



Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



Weekly Newsletter

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
14 February 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

Lent is about to start, not too early, not too late, this week as a matter of fact. Something feels right about the fact of moving on to a new season, such as the season of Lent. After all, this has not been a very hot summer. Even the hottest days of this summer, objectively speaking, have not been as scorching as Australia summer can be at times; they have certainly been relatively brief - curtailed well before our patience was seriously put to the test. So, there is a sense of rightness about preparing to leave behind one season in order to move on to a new season.

Speaking of moving on, we have just moved on to a new set of restrictions in relation to church attendance. The State Government (a.k.a. the new "Santa") has announced that the following measures are now effective:

- 1 person per 2 square metres will apply at all venues, except for gyms. Weddings and funerals will still be subject to a 300 person cap.
- Masks will only be mandatory on public transport, but will strongly be encouraged in other indoor venues where social distancing is not possible.

This means that **we are allowed to have up to 260 people at Mass in the church of Regina Coeli.** Given that our (pre-corona) mass attendance used to range from 130 to 260 at any given weekend Mass, the "problem" of having too many people in the church is unlikely to be troubling us, at least not for the time being. Good Friday or Easter is a different kettle of fish which we shall worry about later. Thank you, "Santa"! [But the Victorian Santa has not been so kind.]

What about wearing a mask? This is a complicated issue. I was never comfortable, as a matter of principle, with the policy of mandatory mask-wearing. But I still thought that it was a vastly better alternative to shutting down the economy. I am sure I was not the only person who was puzzled by the inconsistency two weeks ago when mask-wearing remained mandatory in churches (attended by relatively small pools of people) but not in shopping centres (frequented by countless, anonymous and random shoppers).

To the best of my knowledge, mask-wearing is effective at reducing the spread of a virus when the mask-wearer is also a virus-carrier. But when it comes to keeping the virus out for the uninfected, I am told, mask-wearing is not as effective, especially given that most people fail to use masks like clinically trained professionals, not to mention the fact that certain ill-kept masks might even be the most unhygienic thing around!

In an ideal world, only carriers would be wearing masks (if they had to go out for some reason), plus medical professionals and particularly vulnerable people. But we do not live in an ideal world. We don't always know who the carriers are. Sometimes the carriers don't know it themselves. When everyone wears a mask, then, that reduces the probability of virus-carriers "slipping through the cracks." Sometimes this means that the vast majority are mask-wearing when they don't need to, just to ensure that the few virus-carriers do not walk around unmasked.

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Pastoral Team:

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The Week Ahead

Sun 14 Feb Sixth Sun OT	8.30am 10.00am	No need to book for Mass
Mon 15 Feb OT		No Mass
Tue 16 Feb OT	9.15am 10:30am	Mass Funeral Mass for Judith Emerton
Wed 17 Feb Ash Wednesday	7am 9am 11:30am 7pm	Mass School Only Mass Liturgy for school infants Mass
Thu 18 Feb	9.15pm 9.50am	Mass Reconciliation with Yr 6
Fri 19 Feb	9.15am 10am	Mass Parish Lenten Group
Sat 20 Feb	9.00am 9:25- 9:55am	Mass Adoration & Reconciliation
	4:15- 4:45pm 5pm	Reconciliation Vigil Mass
Sun 21 Feb 1st Sunday of Lent	8.30am 10.00am	Mass Mass

Recently Deceased

Judith Emerton, Joseph Noujaim Barbara Bubnij, Bernard Orbell

In Loving Memory

Nadia Hobeika, Joseph Ghibely, Spiro Bajada, Josephine Bajada, Manuel & Gloria Vieire, Assia & Damia Dagher, Sam Xerri

Please remember those who are in ill health especially: James Ybasco, Josh Venture, Carmen Bajada, Anne Kensey, Peter Peters, Monica Costa, Quang Vo, Matt Nugent, Ann Mc Dowell, 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
Mr & Mrs T. Woodford
31 Elouera Street
Ph: 0418 251 947



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

St Vincent de Paul Clothing Drive dates for 2021

FEBRUARY	13
MAY	1
AUGUST	7
NOVEMBER	6

- **Please ensure bags are placed outside by 8:00am on the Saturday of collection.**
- **Bags should be visible from the street this will assist collectors which will be most appreciated.**
- **Please do not leave clothing bags at the Church or Parish Centre they will be collected from your home.**

Noel Smith's Farewell Party

There has not been a social gathering for a long time here at Regina Coeli. So this might a worthy reason for attempting to socially gather once again: Noel Smith, who is "only 94" and has been a beloved parishioner for as long as anyone can remember, has just moved to a nursing home on account of his declining ability to live independently.

A suggestion has been made that there be a farewell party for Noel Smith. What a great idea!

So, on **Saturday 20 February 2021 after the 5PM Vigil Mass @ Parish Hall**, there will be a party where light supper will be provided. But for catering purposes please make sure to sign up on the signup-sheets which are available at every door. Thank you.

Office of Children's Guardian Safeguarding WWC Number

NSW Office of Children's Guardian requires that the Archdiocese of Sydney Safeguarding Office, ensure all parishioners volunteering in liturgical and/or child related ministries have a "Working With Children Check" WWC number. This includes children's liturgy, catechists, youth ministers, readers, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, acolytes, choir members, minister's to the homebound, and counters. If you haven't as yet provided your WWC number to the parish please do so as soon as possible. When emailing your number, please also send your date of birth so the parish may verify your number. To obtain, or renew, your WWC number go to kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au (Office of the Children's Guardian). Thank you.

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I must confess that my primary reason for wearing a mask at Mass has been to avoid getting fined or to prevent the parish from getting fined ;) Nevertheless, it dawned on me that mask-wearing might have helped to enhance a sense of safety, especially for the vulnerable at Mass. If true, then, surely, this is a noble reason for maintaining the practice of mask-wearing even though it is no longer mandatory to do so. So, here is my proposal: that we try to bring masks with us when we come to church so that they can be worn, especially when it starts to get a little crowded where we are. Mask-wearers are to be welcomed and respected at Regina Coeli at all times! But, of course, the final decision about mask-wearing is to be made by the individual. - Fr Peter -

Lenten Program for Sydney Receive the Grace to Go Make Disciples: A Lenten Companion*

Receive the Grace to Go Make Disciples: A Lenten Companion is a means for parish staff and parishioners to meditate upon those foundations of spiritual renewal for individuals and communities that are at the heart of our Archdiocesan mission plan, *Go Make Disciples*, and to ask for the grace to grow where growth is needed.

This practical resource includes the Sunday Gospels, reflection questions, devotional resources such as the Stations of the Cross, and also a spiritual reflection on foundations of the Christian life as explored in the Sunday Gospel, with reflections by **Prof Tracey Rowland**, **Peter Holmes**, **Fr Chris Ryan MGL**, **Mother Hilda Scott OSB**, **Fr Kelvin Lovegrove**, **Fr David Braithwaite SJ**, and **Dr Paul Morrissey**.

If you have any enquiries about *Receive the Grace to Go Make Disciples*, please contact the Parish Renewal Team at parishrenewal@sydneycatholic.org or on (02) 9390 5330. \

***What you can do with the Lenten Companion here at Regina Coeli:**

- **Pick up a free copy from the altar rail at the front of our church (the sanctuary). First come first serve.**
- **Go through the booklet by yourself or in a private group, or**
- **Join a parish group on Friday 10am @ the Parish Centre [Fr Peter will join you if there is enough interest. Please speak to him or email him to let him know that you are interested.]**

Claim the Date

Men's Ministry Network Breakfast at St. Thomas More Brighton Le Sands

Saturday, 13 March 2021 – 8am – 11:45am

Keynote Speaker Topic – St Joseph and the Masculine Genius

Mass with Bishop Umbers

Cooked Breakfast

Contact Parish Office – 9567 3589 – more info to follow



**MARIST
CATHOLIC COLLEGE
PENSHURST**

OPEN DAY **Wednesday 3 March, 2pm–6pm**

All are welcome to register for a tour of our College.
Details are provided on the College website.

ST MARY'S
CATHEDRAL COLLEGE SYDNEY



OPEN DAY

Friday 12 March 2021 | Tours 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Student performances | Choir & Music Scholars 12:30 pm

**Enrolments welcome from across greater Sydney | Close 24 March, 2021
Years 3-6 2022 | Year 7 - 2023 | Years 8 to 12 - 2022**

Check the website: subject to change due to NSW Health guidelines

2 St Mary's Rd, Sydney | T: (02) 9235 0500 | www.smccsydney.catholic.edu.au

Job Advertisement: Parish Secretary at Revesby

St Luke's Parish Revesby is looking for a part-time parish secretary (4 days per week for 6 hours per day) with some flexibility over start and finishing times. Applications should be addressed to Parish Priest Fr Tadeusz Seremet on stlrevesby@hotmail.com by 15 February. Any enquiries please call 9773 9065.

First Reading Lv 13:1-2. 44-46

As long as he is unclean, he must live alone, outside the camp.

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man's skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons.

'The man is leprous: he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, "Unclean, unclean". As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart: he must live outside the camp.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 31:1-2. 5. 11. R. v.7

(R.) I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

1. Happy the man whose offence is forgiven,
whose sin is remitted.
O happy the man to whom the Lord imputes no guilt,
in whose spirit is no guile. (R.)
2. By now I have acknowledged my sins;
my guilt I did not hide.
I said: 'I will confess
my offence to the Lord.'
And you, Lord, have forgiven
the guilt of my sin. (R.)
3. Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord,
exult, you just!
O come, ring out your joy,
all you upright of heart. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Cor 10:31-11:1

Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God. Never do anything offensive to anyone – to Jew or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be saved.

Take me for your model, as I take Christ.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 7:16

Alleluia, alleluia!

A great prophet has appeared among us;

God has visited his people.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mk 1:40-45

The leprosy left him and he was cured.

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to' he said 'you can cure me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. 'Of course I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.' The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

We know that we will all have to face some kind of suffering, and so we try to prepare ourselves for it. Yet when it comes, as prepared as we try to be, it can overtake us with such fury that we fall back defenceless. We look to others for support and assistance, and if we are fortunate, we find it. However, even in the most supportive of communities, suffering tends to alienate us from those who are healthy and secure. Suffering reminds us of our own finitude and the contingent nature of all of life. It threatens our sense of order.

Jesus is not deterred by human suffering. He welcomes all who approach him; his healing touch reincorporates those who have been ostracised; his loving embrace reassociates those who have been alienated. In the reign of God, there are no outsiders. All belong to Jesus, and, therefore, all belong to each other. When the one afflicted is embraced by the community, the community is an authentic manifestation of the inclusive reign of God.

In suffering we witness human vulnerability and our desperate need of each other and of God. There, at the edge of life and on the fringes of the community, we may experience the tenderness and compassion of God. The loving touch of Christ that can heal our souls, if not our bodies. It is there that we may most authentically participate in the cross of Christ. Joined to him we are anything but unproductive or worthless.