



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:

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2nd Sunday of Lent 5 March 2023

'Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you.' (Matthew 7:7)

When it comes to *prayer* Jesus has advised his followers not to babble - not to use too many words - like those who have had no genuine experience of intimacy with God (c.f. Matthew 6:7). Yes, using words in prayer can be helpful, but doing so is for our benefit and not God's, as a means of clarifying what is important and exercising our desires accordingly. But there is certainly no need for us to use more words than necessary, as though we were aspiring to impress God or those around us with our performance.

If we think that the purpose of prayer is to "impress God" (a temptation I have fallen into numerous times, especially in my younger days), then, that reveals the fact that we have little or no idea about the true power of prayer - what God can accomplish in us through prayer! Remember, our Heavenly Father knows what we need before we ask Him (c.f. Matthew 6:8). He *can* and *desires* to give us what we need. If so, then, why should we have to ask, search and knock, that is, *persevere in prayer*, as though we were dealing with an unsympathetic deity?

I am still not sure what caused it but I had one sleepless night during the week when it felt as though a significant part of my brain simply refused to fall asleep, even though, quite clearly, my body was tired and desired rest. Only in the morning did my brain seem to realise what a mistake it had made by staying up, as it now suffered from severe fatigue. Needless to say, I woke up in a bad mood, even feeling like a different person and definitely not for the better. And all throughout the day I noticed a pattern:

I felt a misplaced sense of entitlement, as though, since I had been a (perceived) victim of a rough night, I was now entitled to some liberality of behaviour, for example, exposing myself to noise and distraction nonchalantly (as opposed to praying), eating whatever I felt like, even junk food (as opposed to fasting) and not exercising kindness and patience to the best of my ability in dealing with others (as opposed to almsgiving). In other words, I felt tempted to give up on the Lenten practices, which was, really, to give up on following Christ more closely.

We all probably have patterns of thought and behaviour which we tend to fall into when certain undesirable situations arise. We might even think of such tendencies as our permanent characteristics about which nothing can be done. But is this really true or have we just given up prematurely? Perhaps it is especially when we find ourselves in challenging, even discouraging situations that we are called to preserve in prayer, by asking, searching and knocking, so that what our Heavenly Father desires to share with us can finally get through to us, thereby convincing us, once again, that, yes, change is possible through the power of God's grace and we will not be satisfied with anything less!

- Fr Peter -

The Week Ahead

Sun 5 March 2nd Sunday of Lent	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass
Mon 6 March	No Mass
Tue 7 March	9.15am Mass with Year 2 9.50am Reconciliation w. 5B
Wed 8 March	7.00am Mass
Thu 9 March	9.15am Mass with Year 1
Fri 10 March	9.15am Mass 9.00am Mass 9.30-9.55am Stations of the Cross & Reconciliation
Sat 11 March	4.15-4.45pm Reconciliation 5.00pm Mass
Sun 12 March 3rd Sunday of Lent	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass

Recently Deceased

Pauline Patti, Cardinal George Pell, Maria Bila, Bridget Costello, John McCoy, June Coyle, Veronica Kellert, Francis Law, Therese Foster, Noel Smith, Paolo Melia, Mark Alexander, Irene Daly, Mildred Pettit, Margaret Harnett, Carmel Bantoft

In Loving Memory

Nick Lo Russo, Agatha Lee Kim Thai, Jusuf Oentojo, Domenico Tripodi, Anna Maria Cicuto, Tony Tesoriero, Carmelo Algozzino, Lucy Wong, Gennaro Sacco, Ronald & Steven Xureb, Bob Henderson, Fouad Attia, Maria Debono, Peter Peters, Frank Capra

Please remember those who are in ill

health especially: Brian Quan, Ryan Henderson, Dennis McNerney, Peter Phillips, Mary Patricia Hanrahan, Alida Clemente, Jane Abalos, Mitchell Morris, Brian Moore, Josephina Algozzino, Josh Venture, Carmen Bajada, Anne Kenney, 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.

Rosary Statue

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



Excerpts from POPE FRANCIS' Message for Lent 2023

The Gospel of the Transfiguration is proclaimed every year on the Second Sunday of Lent. During this liturgical season, the Lord takes us with him to a place apart. While our ordinary commitments compel us to remain in our usual places and our often repetitive and sometimes boring routines, during Lent we are invited to ascend "a high mountain" in the company of Jesus and to live a particular experience of spiritual discipline - asceticism - as God's holy people.



Lenten penance is a commitment, sustained by grace, to overcoming our lack of faith and our resistance to following Jesus on the way of the cross. This is precisely what Peter and the other disciples needed to do. To deepen our knowledge of the Master, to fully understand and embrace the mystery of his salvation, accomplished in total self-giving inspired by love, we must allow ourselves to be taken aside by him and to detach ourselves from mediocrity and vanity. We need to set out on the journey, an uphill path that, like a mountain trek, requires effort, sacrifice and concentration...

In his "retreat" on Mount Tabor, Jesus takes with him three disciples, chosen to be witnesses of a unique event. He wants that experience of grace to be shared, not solitary, just as our whole life of faith is an experience that is shared. For it is in togetherness that we follow Jesus. Together too, as a pilgrim Church in time, we experience the liturgical year and Lent within it, walking alongside those whom the Lord has placed among us as fellow travellers...

And so we come to its culmination. The Gospel relates that Jesus "was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light" (Mt 17:2). This is the "summit", the goal of the journey. At the end of their ascent, as they stand on the mountain heights with Jesus, the three disciples are given the grace of seeing him in his glory, resplendent in supernatural light. That light did not come from without, but radiated from the Lord himself. The divine beauty of this vision was incomparably greater than all the efforts the disciples had made in the ascent of Tabor...

Parish Secretary
TBC
9554 8155
Tues 11am-4pm
&
Fri 11am-4pm

Sacramental Coordinator/ PSSO
Mrs Elizabeth Gooley
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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 26 February 2023

2nd Collection	\$1581.35
1st Collection	\$1282.95
Cashless Giving	\$75

Attendance

5PM	108
8.30AM	120
10AM	~160
Total	~388

Communion and Liberation: Sydney Catch Up

Everyone is welcome at this family event on Saturday 18 March, organised by our Catholic movement, founded in 1969. We will explore some of the deepest questions of life: “How am I?” “What is worth living for?” “Why is there suffering and death?”

The day will feature a meet and greet, group discussions, a book presentation and conclude with Holy Mass at 5pm. Kids entertainment and a food truck will be on site throughout the day.

Location: St Thomas of Canterbury Church, 3 Thomas St, Lewisham
10am-5pm.

For more information, contact Filippo Begnini on 0481 355 692 or email cl.australia.newzealand@gmail.com

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

Sisterhood Catholic Womens' Conference

The Sisterhood conference is a weekend for women aged 18 + to grow in their faith and encounter a community of like minded Catholic women committed to their faith.

The conference will be held at The Tops Conference Centre at Stanwell Tops 17-19th March. This is a live in weekend. Places are limited.

For more information visit

www.sisterhood.org.au

email info@sisterhood.org.au

An unofficial and unverified history* of Roselands Shopping Centre, as overheard by Fr Peter: (*or just an urban legend, who knows?)

Apparently, believe it or not, a man known as Mr Parry was given some land by the government for the purpose of growing vegetables for the soldiers who were poor. But somehow he managed to turn the very land into a golf course which was named ‘Roselands Golf Course.’ A large section of the land was later sold to ‘Grace Brothers’ for the building of what came to be known as...*Roselands Shopping Centre!*



Apparently, Roselands Shopping Centre was the first of its kind in New South Wales, either as the largest shopping centre in the state or as the largest shopping centre *which was not built next to a train station*. Due to its remoteness from the railway line, many of the locals predicted that Roselands Shopping Centre would not be able to survive for long, let alone thrive. But it was impressively air-conditioned

at a time when air-conditioning was still a rare feature in most buildings, on account of which locals could be seen inside the shopping centre, sprawling on mats and stools, as though they were at a resort and a free one at that! I guess that, in spite of themselves, the locals grew to love the place after all!

First Reading Gn 12:1-4

The call of Abraham, the father of God's people.

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing.

'I will bless those who bless you:
I will curse those who slight you.
All the tribes of the earth
shall bless themselves by you.'

So Abram went as the Lord told him.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 32:4-5. 18-20. 22. R. v.22

**(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.**

1. The word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love. (R.)
2. The Lord looks on those who
revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine. (R.)
3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield.
May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you. (R.)

Second Reading 2 Tm 1:8-10

God has saved us, and called us to be holy.

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 17:5

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:

this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Mt 17:1-9

His face shone like the sun.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order. 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The blessings upon which we meditate today are undeserved gifts from God. They were not earned. The graciousness of God transforms us in such a way as to effect new beginnings. It can be seen in the promises made to Abram. He leaves the past behind and moves into a new future. It can be seen in the psalm response. The Lord delivers us from death and inspires us to look to the future. It can be seen in the reading from 2 Timothy. Through Christ Jesus we are called to a new life of holiness; we escape the fetters of death and are brought into the freedom of the resurrection. We see it in the gospel, a glimpse into the future glory of Jesus which, through grace, we will be able to share. Lent is a time of new beginnings which find their origin in the abundant blessings of God.

The ultimate blessing of God is Jesus himself. As Abram was called to be the source of blessing for all others, as Peter, James and John were chosen to witness the transfiguration of Jesus, so today we too are invited to look to Jesus for inspiration during this holy season. Paul speaks of the salvation that Jesus brings as having come, not because of any works of righteousness that we might have performed, but because of the grace of God. Once again the Lenten readings focus on the merciful action of God in our lives, and in the end they point to Jesus.

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