



Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



Weekly Newsletter

**4th Sunday of Advent
18 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

Last week I described myself as an “accidental marcher for life” in an unnamed city. But, really, I was more of an observer than a marcher. This was my first experience of such kind and I was mesmerised to the point of being unable to leave for nearly three hours, wanting to take it in and remember as much as possible. I thought that it would be hard to find another political rally which was more driven by truth, justice and love than the March for Life. So how could the neutral bystanders possibly not be won over by their message which had the added appeal of being accompanied by Christian praise and worship songs?

Of course, in reality, there weren't too many “neutral bystanders.” I assumed that some had been programmed by the media and popular culture to regard pro-lifers with suspicion as killjoys at best or “domestic terrorists” at worst. I also assumed that there were others who, like me, needed no convincing by the pro-lifers. I was intrigued by the faces of young women who seemed open to the pro-life message which evidently made an impression on them. But there was another group of (slightly older) women who became the primary reason why I decided to write about the whole chance encounter in the first place:

There were some female bystanders whose distress seemed to manifest itself quite physically! I thought it reasonable to conclude that their past most probably included experiences of aborted pregnancies. My shock was not that these women were walking around the city then, the fact of which made sense statistically. Rather, my horror had to do with the realisation that these women, who could so easily be disturbed, even from a safe distance, by the most the peaceful of political rallies, were still carrying crippling burdens which would have been affecting them in myriads of unknown ways, everyday, regardless of the March for Life! How does any human being survive, let alone thrive, under such circumstances?

Generally speaking, I thought that the messaging by the pro-lifers had been done quite well: *Both lives matter. Love them both. Equality begins in the womb. We march for those who cannot, etc.* But I really wished that the word *forgiveness* also featured prominently. After all, Our Lord taught that everything can be forgiven, that is, everything except *the sin against the Holy Spirit*, by which he most probably meant something like *denial* or *intentional forgetfulness*. But how could any of us be truly honest before God if not for the incredible power of mercy?

The cultural, social and political milieu which surrounds us is such that we can find ourselves in a state of stupor all too easily. Even two thousand years ago Jesus said, ‘Stay awake!’ Our collective failure to stay awake has meant that fatal mistakes have been made all too often, in some real sense, *with diminished culpability*. The end goal for Christian pro-lifers is not to protect the unborn at the cost of damning others but to *save all* by proclaiming the Gospel of Life according to which nothing has to be lost; everything can be redeemed!

On a similar note, **Advent reconciliation will be held on Tuesday 20 December 6-8PM in the church confessional (anonymous).**

- Fr Peter -



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

The Week Ahead

Sun 18 December 4th Sunday Advent	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass
Mon 19 November	9.15am Mass with school staff
Tue 20 November	9.15am Mass 6-8pm Reconciliation
Wed 21 November	7am Mass 10.30am Funeral Mass for June Coyle
Thu 22 December	9.15am Mass
Fri 23 December	9.15am Mass
Sat 24 December	9:00am Mass 9:30- Adoration 9:55am & Reconciliation 6pm Christmas Vigil (Family) Mass 12am Midnight Mass
Sun 25 December Christmas	8.30am Christmas Day Mass 10.00am Christmas Day Mass

Recently Deceased

June Coyle, 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

Lola Erwin, Giovanni Battiato, Maria Fiamingo, Leotta Family, Dorothy Browne, Mary & Bernie Crawford, David Browne, James & June Roebuck, Bob Henderson, Filippa Stal-lone, 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,

Rosary Statue

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



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

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!

Veronica Mary Kellert



was born on the 12th January 1930 in Waverly, NSW. Veronica was educated at St Joseph's Belmore, St Paul's Convent School Dulwich Hill and Burrough's School for Operators.

Veronica had a beautiful singing voice. She sang on radio, at weddings and functions.

Veronica met her husband to be, John, whilst working in the Commonwealth Bank. He was her supervisor.

They were married on the 8th November, 1952, at St Therese's Catholic Church, Lakemba.

They built their family home in Beverly Hills, where mum lived until just over 2 years ago. Mum over the past 2 years has resided at The Sisters of Our Lady of China, Peakhurst.

Veronica and John were blessed with six children... Veronica was a treasured and much loved grandmother to 14 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Veronica's life was her family, friends and her enduring faith in God. We thank Veronica for sharing her life with us.

Veronica was born to eternal life on the 9th December 2022

We thank God for her life.

Last Weekend 11 December 2022

2nd Collection \$1319.55

1st Collection \$460.10

Cashless Giving \$210

Attendance

5PM	
8.30AM	
10AM	200+
Total	?

Regina Coeli Grief Support Group

As we draw near to the end of the year I would like to report on our recently formed grief support group here at Regina Coeli. We are a small group of eight ladies led by a most capable member who is fully trained in grief management, and we are very grateful to Fr Peter for his help in guiding us along the way. A large part of this ministry is prayer, and then of course assuring the grieving families that we are there to help and care, if necessary, in any way we can.

The First Friday Rosary is part of this ministry, and we hope our parish friends will join us in this prayerful exercise.

On behalf of everyone who attended the beautiful Mass with candle ceremony celebrated on the feast of All Souls in November I thank you, Fr Peter, and may God bless you.

- Joy Vincent -



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, finished!

A sum total of **\$4236.50** has been collected by the ladies of St Vincent de Paul Society at Regina Coeli for the Christmas Appeal. The donation will be distributed in the form of food vouchers to those who are in need in our own local area. Thank you for your generous contribution. Merry Christmas!



For those interested in singing/playing at midnight mass or the 8:30am Christmas Day

Please come to our rehearsal in the church on Tuesday 20/12 at 6pm

For more info please call Natasha on 0402785196

Thank you.

PURPOSE
RETREAT

A RETREAT FOR YOUNG ADULTS
AND YOUTH LEADERS

22 - 25
JANUARY 2023

BENEDICT XVI
RETREAT CENTRE

SYDNEY CATHOLIC YOUTH | PURPOSE | GO MAKE DISCIPLES

First Reading Is 7:10-14

The virgin will conceive.

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No', Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.'

Then Isaiah said:

'Listen now, House of David:

are you not satisfied with trying the
patience of men

without trying the patience of my God, too?

The Lord himself, therefore,
will give you a sign.

It is this: the maiden is with child

and will soon give birth to a son

whom she will call Immanuel,

a name which means "God-is-with-us".'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 23:1-6. R. see vv 7. 10

**(R.) Let the Lord enter;
he is king of glory.**

1. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm. (R.)

2. Who shall climb the mountain of the
Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure
heart,
who desires not worthless things. (R.)

3. He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 1:1-7

Jesus Christ, a descendant of David, is the Son of God.

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures.

This news is about the Son of God, who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead.

Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 1:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

A virgin will give birth to a son;

his name will be Emmanuel:

God is with us.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 1:18-24

Jesus was born of Mary, the betrothed of Joseph, a son of David.

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to
a son
and they will call him Emmanuel,

a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Despite all of the excitement associated with eschatological fulfilment, despite all of the assurance we have that it will be an experience of peace and abundant life, the mystery for which we long requires the risk of faith. Despite all of the times that we have celebrated the Nativity, we still do not have full comprehension and understanding. Still we are invited to enter deeply into the event that is before us. Will we step into a life of deeper faith and commitment, or will we merely participate in the external celebration of the feast? Only we can decide, and only we will really know the decision that we make.

The circumstances of our lives influence the way we live out our faith. As Christians, we are called to devote ourselves to the service of Christ. Our primary commitment must be to Christ and to the way of being human that he has shown us. We must be committed to what enriches life and not to what diminishes it. We must be committed to the good of people and not to the hoarding of things. We may not be official heralds of the gospel, but we proclaim our faith in the way we live our lives, in the kindness with which we treat others, in honesty of our business transactions. We proclaim the gospel when we stand for justice, when we forgive those who have offended us, when we show compassion to those who suffer. As we step into the eschatological age, we are called to recommit ourselves to genuine Christian living.