



Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



Weekly Newsletter

**18th Sunday in Ordinary Time
31 July 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

***'Watch, and be on your guard against avarice of any kind, for a man's life is not made secure by what he owns, even when he has more than he needs.'* (Luke 12:15)**

Recently I listened to an interesting podcast conversation in which a PhD student of psychology at Cambridge explained how he came to coin the term 'luxury beliefs.' At first he noticed the obvious, namely, the fact that human beings tend to care about status based on things like wealth, power, honour, popularity, etc. But then he was surprised to learn that those who already have a high status (a.k.a. "the elite") tend to care much more about status than those who don't. In other words, *the desire for more* tends to be stronger in the haves than in the have nots!

In the past, the PhD student explained, the elite used to show their high status through material possessions - what they wore, how they travelled, where they lived, etc. But, for a number of reasons (which I won't go into here), such materialistic displays of high status have come to be less admired and more frowned upon in this day and age, at least in comparison to the past. Therefore the elite needed a new way to differentiate themselves from the rest. Voila, luxury beliefs!

Luxury beliefs are radical and untested ideas which are systematically and forcefully promoted by the elite. Only, they, who have plenty of security themselves, can afford to indulge these ideas without being concerned about what might happen next - hence the reason for the term *luxury* beliefs. By contrast, the have nots, who are far more vulnerable without the buffer of plentiful security, are much more likely to suffer from the recklessness of the insatiable elite.

All this (the theory of luxury beliefs, a whole another topic for another day) has been a long introduction to the question, 'Why is it never enough? Why are human beings driven not only to maintain an edge over others but also to keep increasing that edge as much as possible, as a result of which unfortunate and unnecessary harm can be done to the others, especially the poor and vulnerable?

Human beings are intrinsically *religious* creatures - there is a longing in every human heart for what is divine, what is *infinite*, etc. Human excellence is a great thing in itself, as is a healthy sense of competition which encourages the pursuit of excellence. However, once the human heart is locked in on a worldly good, whether it be wealth, power, honour or pleasure, etc., and mistakes it for God (the answer to its desire for the infinite), then, letting go becomes extremely difficult.

Of course, deep down, no one is satisfied with the illusion of infinity which the world offers us, especially when it ought to be obvious what can and cannot be taken with us when we die. But when our hearts find rest in God as a matter of highest priority, then, a beautiful vision might reveal itself - the vision for how our assets, positions and talents can be used to serve others and glorify God!

- Fr Peter -

***'Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart.'* (Psalm 89:12)**



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Fr Peter Kwak PP

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The Week Ahead

Sun 31 July 18th Sunday	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass
Mon 1 August Alphonsus Liguori	No Mass
Tue 2 August	9.15am Mass with Yr 3 & 5
Wed 3 August St Dominic	7am Mass
Thu 4 August St John Vianney	9.15am Mass with Yr 6 followed by Reconciliation
Fri 5 August	9.15am Mass 9:00am Mass* 9:30- Adoration 9:55am & Reconciliation 4:15- 4:45pm Reconciliation 5pm Vigil Mass
Sat 6 August Transfiguration	
Sun 7 August 19th Sunday OT	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass

* Fr Peter is attending an ordination at St Mary's Cathedral. The Saturday morning mass will be celebrated at 8:45am. Confessions will be heard prior to the mass.

Recently Deceased

Mark Alexander, Paolo Melia, Irene Daly, Marie Thompson, Mildred Pettit, Meret Cassimatis, Margaret Harnett, Carmel Bantoft, Biaggio Costa, Giuseppa Campagna

In Loving Memory

Betty Hamilton, Mark Phillips, John Bridge, Vanessa & Emile Succar, Giovanni Battiato, Alfa La'Spina, Donato Carnevale, Fouad Attia, Maria Debono, Ita Phillips, Jeanette Cardoz, Peter Peters, Frank Capra

Please remember those who are in ill health especially:

Alida Clemente, Jane Abalos, Mitchell Morris, Brian Moore, Josephina Algozzino, 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,

Rosary Statue

Jessica Markos
11 Albion St. Roselands
Ph: 0409 091 771



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

Clothing Drive

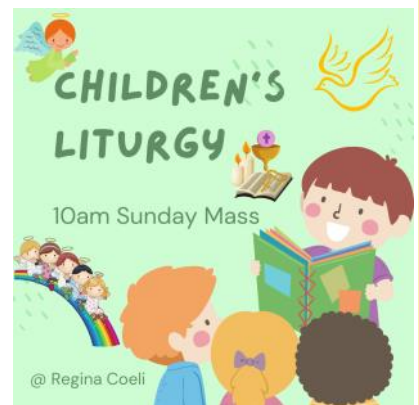


The St Vincent de Paul Clothing Drive will be conducted on Saturday 6th August 2022.

Please place bags out by 8:00am on Saturday 6th August in a place where they can be seen from the street. This will help our collectors which will be most appreciated.

Thank you for your continuing support of our Clothing Drives it is greatly appreciated.

Do you like working with children? Do you have a passion to share your faith? Have you considered volunteering for children's liturgy at 10am Sunday mass? We are looking for volunteer teachers and helpers. All are welcome. Please call Jane on 0414 232 213 if interested and to find out more. God bless!



Bereavement Care Group

Thank you to all who have expressed interest to be part of this group.

We are planning an Information Session on **Saturday 13th August, 11am at the Parish Centre** to outline what is involved with this service.



You are welcome to attend this session even if you have not put your name down.

Please contact Rita on 0416 036 283. to confirm your attendance or if you have any questions.

Last Weekend 24 July 2022

2nd Collection \$1337.70

1st Collection \$566.80

Attendance

5PM	87
8.30AM	80
10AM	~140
Total	~307



Confirmation is next weekend (at St Mary's Cathedral) – do you need a card or small gift for your favourite candidate?

The Regina Coeli Piety Stall, can help. Come and visit, we're tucked away at the back of the church, and are open after each weekend Mass. You never know what treasure you might find.

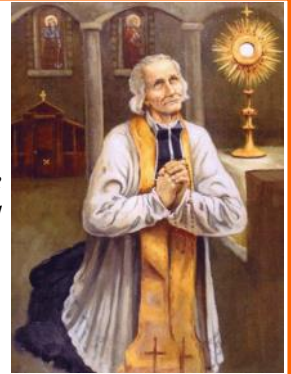
The (belated) Holy Father's Appeal is on this weekend. The appeal highlights the global charitable causes spearheaded by Pope Francis, and is aimed at alleviating the suffering of those affected by natural disasters, wars, refugee crises and poverty.

To give, please use the appeal envelopes provided or phone the Development and Fund-raising Office on during office hours on 1800 753 959. Thank you.



Pope Benedict XVI on St John Vianney

John Mary Vianney was born into a peasant family in the small town of Dardilly on 8 May 1786. His family was poor in material possessions but rich in humanity and in faith. Baptized on the day of his birth, as was the good custom in those days, he spent so many years of his childhood and adolescence working in the fields and tending the flocks that at the age of 17 he was still illiterate. Nonetheless he knew by heart the prayers his devout mother had taught him and was nourished by the sense of religion in the atmosphere he breathed at home. His biographers say that since his earthly youth he sought to conform himself to God's will, even in the humblest offices. He pondered on his desire to become a priest but it was far from easy for him to achieve it. Indeed, he arrived at priestly ordination only after many ordeals and misunderstandings, with the help of far-sighted priests who did not stop at considering his human limitations but looked beyond them and glimpsed the horizon of holiness that shone out in that truly unusual young man. So it was that on 23 June 1815 he was ordained a deacon and on the following 13 August, he was ordained a priest. At last, at the age of 29, after numerous uncertainties, quite a few failures and many tears, he was able to walk up to the Lord's altar and make the dream of his life come true.



*...At a close look, what made the Curé of Ars holy was his humble faithfulness to the mission to which God had called him; it was his constant abandonment, full of trust, to the hands of divine Providence. It was not by virtue of his own human gifts that he succeeded in moving peoples' hearts nor even by relying on a praiseworthy commitment of his will; he won over even the most refractory souls by communicating to them what he himself lived deeply, namely, his friendship with Christ. He was in love with Christ and the true secret of his pastoral success was the fervour of his love for the Eucharistic Mystery, celebrated and lived, which became love for Christ's flock, for Christians and for all who were seeking God. His testimony reminds us, dear brothers and sisters, that for every baptized person and especially for every priest the Eucharist is not merely an event with two protagonists, a dialogue between God and me. Eucharistic Communion aspires to a total transformation of one's life and forcefully flings open the whole human "I" of man and creates a new "we"(cf. Joseph Ratzinger, *La Comunione nella Chiesa*, p. 80).*



- Inviting all the MEN to St Thomas More Brighton Le Sands – Saturday the 13th of August.

Please join us on the morning of Saturday 13th August for a special get together with [Bishop Danny Meagher](#), right here in our beautiful Church of St Thomas More! ...**please lock this in your diaries!**

This special morning's events will start at 8.00am for Adoration and Reconciliation, followed by Holy Mass presided over by Bishop Meagher at 8.30am. Following Holy Mass we'll be hosting an extra special version of our "Hearty Cooked Breakfasts" (to welcome the Bishop) before moving to another highlight of the morning; **A very personal "Presentation to the Men of our Community" by [Bishop Meagher](#)!** (Followed by an open discussion and concluding with a blessing of our STM Men's Fellowship and the wider community!) **Now is about the RIGHT TIME to start inviting your neighbours, friends and fellow parishioners... please let as many men you know as possible about the 13th August! Our Church Doors will be open from 7.30am - and all are welcome from far and wide to join in!**

First Reading Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23

What do people gain by all their work?

Vanity of vanities, the Preacher says. Vanity of vanities. All is vanity!

For so it is that a man who has laboured wisely, skilfully and successfully must leave what is his own to someone who has not toiled for it at all. This, too, is vanity and great injustice; for what does he gain for all the toil and strain that he has undergone under the sun? What of all his laborious days, his cares of office, his restless nights? This, too, is vanity.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 89:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. v.1

(R.) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

1. You turn men back into dust and say: 'Go back, sons of men.' To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone, no more than a watch in the night. (R.)
2. You sweep men away like a dream, like grass which springs up in the morning. In the morning it springs up and flowers: by evening it withers and fades. (R.)
3. Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart. Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever? Show pity to your servants. (R.)
4. In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days. Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands. (R.)

Second Reading Col 3:1-5, 9-11

Seek the things that are above where Christ is.

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

That is why you must kill everything in you that belongs only to earthly life: fornication,

impurity, guilty passion, evil desires and especially greed, which is the same thing as worshipping a false god; and never tell each other lies. You have stripped off your old behaviour with your old self, and you have put on a new self which will progress towards true knowledge the more it is renewed in the image of its creator; and in that image there is no room for distinction between Greek and Jew, between the circumcised or the uncircumcised, or between barbarian and Scythian, slave and free man. There is only Christ: he is everything and he is in everything.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 5:3

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!
Alleluia!*

Gospel Lk 12:13-21

To whom will all this wealth of yours go?

A man in the crowd said to Jesus, 'Master, tell my brother to give me a share of our inheritance.' 'My friend,' he replied, 'who appointed me your judge, or the arbitrator of your claims?' Then he said to them, 'Watch, and be on your guard against avarice of any kind, for a man's life is not made secure by what he owns, even when he has more than he needs.'

Then he told them a parable: 'There was once a rich man who, having had a good harvest from his land, thought to himself, "What am I to do? I have not enough room to store my crops." Then he said, "This is what I will do; I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and store all my grain and my goods in them, and I will say to my soul: My soul, you have plenty of good things laid by for many years to come; take things easy, eat, drink, have a good time." But God said to him, "Fool! This very night the demand will be made for your soul; and this hoard of yours, whose will it be then?" So it is when a man stores up treasure for himself in place of making himself rich in the sight of God.'



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Both the first reading and the psalm response speak about the transitoriness of life. Life is all we have and it is so fragile, so fleeting. When we realise this, we may fear that in the end we will have nothing to show for our lives. Such thoughts show that we have not learned the most basic lesson of life – life is to be lived!

The goods of the earth are both good and essential for survival and advancement. However, they do not satisfy the deepest longings of the human spirit. They provide us with pleasure and challenge, but they cannot shield us from the transitoriness of life itself. In the face of such impermanence, they are ultimately worthless. Life itself is the far greater good; goods only enhance life.

Recognising the transitoriness of life and the vanity of goods, we come to see that the only reality worthy of our total commitment is our relationship with God in Christ. Though made of dust and thus subject to perishability, we are joined with Christ and are promised imperishability. Having died to the vanities of this world, having taken off our old selves with their evil desires, we can now live as a new self, in generosity rather than greed, with openness to others rather than religious or gender or social biases. In our commitment to Christ we will discover that we can transform what is transitory in life by giving it away in love. If we can live in this way, life is anything but vanity!

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