



Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



Weekly Newsletter

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
24 January 2021

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



I had been under the false impression that the mandatory mask-wearing order from the state government applied to the whole of NSW. After a few days of marvelling at the boldness with which hardly anyone wore a mask, not even when shopping at Coles, it finally dawned on me that the same rules did not apply to those beyond the greater Sydney. Of course, there is a lot more to NSW than Sydney! As a matter of fact, many of these places beyond the greater Sydney probably do not wish to be associated with Sydney right now. They have never been more eager to say, 'Sydney? Where is that?' Some of them eye suspiciously any escapee from Sydney, to the point of asking which suburb in Sydney one has come from. A certain National Park even forbids residents of the hotspots in Sydney from entering its premises. Like a non-criminal who still felt a little nervous under heightened scrutiny, I said that I came from Beverly Hills and was allowed to go through, just. All of a sudden, I felt sorry for my fellow Sydney-siders who had been blacklisted - those who lived in places like Liverpool, Auburn, etc. What was it that I had that they didn't have, which afforded me the privilege of being treated like a VIP, comparatively speaking?

I knew I was nearly home when people were wearing masks to pay for petrol. I had to think for a moment where I had kept my own mask. Once back in Beverly Hills, I jumped on the train to the city in order to meet someone. Walking back toward the train station for the journey home, I realised that the mask must have fallen out of my shirt pocket at some stage. Out of desperation to have a "normal" train-ride, I ducked into a convenient store to purchase a single mask and was horrified to discover that they were selling them for \$3 each at the counter! Out of the same box of disposable masks I had in the presbytery! I could not hide my dismay. How very un-Australian! What was the world coming to? I demanded that I got a mask other than the one at the top of the pile which was half-pulled out and looked to have been touched more than once. After all, I was paying \$3 and therefore had every right to a choice. Without any effort, my mind started to wonder, 'For how many days would I have to use the mask in order to get my money's worth?'

Whilst away, I happened to hear about the tennis controversy. Tennis players were upset that they had to be hotel-quarantined for two weeks, by virtue of the fact that they had been on the same plane with someone who tested positive to the coronavirus. They couldn't even be quarantined in a special facility where they could practice tennis. This was the case, even though they themselves had tested negative. The Victoria Government seemed determined to show that not even the most eminent of tennis players would be treated differently. Apparently, there was a strong backlash from the "Australian public" toward the tennis stars, for their reprehensible failure to understand how much ordinary Australians (especially Victorians) had had to suffer. Who did they think they were to be exempted from collective (Aussie) suffering?

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The Week Ahead

Sun 24 Jan Third Sun- day Ordinary Time	8.30am 10.00am	No need to book for Mass
Mon 25 Jan OT Conversion of St Paul		No Mass
Tue 26 Jan OT Australia Day	9.15am	Mass
Wed 27 Jan OT	7am 9am	Mass Mass with school staff
Thu 28 Jan OT	9.15pm 10.30am	Mass Funeral Mass Barbara Bubnij
Fri 29 Jan OT	9.15am	Mass
Sat 30 Jan OT	9.00am 9:25- 9:55am	Mass Adoration & Reconciliation
	4:15- 4:45pm 5pm	Reconciliation Vigil Mass
Sun 31 Jan Fourth Sun OT	8.30am 10.00am	Mass Mass

Recently Deceased

Barbara Bubnij, Bernard George Orbell,
John Foxe, Michelle Makin

In Loving Memory

Carmelo Algozzino

Please remember those who are in ill health especially: Josh Venture, Carmen Bajada, Anne Kensey, Peter Peters, Monica Costa, Quang Vo, Matt Nugent, Ann McDowell, Christopher McDowell, Damiano Serravalle, 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

Mrs
14
Ph: 9150



Parish Secretary

Mrs Margaret
Doherty-Brady
9554 8155
Tues 8:30am-
1:30pm Wed & Fri
10.30am—3.30pm

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

Following are the SVDP Statistics for the calendar year 2020

NO OF CLIENT VISITS 2020	110
NO OF CLIENT VISITS 2019	161
INCREASE/DECREASE	-51

CONFERENCE COSTS IN SERVICING CLIENTS

FOOD CARDS	\$9620
OTHER	1326
TOTAL	\$10946

AVERAGE COST IN SERVICING CLIENTS:

\$99.00 PER VISIT

NOT A COST TO CONFERENCE

DONATED ITEMS	0
(APPROX VALUE)	
EAPA ELECT/GAS **	400
PHONE**	0
OTHER ASSIST**	0

** Vouchers etc provided by Regional Office
no cost to Conference

VOUCHERS ISSUED FOR CLOTHING / FURNI- TURE / supplied by Vinnies Stores.

**Assistance provided was well down on last year
mainly due to the Government Stimulus packages
resulting in less calls for hardship.**

Conference members also participate in the following activities:

- 1 clothing drive last year 3 cancelled due to Covid-19.
- Maternal Heart of Mary Conference in the city helping the poor & homeless of Sydney.

The Men's Conference always welcome new members to enable us to ensure we continue our work well into the future.

The amount of time spent is left up to the individual, any help large or small is always appreciated. We meet every **fortnight** on a Wednesday at 7:30pm in the Parish Centre. Next meeting 27th January. No particular skills are required just a willingness to help those in need within our Parish area, training is provided by our Conference.

**For further information please contact Paul Morris
(President) Mobile 0438 225 120.**

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One tennis player apologised immediately, last time I followed the news. Of course, the trouble is that a strong backlash on Twitter does not necessarily mean a strong backlash from the Australian public. Only a small percentage of Australians would be active on Twitter and an even smaller percentage would be militant enough to participate in online politics, no doubt, aided by Twitter warriors from around the globe. I, for one, would love to know how the Australian public really feels about certain issues. What are the discrepancies between *Australia* and “Australia” as projected by the media establishment? As we celebrate Australia Day, I hope that the discrepancies will diminish over time, making way for a more authentically united Australia. - Fr Peter -

Commentary on *Fratelli Tutti* (Pope Francis’ encyclical on fraternity and social friendship)

There is no commentary this week, just excerpts from Chapter 1 on ‘Dark Clouds over our closed world’:

A “throwaway” world

Some parts of our human family, it appears, can be readily sacrificed for the sake of others considered worthy of a carefree existence. Ultimately, “persons are no longer seen as a paramount value to be cared for and respected, especially when they are poor and disabled, ‘not yet useful’ – like the unborn, or ‘no longer needed’ – like the elderly. We have grown indifferent to all kinds of wastefulness, starting with the waste of food, which is deplorable in the extreme”.

A decline in the birthrate, which leads to the aging of the population, together with the relegation of the elderly to a sad and lonely existence, is a subtle way of stating that it is all about us, that our individual concerns are the only thing that matters. In this way, “what is thrown away are not only food and dispensable objects, but often human beings themselves”.

...We fail to realize that, by isolating the elderly and leaving them in the care of others without the closeness and concern of family members, we disfigure and impoverish the family itself. We also end up depriving young people of a necessary connection to their roots and a wisdom that the young cannot achieve on their own.

Some economic rules have proved effective for growth, but not for integral human development. Wealth has increased, but together with inequality, with the result that “new forms of poverty are emerging”.

Insufficiently universal human rights

In today’s world, many forms of injustice persist, fed by reductive anthropological visions and by a profit-based economic model that does not hesitate to exploit, discard and even kill human beings.

Similarly, the organization of societies worldwide is still far from reflecting clearly that women possess the same dignity and identical rights as men...Indeed, “doubly poor are those women who endure situations of exclusion, mistreatment and violence, since they are frequently less able to defend their rights”.

Today, as in the past, slavery is rooted in a notion of the human person that allows him or her to be treated as an object... Whether by coercion, or deception, or by physical or psychological duress, human persons created in the image and likeness of God are deprived of their freedom, sold and reduced to being the property of others. They are treated as means to an end...

Conflict and fear

War, terrorist attacks, racial or religious persecution, and many other affronts to human dignity are judged differently, depending on how convenient it proves for certain, primarily economic, interests. What is true as long as it is convenient for someone in power stops being true once it becomes inconvenient.

This should not be surprising, if we realize that we no longer have common horizons that unite us; indeed, the first victim of every war is “the human family’s innate vocation to fraternity”. As a result, “every threatening situation breeds mistrust and leads people to withdraw into their own safety zone”.

Once more, we encounter “the temptation to build a culture of walls, to raise walls, walls in the heart, walls on the land, in order to prevent this encounter with other cultures, with other people. And those who raise walls will end up as slaves within the very walls they have built. They are left without horizons, for they lack this interchange with others”.

The loneliness, fear and insecurity experienced by those who feel abandoned by the system creates a fertile terrain for various “mafias”.

First Reading Jon 3:1-5. 10

The Ninevites renounced their evil ways.

The word of the Lord was addressed to Jonah: 'Up!' he said 'Go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach to them as I told you to.' Jonah set out and went to Nineveh in obedience to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was a city great beyond compare: it took three days to cross it. Jonah went on into the city, making a day's journey. He preached in these words, 'Only forty days more and Nineveh is going to be destroyed.' And the people of Nineveh believed in God; they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least.

God saw their efforts to renounce their evil behaviour. And God relented: he did not inflict on them the disaster which he had threatened.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 24:4-9. R. v.4

(R.) Teach me your ways, O Lord.

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and
teach me:
for you are God my saviour. (R.)
2. Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from
of old.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord.
(R.)
3. The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who
stray,
he guides the humble in the right
path;
he teaches his way to the poor. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Cor 7:29-31

The world as we know it is passing away.

Brothers, our time is growing short. Those who have wives should live as though they had none, and those who mourn should live as though they had nothing to mourn for; those who are enjoying life should live as though there were nothing to laugh about; those whose life is buying things should live as though they had nothing of their own; and those who have to deal with the world should not become engrossed in it. I say this because the world as we know it is passing away.

Gospel Acclamation Mk 1:15

Alleluia, alleluia!

The kingdom of God is near:

believe the Good News!

Alleluia!

Gospel Mk 1:14-20

Repent, and believe the Good News.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

As he was walking along by the Sea of Galilee he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake - for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men.' And at once they left their nets and followed him.

Going on a little further, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they too were in their boat, mending their nets. He called them at once and, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the men he employed, they went after him.



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Today we reflect on the first and most important responsibility of discipleship, namely, evangelisation, the goal of which is the proclamation of the reign of God. God seems to choose the most unlikely people to preach to others. It does not matter who *brings* the good news, but who *receives* it. Jonah the prophet was sent to outsiders, even enemies. The disciples were fishermen who spoke to the people of their own country. God's salvation is intended for all, and it seems to make little difference who brings this good news.

Today's readings call for repentance. The grace of God requires a new way of living, a life of faith and commitment. The gospel invites us into the age of fulfilment, a salvific reign of truth, compassion and kindness. It is a way of life that leads to justice.

There is an urgency in these readings. This world in its present form is passing away, and God's call demands a total response. Like the disciples, we must leave the familiarity of our former ways and follow the call that we have heard in the depths of our hearts. We are called first to enter the reign of God and then to spread it. As ambassadors of God, we bring the good news of salvation wherever we are and in whatever we do. Called by God, we now begin to live in a totally different way, guided by the values of the reign of God rather than those of the world that is passing away.

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