



# Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



## Weekly Newsletter

**Second Sunday in Lent  
28 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

*'As they came down from the mountain [Jesus] warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.'* (Mark 9:9-10)

The Gospels are replete with stories about Jesus doing amazing works then telling people not to talk about them. Of course, the people cannot help themselves; they "super-spread," unable to contain the excitement. At the Transfiguration, Peter, James and John probably witnessed by far the most incredible event in their lives up until that point in time. So how was it that they were apparently able to do what no one else could, namely, 'tell no one what they had seen'?

Two reasons come to mind. Firstly, the Transfiguration was so otherworldly that the disciples were at loss as to how to describe it; how does one "gossip" when no one else can relate to it? So Peter rambled because 'he did not know what to say; they were so frightened.' (Mark 9:6) Secondly, it was probably the phrase 'rising from the dead' which had the effect of profoundly silencing them. Not bypassing or jumping over death but 'rising from the dead,' as in emerging from complete submersion in the sea of death!

The unknown tends to command us into reverent silence. Jesus, by 'rising from the dead,' has shown us that the way to the unknown of heaven is through the unknown of death. We need reverent familiarity with both, just like the *glorious Mary standing on the sea of death (or troubles of life)*. Speaking of which, a new stain glass has been installed!

'Mary was a good mother,' said the mystery parishioner who has donated the beautiful window. The three angels are meant to represent the three persons who have been like angels in her life: her mother, her father and, last but not least, Fr William Evans, the first Parish Priest of Regina Coeli!

The son of the mystery donor said, 'Mum has always had an affection and deep reverence for Mary and her role. Before marriage she had a lot to do with the Children of Mary group of Beverly Hills. It is all very important to mum.'

- Fr Peter -



**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

<b>Sun 28 Feb</b> 2nd Sun of Lent	8.30am 10.00am	<b>No need to book for Mass</b>
<b>Mon 1 March</b> 2nd week Lent		No Mass
<b>Tue 2 March</b> 2nd week Lent	9.15am 9:50am	Mass Reconciliation Year 6
<b>Wed 3 March</b> 2nd week Len	7am 9am	Mass Adoration 1-2
<b>Thu 4 March</b> 2nd week Lent	9.15pm	Mass
<b>Fri 5 March</b> 2nd week Lent	9.15am	Mass
<b>Sat 6 March</b> 2nd week Lent	9.00am 9:25- 9:55am	Mass Stations of the Cross & Reconciliation
	4:15- 4:45pm 5pm	Reconciliation Vigil Mass
<b>Sun 7 March</b> 3rd Sunday of Lent	8.30am 10.00am	Mass Mass

### Recently Deceased

Barbara Bubnij, Judith Emerton, Bernard Orbell

### In Loving Memory

Jusuf Susanto Oentojo, 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 Came-

### Rosary Statue

**Mrs Regina Yang**  
**29 Bungalow Road**  
**Peakhurst**  
**Ph: 0422 386 168**



#### 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



### *We might have 7 new Catholics at this year's Easter!*

On Sunday 21 February 2021, the Rite of Election and the Presentation of Baptised Candidates for Reception into Full Communion of the Catholic Church were celebrated by Archbishop Anthony Fisher at St Mary's Cathedral. Regina Coeli Parish was represented by 3 catechumens who are due to be baptised and 4 candidates who are due to be received into full communion at the Easter Vigil 2021.

This is fantastic news, especially given that last year's Easter was practically a non-event, having occurred during the lockdown. Some of you might be aware that I (Fr Peter) decided not to bother with a new Paschal Candle last year and so our current candle is still from 2019 ;) Don't worry, I won't let us miss out on a new Paschal Candle in 2021. Please keep our catechumens and candidates in your prayer and welcome/encourage them when you see them!

### *A delightful email this week!*

*Good morning, I hope this email finds you well. Your Parishioners, led by Carmen led our One Meal Service at Kingsgrove last night with their daughters. They prepared and served over 200 containers of food to local families and the leftovers were delivered to the Vinnies Men's Refuges in Liverpool and Arncliffe.*

*- Antoinette Nader,*





## About Noel Smith

Noel was born on 25 December (!) 1926 and has been a model Christian ever since, attending daily Mass whenever possible from a young age. He and his wife had two sons. One died in a tragic accident. The other became a priest - Fr Peter Smith. His wife was one of the pioneering catechists in the Archdiocese under Fr Freeman (who later became Cardinal Freeman) in Surry Hill and was subsequently given the honour of being a 'Lifetime Catechist,' she passed away in 2008. Noel's eldest brother was a priest - Fr Cecil Smith, S.J.

Noel has been a member of St Vincent de Paul Society since 1954 when he joined the Bondi conference. Several times he has been President of the Beverly Hills conference. Currently he is the Vice President. He has represented the Beverly Hills conference numerous times at the regional level.

Noel was a member of the Serra Club from 1960s until it closed in 1990s. He was District Governor of NSW and QLD. Bishop Terry Brady's father worked alongside Noel as a fellow member of the Serra Club. Noel represented the Serra Club and sat on the Archdiocesan Vocations Committee which was chaired by Cardinal Freeman. Noel was one of the organisers for the 'Daybreak 80' project which was a concert at the Opera House, showcasing musical talent among priests and religious.

Noel was a member of the Movement which was set up to counteract the Communist movement in Sydney. He was a founding member of Life Ascending - a spiritual movement for Catholic retirees - for which he was Treasurer for 10 years. The movement received official approval from Cardinal Pell. In 1981 Noel was one of the four who were installed as first ever acolytes in the parish. He continued to serve in this role until 2008 when his wife passed away. Since then he has been helping out in various ways, most commonly as a collector/warden at Mass.

These are just some of the ways in which Noel has contributed to the life of the parish and beyond. We shall miss him as he moves into a nursing home but our affection and gratitude for him will remain for a long time!

## Candidate #1 Vanessa Jones

Hi Regina Coeli Parishioners, my name is Vanessa. I am converting, if I am approved and accepted, to become a Catholic. I am a confirmed Anglican at present. My parents Baptised me as such. I never really questioned my religion until about 6 years.

I have been working as a Learning Support Officer within the Catholic Education System for 8 years. I have learnt a lot about the Catholic faith and am drawn to it more than the Anglican faith. I have been considering for quite a few years. Most of my friends are Catholics and I admire their faith, family commitment and social justice.

I look forward to becoming a Catholic with fervent passion and anticipation. I promise to take it very seriously. I talk a lot so be warned if you see me I will probably say HELLO.

- Vanessa Jones -

## Lenten Day Retreat for Women | Series I

You a series of reflection days for women, commencing with the Lenten retreat. Enrich your Lenten journey through the transformative embrace of scripture, reflection, adoration and prayer. This retreat offers a chance to take a step back from the pressing concerns of daily life, to reflect prayerfully on the current state of your relationships, with God, with the people around you, and with the world. The season of Lent, during which we prepare to celebrate the Paschal Mystery, the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ at Easter, is a great opportunity to make such a retreat.

Speaker: **Fr. Daniele Russo**

Location: **St Michael's parish, Meadowbank**

Cost: FREE (A small \$10 donation will assist with catering on the day)

Please RSVP by Friday 5 March 2021

For more information, please contact us at [vocations@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:vocations@sydneycatholic.org) or (02) 9307 8424

## Position Vacant: Administrative Assistant- Ryde Gladesville Catholic parish

Ryde Gladesville parish is looking to recruit a part-time Administrative Assistant, working 20 hours per week on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. For more information, contact Mrs Judy Raumer, Executive Assistant to Fr Greg Morgan fmvd by email: [judy.raumer@rgcp.org.au](mailto:judy.raumer@rgcp.org.au) by 8 March 2021.



**First Reading Gn 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18**

*The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith.*

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham,' he called. 'Here I am,' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.'

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt offering in place of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of your enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 115:10, 15-19, R. 114:9**

*(R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.*

1. I trusted, even when I said:  
'I am sorely afflicted.'  
O precious in the eyes of the Lord  
is the death of his faithful. (R.)
2. Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;  
you have loosened my bonds.  
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:  
I will call on the Lord's name. (R.)
3. My vows to the Lord I will fulfil  
before all his people,  
in the courts of the house of the Lord,  
in your midst, O Jerusalem. (R.)

**Second Reading Rom 8:31-34**

*God did not spare his own Son.*

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

**Gospel Acclamation Mt 17:5**

*Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!*

*From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard:*

*this is my beloved Son, hear him.*

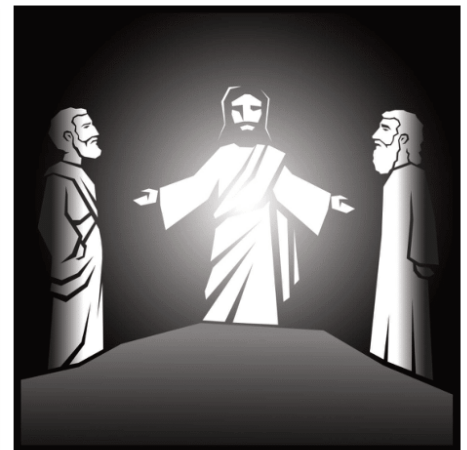
*Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!*

**Gospel Mk 9:2-10**

*This is my Son, the beloved; listen to him.*

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.



**Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA**

We all have dreams for the future, dreams about success and well-being. We all want a better world for our children and grandchildren. Our religious tradition sets before us aspirations that call for personal transformation. However, sometimes when we follow the inspiration of our most devout aspirations, obstacles are thrown in our path preventing us from following our dreams. Still, God does not call us out of our dreams into a vacuum. If we are asked to relinquish a possible future, it is only to be offered God's future. Our aspirations may be noble, but the possibilities that God offers will outstrip them in excellence. Abraham was promised an heir; he relinquished his hold on his heir, and he was granted heirs beyond counting. Jesus came as a Rabbi; he allowed himself to be handed over to death, and he was revealed as the beloved Son of God.

Those preparing for Baptism might be asked to relinquish the dreams that they previously held in order to embrace the future God has in store for them. We who are already joined to Christ will be asked to recommit ourselves to this transformative experience. Do we have faith, or do we need a glimpse of Christ's transfiguration in order to believe in his resurrection? Do we have to see and touch Jesus, or are we able to believe because we have heard his message? God's future in Christ is open to us, but we must accept it in faith, even when we do not fully understand what it means.

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