



Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



Weekly Newsletter

Christ King of the Universe

22 November 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

'Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ...' (1 Corinthians 15:20-22)

This week I had to conduct two funerals, on consecutive days, one for a 88 year old, the other for a 28 week old - a stillborn baby. These were two human beings seemingly at opposite ends, as though they couldn't be more different. And yet there was a great deal which they shared in common at some profound level, not just in their physical fragility or heartbreaking vulnerability, but also in the fact that they were both involved in a process begun in Adam, namely, the process of dying, by which all are affected.

The central belief in Christianity is that Jesus died and then rose from the dead. By this we mean *not that Jesus merely came back from the dead* but that *he broke through (or passed over) the limit of death* and then went so much further. There is life and then there is death, but there is also *life beyond death* - a state of being into which Jesus was the first to be born, as the 'first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep.' This means that death is not the end, nor does it have the final say. There is so much more: light which darkness cannot overcome, risen life which surpasses even death itself, etc.

There is an indisputable consensus among all serious Christians that 'Christianity stands or falls on the Resurrection.' This means that, without the foundation of the Resurrection, the Christian faith would simply be untrue and therefore not worthy of being believed. St Paul put it in this way: 'If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain.' (1 Cor 15:14) The issue of the Resurrection has earth-shattering, life-changing, even cosmic implications, not least of which is practical. If a process has really begun in Jesus, namely, the process of rising from the dead, then, what might be the benefit - the supreme benefit - of being drawn into that process here and now, and not just when we die, so as to begin to realise the meaning of being 'brought to life in Christ'?

There is a little girl in our midst. I have known her since before she was born. Her father spoke to me after Mass one day, desperate for some prayers. The doctors were aware of serious complications and did not think that she would make it. Against the odds she survived the birth but then spent the next 12 months in the hospital. She could not eat or drink. Everything had to be tube-fed. She could not even rest or sleep like a normal baby, due to constant dietary or medical interventions. The suffering endured by a mere infant for more than a year was palpable to the point of saddened shock even for an outside observer like myself.

Continued on Page 3

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



The Week Ahead

Sun 22 Nov Christ the King		No need to book for Mass!
Mon 23 Nov		No Mass
Tues 24 Nov Sts Andrew Dung-Lac and companions	9.15am	Mass
	11:30am	Funeral Mass for Paul Kensey
Wed 25 Nov	7am 9am	Mass Adoration with children
Thurs 26 Nov	9.15am 2.00pm	Mass Afternoon Tea
Fri 27 Nov	9.15am	Mass
Sat 28 Nov	9.00am 9:25-9:55am	Mass Adoration & Reconciliation
	4:15-4:45pm 5pm	Reconciliation Vigil Mass
Sun 29 Nov First Sunday of Advent	8.30am 10.00am	Mass Mass (live-streamed on Facebook)

Excerpts from Words of Remembrance

John Bonner was born to parents, Annie & Reginald Bonner, on 14 September 1932, who were living at Bondi at the time. Reginald was a Stoker in the Royal Australian Navy during WW2 and was lost on HMAS Sydney on 19 November 1941. John was just nine years old and told he would now be "man of the house".



John did his trade as an electrician and worked at Garden Island in Sydney for the Navy for 35 years until retirement in 1992. He met his wife, Phyllis, a dressmaker, in Belmore and they married in 1955. They had 65 wonderful years together. In 1963, they adopted their only daughter, Karen, who was the apple of their eye. They moved to Beverly Hills in November 1969.



John was an Acolyte at this church for many, many years. He also joined St Vincent's de Paul around the age of 50 and often joked he was the youngest member for years. He continued this service to the community until last year.

Eternal rest, grant unto him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

SAVE THE DATE:

Regina Coeli Virtual Christmas carols 18/12 at 7pm via live streaming on Facebook. Join us online as we sing the Christmas favourites and connect as a parish community. If you play an instrument and would like to participate we'd love to hear from you. Rehearsal will be 11/12 at 7pm in the church. More information to follow. Enquiries please contact Natasha - nat_demel@live.com.au or Lauren Lim - laurenlim650@gmail.com

The Holy Father's Appeal (a.k.a. PETER's PENCE)

A big "thanks" to everyone who recently gave to this annual appeal which raises funds for the charitable works of the Pope.

The precedent of holding this appeal on or near the Feast of St Peter and St Paul (29th June) was set many years ago but this all changed in 2020. That Regina Coeli held the 2020 appeal in October is, for want of a better word, unprecedented.

Pope Francis can expect a cheque very soon for \$945.00 (compares to 2019 \$1,037.15)

- Regina Bookkeeper -

Recently Deceased

Paul Kensey, John Bonner, Baby Ava Polly Boustany, Vanessa Succur, Shiela Woods

In Loving Memory

Holy Souls

Please remember those who are in ill

health especially: George Cooley, Anne Kensey, Peter Peters, Monica Costa, Quang Vo, Matt Nugent, Bob Handerson, Ann McDowell, Christopher McDowell, Damiano Seravalle, Michelle Makin, George Dagher, Mrs Saba, Josephina Algozzina, Pat Mortimer, Mrs Donald Burch, Mary Daniels, Geoff McDowell, Elena Mura, Mr TD (Terry) Wall, Kim Delaney, Lauren Sotano, Sam Hy, Georgia Brown, Luke Compton, Paul Camelotti.

Rosary Statue

Mr & Mrs B. Murray

4 Leon Avenue

Ph: 9750 0776



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

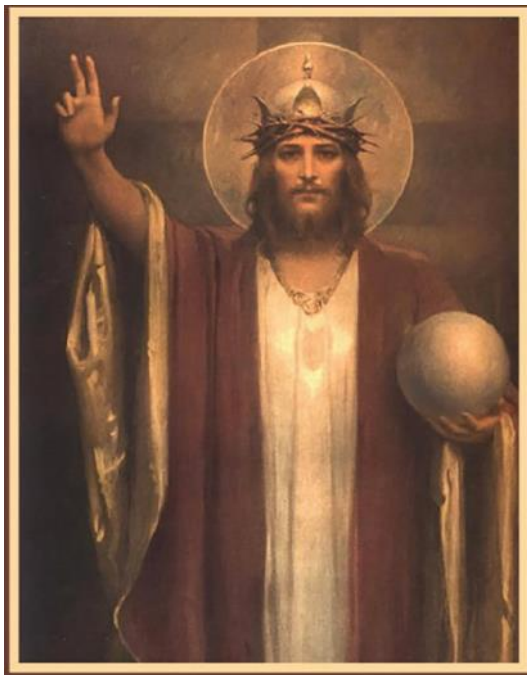
REC

Mrs Elizabeth Webster

Continued from Page 1

Recently I got to see her again. Her grandparents brought her to church for a visit - something which she loves doing apparently. She is now just over two years old. And she can eat, drink and do everything else that a healthy toddler might be able to do. Her incredible progress has been and still is surreal even to her family who have watched her entire journey. I was particularly interested to learn that she is very smart. She knows the alphabet. She can count. She can identify Jesus and Mary instantly from a long distance. *Precociousness* seems to be a common feature among those who have endured tremendous suffering from an early age. It is as though, even as they appear to struggle under the oppressive spell of death, there is graced growth or blessed re-birth which cannot be stopped - something akin to the process of rising from the dead, a privileged glimpse of which the *miracle-children* reveal for the rest of us!

- Fr Peter -



THE FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING [Source: the Archdiocesan website]

The Church celebrates the Feast of Christ the King, also called the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, on the last Sunday of the Liturgical year. The Feast was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925 with his encyclical *Quas primas*, to respond to a world that was rejecting Christ and was being dominated by secularism. Pope Pius hoped that the establishment of this feast would bring about the following:

- * That this annual celebration would assist the faithful to gain strength in their true King, Jesus Christ;
- * That leaders and nations would recognise that they are bound to submit and give respect to Christ the King;
- * That nations would see that the Church has the right to freedom, and immunity from the state. In these times when we are challenged in our faith and our ability to worship together, let us remember that Jesus Christ is Our King who reigns forever.
- * That individuals should honour and recognise Jesus as their 'Sovereign King' and emulate his total gift of self, perfectly embodied on the Cross. In imitation of their thorn-crowned King, individuals can help bring love and relief to those who suffer and help to proclaim the Good News of the Reign of Christ in the world today.

Sign in by scanning the QR code!

The QR code (for those who use smartphones) allows you to sign in without having to write down your private details on paper. Your details online, recorded on our google form, will be kept private (as far as it is possible for details to be kept private on the internet) and examined only by parish personnel.

When signing in by scanning the QR code you also have the option of providing us with your email address. This is solely for parish use - for establishing a communication network within the parish. You only need to do this once.

For those who don't have smart phones or simply prefer the old method, you can still sign in manually on paper.

Thank you for your cooperation!



Confirmation 2020!



CWF November Parish Appeal

The **Charitable Works Fund (CWF) November Appeal** will be happening **until the end of November**. Your donation will help some of the vulnerable in Sydney - including our local Aboriginal community, as well as single mothers facing homelessness, people struggling with mental health issues and many others.

Special envelopes are available at the parish. Alternatively, you can learn more and donate securely at www.ourfaithourworks.org/cwf. **Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.**

First Reading Ez 34:11-12,15-17

You, my flock, I judge between sheep and sheep.

The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view. As a shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest – it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them.

As for you, my sheep, the Lord says this: I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and he-goats.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 22:1-3, 5-6. R. v.1

*(R.) The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.*

1. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose. (R.)
2. Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit.
He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name. (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 1 Cor 15:20-26,28

He will hand over the kingdom to God the Father, so that God may be all in all.

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death. And when everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will be

subject in his turn to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all.

Gospel Acclamation Mk 11:9-10

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Blessings on him who comes
in the name of the Lord!*

*Blessings on the coming kingdom
of our father David!*

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 25:31-46

He will take his seat on his throne of glory, and he will separate men one from another.

Jesus said to his disciples: "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left. Then the King will say to those on his right hand, 'Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me.' Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?' And the King will answer, 'I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me.' Next he will say to those on his left hand, 'Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me.' Then it will be their turn to ask, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?' Then he will answer, 'I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me.' And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life."



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

We have now come to the end of the liturgical year, the point that marks the transition from one period to another. Today we see that the kingdom of God is inclusive. Its embrace is as comprehensive as is the embrace of God. Criteria for membership are not based on obedience to the commandments or on conformity to ritual obligation, but on the bonds of love and concern.

What we do for others, we do for Christ, because Christ is identified with those in need. We very seldom see the face of the glorified Christ in the faces of the needy; it is more often the face of the disfigured Christ that is turned to us. We see his fear and his shame, his brokenness and sense of loss. As difficult as it may be to look into such eyes, it is precisely the needy with whom Christ is identified.

Having entered into the frailty of human nature, identified himself with the needy, and handed himself over to death, in the end Christ will have conquered all. It is a curious kingdom that he has won, a kingdom of the weak rather than the strong. He has turned the standards of the world upside down. He has shown that it does not take strength to ignore or to exploit the needy, but it does take strength to overcome our own selfishness in order to serve them. The kingdom that Christ hands over to God is a kingdom of love and care.

The psalm responses are from the English translation of the Lectionary for the Mass © 1981 International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL). All rights reserved. The psalm texts, from The Psalms, A New Translation, © 1983 by The Guild, England and used by permission of the publishers. The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. © 2017 Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd All use must be in accordance with your user licensing agreement.