



Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



Weekly Newsletter

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



Pastoral Team:

Fr Peter Kwak PP

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Christmas

25 December 2022

Almost a decade ago, I went to visit my sister's family who were temporarily residing in the US at the time (they have permanently returned to Sydney since then). This was my first experience of living under the same roof with a family which had two toddlers plus a newborn. What was meant to be a holiday for me turned out to be *more physically exhausting than working!* My freedom had been radically curtailed. Much of what I wanted to do had to be thrown out the window upon the realisation that, with three unpredictable children, it was simply not worth the trouble. "My universe," as it were, had to readjust and start to revolve around the vulnerable little things.



By Dennis Jarvis, October 9 2016

Over the course of the week, however, I got more used to it: 'Take care of the children first as a matter of priority, and then, and only then, see what else might be possible and worth doing.' This approach would be far better for the wellbeing of everyone than any alternative. Was it a great sacrifice on my part? It certainly felt like that at times but I think that the benefit far outweighed the cost increasingly over time. The effects that a little bit of solicitude toward the children were having on me, at the heart-level, were priceless. It turned out that their existence was not an invasion into my privacy but rather a gift that liberated me from the misery of self-isolation, at least for a brief time.

The soaring scale of contemporary income has meant that time is measured in terms of monetary value all too often e.g. 'I can make X dollars in one hour and therefore an hour spent making less than X is a wasted hour, etc.' But what is the value of time spent on embracing and loving a child? Monetarily speaking, it has no value, and yet, at the heart-level, it could make the difference between remembering or forgetting who we are; our salvation could depend on it! In Jesus God became a little child. As Pope Francis put it, this was a revolutionary act of love and tenderness on the part of God, intended for breaking into our dangerously self-absorbed existence. Was this an invasion into our "precious" privacy and time, or a gift of inconceivable magnitude a.k.a. *salvation*? Merry Christmas! - Fr Peter -

The Week Ahead

Sun 25 December Christmas	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass
Mon 26 November St Stephen	No Mass
Tue 27 November St John	9.15am Mass
Wed 28 November Holy Innocents	7.00am Mass
Thu 29 December	9.15am Mass
Fri 30 December Holy Family	9.15am Mass
Sat 31 December	9:00am Mass 9:30- Adoration 9:55am & Reconciliation 4:15- Reconciliation 4:45pm 5.00pm Mass
Sun 1 January Mary Mother of God	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass

Recently Deceased

James Costello, 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

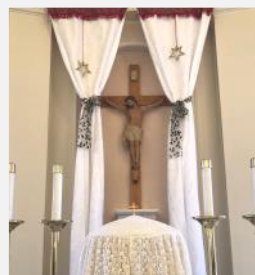
In Loving Memory

Peter Pezzutti, Mari Zapata, Donato Canevale, Salvatore Russo, Fr Peter Phibbs, Pietro & Grazia Banno, Nunzio & Veneranda Vicino, Santa Belsito, Giovanni Battiato, Maria Fiamingo, Leotta Family, Dorothy Browne, Mary & Bernie Crawford, David Browne, James & June Roebuck, Bob Henderson, 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, Mary Dan-

Rosary Statue

Mr & Mrs R. John
5 Brighton Rd
Ph: 0403373824



Christmas has returned, not just to the old normal, but also to a new normal. A special thanks to **Judy Zacka** for making Christmas 2022 different and beautifully so!

MONTHLY ROSARY

The First Friday of the Month Rosary will be recited in Our Lady's Chapel at Regina Coeli on 6th January at 11.00am.

All are welcome!



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!



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 18 December 2022

2nd Collection \$1419.40

1st Collection \$500.30

Cashless Giving \$175

Attendance

5PM	117
8.30AM	96
10AM	~125
Total	~338



To be precise, the number of RSVPs for the Christmas Party which took place two Sundays ago had exceeded 350. But I wrote that there had been 'more than 300' RSVPs in the parish bulletin just prior because I was assuming, even hoping (for catering reasons), that not all of the respondents would actually turn up. Well, how many came to the party in the end? Who knows, but some thought that it was the biggest Christmas Party ever at Regina Coeli. One thing was for certain: food ran out almost completely and the jumping castle nearly collapsed. In other words, the Christ Party, which was cancelled in 2020 and subdued in 2021, had now come back with vengeance!

For the first time ever the Christmas Party was preceded by carols in the church. We were blessed with a cohort of musicians who led the way. They were not only dedicated but also talented, at times to the height of professionalism. Judging by the applause that erupted at the end and the comments made to me by many, the carols evening too was a resounding success! Outside the church a good number of volunteers had been busy since the early afternoon, setting up tables and chairs, and organising tray after tray of food to be served to an expectant crowd. They worked tirelessly until nothing more could be served, and most of them probably went hungry themselves.

A ute driver had been on fire with service the whole day. A number of other men also rose to the occasion and refused to quit until the whole place was cleaner than before the party had started. By the time everyone bade farewell and dispersed for a restful night it was 8pm, which was 'perfect' given that it was Sunday night and a whole week laid ahead of them. Speaking of 'perfect,' we could not have asked for more perfect weather - possibly the finest in 2022 - a perfectly balanced summer evening in the middle of an unusually cold summer!

Christmas Party 2022 was one for the history books, thanks to all who participated. There were quite a number of first timers too, the fact of which could be promising for our future parties which, hopefully, will become something of a family tradition for them. There are simply too many people for me to thank, including those I might have failed to notice personally. What I could not possibly fail to notice, however, was the hard work done by Rita and Regina who managed to give everyone the impression that a huge organising committee was behind the successful event when, in reality, they were pretty much it!

- Fr Peter -



Her name is Hala, not Santa, but she has personally made about 150 Christmas gifts for the children at Regina Coeli. First come, first served! Thank you Hala for your hard work of love and generosity. Merry Christmas to our children!



Christmas Vigil Mass

Matthew 1:18-25

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 and, though he had not had intercourse with her, she gave birth to a son; and he named him Jesus.

Midnight Mass

Luke 2:1-14

Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a census of the whole world to be taken. This census – the first – took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria, and everyone went to his own town to be registered. So Joseph set out from the town of Nazareth in Galilee and travelled up to Judaea, to the town of David called Bethlehem, since he was of David's House and line, in order to be registered together with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to a son, her first born. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them at the inn.

In the countryside close by there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turns to watch their flocks during the night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' And suddenly with the angel there was a great throng of the heavenly host, praising God and singing: 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to men who enjoy his favour.'

Christmas Day Mass

John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word:
and the Word was with God
and the Word was God.
He was with God in the beginning.
Through him all things came to be,
not one thing had its being but through him.
All that came to be had life in him
and that life was the light of men,
a light that shines in the dark,
a light that darkness could not overpower.

A man came, sent by God.
His name was John.
He came as a witness,
as a witness to speak for the light,
so that everyone might believe through him.
He was not the light,
only a witness to speak for the light.

The Word was the true light
that enlightens all men;
and he was coming into the world.
He was in the world
that had its being through him,
and the world did not know him.
He came to his own domain
and his own people did not accept him.
But to all who did accept him
he gave power to become children of God,
to all who believe in the name of him
who was born not out of human stock
or urge of the flesh
or will of man
but of God himself.

The Word was made flesh,
he lived among us,
and we saw his glory,
the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father,
full of grace and truth.

John appears as his witness. He proclaims:
'This is the one of whom I said:
He who comes after me ranks before me
because he existed before me.'

Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received –
yes, grace in return for grace,
since, though the Law was given through Moses,
grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ.
No one has ever seen God;
it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father's heart,
who has made him known.