



Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



Weekly Newsletter

**Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
25 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



Pope Francis has written a new encyclical called *Fratelli Tutti* (which means 'all brothers') on *fraternity and social friendship*. This seems quite timely when we consider the fact that our world is becoming polarised and frighteningly so, in ways which appear to be almost irreversible at times. [But I do anticipate that things might calm down at least a little bit once the US election is well and truly over.] There is no shortage of divisive issues in our world. The terrible bushfires of our "Black Summer" evolved into such a divisive and incendiary issue that the whole world noticed, especially the political pundits. The same seems to have happened, except on an even bigger scale, in relation to the coronavirus. There can be no doubt that the virus is serious, as are the tragedies caused by the virus. But there is also a great deal of polarising drama surrounding the issue which is human-induced rather than virus-induced. We have been "forced," as it were, not only to take sides but also to do so with pseudo-religious zeal such that, with the "infidels" who are not on the same side, we cannot possibly be brothers. But, surely, vigorous public discourse is the basis of a healthy society, politically speaking! So, how can we build up once again 'fraternity and social friendship' which are strong enough to allow a diversity of views to compete against one another in a fair and respectful manner? I am not sure what the answer is but Pope Francis, remaining true to his charism of surprising perspicacity, looks for it in an unexpected place.

The pope finds some of the inspiration for his writing in St Francis of Assisi who, in addressing his brother friars, called for a 'love that transcends the barriers of geography and distance' - the kind of love that loves a brother 'as much when he is far away from him as when he is with him.' (*Fratelli Tutti*, 1) He recalls how at the very height of tension and hostility between Christians and Muslims - at the time of the Crusades - St Francis ventured to visit Sultan Malik-el-Kamil in Egypt in the hope of building bridges: 'Unconcerned for hardships and dangers involved, [he] went to meet the Sultan with the same attitude that he instilled in his disciples: if they found themselves among...non believers, without renouncing their own identity, they were not to engage in arguments or disputes, but to be subject to every human creature for God's sake.' (FT, 3) This is extraordinary, certainly not what I would have thought of, clearly not! But perhaps it is true that, especially when faced with a stalemate which cannot be resolved, one needs to think outside the box sometimes and choose a supernaturally-inspired option - the radical option of fully embracing the Gospel values. After all, G.K. Chesterton called St Francis a 'fool for Christ.' Francis, who was naturally a very attractive person, went out of his way to become a fool in the eyes of the world - a humble, poor and unimportant little friar - by always preferring the opposite of what the rest of the world around him seemed to pant after. But, quite inexplicably, it was St Francis who prevailed in the end, winning the hearts and minds of countless brothers and sisters for centuries to come.

The pope writes: 'Francis did not wage a war of words aimed at imposing doctrines; he simply spread the love of God. He understood that "God is love and those who abide in love abide in God" (1 John 4:16). In this way, he became a father to all and inspired the vision of a fraternal society. Indeed, "only the man who approaches others, not to draw them into his own life, but to help them become ever more fully themselves, can truly be called a father."' (FT, 4) In the following chapter which I hope to expand upon next time, Pope Francis provides an excellent analysis of our tragically fragmented world, thereby showing that he is far from being naive when he speaks of the ideals of fraternity and social friendship. In other words, he is by no means just a kumbaya-singing-hippie!

- Fr Peter -

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The Week Ahead

Sun 25 Oct 30th Sun Ordinary Time	No need to book for Mass!	
Mon 26 Oct	No Mass	
Tues 27 Oct	9.15am	Mass
Wed 28 Oct Sts Simon and Jude, apostles	7am	Mass
Thurs 29 Oct	9.15am 2.00pm	Mass Afternoon Tea
Fri 30 Oct	9.15am	Mass
Sat 31 Oct	9.00am 9:25-9:55am	Mass Adoration & Reconciliation
	4:15-4:45pm 5pm	Reconciliation Vigil Mass
Sun 1 Nov All Saints	8.30am 10.00am	Mass (live-streamed on Face- book) Mass

First Holy Communion

The Sacrament of First Holy Communion is to be celebrated for 58 of our Parish children throughout the month of November. During each Mass, 5 or 6 children will receive Jesus for the first time in the Eucharist. The children and their families will be seated in reserved pews at the front of the church. Thank you for understanding that these pews will not be available for parishioners at these Masses. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers.

COVID Safe measures for Children's Liturgy at 10am Mass:

- 1) all kids and adults to hand-sanitise as we go in and out of the hall
- 2) separate packs of pencils/crayons per child
- 3) limiting numbers on tables
- 4) encouraging kids to spread out when sitting on the floor
- 5) cleaning tables before / after with disinfectant
- 6) bringing any kids who are sick/sneezing back to church to their parents

Recently Deceased

In Loving Memory

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.

The NSW Government has announced:

‘As of Friday 23 October 2020, for services apart from weddings and funerals, places of worship can have up to 300 people or one person per 4 square metres of space, whichever is less.’

Under the 4 square metres per person rule, our parish church of Regina Coeli can accommodate around 130 worshippers - that's a modest estimate, just to be on the safe side! There have been a few times so far when the numbers at Mass looked close to exceeding 100 at Regina Coeli. So the extra breathing space is certainly a welcome relief!

Rosary Statue Mrs Jessica Markos

**18 Albion Street
Ph: 0409 091 771**



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

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>

Tax Receipts 2019-2020 Parishioners wishing to receive an 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

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

Can you picture yourself being a foster carer?

Family Spirit are seeking safe and stable homes for children for up to 6 months or longer.

To learn more about becoming a carer register for our next online information session on Wednesday, 28th October 2020: 6:30pm – 7.30pm

To book call

Family Spirit 13 181 9

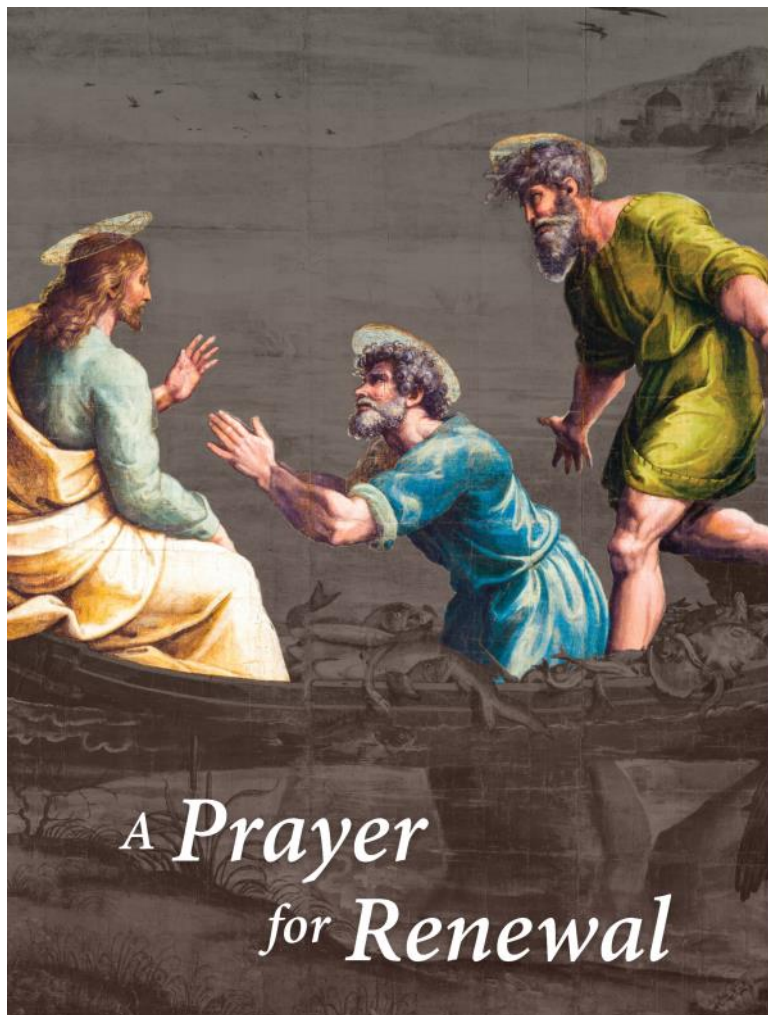
connect@familyspirit.org

8am – 6pm Monday – Friday



Go Make Disciples- Prayer for Renewal Campaign

Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP will be launching a new Archdiocesan Mission Plan **Go Make Disciples** on 12 December, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Star of the New Evangelisation. The new plan is aimed at renewing our parishes as places of encounter with the living Christ and centres of evangelisation and outreach to our community in love and mercy. In the weeks and months ahead we hope you will join us in an Archdiocesan-wide prayer campaign beginning on the Feast of All Saints (1 November), calling on the Holy Spirit, to prepare the hearts of each of us and of all our parishes and Eucharistic communities to receive anew the fire of God's love and the desire to be ever more faithful witnesses of Jesus Christ. There are prayer cards for you to keep at the doors. **Please join us by praying the prayer** together at the end of each Mass, in your prayer group, and in your homes. More about the campaign in this weekend's Catholic Weekly. For more information contact Parish Renewal Team at the Sydney Centre for Evangelisation, Archdiocese of Sydney on 9390 5307 or elizabeth.arblaster@sydneycatholic.org



*A Prayer
for Renewal*

Blessed are you, Father, who, in your infinite love sent us your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, that we may have life, and have it in abundance.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, renew our Eucharistic communities.

May they be places of encounter with the living Christ, centres of evangelisation and outreach to our community in love and mercy.

Grant us the gifts of faith, hope and love to be faithful disciples of Jesus and radiant witnesses to the people of Sydney.

Our Lady, Help of Christians. *Pray for us!*

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Star of the New Evangelisation. *Pray for us!*

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. *Pray for us!*



GO MAKE DISCIPLES
gomakedisciples.org.au

First Reading Ex 22:20-26

If you are harsh with the widow or the orphan, my anger will rage against you.

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this, "You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

"If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

"If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 17:2-4. 47. 51. R. v.2

(R.) *I love you, Lord, my strength.*

1. I love you, Lord, my strength,
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.
My God is the rock where I take refuge;
my shield, my mighty help, my
stronghold.
The Lord is worthy of all praise:
when I call I am saved from my foes. (R.)
2. Long life to the Lord, my rock!
Praised be the God who saves me.
He has given great victories to his king
and shown his love for his anointed. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Thes 1:5-10

You turned away from idols to serve God and await his Son.

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and

Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

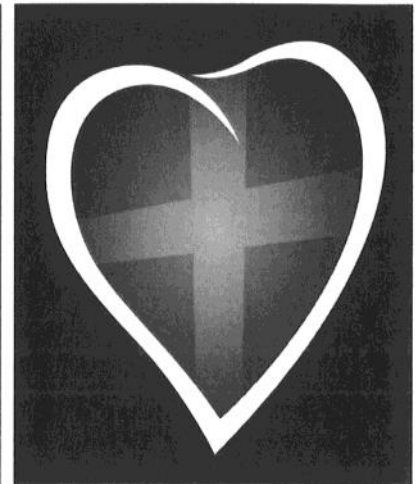
*All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we
will come to them.*

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 22:34-40

You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Our religious tradition is founded on love. Actually, life itself is grounded in love. We may not always feel this love, but if we allow ourselves to reflect on life, we will realise this truth. We have been called into being by God's love; and we will only be happy if we live in that love. Thus, when we are directed to love God and love one another, we are not being asked to do something contrary to our nature. Rather, we are being told to live in accord with that nature. We come from God who is love, and so it is in our very nature to love and to be loved.

We may sometimes think that it is easier to love God than to love others. It may actually be just the opposite. Other people are tangible. We can see and hear them, interact with them. Their influence in our lives can permeate our consciousness. That is not the way it is with God. Like Moses on the mountain, we can only see the traces of divinity as God passes by (see Ex 33:23). However, we show that we love God in the way we love our neighbour.

Love, the foundation of the reign of God, is contagious. When we love others, the reign of God spreads throughout the world. The compassion that we show toward others is a form of evangelisation. It proclaims much louder than any words that the reign of God has been established.