



Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



Weekly Newsletter

**Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
6 September 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



Happy Father's Day! One afternoon I was talking to a dad who was waiting to pick up his daughter at the end of school. Soon the school gate opened and little children flooded out. One of them was his daughter who I guessed was in Year 2. But as soon as she reached him she said, 'Why isn't mum here? I want mum to pick me up!' I thought it would be funny for me to say to her at this awkward moment, 'Would you like to go back inside and wait so that your dad can go home and get your mum?' The little girl was not amused. If dads had to compete with mums over affections of their children I imagine that the dads would lose 9 out of 10 times. It would be an unfair match, like a daggy dancer competing with an accomplished ballerina. The mums would effortlessly pull off several moves while the dads struggled to execute one. Feeling sorry, the children might show some interest in their dads but even then it might still be the case that they were gracefully encouraged by the mums.

What I am about to say is purely a product of my own limited life-experience, but it seems to me that women are correct about 9 out of 10 times (I am only referring to cases which has 'love' as their basis e.g. family). This might be because women tend to be so well-attuned to the art of nurturing that their instincts are usually correct. Therefore, as a general rule, men would do well to heed suggestions from women, especially in the absence of compelling reasons not to. Nevertheless, every now and then there may be times when women are wrong - perhaps 1 out of 10 times - because, for example, their empathetic powers might be preventing them from making a "tough" decision. It would be incumbent upon men then to rise to the occasion and make a stand humbly, gently but firmly.

It seems to me that one of the major ways in which fathers are remembered by their children is by reference to *what they have stood for*. Standing up for something might not win fathers affections of their children, at least not immediately, but it would make a critically important impact on them in the longterm, perhaps far more than we tend to realise. We could say that there are two types of support we need in life. The first may be said to be more "horizontal": caring, nurturing, consoling, motivating, etc. In other words, we need those who can tell us, 'My child, remember that you are loved. Therefore keep going, you can do this!' But where are we supposed to go and what are we supposed to do? We also need another type of support which may be said to be more "vertical": direction, vision, ultimate values and aspirations, etc., all of which seem to be significantly influenced by the remembrance of what our fathers have stood for!

'The Departed' is a movie about the Irish mafia in South Boston in the 1980s. Jack Nicolson plays the mafia boss who is a frighteningly corrupting figure, especially for the Irish youth. But there is a young man (played by Leonardo DiCaprio) - a rookie cop - who is brave enough to dare to infiltrate the notorious mafia. His subsequent life as an undercover cop turns out to be one of agony, loneliness and turmoil. And yet he perseveres under the guidance of Captain Queenan (played by Martin Sheen) who is a devout Catholic and proves himself to be a worthy mentor by sacrificing his own life for the protagonist who is under his care.

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The Week Ahead

Sun 6 Sept 23rd Sun Ordinary Time		No need to book for Mass!
Mon 7 Sept		No Mass
Tues 8 Sept Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary	9.15am	Mass
Wed 9 Sept	7am 9:15am	Mass School Only Mass with Yr 5
Thur 10 Sept	9.15am 2.00pm	Mass Afternoon Tea
Fri 11 Sept	9.15am	Mass
Sat 12 Sept	9.00am 9:25-9:55am	Mass Adoration & Reconciliation
	4:15-4:45pm 5pm	Reconciliation Vigil Mass (live-streamed on Facebook)
Sun 13 Sept 24th Sun Ordinary Time	8.30am 10.00am	Mass Mass

Recently Deceased

In Loving Memory

Carmelo Algozzino, Vito Maida

Please remember those who are in ill

health especially: Quang Vo, 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.

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 (this is now strongly recommended)!
- ⇒ Please register (once only) and sign in at the door (each time when entering the church).
- ⇒ Please refrain from loud speaking or singing so as to reduce the spread of respiratory droplets.
- ⇒ Under the latest rules, we are allowed to have up to 100 people at Mass There is no need to make a booking.

Prayer of Pope John XXIII - for Fathers

*Saint Joseph, guardian of Jesus
and chaste husband of Mary,
you passed your life in loving fulfilment of duty.
You supported the holy family of Nazareth
with the work of your hands.*

*Kindly protect those who trustingly come to you.
You know their aspirations, their hardships, their hopes.
They look to you because they know
you will understand and protect them.
You too knew trial, labour and weariness.
But amid the worries of material life,
your soul was full of deep peace and sang out in true joy
through intimacy with God's Son entrusted to you
and with Mary, his tender Mother.
Assure those you protect that they do not labour alone.
Teach them to find Jesus near them
and to watch over Him faithfully as you have done.*

Amen.

Rosary Statue

Mr & Mrs R Henderson

13 Gungaroo Place

Ph: 9759 6403



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

Our Lady's Birthday Tuesday 8 September

To say "Happy Birthday" to our heavenly Mother, Rosaries will be prayed on the hour in Our Lady's Chapel next Tuesday commencing at 11:00am.

Rosary Sign-on Sheets are provided at the Church door for you to choose a timeslot.

The first rosary will commence at 11:00am
and the final Rosary will commence at
5:00pm

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By contrast there is another rookie cop (played by Matt Damon) who quickly rises through the ranks and appears to have everything going for him. But in reality he is a mole for the mafia who has been groomed for many years by the devilish boss himself. It turns out that there is no real substance in the counterfeit father-son relationship, as they both attempt to betray and kill one another in the end. So, what was it that set the protagonist (DiCaprio) apart and enabled (and ennobled) him to make extraordinary sacrifices which would eventually bring down a depraved criminal organisation? His late father was known even by the mafia boss himself (in their younger days) who had to admit, '[Your father] kept his own counsel. He never wanted money. You can't do anything with a man like that.'

What fathers stand up for reverberates through generations. No one human father gets it perfectly right but it seems imperative that we affirm with gratitude what they were right about and learn to not repeat their mistakes. To tear down the past is to undermine the value of fatherhood at our own gravest peril. It seems rare these days to find a leader who truly stands up for something. They seem to merely toe the party-line (or the company-line) or do/say what they think will make them popular among the noisy crowd. So, in the absence of fatherly leadership, it is no wonder that we feel as though our world has gone topsy-turvy. What is radical and unprecedented is fast becoming the "new normal," with things like common sense or traditional wisdom thrown out the window. Increasingly totalitarian approaches are adopted in the name of "progress," at the expense of timeless values such as truth, justice and due process. Fake news is now well and truly mainstream! But none of this could have happened overnight. It must have been a gradual process of forgetfulness and erosion, while we were busy 'chasing after the wind,' in regard to the fundamental principles which used to guide our thinking and acting. Well, no more! It is time to rediscover and treasure the transcendent values that safeguard and uplift the human spirit by orienting us toward God. May our fathers play a vitally important role in this, by standing up for what will reverberate even into eternity! - **Fr Peter** -

Excerpts from 'To Heal the world: Solidarity and the virtue of faith' by Pope Francis

As a human family we have our common origin in God; we dwell in a common home, the garden-planet, the earth where God placed us; and we have a common destination in Christ. But when we forget all this, our *interdependence* becomes *dependence* of some on others, we lose this harmony of interdependence and solidarity and we become dependent - the dependence of some on a few, on others - increasing inequality and marginalisation; it weakens the social fabric and the environment deteriorate.

The big wide world is none other than a global village, because everything is interconnected, but we do not always transform this *interdependence* into *solidarity*. There is a long journey between interdependence and solidarity. Selfishness - individual, national and power-groups - and ideological rigidities instead sustain "structures of sin."

"The word 'solidarity' is a little worn and at times poorly understood, but it refers to something more than a few sporadic acts - the odd sporadic act - of generosity". Much more! "It presumes the creation of a new mindset; a new mindset which thinks in terms of community and the priority of life of all over the appropriation of goods by a few" (Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii gaudium*, 188).

Think of the account of the Tower of Babel (see *Gen 11: 1-9*), which describes what happens when we try to reach heaven - that is, our destination - ignoring our bond with humanity, creation and the Creator... We build towers and skyscrapers, but we destroy community. We unify buildings and languages, but we mortify cultural wealth. We want to be masters of the Earth, but we ruin biodiversity and ecological balance. In another audience I spoke about those fishermen from San Benedetto del Tronto, who came this year, and they told me that this year: "We have taken 24 tonnes of waste out of the sea, half of which was plastic"...But this is ruining the earth - not having solidarity with the earth, which is a gift - and the ecological balance.

Pentecost is diametrically opposed to Babel (see *Acts 2: 1-3*)...The Holy Spirit, descending from above like wind and fire, sweeps over the community closed up in the Cenacle, infuses it with the power of God, and inspires it to go out and announce the Lord Jesus to everyone. The Spirit creates unity in diversity; He creates harmony. In the account of the Tower of Babel, there is no harmony; only pressing forward in order to earn. There, others are simply instruments, mere "manpower", but here, in Pentecost, each one of us is an instrument, but a community instrument that participates fully in building up the community. Saint Francis of Assisi knew this well, and inspired by the Spirit, he gave all people, indeed creatures, the name of brother or sister (see *LS 11*; see Saint Bonaventure, *Legenda maior*, VIII, 6: *FF 1145*). Even brother wolf, remember.

With Pentecost, God makes Himself present and inspires the *faith* of the community *united in diversity and in solidarity*...A diversity in solidarity possesses "antibodies" that ensure that the singularity of each person - which is a gift, unique and unrepeatable - not sicken with individualism, with selfishness. Diversity in solidarity also possesses antibodies that heal social structures and processes that have degenerated into systems of injustice, systems of oppression.

First Reading Ez 33:7-9

If you have not warned the wicked man, then I will hold you responsible for his death.

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 94:1-2.6-9. R. v.8

**(R.) O that today you would listen to 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 13:8-10

Love is the fulfilment of the Law.

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

Gospel Acclamation 2 Cor 5:19

Alleluia, alleluia!

**God was in Christ, to reconcile the
world to himself;
and the Good News of reconciliation
he has entrusted to us.**

Alleluia!

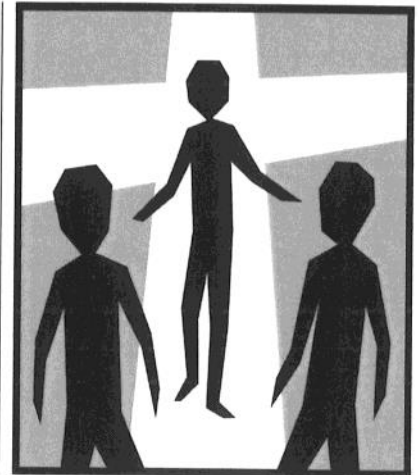
Gospel Mt 18:15-20

If your brother or sister listens to you, you will have won that person back.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

It is difficult for leaders to call people to accountability. Such is the unenviable responsibility of pastors in the parish, coordinators of religious education, members of the parish council, principals in the school, directors of liturgical ministry, to name but a few. Disciples must also engage in the very difficult process of reconciliation. Differences of opinion, misunderstandings, and actual offences tend to alienate people. We see this happen in families, neighbourhoods, parish communities, workplaces. It is not enough to say that we must try to forgive from our hearts. The process of reconciliation requires significant movement toward the admission of guilt as well. Both the one offended and the offender must be willing to be transformed.

Gathering two or three together in prayerful collaboration is not as easy as it sounds. If collaboration is to be effective, we have to be open and honest about our opinions and our biases, and respectful of the opinions and biases of others. We must work for the common good and not merely for what we personally think is best. We must be willing to accept and implement decisions with which we may not totally agree, and we must live with them gracefully. All of this calls for unselfish love. Love fulfils the entire law only: when we honour our personal commitments and the personal commitments of others; when we value the life, dignity and reputation of others; and when we respect their possessions. It is only because love is so demanding that it covers all of our responsibilities.