



Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



Weekly Newsletter

Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
11 October 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



Federal Budget 2020 has published and so is our annual parish financial report! Our figures for the first three quarters of the last financial year were rather “elegant” - gracefully rising and full of promises for some festive blossoming at the end. I must admit that I felt a little disappointed when church closure was enforced in March 2020, not because there was any grave concern about parish finances but because, in my vanity, I looked forward to feeling immensely proud, again, of what we appeared to be en route to achieving, financially speaking, here at Regina Coeli. In hindsight, however, I think that the unexpected interruption has provided us with a fertile ground on which to ponder and learn some salutary lessons regarding parish life beyond 2020 - an important topic perhaps for another day. Now, lest you think that the last financial year ended in disappointment, let me assure you that the very opposite was the case. For the second time in a row, it was a year of handsome surplus (in spite of having no collection since the end of March until September – that’s 24 weeks!). Furthermore, as you will see in a separate section, *giving* has really picked up especially in September. Even though only about 40% of our parishioners have resumed attending Mass, our 2nd collection level is almost back to normal! No doubt, the fact that some parishioners have been bringing large sums saved up during the past 6 months has made a significant difference. But one thing is for certain, the generosity of our very committed parishioners is astounding and I’m too stunned (and not mature enough) to be able to fully appreciate it right now. Without further ado, please enjoy the annual parish financial report written by Daniel Portelli, a member of the parish finance committee.

- Fr Peter -

Dear Parishioners, the Financial Year (July 2019 to June 2020) has ended and I wish to share an update on the Parish financial affairs. It has been an unusual year but we are pleased to report that the Parish finished the year still in a Surplus largely because the impact was felt in only the final 3 months of the Financial Year (i.e Late March until June). Firstly, I would like to thank all Parishioners that have continued to support our Parish and have made the generous contributions of both time and donations during these difficult times.

The Parish income for the recently ended Financial Year (2019/20) was \$38,328 lower than the previous year. This decrease in income resulted from a decline in collections and donations during the lockdown period and the continued limitations of attendance at Church due to COVID19. On the other hand, the Parish’s other sources of income remained close to last year. The Parish income would also be lower if it were not for the Federal Government’s support for Charities and Not-for-profits which provided \$10000 in cash flow boost and \$12000 in jobkeeper. Furthermore, the Parish continued to receive Rental Income from 7 Tarrilli Street up until March, when it started to serve as the new presbytery thenceforth. As detailed in last year’s Financial Report, this Rental Income was always intended to be a short-term arrangement to assist the Parish with recouping some of the costs it had incurred to support the development and the Parish will no longer receive around \$20,000 of income annually.

The Parish Expenses declined this year and were \$25,294 lower than the previous year. As the Church was restricted from operating to its normal capacity, several ongoing Church operating expenses reduced during the lockdown period since they were not required. In addition to this there were several savings that were enacted before COVID19, while some significant repairs and maintenance to the Church and other buildings were deferred until the new financial year as restrictions eased. As you may have noticed there are currently some repairs being made to the roof at the front of the church entrance which we gladly have funds to provide for these. **Continued on Page 3**

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The Week Ahead

Sun 11 Oct 28th Sun Ordinary Time	No need to book for Mass!	
Mon 12 Oct	No Mass	
Tues 13 Oct	9.15am	Mass
Wed 14 Oct	7am	Mass
Thurs 15 Oct St Teresa of Jesus	9.15am 2.00pm	Mass Afternoon Tea
Fri 16 Oct	9.15am	Mass
Sat 17 Oct St Ignatius of Antioch	9.00am 9:25-9:55am	Mass Adoration & Reconciliation
	4:15-4:45pm 5pm	Reconciliation Vigil Mass
Sun 18 Oct 29th Sun Ordinary Time	8.30am 10.00am	Mass Mass (live-streamed on Face- book)



It is with true joy that we have the pleasure of wishing Sr Marie* a very happy 90th birthday!

***Sr Marie is in the centre of the front row. She now resides at St Mary's Villa in Concord.**

A gold coloured medal, depicting the face of Jesus, was found in a recent church coin collection. The owner can retrieve the medal from the parish office.

Planned Giving Envelopes 2020-2021 available from the table at the back of the church.

Tax Receipts 2019-2020 Parishioners wishing to receive and end of financial year tax receipt, please contact Margaret at the parish office on Tuesday, 8:30am - 1:30pm or Wednesdays & Fridays, 10:30am-3:30pm

Safeguarding WWC Number

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Safeguarding Office requires all parishioners volunteering in liturgical and child related ministries to provide the parish your "Working With Children Check" (WWCC) number, together with your name and date of birth so that the parish can verify the status of the clearance. This includes Acolytes, Ministers of the Word (readers), Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and children's liturgy. If you haven't as yet provided this number to the parish please do so as soon as possible. To obtain your WWCC you may follow this link <https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/apply-working-children-check>

2020	July	August	Sept*
2nd Collection	\$1715	\$3575	\$8078
Donation	\$1500	\$2424	\$313
1st Collection	\$160	\$0	\$90

**The practice of putting out a collection box at weekend Masses started only in September. These figures will be published at the very least monthly henceforth.*

Recently Deceased

In Loving Memory

Antonio Rositano, Nancy Mitchell, Donato Carnavale, Maria Debono, James Roebuck

Please remember those who are in ill

health especially: Peter Peters, Monica Costa, Quang Vo, Matt Nugent, Bob Handerson, Bevan 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

Mr & Mrs Lau

**33 Ponyara Road
Ph: 0433 474 172**



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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Consequently, the church was still able to generate a surplus of \$99,082 during this financial year largely due to the income raised before COVID19 as well as the deferral or temporary reduction of several ongoing and significant expenses. This surplus is expected to be very helpful to support the Parish as we continue to see challenges while normal Church operations are not yet back to normal. As the outlook of our future Parish sources of income remain uncertain, while our Parish Expenses will eventually return to normal or higher levels (particularly repairs), I would like to encourage all Parishioners to please continue to support the church.

Please remember, if you prefer to make a contribution to the church electronically instead of using cash, please contact the Parish or visit the Parish website at www.reginacoeleiparish.org.au/donation-to-parish/.

Thank you and stay safe!

- Daniel Portelli, a member of the parish finance committee -

Income	This Year \$	Last year \$	Expenditure	This Year \$	Last year \$
Planned Giving (2nd Collection)	61,600	71,726	Altar & Church	4,149	12,864
Loose coins (2nd Collection)	34,525	44,343	Electricity/Gas	7,771	7,716
Candles	7,646	12,772	Insurance	24,876	23,389
Donations	6,334	35,225	Car Expenses	9,258	8,815
Interest Received	25,619	32,652	Postage/Printing/Telephone	11,142	11,420
Hall Hire	64,354	63,208	Repair & Maintenance	19,935	42,045
Rent Income	19,464	20,900	Salaries/Superannuation (Staff)	41,212	47,382
Government Subsidies	22,000	-	Rental Expenses	2,450	2,924
Other	14,921	13,965	Other	36,587	26,119
Total Income	256,463	294,791	Total Expense	157,380	182,674
			Total Surplus	99,082	112,117

Holy Father's Appeal will take place this weekend—the envelopes have been found! To give, please use the appeal envelopes provided at the door or phone the Fundraising Office at the Archdiocese of Sydney on during office hours on 1800 753 959.

Excerpts from Catechesis On Prayer by Pope Francis: Elijah's prayer

Prayer is the lifeblood that constantly nourishes his existence...Elijah is the man of God, who stands as a defender of the primacy of the Most High. And yet, he too is forced to come to terms with his own frailties. It is difficult to say which experiences were most useful to him: the defeat of the false prophets on Mount Carmel (cf. 1 Kings 18:20-40), or his bewilderment in which he finds that he is "no better than [his] ancestors" (see 1 Kings 19:4). In the soul of those who pray, the sense of their own weakness is more precious than moments of exaltation, when it seems that life is a series of victories and successes. This always happens in prayer: moments of prayer that we feel lift us up, even of enthusiasm, and moments of prayer of pain, aridity, trial. This is what prayer is: letting ourselves be carried by God, and also letting ourselves be struck by unpleasant situations and even temptations.

Elijah is the man of contemplative life and, at the same time, of active life...How much we are in need of believers, of zealous Christians, who act before people who have managerial responsibility with the courage of Elijah, to say, "This must not be done! This is murder!". We need Elijah's spirit. He shows us that there should be no dichotomy in the life of those who pray: one stands before the Lord and goes towards the brothers to whom He sends us. Prayer is not about locking oneself up with the Lord to make one's soul appear beautiful: no, this is not prayer, this is false prayer. Prayer is a confrontation with God, and letting oneself be sent to serve one's brothers and sisters. The proof of prayer is the real love of one's neighbour. And vice versa: believers act in the world after having first kept silent and prayed; otherwise, their action is impulsive, it is devoid of discernment, it is rushing without a destination.

The pages of the Bible suggest that Elijah's faith also made progress: he too grew in prayer, he refined it little by little. The face of God came into focus for him as he walked. He reached his peak in that extraordinary experience, when God manifested Himself to Elijah on the mount (cf. 1 Kings 19:9-13). He manifests himself not in the storm, not in the earthquake or the devouring fire, but in "a light murmuring sound" (v. 12). Or better, a translation that reflects that experience well: in a thread of resounding silence. This is how God manifests Himself to Elijah. It is with this humble sign that God communicates with Elijah, who at that moment is a fugitive prophet who has lost peace. God comes forward to meet a tired man, a man who thought he had failed on all fronts, and with that gentle breeze, with that thread of resounding silence, He brings calm and peace back into the heart...This is the story of Elijah, but it seems written for all of us. In some evenings we can feel useless and lonely. It is then that prayer will come and knock on the door of our hearts.

First Reading Is 25:6-10

The Lord will prepare a feast and will wipe away the tears from every cheek.

On this mountain,
the Lord of hosts will prepare for all people
a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine
wines,
of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines.
On this mountain he will remove
the mourning veil covering all peoples,
and the shroud enwrapping all nations,
he will destroy Death for ever.
The Lord will wipe away
the tears from every cheek;
he will take away his people's shame
everywhere on earth,
for the Lord has said so.
That day, it will be said: See, this is our God
in whom we hoped for salvation;
the Lord is the one in whom we hoped.
We exult and we rejoice
that he has saved us;
for the hand of the Lord
rests on this mountain.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 22. R. v.6

*(R.) I shall live in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life.*

1. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. (R.)
2. He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your
staff;
with these you give me comfort. (R.)
3. You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. (R.)
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall
follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. (R.)

Second Reading Phil 4:12-14, 19-20

I am able to do all things in him who strengthens me.

I know how to be poor and I know how to
be rich too. I have been through my initiation
and now I am ready for anything anywhere:

full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or
plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with
the help of the One who gives me strength.
All the same, it was good of you to share
with me in my hardships. In return my God
will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as
lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our
Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation See Eph 1:17-18

Alleluia, alleluia!

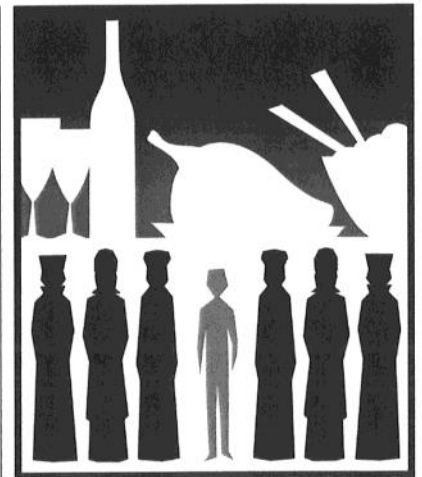
*May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our heart
that we might see how great is the hope
to which we are called.*

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 22:1-14

Whomsoever you find invite to the wedding.

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of
the people: 'The kingdom of heaven may be
compared to a king who gave a feast for his
son's wedding. He sent his servants to call
those who had been invited, but they would
not come. Next he sent some more servants.
"Tell those who have been invited" he said
"that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen
and fattened cattle have been slaughtered,
everything is ready. Come to the wedding."
But they were not interested: one went off
to his farm, another to his business, and
the rest seized his servants, maltreated
them and killed them. The king was furious.
He dispatched his troops, destroyed those
murderers and burnt their town. Then he
said to his servants, "The wedding is ready;
but as those who were invited proved to be
unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town
and invite everyone you can find to the
wedding." So these servants went out onto
the roads and collected together everyone
they could find, bad and good alike; and the
wedding hall was filled with guests. When
the king came in to look at the guests he
noticed one man who was not wearing a
wedding garment, and said to him, "How did
you get in here, my friend, without a wedding
garment?" And the man was silent. Then the
king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand
and foot and throw him out into the dark,
where there will be weeping and grinding
of teeth." For many are called, but few are
chosen.'



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

As incredible as it may seem, some
people turn down the invitation to the
eschatological banquet. This is the
case, both in the parable and in our
world today. This invitation seems
much less interesting than a sports
event, the latest movie, or some
social affair. So much of our time and
energy is spent either climbing the
economic ladder or just trying to
keep our heads above water. Even if
we are interested in the banquet, we
do not seem able to afford the time
and energy that it might require. And
so we send our regrets: I cannot
come. What a shame! We seem to
have forgotten that everything is
tending toward the end; all of our
plans, interests and distractions will
cease. Only the banquet will remain.
All God asks of us is that we receive
the blessings that have been
prepared for us. We need not work
for them. In fact, we cannot work for
them on our own. All we can do is
enjoy them. Enjoyment of the
eschatological time of fulfilment is
open to all, but guaranteed to none.

One theme seems to connect all of
the readings for this Sunday, our
total dependence on God. God
spreads the banquet table and
invites the guests; God punishes
those who are indifferent to or
antagonistic toward the
eschatological banquet; God supplies
whatever we need in whatever
circumstances we find ourselves. We
do not have to bargain with God, or
make reservations. All we have to do
is accept what God has to offer.

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