



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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Epiphany 8 January 2023

For the first half of my life, John Paul II (now a canonised saint) was the only pope I had ever known. The possibility of changing popes had never occurred to me, that is, until JP II died in 2005, which was also the year when I entered the seminary. So, the beginning of a new papacy (Benedict XVI) coincided with the beginning of a new era in my own life. Next time B16 really made an impression on me was, quite incredibly, from only an arm's length, when I got to serve for him at the final mass of World Youth Day 2008! I was given one of the best roles:

"microphone-bearer." Talk about *being at the right place at the right time* - that was me! As I looked on the joyful crowd of almost half a million, from the same vintage point as the pope, I marvelled at the fact that a mere human being (B16) could be chosen by the Lord and be placed at the service of the whole Church as an indispensable channel of grace!



But the affinity I felt with Benedict XVI then was relatively small compared to what was still to come. A few years later I was ordained but found my first appointment to be a challenge: the parish priest had been developing severe dementia, a fact of which was not nearly as bad as the other fact, namely, that none of the authorities had been aware enough to even warn me about the situation. After having spent nearly seven years in the seminary in preparation for ordained ministry, all this felt rather disenchanting, at least in the short term. Fortunately, however, I found great consolation in reading the writings of Pope Benedict. Patience was required in order to be drawn into the conceptual landscape sketched by the brilliant scholar, but one always felt rewarded and uplifted in the end as theological ideas of depth and wisdom inevitably emerged. He taught me that the Christian faith was not only true (and reasonable) but also incredibly beautiful!

I have been meaning to write a letter to him ever since, with the intention of thanking him for being a consistent source of inspiration when I really needed it. After long enough procrastination, I guess that my enthusiasm for contacting him died out quietly, until doing so no longer seemed necessary. So here is me, hoping to make up for what I neglected to do while I still had the chance: 'Thank you, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, for being a shining lighthouse to a newly ordained priest who found himself in what felt like a dark night!'

- Fr Peter -

The Week Ahead

Sun 8 January Epiphany	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass
Mon 9 January Baptism of the Lord	No Mass
Tue 10 January	9.15am Mass
Wed 11 January	7.00am Mass
Thu 12 January	9.15am Mass
Fri 13 January	9.15am Mass
	9:00am Mass 9:30- Adoration 9:55am & Reconciliation
Sat 14 January	4:15- Reconciliation 4:45pm 5.00pm Mass
Sun 15 January 2nd Sunday OT	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass



Recently Deceased

John McCoy, 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

Lucy Wong, Gennaro Sacco, Ronald Xureb, Paul Gatt, Kathleen Coleman, Peter Pezzutti, Mari Zapata, Donato Canevale, Salvatore Russo, Fr Peter Phibbs, Pietro & Grazia Banno, Mary & Bernie Crawford, David Brown, 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 Daniels, Geoff McDowell, Elena Mura, Mr TD (Terry) Wall, Kim Delaney, Lauren Sotano, Sam Hy, Luke Compton, Paul Camelotti.



MASS TO MARK THE ANNIVERSARY OF
THE DEATH OF SERVANT OF GOD,
EILEEN O'CONNOR
TUESDAY 10 JANUARY, 11AM
PRINCIPAL CELEBRANT: BISHOP EMERITUS TERRY BRADY

ST BRIGID'S CHURCH
CNR BROOK AND WALTHAM STREETS, COOGEE

Rosary Statue

Mr & Mrs B. Kelly
16 Tallawalla St.
Ph: 02 9150 7172



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 1 January 2023

2nd Collection	\$1458.85
1st Collection	\$600.35
Cashless Giving	\$125

Attendance

5PM	97
8.30AM	102
10AM	~140
Total	~339

Pope Benedict XVI on the wise men:

...the wise men from the east are a new beginning. They represent the journeying of humanity toward Christ. They initiate a procession that continues throughout history. Not only do they represent the people who have found the way to Christ: they represent the inner aspiration of the human spirit, the dynamism of religions and human reason toward him.

[On why not just King Herod but also the whole of Jerusalem was perturbed upon hearing about the birth of Christ:]

What from the lofty perspective of faith is a start of hope, from the perspective of daily life is merely a disturbance, a cause for concern and fear. It is true that God disturbs our comfortable day-to-day existence. Jesus' kingship goes hand in hand with his Passion.

...greatness emerges from what seems in earthly terms small and insignificant, while worldly greatness collapses and falls.

[From a famous homily given by Cardinal Ratzinger just prior to becoming Pope Benedict XVI]

*Today, having a clear faith based on the Creed of the Church is often labeled as fundamentalism. Whereas relativism, that is, letting oneself be tossed here and there, carried about by every wind of doctrine,"seems the only attitude that can cope with modern times. **We are building a dictatorship of relativism that does not recognize anything as definitive and whose ultimate goal consists solely of one's own ego and desires.***

We, however, have a different goal: the Son of God, the true man. He is the measure of true humanism. An "adult" faith is not a faith that follows the trends of fashion and the latest novelty; a mature adult faith is deeply rooted in friendship with Christ. It is this friendship that opens us up to all that is good and gives us a criterion by which to distinguish the true from the false, and deceit from truth.



MERRY CHRISTMAS

Happy New Year



Another home
nativity scene
in the parish of
Regina Coeli!

'Made for More' events by Theology of the Body Institute

The Sydney Centre for Evangelisation is proud to host Dr Christopher West and his team for their Australian tour of 'Made for More' events in Sydney and Melbourne. Please join us on Friday, 20 January at St Mary's Cathedral College Hall or on Saturday, 21 January at All Saints Liverpool Parish Hall. 'Made for More' weaves dynamic presentations with live music, media and sacred art bringing an evening of beauty and reflection on the meaning of life, love, and human destiny. An event not to be missed! **For tickets and more information, visit: www.sydneycatholic.org/TOB**



First Reading Is 60:1-6

The glory of the Lord shines upon you.

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light
has come,
the glory of the Lord is rising on you,
though night still covers the earth
and darkness the peoples.

Above you the Lord now rises
and above you his glory appears.
The nations come to your light
and kings to your dawning brightness.
Lift up your eyes and look round:
all are assembling and coming towards you,
your sons from far away
and your daughters being tenderly carried.

At this sight you will grow radiant,
your heart throbbing and full;
since the riches of the sea will flow to you;
the wealth of the nations come to you;

camels in throngs will cover you,
and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah;
everyone in Sheba will come,
bringing gold and incense
and singing the praise of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 10-13, R. see v.11

*(R.) Lord, every nation on earth will
adore you.*

1. O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement. (R.)
2. In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to earth's bounds. (R.)
3. The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts
shall pay him tribute.
The kings of Sheba and Seba
shall bring him gifts.
Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,
all nations shall serve him. (R.)
4. For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor. (R.)

Second Reading Eph 3:2-3, 5-6

*The revelation means that pagans now share the same
inheritance, that they are parts of the same body.*

You have probably heard how I have been
entrusted by God with the grace he meant
for you, and that it was by a revelation that
I was given the knowledge of the mystery.
This mystery that has now been revealed

through the Spirit to his holy apostles and
prophets was unknown to any men in past
generations; it means that pagans now
share the same inheritance, that they are
parts of the same body, and that the same
promise has been made to them, in Christ
Jesus, through the gospel.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 2:2

Alleluia, alleluia!

*We have seen his star in the East;
and have come to adore the Lord.*

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 2:1-12

We have come from the East to worship the king.

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in
Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some
wise men came to Jerusalem from the east.
'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they
asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have
come to do him homage.' When King Herod
heard this he was perturbed, and so was
the whole of Jerusalem. He called together
all the chief priests and the scribes of the
people, and enquired of them where the
Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in
Judaea,' they told him, 'for this is what the
prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
you are by no means least among the
leaders of Judah,
for out of you will come a leader
who will shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod summoned the wise men to
see him privately. He asked them the exact
date on which the star had appeared, and
sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find
out all about the child,' he said 'and when
you have found him, let me know, so that
I too may go and do him homage.' Having
listened to what the king had to say, they
set out. And there in front of them was the
star they had seen rising; it went forward
and halted over the place where the child
was. The sight of the star filled them with
delight, and going into the house they saw
the child with his mother Mary, and falling
to their knees they did him homage. Then,
opening their treasures, they offered him
gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh.
But they were warned in a dream not to go
back to Herod, and returned to their own
country by a different way.



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The Christmas season reaches an
apex with the Epiphany. In some
liturgical traditions, it is the central
celebration of Christmas. It
commemorates not only the birth of
Christ and the visit of the Magi, but
also his baptism in the Jordan and
the manifestation of his glory at the
wedding feast of Cana. In the Roman
Catholic tradition, the focus is on the
visit of the Magi and the implications
of that visit for the glorious
manifestation of God to all the
peoples of the world.

There is a wonderful summons to
alertness and presence of mind and
heart, a call for all the nations to
witness the marvellous works of God
that shine as light in the midst of the
surrounding darkness. The light of
God is known in the ways in which
the most vulnerable in the city are
cared for and acknowledged. In just
action and righteousness, the city
becomes the beacon of God, and all
the nations are attracted by this light.
The quality of the light leads the way
through the darkness and sustains
the world in goodness and peace.

The manifestation of God among us
changes the ways in which we
perceive each other. Christ's birth
provides us with the light by which
we see a new criterion for relating.
The Magi represent the multi-ethnic
and cultural diversity in civic and
parish situations, as well as the
many religions of the world. All
people, regardless of race or ethnic
origin, can be co-heirs with Christ.

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