



# Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



## Weekly Newsletter

**3rd Sunday of Lent  
12 March 2023**

### 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

Our faith can be characterised by the three aspects of truth, goodness and beauty. Of the three, the one I tend to feel strongly about is the aspect of truth. The Catholic Church is evidently made up of flawed members who have made some imprudent, even terrible decisions over the years. If so, then, how splendidly amazing is the fact that, insofar as the teaching of the truth is concerned, the Church has been nothing less than miraculously impeccable or infallible! The Catechism of the Catholic Church states:

*891 The Roman Pontiff, head of the college of bishops, enjoys this infallibility in virtue of his office, when, as supreme pastor and teacher of all the faithful - who confirms his brethren in the faith he proclaims by a definitive act a doctrine pertaining to faith or morals.... the infallibility promised to the Church is also present in the body of bishops when, together with Peter's successor, they exercise the supreme Magisterium, above all in an Ecumenical Council. [E.g. The Second Vatican Council]*

When I am in the position of introducing Catholicism to another person I often explain the following logic: The Catholic Church openly claims infallibility when it comes to magisterial teachings, as a sign that she truly is the Church of Christ and that the Holy Spirit guides and sustains her. Therefore all that one has to do in order to "debunk Catholicism" is to point to a teaching which has been erroneous, and demonstrably so, throughout the 2000 years of the Church's history. In all honesty, I am yet to come across such a false teaching.

Nevertheless, it seems that the aspect of truth is not what appeals to most people about Catholicism, at least not at first. Many are suspicious of truth-claims and prefer to sit on the fence of agnosticism, as if to say, 'Who knows and who cares?' The aspect of goodness seems to have a wider appeal because, after all, people recognise the importance of doing good and making a difference. But even then human beings can be highly selective about when they reverence goodness and when they don't - just think of how the *Good Shepherd* was crucified!

The greatest appeal of Catholicism (in the sense of immediacy), according to an emerging consensus among Catholic thinkers, seems to be the aspect of *beauty*. Even the most cynical person cannot deny the salutary effects which beauty has on them. Beauty is the universal language that speaks to the human heart, almost any human heart. As a Russian author once put it, 'Beauty will save the world!'

Something 'beautiful' happened at Regina Coeli a few weeks ago. Jesus in the Eucharist was placed on the altar, surrounded by candle lights. Silence and music (and what music!) alternated, so as to provide internal and external support for the deepening of personal prayer. I was busy hearing confessions and therefore not the best person to describe what happened during the night, but those who spoke to me afterward were rather out of words, except to cry out, 'How beautiful was the Night of Prayer!' **Another 'Night of Prayer' will be held on Friday 17 March, starting from 7pm. All are invited!**

- Fr Peter -

#### Pastoral Team:

Fr Peter Kwak PP

beverlyhillspriest@gmail.com

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## The Week Ahead

<b>Sun 12 March</b> 3rd Sunday of Lent	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass
<b>Mon 13 March</b>	No Mass
<b>Tue 14 March</b>	9.15am Mass 9.50am Reconciliation w. 6W
<b>Wed 15 March</b>	7.00am Mass
<b>Thu 16 March</b>	9.15am Mass
<b>Fri 17 March</b> St Patrick	9.15am Mass with school 10.20am Mass with school <b>7.00pm Night of Prayer</b>  9.00am Mass 9.30- <b>Stations of the Cross</b> 9.55am & Reconciliation
<b>Sat 18 March</b>	4.15- Reconciliation 4.45pm 5.00pm Mass
<b>Sun 19 March</b> 4th Sunday of Lent	8.30am Mass 10.00am Family Mass

### Recently Deceased

Pauline Patti, Maria Bila, Bridget Costello, John McCoy, June Coyle, Veronica Kellert, Francis Law, Therese Foster, Noel Smith, Paolo Melia.

### In Loving Memory

Martin & Nora Fleming, Paddy Minogue, Giuseppe Graniero, Giuseppa Campagna, Nick Lo Russo, Agatha Lee Kim Thai, Jusuf Oentojo, Tony Tesoriero, Carmelo Algozzino, Lucy Wong, Gennaro Sacco, Bob Henderson, Peter Peters, Frank Capra

### Please remember those who are in ill

**health especially:** Brian Quan, Ryan Henderson, Dennis McInerney, Peter Phillips, 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.

### Rosary Statue

**Mrs. J. Maher**  
**27 Roseview Ave.**  
**Ph: 02 9759 7136**



March 17th Friday

# Night of Prayer

*"Stay awake with me."*

**Join us for an intimate time of prayer with Jesus in the Eucharist.**

- **Eucharistic Adoration** begins at 7pm with a short reflection by Fr Peter Kwak leading into personal prayer time, accompanied by gentle meditative live music •
- Holy Hour will continue for ~90 min but you are free to come and leave anytime as it suits you •
- The Sacrament of **Reconciliation** will also be available •
- Light refreshments will be available in the Church Courtyard from 6:30 pm •

RSVP is greatly appreciated - please use QR code below.  
Walk-ins welcome.

**REGINA COELI MEMORIAL CHURCH**  
70 PONYARA RD. BEVERLY HILLS NSW 2209



SCAN ME

## Day of the Unborn Child

### Feast of the Annunciation Mass and Procession

Sunday 26th March at St Mary's Cathedral

- 10:30am Mass

(Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP as Principal Celebrant)

- 12 noon Street Procession

## St Patrick's Day Mass

Friday 17 March - 10.30am  
at St Mary's Cathedral

Bishop Emeritus Terry Brady  
(Principal Celebrant)



**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 5 March 2023

**2nd Collection \$1926.95**

1st Collection \$1319.10

Cashless Giving \$155

### Attendance

5PM	144
8.30AM	129
10AM	~170
<b>Total</b>	<b>~443</b>



## 24 hour for the Lord Event at Schoenstatt, Mulgoa

Come and spend some time with Our Lord and Our Lady in the Schoenstatt Shrine: Friday 17 March 6pm Mass, then Reconciliation 7:15 – 10.00pm. On Saturday Reconciliation 10am-12pm, and 3-4.45pm with a Vigil Mass at 5pm. The Shrine will be welcoming people for prayer for the full 24 Hours. Groups to lead prayer are welcome. Contact [paulandramani@gmail.com](mailto:paulandramani@gmail.com)

## Discernment Retreat for Men – Identity, Vocation & Mission

**24-26 March at Seminary of the Good Shepherd**  
50-58 Abbotsford Rd, Homebush

This retreat is for men 18-35 years old at all stages of their discernment who are considering a vocation to the Priesthood. This is a great opportunity to immerse yourself in an ideal environment for you to really focus your attention on listening to God. The weekend includes Mass, talks, time for personal prayer, sacraments, adoration, spiritual guidance, Q&A with seminarians and discussions.

### Retreat Speakers:

Opening Keynote: Bishop Danny Meagher, Auxiliary Bishop of Sydney  
Fr Edmond Travers MSC, External Spiritual Director, Seminary of the Good Shepherd  
Fr Joseph Gedeon, Parish Priest of St Jerome's Parish, Punchbowl

### Registration: \$99

Registration is essential! \*Every inquirer's/participant's details are kept confidential.

For any enquiries, please contact the Vocation Centre on (02) 9307 8424 or email at [vocations@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:vocations@sydneycatholic.org)

## Mystery in History

By Josephine Bridge

The day when all of Heaven cried  
Was the day when Jesus on the cross died.  
Angels hid their faces, as they could not bear,  
To cast their loving eyes on what men have dared,  
to do to their Lord whom they adored.  
As He hung on the cross, crucified, burdened and  
gored, for the sin of the world,  
For the sins that are yours and mine, so that, we can all,  
one day share, in the life most divine.

How can we as Christians live unconcerned?  
Should we not God's will discern?  
The price has been paid on Calvary.  
We have been set free from slavery.  
Set free to tell the world now,  
The Saviour has paid the price and how.

Let us praise Him who is the risen Lord.  
Bless the Holy Name of our God.  
How good our God is  
For letting us taste the heavenly bliss!  
For an orphan He did not leave us  
God's own Spirit He sent us.

*Revelation 5:11-13*

<sup>12</sup> *In a loud voice they were saying: "Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!"*

<sup>13</sup> *Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying: "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!"*

(Published in the Catholic Weekly,  
March 31, 2002, issue).



## First Reading Ex 17:3-7

*Give us water to drink.*

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?' Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' The Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

## Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 94:1-2. 6-9. R. v.8**

*(R.) If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.*

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;  
hail the rock who saves us.  
Let us come before him, giving thanks,  
with songs let us hail the Lord. (R.)
2. Come in; let us bow and bend low;  
let us kneel before the God who made us  
for he is our God and we  
the people who belong to his pasture,  
the flock that is led by his hand. (R.)
3. O that today you would listen to his voice!  
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,  
as on that day at Massah in the desert  
when your fathers put me to the test;  
when they tried me, though they saw my  
work.' (R.)

## Second Reading Rom 5:1-2, 5-8

*The love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.*

Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

## Gospel Acclamation See Jn 4:42. 15

*Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!  
Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world;  
give me living water, that I may never thirst again.*

*Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!*

## Gospel shorter form

**Jn 4:5-15, 19-26, 39-42**

*The water that I shall give will turn into a spring of eternal life.*

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied:

'If you only knew what God is offering  
and who it is that is saying to you:  
Give me a drink,  
you would have been the one to ask,  
and he would have given you living water.'

'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied:

'Whoever drinks this water  
will get thirsty again:  
but anyone who drinks the water that I shall  
give  
will never be thirsty again:  
the water that I shall give  
will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to  
eternal life.'

'Sir,' said the woman, 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water. I see you are a prophet, sir. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said:

'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming  
when you will worship the Father  
neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.  
You worship what you do not know;  
we worship what we do know;  
for salvation comes from the Jews.  
But the hour will come – in fact it is here  
already –  
when true worshippers will worship the Father  
in spirit and truth:  
that is the kind of worshipper  
the Father wants.  
God is spirit,  
and those who worship  
must worship in spirit and truth.'

The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.'

Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony, so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'



## Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

All people thirst for meaning, but of what does that meaning consist? The people in the desert thirsted for water, but they misunderstood their thirst. The woman of Samaria thirsted. Her conversation with Jesus showed that she thirsted for understanding and insight as well as water. For what do we thirst in this world of such great excess and unmeasured need? Life has not become simpler with all of our advances. We still thirst for more – for the newest, the fastest and the best. How much is enough, and when do we cross the line into 'too much'?

The gospel readings for the scrutiny Sundays very clearly lay out the choices that are placed before the catechumens and the rest of the believing community as well. This Sunday it is between water that quenches thirst and water that does not. Jesus identifies himself as the source of water that guarantees eternal life. He places before the Samaritan woman a choice that requires a step of profound faith. She knows the thirst-quenching quality of the water from Jacob's well, but she is not acquainted with the water promised by this stranger who is also an enemy of her people. The choice is not an obvious one. A similar choice is placed before us. We know the demands of our culture and the circumstances of our lives. Are we able to acknowledge the sins of which we are guilty, recognise the grace that is being offered to us, and make the right choice?

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