



Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



Weekly Newsletter

5th Sunday of Lent
26 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

During the week a nearby parish - St Michael's, Belfield - made headlines. An event was held there, to which a politician by the name of Mark Latham was invited to speak. In response a protest was organised, the fact of which surprised me because, after all, what could be so objectionable about a politician presenting his views and gaining support, especially in the lead-up to the state election?

Apparently, the event proceeded as planned and even seemed a success. But what was happening just outside told a different story. A small group of protestors who were evidently intent on being provocative were allowed by the police to meet a large group of strong men, some of who would not shy away from a physical clash. The rest was history. The violence has been condemned by all leaders and rightly so. But something in me does not feel at ease when a single talking point becomes regurgitated by everyone, especially by the media because, after all, reality tends to be much more complex and nuanced than that. So I have been sharing with others a few thoughts of mine as follows:

There seem to be three issues which might be good for us to separate, not conflate. All are worth pointing out, not just one.

* Mark Latham, whether one agrees with him or not, was merely doing his job as a politician. For the protestors to try to disrupt him (and for the police to tell him not to speak) was shameful and should be condemned in the name of democracy. But, in all likelihood, their real intention was to cause trouble and silence political opponents by portraying them as "far right extremists."

* There is bias in our law and order. Praying outside abortion clinics is banned. If Christians turned up, for example, to Mardi Gras to do a properly peaceful protest, they would be condemned, even arrested immediately. But those on the progressive spectrum tend to be given much more license, even when they become actually a little violent. All this seems to reflect the establishment's fatal bias when it comes to what is promoted or suppressed.

* Physical force should be used only in self defence, especially from a political perspective (what happened in Belfield seems more political than religious in nature). To quote Mr Miyagi from Karate Kid: 'Never put passion before principle. Even if [you] win, you lose.' And people should get their phones out and record everything next time.

I will conclude with a quotation from Pope Benedict XVI which, of course, is profoundly true, especially from a spiritual perspective:

Violence does not build up the kingdom of God, the kingdom of humanity. On the contrary, it is a favourite instrument of the Antichrist, however idealistic its motivation may be. It serves, not humanity, but inhumanity.

- 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 26 March 5th Sunday of Lent | 8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass |
| Mon 27 March | No Mass |
| Tue 28 March | 9.15am Mass with Yr 3 9.50am Reconciliation w. Year 5G |
| Wed 29 March | 7.00am Mass 9.00am Adoration with Yr 4 11am Funeral Mass for Grazia Campagna |
| Thu 30 March | 9.15am Mass |
| Fri 31 March | 9.15am Mass |
| Sat 1 April Annunciation | 9.00am Mass 9.30-9.55am Stations of the Cross & Reconciliation 4.15-4.45pm Reconciliation 5.00pm Mass |
| Sun 2 April Palm Sunday | 8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass |

Recently Deceased

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

In Loving Memory

Fatima De Gouveia, Mary Crawford, Assia & Damia Dagher, Manuel & Gloria Vieira, Martin & Nora Fleming, Paddy Minogue, Giuseppe Grani-ero, 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: Ryan Henderson, Dennis McNerney, 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

Rosary Statue

Ms. B. Meaney
19 Bundara St.
Ph: 02 9150 8788



EASTER TRIDUUM

@ REGINA COELI

HOLY THURSDAY

7pm The Lord's Supper
followed by Reconciliation

GOOD FRIDAY

10am Stations of the Cross
followed by Reconciliation

3pm The Passion of the Lord
followed by Reconciliation

HOLY SATURDAY

7:00pm Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY

8:30, 10am Mass

Happy Easter!



Palms wanted!

Next week is Palm Sunday. Please bring palm or olive branches and share with others.



Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross, also known as the Way of the Cross, **commemorates Jesus's passion and death on the cross.** Regina Coeli Parish is organising a re-enactment of the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday the 7th of April and would like to extend an expression of interest to our parishioners.

If you are interested, please contact Coula on 0407951196

First meeting on Tuesday 28 March @ Church

Theresa Foster passed away toward the end of last year at the age of 90. It turned out that she had a surprise for the parish and made a donation of \$20,000 which has come through during the week. Please say a prayer for her!



Next meeting for prayer group will be on Saturday 1 April at about 6.10pm after mass. Please bring your rosary beads and your copy of this year's Lenten Reflection if you have one. All are welcome.



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 19 March 2023

2nd Collection \$1738.35

1st Collection \$1231.65

Cashless Giving \$110

Attendance

5PM 121

8.30AM 140

10AM ~190

Total ~451

MASTER BUILDER CALLS

By humble servant of God: Josephine Bridge

21.03.2023

Ezra 1:5....and all those whose spirit God had stirred-up, they decided to go and build the House of Yahweh. And all the neighbours gave them all kind of help: gold, silver, live-stock and precious objects in great quantity, besides every kind of voluntary offering.

Characteristic of discipleship: 1/ He/She who follows Jesus. 2/ He/She who is changed by Jesus. 3/ He/She who is committed to the mission of Jesus.

*Let us all keep in **prayer**, and **move** to act, on the Archdiocese invitation to*

GO MAKE DISCIPLES.

Rise-up! For the MASTER BUILDER calls,
To rebuild His temple, and it's walls.
To beautify His sanctuary, where His glory abides.
Accomplish this, as He, your spirit guides.

Pick-up your tools, get ready for the march,
To a place, He has for you, already marked.
All parish, is in need of, such as you and me.
Let this be the year, for us, there to be.

Rise-up!! You with treasure of silver and gold,
The Master Builder needs some, to increase His sheepfold.
Have you my friend, much time to spare?
Would you then, for His Kingdom readily share?

Rise-up!! You whose hands can beautifully play,
String instruments and other, to help us pray.
You with melodious voice, would you come and sing,
Praises that will be carried on angel's wings?

Rise-up!! Come exercise all your gifts, spiritual or other-
wise,

So mountains be moved, blind see and deaf hear,
Then in every heart, Jesus is Lord, be the Holy Fear,
As He draws, you and me, to him, very near.

Acts 10:4 The angel answered, "your payers and charitable gifts have just been ascended before the Lord"

Farewell to Colleen Bills

Colleen grew up in Morpeth (near Maitland). In her 20s she met Margret Mitchell who would become her lifelong friend, as well as a future fellow parishioner. When Colleen met her husband, Max, they moved to Roselands. Fr William Malone, who was a meticulously (church) law-abiding cleric, questioned, as he typically did in those days, why Colleen came to Regina Coeli even though, strictly speaking, she lived within the parish boundary of St Jerome's, Punchbowl. But even Fr Malone quietly turned a blind eye to Colleen who quickly felt at home at Regina Coeli.



One day at Mass Colleen was struck by the voice of Michelle Samuelson who used to sing in the choir. Her experience was shared by another parishioner, Joan Harvey (2nd from the right in the photo), who, together with Colleen, spontaneously remarked, 'What a beautiful voice!' Since that synchrony they have remained friends and, when they were both widowed, became active members of Probus Club where they made many memories together. In more recent times, Colleen would regularly join for coffee and chat after Fr Peter brought holy communion for Joan. Her elegant company would be greatly missed!

Fr Peter first met Colleen during his first stint at Regina Coeli as assistant priest (2013-2015). She had just had a knee replacement and a friend of hers from the parish - Connie Campisi (now in aged care) who used to work at the bakery in Roselands Shopping Centre - made a request for him to bring holy communion to Colleen at home. That was nearly ten years ago and it has been a delight for Fr Peter to see Colleen regularly at Mass ever since. A surprising fact he learned in those days, from the photos in her house, was that Colleen had been a red head!

After more than 40 years at Regina Coeli, Colleen is now returning to Morpeth for the next stage in her life. She feels anxious and sad about leaving but it seems like the right time for her to move, especially since she has no family in Sydney and most of them are in her hometown of Morpeth. She has had a lovely time at Regina Coeli where she has made some good friends. She says that we have a beautiful church here, which will always have a special place in her heart, especially given that her late husband was buried from it. Joan summed it up when she wrote, put it, 'Colleen will be missed by all her friends and we wish her well in her new life!'

First Reading Ez 37:12-14

I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live.

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 129. R. v.7

*(R.) With the Lord there is mercy
and fullness of redemption*

1. Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord,
Lord, hear my voice!
O let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleading. (R.)
2. If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,
Lord, who would survive?
But with you is found forgiveness:
for this we revere you. (R.)
3. My soul is waiting for the Lord,
I count on his word.
My soul is longing for the Lord
more than watchman for daybreak.
(Let the watchman count on daybreak
and Israel on the Lord.) (R.)
4. Because with the Lord there is mercy
and fullness of redemption,
Israel indeed he will redeem
from all its iniquity. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 8:8-11

If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he will give life to your own mortal bodies.

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

Gospel Acclamation See Jn 11:25. 26

*Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;
whoever believes in me will not die for ever.*

**Gospel Jn 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33-45
or longer form Jn 11:1-45**

I am the resurrection and the life.

The sisters Martha and Mary sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.'

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said:

'I am the resurrection and the life.
If anyone believes in me, even though he dies
he will live,
and whoever lives and believes in me
will never die.
Do you believe this?'

'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.' Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said:

'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer.
I knew indeed that you always hear me,
but I speak
for the sake of all these who stand round me,
so that they may believe it was you who sent me.'

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.'

Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

As a metaphor, death can stand for many things. The prophet Ezekiel witnessed the death of the nation. The gospel reports the death of Lazarus. Although Paul refers to the mortal character of our physical bodies, he is more concerned with spiritual life and death. Death attacks each one of us in all three of these ways. We are all mortal and subject to physical death; we are all sinners and must deal with the implications of spiritual death; we are all subject to the consequences of social sins such as terrorism, violence, group hatred, greed and ecological exploitation. The question before us is whether or not we are going to allow death to reign in our lives and in our communities.

All three readings for this Sunday, as well as the psalm response, point out our inability to raise ourselves out of the deaths that afflict us. In the passage from Ezekiel, it is God who promises to open the graves of the people; the people are helpless to do anything. The psalmist cries to God from out of the depths of pain and helplessness. Acknowledging human propensity to sin, Paul credits the Spirit of God with transforming death into life. Finally, it is Jesus who calls Lazarus out of the grave and returns him to his life. We can see that God does not leave us to languish in our various deaths. Instead, God offers us new life out of the tombs. All of this is accomplished through the mercy and compassion of God.

The psalm responses are from the English Translation of the Lectionary for the Mass ©1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved. The psalm texts, from *The Psalms, A New Translation*, ©1963 by The Grail, England and used by permission of the publishers. The scriptural quotations are taken from the *Jerusalem Bible*, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.
© 2017 Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd
All use must be in accordance with your user licensing agreement.