water. For what do we thirst in this world of such great excess and unmeasured need? Life has not become simpler with all of our advances. We still thirst for more – for the newest, the fastest and the best. How much is enough, and when do we cross the line into 'too much'?

The gospel readings for the scrutiny Sundays very clearly lay out the choices that are placed before the catechumens and the rest of the believing community as well. This Sunday it is between water that quenches thirst and water that does not. Jesus identifies himself as the source of water that guarantees eternal life. He places before the Samaritan woman a choice that requires a step of profound faith. She knows the thirst-quenching quality of the water from Jacob's well, but she is not acquainted with the water promised by this stranger who is also an enemy of her people. The choice is not an obvious one. A similar choice is placed before us. We know the demands of our culture and the circumstances of our lives. Are we able to acknowledge the sins of which we are guilty, recognise the grace that is being offered to us, and make the right choice?

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