



Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



Weekly Newsletter

3rd Sunday of Advent
11 December 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

If the RSVPs are correct and everyone turns up as they said they would, then, we could have over 300 people at the Christmas Party, which starts with carols in the church at 4:30pm this Sunday! I wish to thank in advance all who are participating, in particular those who are contributing to all necessary works behind the scenes. Let's all pray now for good weather!

I tried to go quietly, hoping no one would notice. But for those who have please allow me to explain that I was away over the last weekend and some weekdays before and after. Unusual timing, I know, being so close to Christmas. Unfortunately all the arrangement had been made more than a year ago - so long ago that even I have questions for my past self who did it! Be that as it may, it is good to be back and to be looking forward the upcoming celebrations which are many. I sincerely thank all those who helped to hold the fort over the past week or so.

One lovely afternoon I found myself walking through a certain city. The cool breeze was perfectly balanced by the clear blue sky from which shone unimpeded sunlight. But the first sign of potential unpleasantness came from an amplified voice which echoed from a block or two away. My immediate thought was: 'There must be a protest. I had better stay away!' But what drew me toward the political gathering in the end was the music which sounded inexplicably comforting and inviting. I soon realised why: they were singing Christian praise & worship songs from a courtyard which was filled with balloons, banners, signs, stalls and, of course, people of all ages and ethnic backgrounds!

The event turned out to be their annual 'March for Life.' A woman who had been part of the praise and worship team surprised the audience by also giving a testimony. She was only 16 when she became pregnant. As the daughter of a Christian pastor she had felt immense pressure to have an abortion, among other reasons, in order to avoid public scandal. A cousin helped her leave the country so as to make possible a more discreet childbirth. She named the child 'Ezekiel' who, 16 years later, was now the main vocal for the praise and worship team. Needless to say, the sight of the mother-and-son-duo singing faith-filled songs of praise inspired in me (and, presumably, in many others) immense joy and gratitude!

I found myself to be so mesmerised by the unexpected encounter that I could not leave. As the song goes, it seemed like love really was in the air! So when the march started a short time later I became an "accidental marcher for life." But the march was met by a much smaller crowd of counter-protestors who seemed determined to mar the event with animosity and commotion. I felt I knew the "type" - angry, provocative and calling out names like 'fascists, racists, Nazis, etc.' toward the pro-lifers who were, ironically, the most ethnically and socio-economically diverse group of people. In other words, their words were mere tools for demonising their opponents and not at all for engaging them in a dialogue, but are we not in serious trouble when our words no longer have truth-value? - Fr Peter -

To be continued another time...

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The Week Ahead

Sun 11 December 3rd Sunday Advent	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass	
Mon 12 November		No Mass
Tue 13 November St Lucy	9.15am	Outdoor Mass with school
Wed 14 November St John of the Cross	7am Mass 9.15am	Graduation Mass with school
Thu 15 December	9.15am Mass 10:30am	Funeral Mass for Veronica Kellert
Fri 16 December	9.15am Mass	
Sat 17 December	9:00am Mass 9:30- Adoration 9:55am & Reconciliation 4:15- 4:45pm Reconciliation 5pm Vigil Mass	
Sun 18 December 4th Sunday Advent	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass	

Recently Deceased

Colin Fisher, Veronica Kellert, Isabel Shai-Hee, Francis Law, Therese Foster, Noel Smith, Paolo Melia, Mark Alexander, Irene Daly, Mildred Pettit, Margaret Harnett, Carmel Bantoft, Giuseppa Campagna

In Loving Memory

David Browne, James & June Roebuck, Carmelo Algozzino, Cono Reale, Fatima Degouveia, Bob Henderson, Filippa Stallone, Fouad Attia, Maria Debono, Jeanette Cardoz, Peter Peters, Frank Capra

Please remember those who are in ill health especially: Mary Patricia Hanrahan, 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

Rosary Statue
Mr & Mrs G. Chater
29 Glendale St
Ph: 0416036283



CHRISTMAS 2022

SATURDAY 24TH DECEMBER:

CHRISTMAS VIGIL AT 6PM

(starting with carols at 5:30pm)

MIDNIGHT MASS AT MIDNIGHT

(starting with carols at 11:30pm)

SUNDAY 25TH DECEMBER:

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS AT 8.30AM

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS AT 10AM

ADVENT RECONCILIATION:

TUESDAY 20TH DECEMBER 6-8PM

Happy Christmas!

Piety Stall- Pyjamas and Slippers

We have been very kindly given some pyjama tops and shorts, mainly suitable for females, and also some glittery slippers in size 38. If you are interested, please come to the piety stall. No payment is required. Thank you.

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

Sacramental Coordinator/ PSSO
Mrs Elizabeth Gooley
9554 8155
reginasacramental@gmail.com
Tuesday & Friday from
10.30am - 3.30pm

School Principal
Mr Chris Egan
Asst. Principal
Mr Peter Busch

REC
Mrs Elizabeth
Webster

Last Weekend 4 December 2022

2nd Collection \$1245.55

1st Collection \$314.60

Cashless Giving \$230

Attendance

5PM	100
8.30AM	121
10AM	?
Total	?



Christmas Play 2022



Dear parish community, we invite all children who would like to be part of the Christmas play for the Family Christmas Vigil Mass on 24th December. Please send me a text message if you already have my number or for any new families, please send me an email with your contact number and I will be in contact with you. **Please advise no later than Tuesday 13th December** so we can organise the roles and have practise here in the Church on Sat 17th Dec 3.30pm and Thursday 22nd Dec 3.30pm. We look forward to hearing from you. Thank you, Rosetta and Tina (email: rosetta.p@outlook.com).

Christmas Wishing Well Appeal

As is tradition here at Regina Coeli, the ladies of St Vincent de Paul Society are to hold their Christmas Appeal to raise money for those much in need in our area. The ladies will be collecting after all Mass on the weekends of 26/27 November, 3/4 December and **10/11 December (last chance!)**. Thank you.



The Beverly Hills Men's Conference will be selling St Vincent de Paul Christmas Cards & 2023 Columban Art Calendars from this weekend.

Please note the calendars are due for delivery between Thurs 10/11 & Mon 14/11 so they may not be available until the following weekend.

Purchases can be made by visiting the Piety Stall, with money raised used to assist the needy in our Parish area.

Christmas Cards of high quality will be selling for \$5.00 for a pack of 10 cards.
Columban Art Calendars, highlighting Solemnities, Feasts & Memorials, are selling at the bargain price of \$7.00 per calendar.

An Advent Prayer

Lord Jesus, Master of both the light and the darkness,
send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations
for Christmas.
We who have so much to do, seek quiet spaces
to hear your voice each day.
We who are anxious over many things, look
forward to your coming among us.
We who are blessed in so many ways, long for
the complete joy of your kingdom.
We whose hearts are heavy, seek the joy of
your presence.
We are your people, walking in darkness, yet
seeking the Light.
To you we say,
'Come Lord Jesus!'
Amen.
Henry J. M. Nouwen

THE CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY
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A CHORAL
CHRISTMAS
CELEBRATION 2022

FRIDAY 16 DECEMBER

A CONCERT FEATURING
THE ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL CHOIR
AND SINFONIA AUSTRALIS
WITH MUSIC BY BACH, HANDEL,
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First Reading Is 35:1-6, 10

God himself will come and save us.

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult,
let the wasteland rejoice and bloom,
let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil,
let it rejoice and sing for joy.
The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it,
the splendour of Carmel and Sharon;
they shall see the glory of the Lord,
the splendour of our God.
Strengthen all weary hands,
steady all trembling knees
and say to all faint hearts,
'Courage! Do not be afraid.
'Look, your God is coming,
vengeance is coming,
the retribution of God;
he is coming to save you.'
Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
the ears of the deaf unsealed,
then the lame shall leap like a deer
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy,
for those the Lord has ransomed shall return.
They will come to Zion shouting for joy,
everlasting joy on their faces;
joy and gladness will go with them
and sorrow and lament be ended.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 145:6-10. R. see Is 35:4

(R.) Lord, come and save us.

or

(R.) Alleluia!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. (R.)
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bowed down,
the Lord, who protects the stranger
and upholds the widow and orphan. (R.)
3. It is the Lord who loves the just
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)

Second Reading Jas 5:7-10

You also must be patient; do not lose heart, the Lord's coming will be soon.

Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the

spring rains! You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Is 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;

he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 11:2-11

Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'

As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Half way through Advent we pause for a moment to celebrate Gaudete Sunday, a Sunday for rejoicing. Isaiah paints a picture of regeneration. The desert that once seemed to be dead is now bursting with life; eyes that lacked sight, ears incapable of capturing and holding sound, limbs without strength, and tongues devoid of speech are all given new life. There will be no death in that age of fulfilment, no limitations, no mourning. As we move deeper and deeper into the reality of God's presence in our midst, we will discover the meaning of true fulfilment.

John the Baptist is a standard for judging the privilege of entering here and now, the kingdom of heaven. He was the herald of the coming of Jesus, the one who prepared for him, but John himself died before the death and resurrection of Jesus opened the flood gates of the eschatological tide. By comparison, even the least in the kingdom of God is far greater than this prophetic herald. John also serves as a model of patience in suffering. His circumstances teach us that moving toward eschatological fulfilment is not without cost.

Just as Matthew presents us with the example of John the Baptist, so James describes the patience required of those who await the age of fulfilment. That age of fulfilment will dawn in its time; all we can do is discharge our responsibilities regardless of how demanding they might be, and wait for that day patiently, convinced that it will come in God's due time.

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