



Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



Weekly Newsletter

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
23 January 2022

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

One of the things I did during the quiet month of January was to go to a live musical. It was a hot day when a friend and I walked toward the theatre for the 1pm session. I knew we were close when our fellow travellers on the footpath comprised of those who were dressed with effort even on a hot day. A large crowd had gathered on the steps, converging on the main entrance. They were moving slowly because each person had to be checked not just for a valid ticket but also for a valid sign-in. The stream of crowd narrowed into the theatre, as though they were entering a place from which they would not return without having had some magical experience.

What surprised me was not only that there was a huge crowd but also that so many of them were "white-haired," that is, they represented one of the oldest groups in our demographics. They were cautiously but also excitedly crossing over to the world of musical theatre where anything could happen. Hadn't they been watching the news? Weren't they afraid of...OMICRON? I do not claim to know what was going through their minds. But the curious situation reminded me of our own Christmas party last year when, again, the greatest enthusiasm came from some of the most senior members of our parish community.

Theatres always seem smaller in real life than when imagined through the diagrams which are used for booking seats. It is amazing how many seats they can accommodate in a surprisingly tight space. I suspect that theatres are intentionally designed in this way, not just to cram in seats and maximise profit, but also to create a sense of intimacy among performers and audiences alike. I have heard stand-up comedians say that the best environment in which they thrive are underground comedy clubs and not open-air stadiums (which might be able to accommodate far more people). It is as though something happens when a crowd fills up an intimate space. Invisible connections are made. And there is a real communion - a communion of intellect and emotion.

Such a communion means that a multitude of people can laugh, cry or exclaim at the same time without missing a beat. They are magically on the same page, sharing in mutual understanding even as strangers. The intensity of each response is an instant score which the audience bestows upon the performance. Moments of absolute silence are the surest sign of their full engagement. Invisible emotions expressed by the actors somehow register in the hearts of the audience as a communal experience. All this might possibly lead to an important lesson: life makes far more sense in communion than in isolation. Even our own thoughts and feelings become more crystallised and better understood when we are in contact with others whose thoughts and feelings we can identify with.

What could happen to us when there is a communion of intellect, emotion *and* spirit, after having been ushered into the world of divine theatre?

- Fr Peter -

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Fr Peter Kwak PP

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The Week Ahead

Sun 23 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass
Mon 24 January St Francis de Sales	No Mass
Tue 24 January Conversion of Paul	9.15am Mass
Wed 26 January Australia Day	9am Mass (public holiday)
Thu 27 January	9.15am Mass
Fri 28 January St Thomas Aquinas	9.15am Mass
Sat 29 January	9.00am Mass 9:25- Adoration 9:55am & Reconciliation 4:15- Reconciliation 4:45pm 5pm Vigil Mass
Sun 30 January 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass

Recently Deceased

Nea Gooley, Gloria Fisher, Gennaro Sacco, Dorothy Browne, Kathleen Coleman, Gabriel Stanghieri, David Brown, Bill Gately, June Roebuck, Bradley Murphy, Bernie Langtry, Peter Peters, Frank Capra

In Loving Memory

Bernie Orbell, Barbara Bubnij, Carmelo Algozzino, Josephine & Spiro Bajada, Maria Addolorata Tesoriero, Salvatore Russo, Barbara Chater, Michelle Makin, Peter Pezzutti, Valerie Zacka, Ron & Steven Xuereb, Giuseppe Graniero, Garry Langridge

Please remember those who are in ill health especially:

Brian Moore, Josephina Algozzino, 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 T. Pezzutti
208a Moorefields Road
Ph: 0403 060 376



Parish Secretary
TBC
9554 8155
Tues 11am-4pm
&
Fri 11am-4pm

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

Safety rules regarding Mass attendance

The latest rules:

- Please sign in for the purpose of potential contact tracing
- Mask-wearing is (again) required
- Practise social distancing where possible
- Max. capacity is 260 according to the 2 square metre rule
- There is no need to make a booking
- Congregational singing is discouraged

PS: Some might not feel ready to return to Mass yet due to health concerns. Holy Communion can be brought to you (please contact the parish office). Alternatively, you could start gradually by attending one or more of the weekday Masses where social distancing is never an issue.

Clothing Drive



St Vincent de Paul Clothing Drive dates for 2022

Please note there will be no Clothing Drive in February due to concerns over covid

MAY	7
AUGUST	6
NOVEMBER	5

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.

First Holy Communion:

Last December, some of our Parish children were unable to receive their First Holy Communion as planned due to Covid isolation requirements. We are very happy to announce that next weekend, 29 & 30 January, 8 children will be receiving their First Communion at the Saturday 5pm Mass and 2 children at the Sunday 10am Mass. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers.



Last Weekend 16 January 2022

2nd Collection

1st Collection Counting delayed

Attendance

5PM	65
8.30AM	78
10AM	?
Total	?



St Vincent de Paul Society at Regina Coeli in 2021:

NO OF CLIENT VISITS 2021	88
NO OF CLIENT VISITS 2020	110
INCREASE/DECREASE	-22

CONFERENCE COSTS IN SERVICING CLIENTS

FOOD CARDS	\$7930
RENT/RELOCATE	700
MEDICAL	2622
OTHER	462
TOTAL	\$11714

AVERAGE COST IN SERVICING CLIENTS:
\$133.00 PER VISIT

VOUCHERS ISSUED FOR CLOTHING / FURNITURE / supplied by Vinnies Stores:

Assistance provided was slightly down on last year mainly due to Government support and relocations from our Parish Area.

Conference members also participate in the following activities:

- 3 clothing drives last year 1 cancelled, the Aug drive, 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 2nd February. 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.

Excerpts from an article by Jordan B. Peterson (a Canadian psychologist) commenting on the situation in Canada:

Open the damn country back up, before Canadians wreck something we can't fix

We are pushing the complex systems upon which we depend and which are miraculously effective and efficient in their often thankless operation to their breaking point...

These systems are now shaking. We're compromising them seriously with this unending and unpredictable stream of restrictions, lockdowns, regulations and curfews. We're also undermining our entire monetary system, with the provision of unending largesse from government coffers, to ease the stress of the COVID response. We're playing with fire. We've demolished two Christmas seasons in a row. Life is short. These are rare occasions...

We're stopping kids from attending school. We're sowing mistrust in our institutions in a seriously dangerous manner. We're frightening people to make them comply. We're producing bureaucratic institutions that hypothetically hold public health in the highest regard, but subordinating all our properly political institutions to that end, because we lack leadership, and rely on ultimately unreliable opinion polls to govern broadscale political policy. I've never seen breakdown in institutional trust on this scale before in my lifetime.

The cure has become worse than the disease... There are no risk-free paths forward. There is only one risk, or another. Pick your poison: that's the choice life often offers. I am weary of living under the increasingly authoritarian dictates of a polity hyper-concerned with one risk, and oblivious to all others. And things are shaking around us.

Enough, Canadians. Enough, Canadian politicians. Enough masks. Enough social gathering limitations. Enough restaurant closures. Enough undermining of social trust. Make the bloody vaccines available to those who want them. Quit using force to ensure compliance on the part of those who don't. Some of the latter might be crazy but, by and large, they are no crazier than the rest of us. Set a date. Open the damn country back up, before we wreck something we can't fix.

Time for some courage.

Let's live again.

First Reading Neh 8:2-6, 8-10

They read from the book of Law and they understood what was read.

Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, consisting of men, women, and children old enough to understand. This was the first day of the seventh month. On the square before the Water Gate, in the presence of the men and women, and children old enough to understand, he read from the book from early morning till noon; all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden dais erected for the purpose. In full view of all the people – since he stood higher than all the people – Ezra opened the book; and when he opened it all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people raised their hands and answered Amen! Amen!; then they bowed down and, face to the ground, prostrated themselves before the Lord. And Ezra read from the Law of God, translating and giving the sense, so that the people understood what was read.

Then Nehemiah – His Excellency – and Ezra, priest and scribe (and the Levites who were instructing the people) said to all the people, 'This day is sacred to the Lord your God. Do not be mournful, do not weep'. For the people were all in tears as they listened to the words of the Law.

He then said, 'Go, eat the fat, drink the sweet wine, and send a portion to the man who has nothing prepared ready. For this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad: the joy of the Lord is your stronghold.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 18:8-10. 15. R. See Jn 6:63

(R.) Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.

1. The law of the Lord is perfect,
it revives the soul.
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple. (R.)
2. The precepts of the Lord are right,
they gladden the heart.
The command of the Lord is clear,
it gives light to the eyes. (R.)
3. The fear of the Lord is holy,
abiding for ever.
The decrees of the Lord are truth
and all of them just. (R.)
4. May the spoken words of my mouth,
the thoughts of my heart,
win favour in your sight, O Lord,
my rescuer, my rock! (R.)

**Second Reading 1 Cor 12:12-30
or 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27 (shorter form)**

Together you are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

Nor is the body to be identified with any one of its many parts. If the foot were to say, 'I am not a hand and so I do not belong to the body', would that mean that it stopped being part of the body? If the ear were to say, 'I am not an eye, and so I do not belong to the body', would that mean that it is not a part of the body? If your whole body was just one eye, how would

you hear anything? If it was just one ear, how would you smell anything?

Instead of that, God put all the separate parts into the body on purpose. If all the parts were the same, how could it be a body? As it is, the parts are many but the body is one. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I do not need you,' nor can the head say to the feet, 'I do not need you.'

What is more, it is precisely the parts of the body that seem to be the weakest which are the indispensable ones; and it is the least honourable parts of the body that we clothe with the greatest care. So our more improper parts get decorated in a way that our more proper parts do not need. God has arranged the body so that more dignity is given to the parts which are without it, and so that there may not be disagreements inside the body, but that each part may be equally concerned for all the others. If one part is hurt, all parts are hurt with it. If one part is given special honour, all parts enjoy it.

Now you together are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it. In the Church, God has given the first place to apostles, the second to prophets, the third to teachers; after them, miracles, and after them the gift of healing; helpers, good leaders, those with many languages. Are all of them apostles, or all of them prophets, or all of them teachers? Do they all have the gift of miracles, or all have the gift of healing? Do all speak strange languages, and all interpret them?

Gospel Acclamation See Lk 4:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor and freedom to prisoners.

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 1:1-4, 4:14-21

The scriptures were fulfilled on this day.

Seeing that many others have undertaken to draw up accounts of the events that have taken place among us, exactly as these were handed down to us by those who from the outset were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word, I in my turn, after carefully going over the whole story from the beginning, have decided to write an ordered account for you, Theophilus, so that your Excellency may learn how well founded the teaching is that you have received.

Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout the countryside. He taught in their synagogues and everyone praised him.

He came to Nazara, where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read, and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written:

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has anointed me.

He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and to the blind new sight, to set the downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.

He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.'



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

In both the reading from Nehemiah and the Gospel passage, we see the dynamic power of the word of God. Paul's teaching originated as oral proclamation, and like the texts read by Ezra the priest and the one interpreted by Jesus himself, it was first proclaimed aloud. Only later were these proclamations written and handed down from one community to another, from one generation to the next.

The word of God elicits various responses. In the first reading, the people cried out in response: 'Amen, amen! So be it! We hear and we will obey!' From the verses contained in today's gospel, we do not know how those who heard Jesus' interpretation reacted to it. We do know that both audiences listened intently to the sacred words of Scripture. Can we do less? Are we eager to obey? Do we view the law as a treasure, as life-giving? Have we learned to live with each other as members of one body, each member being important and contributing to the total health of the entire body?

Both Ezra and Jesus proclaimed the word of God within the context of a liturgical celebration, a setting similar to the ones wherein most people today hear God's word proclaimed. According to the teaching of Vatican II, the liturgy is described as the source and summit of our lives, and the liturgy of the word is an essential part of that celebration. With the people of Ezra, we are invited to respond: 'Amen, amen! Thanks be to God!'

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