



Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



Weekly Newsletter

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time
27 February 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

There has been further relaxation of COVID rules. Even Sydney Catholic Schools (hitherto very strict) are making a surprising return to normal life sooner than expected - basically doing what everyone else is doing, only, about a week or two slower. There seem to be hardly any rules left. For example, mask-wearing is no longer required except in special settings such as hospital, aged care or public transport. I am glad not to have to wear a mask in the church, especially when praying quietly outside of Mass. However, I will continue to put on a mask while distributing holy communion, at least for the time being. I intend to reinstate the offertory procession and holy water fonts in a week or two. I am still pondering the pros and cons of bringing back "active" collections as opposed to using "passive" collection boxes. Two years ago we entered uncharted territories by living under COVID restrictions. Who would have thought that a return to normal life might start to feel a bit like a foreign territory itself!

Speaking of 'foreign territory,' there seems to be a territorial conflict at the moment which could potentially lead to a major war (if it hasn't already). Just when we thought that one crisis might now be behind us, another crisis seems to follow immediately, almost as though scripted! I admit to knowing very little about what is going on in Ukraine or the politics behind it because, as one of the consequences of the COVID crisis, I rarely watch the news these days. Therefore I would simply defer to the wisdom of Pope Francis who said:

My heart aches greatly at the worsening situation in Ukraine...Once again the peace of all is threatened by partisan interests. I would like to appeal to those with political responsibility to examine their consciences seriously before God...I pray that all the parties involved refrain from any action that would cause even more suffering to the people, destabilising coexistence between nations and bringing international law into disrepute.

Last week I omitted an important detail when promoting the National Church Life Survey. **The local church code for Regina Coeli is TAS01401.** If you have submitted the survey already without the code that is fine because I can fill in the missing detail before sending it. I strongly encourage everyone to participate in the survey and to recommend it to others. So many copies of the survey have been taken already and so that seems promising. Let's wait and see how the survey might be able to assist our parish community by offering new insights about where we are and where we could go from here! You can also choose to complete the survey online via attendersurvey.ncls.org.au

Ash Wednesday Masses will be celebrated on Wednesday this week at 7AM and 7PM.

- Fr Peter -



Pastoral Team:

Fr Peter Kwak PP

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The Week Ahead

Sun 27 February 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass
Mon 28 February	No Mass
Tue 1 March	9.15am Mass
Wed 2 March Ash Wednesday	7am Mass 9.15am School Only Mass 10.15am School Only Liturgy 7pm Mass
Thu 3 March	9.15am Mass
Fri 4 March	9.15am Mass
Sat 5 March	9.00am Mass 9:25- Adoration 9:55am & Reconciliation 4:15- Reconciliation 4:45pm 5pm Vigil Mass
Sun 6 March 1st Sunday of Lent	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass

Recently Deceased

Kenneth Lamphee, Patricia McMellon, Peter Lyle, Nea Gooley, Gloria Fisher, Gennaro Sacco, Dorothy Browne, Kathleen Coleman, David Brown, Bill Gately

In Loving Memory

Giacomo Campisi, Bernie Orbell, Barbara Bubnij, Carmelo Algozzino, Josephine & Spiro Bajada, Maria Addolorata Tesoriero, Salvatore Russo, Barbara Chater

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 M. Tesoriero
129 Morgan Street
Ph: 02 9150 5409



Safety rules regarding Mass attendance

The latest rules:

- **There is no need to sign in.**
- **Mask-wearing is recommended but not required.**
- Practise social distancing where possible.
- There is no limit to numbers.
- **Congregational singing is allowed.**

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 rarely an issue.

Ash Wednesday



7AM & 7PM
2 MARCH 2022
REGINA COELI

Catechists Needed

Presently, in our parish 8 catechists teach approximately 120 children (2021 figures) in two local primary schools. We attend Beverly Hills North Public School on Wednesday mornings and Narwee Public School on Thursday mornings. The lessons run for thirty minutes. The curriculum, lesson plans and student activity books are provided. The Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) also runs necessary courses to prepare and assist us with our teaching.

At this stage we are in need of catechists at Narwee Public School on Thursday at 10.05am, and Beverly Hills North on Wednesday at 11.25am. If you have a little time and are interested in becoming a catechist or a catechist helper, please speak to Fr. Peter, me or contact the Parish office.

- Thank you, Elizabeth Gooley, Catechist Coordinator -

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

Last Weekend 13 February 2022

2nd Collection \$1529.00

1st Collection \$345.60

Attendance

5PM	~90
8.30AM	~80
10AM	~100
Total	~270

2021 National Church Life Survey

Every adult is strongly encouraged to take home a survey, complete it and then bring it back the following weekend. The survey takes about 20 minutes to complete. There is a separate survey for children 8-14 years. They too are encouraged to give it a go!

Regina's church code: TAS01401

Online Survey: attendersurvey.ncls.org.au

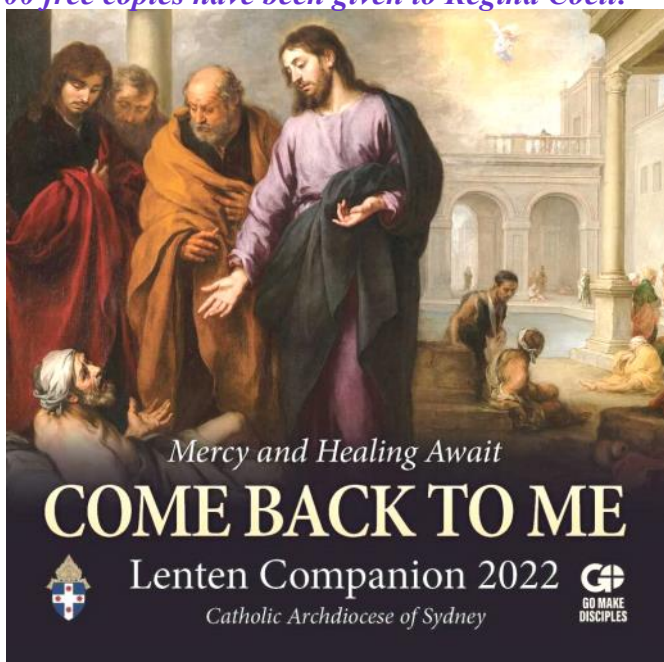
Once the surveys at Regina Coeli have been compiled and then produced as a report by NCLS Research, then, I will endeavour to share with parishioners as much of the report as possible! Thank you very much for your participation. Let's see what new insights the survey might have in store for us!

Lenten Companion 2022*

The beautiful Season of Lent is approaching. Let us make the most of this precious time to gather in our parishes and communities to reflect on the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus, using the Lenten companion *Come Back to Me*. This free booklet contains Gospel readings for the Sundays of Lent until Easter Sunday, and spiritual reflections on the Gospels by Dr Peter McGregor, Professor Renee Kohler-Ryan, Mother Hilda Scott and Fr James Baxter OP and others.

Designed for individual or group prayer, either in-person or online. The resource will be distributed among the parishes in early February, and will also be available for download on the *Go Make Disciples* website at www.gomakedisciples.org.au.

***100 free copies have been given to Regina Coeli!**



A special fruit of the ministry of catechist

It is not often that catechists hear whether the fruits of their labour actually bear fruit. We do what we do for love of God and to bring His love to the children in our care. Results we must leave to him.

So it was a lovely and humbling surprise last Sunday when Maria and I were approached by a beautiful young lady after the 8:30am Mass. She had seen us receive a special blessing by Father Peter for the grace to faithfully teach young children in our state schools during designated Scripture times.

She thanked us for our commitment and entreated us to keep going as her own life had been changed by the presence of catechists at school. Her family were not religious but somehow she ended up in Catholic Scripture classes. It was the only time she ever heard God spoken about and she grew to treasure all the stories and the unfolding knowledge of our faith. Over time her faith grew and she embraced being a Catholic. Eventually she met a committed young Catholic man and they are soon to be married in our beautiful Regina Coeli church.

Her great blessings she attributes to being nurtured by the presence of faithful catechists!

Maria and I were deeply touched by her story and her entreaty to keep persevering in our catechist ministry. While many children in our classes come from very devout families still many only ever hear the Word of God spoken during Scripture lessons. We are their link to the beautiful Catholic faith we all share. We continually hope and pray that our small efforts on his behalf will produce many blessings for them during their lives.

If you are reading this, Victoria, thank you so very much for the time you took to speak to Maria and me after Mass and for your encouragement to keep going in our catechist ministry. God bless you always.

- Michele Marshall, Catechist -

First Reading Sir 27:4-7

Do not praise someone before they have spoken.

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind,
so too the defects of a man appear in his talk.
The kiln tests the work of the potter,
the test of a man is in his conversation.
The orchard where the tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit,
similarly a man's words betray what he feels.
Do not praise a man before he has spoken,
since this is the test of men.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 91:2-3. 13-16. R. See v.2

(R.) Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

1. It is good to give thanks to the Lord
to make music to your name, O
Most High,
to proclaim your love in the morning
and your truth in the watches of the
night. (R.)
2. The just will flourish like the palm-
tree
and grow like a Lebanon cedar. (R.)
3. Planted in the house of the Lord
they will flourish in the courts of our
God,
still bearing fruit when they are old,
still full of sap, still green,
to proclaim that the Lord is just.
In him, my rock, there is no wrong.
(R.)

Second Reading 1 Cor 15:54-58

Victory has been given to us through Jesus Christ.

When this perishable nature has put
on imperishability, and when this
mortal nature has put on immortality,
then the words of scripture will come
true: Death is swallowed up in victory.
Death, where is your victory? Death,
where is your sting? Now the sting of
death is sin, and sin gets its power
from the Law. So let us thank God for
giving us the victory through our Lord
Jesus Christ.

Never give in then, my dear brothers,
never admit defeat; keep on working at
the Lord's work always, knowing that,
in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in
vain.

Gospel Acclamation Phil 2:15-16

Alleluia, alleluia!

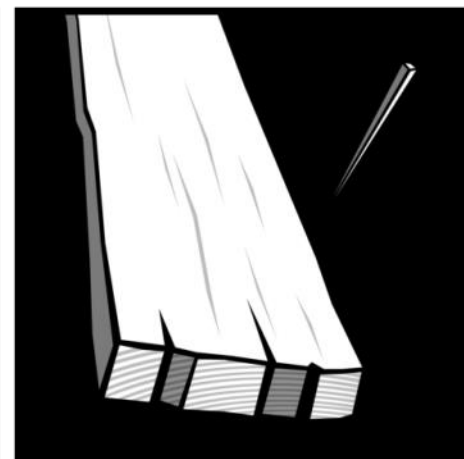
**Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.
Alleluia!**

Gospel Lk 6:39-45

A person speaks from what is in his heart.

Jesus told a parable to his disciples,
'Can one blind man guide another?
Surely both will fall into a pit? The
disciple is not superior to his teacher;
the fully trained disciple will always be
like his teacher. Why do you observe the
splinter in your brother's eye and never
notice the plank in your own? How can
you say to your brother, "Brother, let me
take out the splinter that is in your eye,"
when you cannot see the plank in your
own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of
your own eye first, and then you will see
clearly enough to take out the splinter
that is in your brother's eye.

'There is no sound tree that produces
rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that
produces sound fruit. For every tree can
be told by its own fruit: people do not
pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes
from brambles. A good man draws what
is good from the store of goodness in
his heart; a bad man draws what is bad
from the store of badness. For a man's
words flow out of what fills his heart.'



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

In ancient Greece actors wore masks which
concealed the face. One may say they were
'two-faced'. They were called 'Hypocrites',
and we derive our word and the idea of
'hypocrite' from that. As did Jesus.

He could always see through the veneer
which people (such as you and I) present to
the outside world, and his gaze would (and
still can) penetrate through to the heart –
the core of the personality.

For us, judging the heart of someone is
fraught with risk. As Jesus humorously put
it, how readily we see the smallest splinter
of sawdust in someone else's eye, and in
super-critical mode fail to see the plank of
wood which impairs and distorts *our* vision.
We should not rush to judgment.

The fact is that only the gaze of God can
really penetrate to the heart of someone.
We know that the gaze of Jesus, Who is
God, is always a loving gaze visualising a
heart open to salvation. (Mk 10:17-22)

This is one of the reasons why recent
Popes have opposed capital punishment.
Time must be given for the heart of the
convicted criminal to respond to that loving
gaze. And it leaves the Final Judgment,
even of the murderer, to God.

Listen to the dying moments of Our Lord.
His loving gaze penetrated beyond the
masks and actions of his tormentors and
focused on their hearts. Then he cried out
this plea: 'Father, forgive them for they
know not what they do.'

We are all conscious of the times we have
fallen short of the practice and teaching of
our Master despite our praying: 'Forgive us
our trespasses as we forgive those who
trespass against us.'

We could pause for a moment to pray that
The Teacher's loving gaze fall upon us to
make us whole-hearted disciples willing 'to
be formed by divine teaching'.

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