

### **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



#### **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

## Regina Coeli Parish

**Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney** 

# Weekly Newsletter

### 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time 11 July 2021

What is happening? One day I am pleased to see multitudes of people making the most of fine weather - therapeutic weather - by exercising outdoors including by sitting in the sun to rest awhile. Next day I am distressed to hear that 'enjoying outdoors' might be allowed under very limited circumstances but, generally speaking, it is now something to be avoided. Heavy police presence is a reminder that the rules are absolute and there is little or no room for making prudential judgments. The heat is on, more intensely than ever, for everyone to be vaccinated, for, otherwise, the lockdown might never end. This is something which could have been anticipated according to the trajectory of *enormous* spending which Australia opted for from the beginning. But to see it actually happening and to feel the forcefulness of (virtually) mandatory vaccination is quite surreal. In the meantime, there is already talk of a third jab for the new variants.

Open your eyes and see what you can with them before they close forever. This is a line from the novel 'All the light we cannot see' by Anthony Doerr. It is hard for us to see the future, let alone what is going to happen next weekend. A significant part of our collective anxiety probably comes from being unable to open our (spiritual) eyes and see things clearly. Turning on a screen does not help. We feel as though we are faced with an endless matrix of clever narratives and controlled opinions which seem less trustworthy by the minute and yet continue to exercise on us compelling and inescapable influence. The temptation for us then is to accept everything uncritically or to find another form of escapism so that we do not have to be challenged by the truth that awaits to be discovered. Either way our eyes remain closed and we feel the pain of self-enclosure, with darkness and hopelessness as our companions.

Jesus said, 'The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is sound, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is not sound, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!' (Matthew 6:22-23) The spiritual eye, or the eye of the human soul, is possibly the most important "organ" we have. With the eye we make sense of the world both within and without. With the eye we discern where to go from here. Most importantly, the eye is the spiritual organ with which we enter into a nuptial relationship with God. But in order for this to happen it is vitally important that we first acknowledge our own poverty or the sense of being radically incomplete by ourselves. Humility is the key to becoming healed and perfected, starting from the eye, by the light of mercy, hence the reason why Jesus said, 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.' (Matthew 5:3)

In our Gospel reading, Jesus instructed the apostles to 'take nothing for the journey except a staff - no bread, no haversack, no coppers for their purses.' (Mark 6:8) But why risk being poor instead of aiming for complete self-sufficiency? Our world is saturated with materialistic thinking: nothing exists other than the material things which can be measured and manipulated; there is no metaphysical truth of real consequence; God, if he exists, has no practical relevance. We must become masters of our own destiny. If we are not in charge then no one is. Therefore our leaders must project the image of complete control, including the control of even the most elusive things in life. In return for our compliance they promise us short-term preservation of our material existence, but toward what end? *Continued on Page 3* 

#### The Week Ahead Sun 11 July 15th Sunday 8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass Mon 12 July No Mass Tue 13 June 9.15am Wed 14 June Thu 15 July St Bonaventure Fri 16 July Adoration 9:25-& Reconciliation 9:55am 4:15-Reconciliation 4:45pm 5pm Vigil Mass Sun 18 July 8.30am Mass 16th Sunday in

#### **Recently Deceased**

**Ordinary Time** 

Bernie Langtry, Ron Sang, John Harnett, Patricia Hay, Luigia Zegarelli, Peter Peters, Christopher McDowell, Frank Capra

10.00am

Mass

#### In Loving Memory

Rosa Germano, Bernie Crawford, Georgia & Philip Spiteri, Stanley Sang, Fouad Attia, Santo Ilardo, Jeanette Cardoz

Please remember those who are in ill health especially: Josephina Algozzina, Mildred Petit, James Ybasco, Josh Venture, Carmen Bajada, Anne Kensey, Monica Costa, Quang Vo, Matt Nugent, Ann McDowell, Damiano Serravalle, George Dagher, Mrs Saba, 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 Mildred Pettit 2 Ponyara Road Ph: 02 9502 3036



#### **Parish Secretary**

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

#### Thank You to our Dominican Sisters

The time has come to say thank you and goodbye.... The Dominican Sisters came to our parish 26 years ago to be a "presence".

Originally there were 7 Sisters, with a total of 16 Sisters calling Beverly Hills home over the years. Three of the Sisters have since passed away, Sr. Joyce Adams, Sr. Shirley Greich, and just recently, Sr. Janet Ryan.

Since coming to our parish, the Dominican Sisters have been involved in the RCIA, Advent & Lenten scripture groups, St Vincent de Paul Society, Eucharistic and reading ministries, the choir, scripture nights with Fr. Kevin O'Shea, finance committee, parish census, hosting Sisters from the Solomon Islands & America, and Life Ascending, which first began in Australia, here in our own parish by Sr. Pat Nichol.

Apart from their involvement in parish life, the Sisters have also been very good and supportive neighbours and friends.

A small morning tea to say wark you and farewell to our Sisters, will be held in the rish hall on Sunday 18 July at 11am 22 Jpm. All welcome.

## Go Make Disciples Online Lay Leadership Series - "Christ-centered Leadership"

What is Christian Leadership and how can I grow as a leader?

On Tuesday evenings in August, the Parish Renewal Team is offering an **online leadership formation series** for all serving in parishes and those seeking to serve. Led by the Asia Coordinator at The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network, Fr David Braithwaite SJ, the series will focus upon basics in Christian leadership and how we can grow as people who lead others to Christ. Bishop Richard Umbers will attend the first evening to introduce Fr Braithwaite and pray with those attending the series. Topics include:

- 3 August: The Wounded Servant: The Foundations of Christian leadership
- 10 August: Leadership for Mission: Responding to Christ's Sacred Heart
- 17 August: The Recollected Leader: The Spiritual Practice of Making Better Decisions
- 24 August: Love that Risks: Creating Communities of Growth and Innovation

If you are currently serving in your parish, please join us as a way to grow in your leadership and better serve Christ's Mission and His Church. Please also extend an invitation to others you think could benefit or might be interested in learning more about Christian leadership. To register go to <a href="https://">https://</a>

www.gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events/

or for more information contact Tania Rimac

at tania.rimac@sydneycatholic.org.

#### Continued from Page 1

Human consciousness is a gift but it can also feel like a curse; it is the arena in which the drama of human life is played out. But is the drama so unbearably tragic that it would be preferable for us to close our eyes and spend the remaining days according to the dictates of the elites who rule our materialistic world? Or is there a light more powerful than any tragedy which renders all things new and redeemable, such that what unfolds in the arena of our consciousness is nothing less than a real adventure - the most beautiful drama of love? In order for us to be filled with this saving light we need to look up and walk on along the path of silence and simplicity, so as to encounter Jesus, in the arena of our consciousness, as the Father's 'free gift to us...in whom, through his blood, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins.' (C.f. Ephesians 1:6-7) In this way human consciousness remains a precious gift which allows us to prophesy, that is, to share with others the divine light we have been privileged to see.

- Fr Peter -

## Liturgy of the Word the 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

#### Entrance Antiphon (or a choice of song):

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

## All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Leader: In our responsorial psalm today we hear the words, 'Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.' (*Pause*) Let us remember with gratitude all the moments when we felt the comfort of love this week. (*Pause*) Let us now call to mind how it is that we are in need of the consoling medicine of mercy? (*Pause*)

Leader: Have mercy on us, O Lord. **All: For we have sinned against you.**Leader: Show us, O Lord, your mercy. **All: And grant us your salvation.** 

Leader: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

#### All: Amen.

Leader: Let us pray. (*Pause*) O God, who show the light of your truth to those who go astray, so that they may return to the right path, give to all Christians the grace to reject whatever is contrary to the name of Christ and to strive after all that does it honour. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever

#### All: Amen.

(Please *slowly* go through the readings on Page 4. Pause after each of the readings. Discuss, if you like, what was striking about the reading.)

#### Reflection Questions:

After the 1st reading: Amos was a shepherd who was then called to be a prophet. Amaziah was the priest of Bethel (a member of the religious establishment at the time). Why do you think Amaziah did not want Amos to prophesy?

After the 2nd reading: The entire passage is about how Jesus is the means by which Christians are blessed with 'all the spiritual blessings of heaven.' How am I blessed when I remember the person of Jesus Christ and call out his name?

After the Gospel reading: Jesus calls us to be his prophets through the way of silence and simplicity so that we can trust in him more rather than relying on worldly powers. How could I grow as a prophet and what would this mean for those whom I serve?

#### The Prayer of the Faithful

Leader: In Jesus we are blessed with all the spiritual blessings of heaven. Let us express the hope which is in us through the prayers we offer in his name:

Reader: We pray for the leaders of our Church who are also called to be prophets in this world. May they be blessed with the strength to be faithful to their calling and share the light of Christ with the world. (*Pause*) We pray to the Lord...

#### All: Lord hear our prayer

We pray for our family members, that they may be open to the presence of the Holy Spirit who enlightens the eyes of our hearts and fills us with hope, especially in times of uncertainty. (*Pause*) We pray to the Lord...

#### All: Lord hear our prayer

We pray for those suffering from illness or grief that they will find strength and peace through the care of those around them. (*Pause*) We pray to the Lord...

#### All: Lord hear our prayer

(Other intentions may be mentioned here)

Leader: Let us pray in the words our Saviour gave us.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

#### Prayer for spiritual communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot receive you sacramentally at present, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already here, and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

#### (Pause)

#### Communion Antiphon (or a choice of song):

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

Leader (while everyone makes a sign of the cross): the Lord bless us, keep us from all evil and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.



#### Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

#### First Reading Am 7:12-15

Go, prophesy to my people.

Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, said to Amos, 'Go away, seer; get back to the land of Judah; earn your bread there, do your prophesying there. We want no more prophesying in Bethel; this is the royal sanctuary, the national temple.' 'I was no prophet, neither did I belong to any of the brotherhoods of prophets.' Amos replied to Amaziah, 'I was a shepherd, and looked after sycamores: but it was the Lord who took me from herding the flock, and the Lord who said, "Go, prophesy to my people Israel."'

### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8

- (R.) Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.
- I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace, peace for his people. His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land. (R.)
- Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced.
   Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven. (R.)
- The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit.
   Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps. (R.)

### Second Reading Eph 1:3-14 or shorter form Eph 1:3-10

Before the world was made, he chose us in Christ.

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of heaven in Christ.

Before the world was made, he chose us, chose us in Christ,

to be holy and spotless, and to live through love in his presence,

determined that we should become his adopted sons, through Jesus Christ

for his own kind purposes, to make us praise the glory of his grace,

his free gift to us in the Beloved in whom, through his blood, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins. Such is the richness of the grace

in all wisdom and insight.
He has let us know the mystery of his purpose,

which he has showered on us

the hidden plan he so kindly made in Christ from the beginning

to act upon when the times had run their

course to the end:

that he would bring everything together under Christ, as head,

everything in the heavens and everything on earth.

And it is in him that we were claimed as God's own,

chosen from the beginning, under the predetermined plan of the one who guides all things

as he decides by his own will;

chosen to be,

for his greater glory,

the people who would put their hopes in Christ before he came.

Now you too, in him,

have heard the message of the truth and the good news of your salvation,

and have believed it:

and you have been stamped with the seal of the Holy Spirit of the Promise,

the pledge of our inheritance

which brings freedom for those whom God has taken for his own,

to make his glory praised.

#### Gospel Acclamation See Eph 1:17-18

Alleluia, alleluia!
May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our hearts
that we might see how great is the hope
to which we are called.

#### Gospel Mk 6:7-13

Alleluia!

He called the Twelve, and began to send them out.

Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out in pairs giving them authority over the unclean spirits. And he instructed them to take nothing for the journey except a staff – no bread, no haversack, no coppers for their purses. They were to wear sandals, but, he added, 'Do not take a spare tunic.' And he said to them, 'If you enter a house anywhere, stay there until you leave the district. And if any place does not welcome you and people refuse to listen to you, as you walk away shake off the dust from under your feet as a sign to them.' So they set off to preach repentance; and they cast out many devils, and anointed many sick people with oil and cured them.

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#### Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

God chooses ordinary people and confers on them an extraordinary responsibility. Amos was a shepherd and a dresser of sycamores. Most of the apostles were fishermen. Paul was a tentmaker. Christians today are mechanics and clerks, teachers and engineers, doctors and housekeepers. These are all people following ordinary trades or professions, but what they do in them is truly remarkable. They touch minds and hearts and souls, and they heal them. They instruct and comfort people, and they help to drive out the demons that possess them. They participate in very ordinary ways in the extraordinary establishment of the reign of God.

Jesus inaugurated the reign of God on earth. He chose disciples and sent them out to continue the work that he had begun, to preach his gospel and, through healings and exorcisms, to conquer the forces of evil that threatened that reign. And now we have been called; in him we have been chosen, in all of our brokenness and vulnerability. The task to which we have been called is awe-inspiring; and every spiritual blessing in the heavens has been bestowed upon us so that we will be able to accomplish it. If we allow Christ's saving power to take possession of us, we too will further his prophetic ministry. We will bring the saving grace of God to the world that is terrified and that writhes in pain; we will bring it to those places where healing is needed and where demons still hold sway. We will bring all things under the headship of Christ.