



# Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



## Weekly Newsletter

**Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**5 July 2020**

### 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

Like some seminarians, I was full of idealism when I was about to graduate from the seminary, be ordained and receive my first appointment as an assistant priest (not at Regina Coeli). As might have been foreseen by those who were wise, it was not long before the glaring gap which existed between the ideals harboured in my imagination and the actual reality of parish life started to make me somewhat resentful. So I found myself a quick and easy solution to the predicament at hand: to allow myself to believe that all would be well as soon as I became, in time, a parish priest! Like some assistant priests, I thought to myself, 'If only I had the authority/power of a parish priest, then, I could make my "vision" a reality and set up the ideal parish! If only I had...' Since then I have gradually come to realise that my own ideas about what authority/power would accomplish for me were naive at best and dangerously delusional at worst. First of all, if I thought that something as complex as parish life could be magically transformed by mere exercises of power, then, it meant that my own grasp of the reality of a faith community was rather superficial. Second of all, it was alarming that I, as someone who struggled to put his own life in order, could be so lacking in self-awareness as to think that with great power I would do great things *without fail* - a wishful thinking which was not supported by evidence from my own personal life. As Jesus put it, 'He who is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and he who is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much.' (Luke 16:10) Finally, to the extent that I was driven by unresolved resentment, I was likely to do harm in the process of exercising power, even if with a good intention. As Pope Francis put it, 'We know that in the attempt to be freed of the enemy without, we can be tempted to feed the enemy within.'

Our world is not all that it could be. There is a disheartening gap between how we believe the world ought to be and how it actually is. So power is being identified more and more as the key ingredient for changing the world and bridging the gap between ideals and unfortunate reality. Scott Morrison has signalled, not without reason, that Australia's military power will receive a significant boost. In response to the corona-pandemic, governments around the world have exercised power in an unprecedented manner by imposing, possibly for the first time in human history, quarantines and lockdowns not just on the sick but also on the healthy, even with the threat of hefty fines and potential imprisonment (I am pointing out here that all this seems unprecedented and not trying to comment on whether it is right or wrong). The power grabs in politics seem to be getting increasingly brazen, even resorting to unethical/illegal tactics and undermining national interest. All inequities, many argue vehemently, must be eradicated by radical redistributions of power among different groups, even if it means that unjust sacrifices must be made along the way. Now, it used to be the case that proper exercises of power were expected to be guided by the law and due process. But there seems to be growing impatience now when it comes to power: the issues are said to be too urgent, the problems too catastrophic; therefore, allegedly, we must act now and exercise power without restraint before it is too late! There seems to be a myth that one swift and unopposed exercise of power can fix almost any problem in our world. In the meantime, the art of exercising power has become less about following the principles of truth and justice and more about supporting so-called "progress" or supposedly being on the "right side of history." The worst political crime one can commit nowadays, it seems, is not to wrongfully exercise power but to exercise it too prudently - too rationally and wisely for the impassioned sensibilities of the mob.

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## The Week Ahead

Sun 5 Jul 14th Sunday Ordinary Time		<b>There is no more need to book for Mass!</b>
Mon 6 Jul		No Mass
Tues 7 Jul	9.15am	Mass
Wed 8 Jul	7am	Mass
Thurs 9 Jul	9.15am 2.00pm	Mass <b>Afternoon Tea</b>
Fri 10 Jul	9.15am	Mass
Sat 11 Jul St Benedict, abbot	9.00am 9:25-9:55am	Mass Adoration & Reconciliation
	4:15-4:45pm 5pm	Reconciliation Vigil Mass (live-streamed on Facebook)
Sun 12 Jul 14th Sunday Ordinary Time	8.30am 10.00am	Mass Mass

**Thursday afternoon tea is back!**

## Please pray for...

### Recently Deceased

### In Loving Memory

Tony Cali, Anna Maria Cicuto, Ron Daniels

### Please remember those who are in ill

**health especially:** Barry Daniels, Matt Nugent, Bob Handerson, Beven Kelly, Ann Mc Dowell, Christopher McDowell, Damiano Serravalle, Michelle Makin, George Dagher, Mrs Saba, Josephina Algozzina, Geraldina Civitarese, Pat Mortimer, Mrs Donald Burch, Mary Daniels, Geoff McDowell, Elena Mura, Mr TD (Terry) Wall, Kim Delaney, Lauren Sotano, Sam Hy, Mary Sortwell, Georgia Brown, Luke Compton, Paul Camelotti, Anne Maree Michels, Slavica Markotic.

## Rosary Statue

Mrs M Weeks

23 Yoorami Rd

Ph: 9554 3250



## Care Packages for Regina Coeli Parishioners

Our school children have participated in the charitable project of preparing care packages - 103 of them! - for some of our more isolated parishioners. This was a highly commendable initiative which was beautifully organized and carried out. These packages will be placed near the sanctuary over the weekend. Please take as many as you need in order to keep one for yourself and deliver others to your Catholic neighbours who would be delighted to receive them. A resounding thank you to our school children and their gracious educators!

*'On Friday, 19th June, the students of Regina Coeli participated in the Make the World A Little Brighter Mufti Day. But instead of a gold coin donation, the students were asked to donate an item or two that was used to create care packages for people in the Regina Coeli Parish Community who might be feeling lonely and isolated recently. The Mini Vinnies Executive (along with the help of the amazing Mrs Claridge) have sorted all of the items into care packages to be sent out to those most in need in our local community. Thank you to everyone for helping to contribute to this worthwhile cause. We often donate to communities across our country and world, but we loved having the opportunity to make a difference to those neighbours whose houses we walk past each and every day. These beautiful care packages will be given to the Regina Coeli Parish for distribution next week. We will keep you updated on the wonderful difference that your donations will no doubt make. You are amazing Regina Coeli!' (Elizabeth Webster, Religious Education Coordinator)*



## Regina Coeli Mailing List

The corona-crisis has reminded us of the importance of having a simple and efficient communication network within the parish. If you wish to be on our mailing list for special updates and announcements, etc., please go to the following link and register your email address:

<http://bit.ly/reginamailing>

### 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



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In the Gospel reading for this Sunday Jesus said, 'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.' Two things are clear: firstly, Jesus acknowledges the presence in our world of those who are exhausted, downtrodden or crying out for help; secondly, he wants to come to their aid by consoling them and liberating them in some profound way. But the strangest part of all this is that Jesus seems determined to stay clear of the very thing which, for the world, seems like the key ingredient for changing the world, namely, power. The world craves the kind of power which is efficient, fast, controllable, manipulable, glamorous, exacting, forceful, unstoppable, etc.; in other words, the world craves a power which might be better exercised by a flawless machine than by a genuine human. By contrast what kind of power, if any, is wielded by Jesus who is "gentle and humble in heart"? It is worth noting here that he would go on to die on the cross so as to become apparently "powerless." The singular resolve of Jesus to avoid the pursuit of worldly power showed that the mission was really not for himself; he had no desire to boast, bedazzle, control, manipulate, coerce, punish or do anything else which might have tainted the purity of what he had to offer, namely, divine love! When we encounter divine love how do we change, how does the world change? Divine love makes no false promise - no promise of a painless life without the cross. But we are reminded of who we are and by whom we are loved. This in turn means that life has a meaning which is ever-growing and that we are on the trajectory toward the ecstasy of perfect communion. Tomorrow we will still have to plod along, but we will be sustained by the deep sense of peace which comes from knowing that sufficient rest will be granted to us and that our loved burden will feel light enough for us to carry one more day through the power of divine love that emanates from the gentle and humble heart of Jesus. And this is his power - a truly human and divine power!

- Fr Peter -

### Happy 90th, Gloria!

On behalf of the St Vincent de Paul Ladies Conference and all the parishioners who have known Gloria for her undying loyalty and service over many years, we wish her a very happy 90<sup>th</sup> birthday! There is nothing that she hasn't done in the parish, including being president, secretary and treasurer of St Vincent de Paul Society and taking communion to sick parishioners and picking up elderly parishioners and taking them to Mass. Gloria has been a parishioner here at Regina Coeli for over 60 years and we wish her all the best in her every day.



### *What does it mean that we are now re-opened?*

- ⇒ Catholics in Sydney are still dispensed from their Sunday Mass obligation.
- ⇒ Those who are particularly vulnerable to infection are strongly encouraged to remain protected.
- ⇒ **Please contact Fr Peter if you wish to receive Holy Communion at home.**
- ⇒ All parish masses and reconciliations are as advertised in the parish bulletin.
- ⇒ Please uphold reasonable social distancing inside the church. Explore new, unoccupied seats! Please sanitise your hands and minimise physical contact. Please feel free to wear a mask if you think it prudent! Please sign in at the door.
- ⇒ **Regina Coeli is now able to accommodate up to 130 people at Mass. There is no more need for booking!**

The new Readers Roster is now available for collection from the Sacristy, thank you!

# First Reading Zec 9:9-10

See how humbly your king comes to you!

The Lord says this:

'Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion!  
Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem!  
See now, your king comes to you;  
he is victorious, he is triumphant,  
humble and riding on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.  
He will banish chariots from Ephraim  
and horses from Jerusalem;  
the bow of war will be banished.  
He will proclaim peace for the nations.  
His empire shall stretch from sea to sea,  
from the River to the ends of the earth.'

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 144:1-2. 8-11. 13-14. R. v.1

(R.) *I will praise your name for ever,  
my king and my God.*

or

(R.) *Alleluia!*

1. I will give you glory, O God my King,  
I will bless your name for ever.  
I will bless you day after day  
and praise your name for ever. (R.)
2. The Lord is kind and full of  
compassion,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
How good is the Lord to all,  
compassionate to all his creatures.  
(R.)
3. All your creatures shall thank you,  
O Lord,  
and your friends shall repeat their  
blessing.  
They shall speak of the glory of your  
reign  
and declare your might, O God. (R.)
4. The Lord is faithful in all his words  
and loving in all his deeds.  
The Lord supports all who fall  
and raises all who are bowed  
down. (R.)

# Second Reading Rom 8:9.11-13

If by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body,  
you will live.

Your interests are not in the unspiritual,  
but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of  
God has made his home in you. In fact,  
unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ  
you would not belong to him, and if the  
Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the  
dead is living in you, then he who raised  
Jesus from the dead will give life to your  
own mortal bodies through his Spirit  
living in you.

So then, my brothers, there is no  
necessity for us to obey our unspiritual  
selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you  
do live in that way, you are doomed to  
die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to  
the misdeeds of the body you will live.

## Gospel Acclamation See Mt 11:25

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Blessed are you, Father, Lord of  
heaven and earth;  
you have revealed to little ones the  
mysteries of the kingdom.*

*Alleluia!*

## Gospel Mt 11:25-30

*I am gentle and humble of heart.*

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father,  
Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding  
these things from the learned and the  
clever and revealing them to mere  
children. Yes, Father, for that is what it  
pleased you to do. Everything has been  
entrusted to me by my Father; and no  
one knows the Son except the Father,  
just as no one knows the Father except  
the Son and those to whom the Son  
chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you who labour and are  
overburdened, and I will give you rest.  
Shoulder my yoke and learn from me,  
for I am gentle and humble in heart,  
and you will find rest for your souls. Yes,  
my yoke is easy and my burden light.'



## Reflection by Greg Sunter

When we hear the term, yoke, we tend  
to think about the yoke that is used to  
harness oxen together or the yoke that  
someone might carry on their shoulder  
to balance a heavy load. This yoke  
across the shoulder was adopted into  
tailoring and so the shoulder piece set  
into a shirt is also called a yoke.  
However, in the Jewish tradition there is  
a completely different meaning to the  
term. The yoke of a rabbi was his  
particular interpretation of Torah (the  
Law); his particular teaching. Disciples  
who followed a particular rabbi sought  
to take on his yoke; his particular  
interpretation. The yoke of any rabbi was  
best identified by asking him, 'Which is  
the greatest commandment?' A rabbi's  
answer to this question revealed his  
interpretation of Torah. When Jesus is  
asked that question, he answers, 'Love  
God and love your neighbour,' and goes  
on to say that all of the rest of the Law  
and the prophets flows on from these  
two commandments. This is the yoke –  
the interpretation of Torah – that Jesus  
taught.

In today's gospel, Jesus calls to him all  
those who labour and are  
overburdened. It is the Pharisaic  
interpretation of the Law that burdens  
these people. Trying to maintain the Law  
was burdensome and complicated for  
the everyday person. Jesus says,  
'Shoulder my yoke and learn from me ...  
my yoke is easy.' The yoke of Jesus was  
easy: Love God and love your neighbour.  
Compared to the 613 *mitzvot*  
(commands) set out in the Torah and  
strictly maintained by the Pharisees, the  
yoke of Jesus was incredibly easy to  
understand and adopt. So simple, in  
fact, that it required a child-like  
simplicity to accept this yoke.