



Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



Weekly Newsletter

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time
16 July 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

Now some distance away there was a large herd of pigs feeding, and the devils pleaded with Jesus, 'If you cast us out, send us into the herd of pigs.' And Jesus said to them, 'Go then', and they came out and made for the pigs; and at that the whole herd charged down the cliff into the lake and perished in the water...At this the whole town set out to meet Jesus; and as soon as they saw him they implored him to leave the neighbourhood. (Matthew 8:30-32, 34)

Imagine a large herd of pigs, which become possessed by the evil spirits, which have been hiding in a few human beings until a moment ago. The demon-possessed herd of pigs, full of rage and self-destructive urge, charge down the cliff and plunge into their own deaths in the water. What a frightening imagery! But the imagery is not nearly as frightening as the fact that such evil powers can be operative in our lives without us even noticing it or realising it!

A dramatic episode like this should be a wakeup call for anyone: Beware of the evil spirits who exercise greater influence over us than we tend to think! If we could visualise how they operate in our lives, we might be frightened rather than complacent. There is no room for complacency, only heartfelt dependency - dependency on Christ who frees us from the influence of the evil one. As the French writer Leon Bloy put it, 'Whoever does not pray to the Lord prays to the devil!'

Unfortunately, in the aforementioned Gospel Passage, the 'whole town' asked Jesus to *leave* their neighbourhood. Why? So that they would not have to confront the reality of evil and be compelled to change their ways. In other words, the townspeople preferred to turn a blind eye to what was really going; they preferred to blind their own *conscience*, thereby giving to the evil spirits even greater freedom to exercise influence over them in the future. An exorcist once said that some people actually choose to remain possessed than to undergo a spiritual renewal, all so that they would not have to change their ways!

As the saying goes, evil flourishes when good people do nothing. Alternatively, we could say that evil flourishes when we allow our conscience to become blinded. It seems that almost all of our social and political problems can be traced back to the problem of malfunctioning conscience. Whenever what is happening around us begs the question, 'How did we end up here,' a highly reliable answer is: failure of conscience. *God has created human beings to be the very conscience of His creation.* When human conscience fails, catastrophes are bound to manifest themselves eventually at all levels of society, including the institutional.

This is why the redemptive grace of Christ who died and rose from the dead for us works *primarily through the human heart*, by cleansing and perfecting our conscience. What happens in our conscience, especially through the exercise of faith, has significance far greater than we tend to think; it has *cosmic* significance! To borrow the words of St Paul, the whole creation is eagerly waiting for the birth or the emergence of new humanity, the transformation of which starts from the depth of our conscience. He wrote, 'From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.' (Romans 8:22-23)



Pastoral Team:

Fr Peter Kwak PP

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The Week Ahead

Sun 16 July 15th Sunday OT	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass
Mon 17 July	No Mass
Tue 18 July	9.15am Mass 10.30am Funeral Mass for Derek de Voss
Wed 19 July	7.00am Mass
Thu 20 July	9.15am Mass 10.30am Funeral Mass for Geoffrey Connolly
Fri 21 July	9.15am Mass 7.00pm Night of Prayer
Sat 22 July St Mary Magdalene	9:00am Mass 9:30- Adoration 9:55am & Reconciliation 4:15- Reconciliation 4:45pm 5.00pm Mass
Sun 23 July 16th Sunday OT	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass

SAVE THE DATE

Parish Dinner

Friday 6:30pm for 7pm start

AUGUST | 18 | 2023

@Club Central,
Hurstville

\$50 per adult, \$20 per child




**We are in search of entertainers and contributions toward lucky door prizes!*

Recently Deceased

Geoffrey Connolly, Derek de Voss, Peter Phillips, Mary Ghosn, Quintino Atzeni, Josephine Darmanin, Nicola Civitarese, Gerardina Civitarese, Stefano Bila, Maria Bila, Alida Clemente, Maria Basile, John McCoy, June Coyle, Francis Law

In Loving Memory

Giovanni Battiato, Assia & Damia Dagher, Anna Cicuto, Donato Carnevale, Maria Ferraro, Elizabeth Dang Thi Tuyet, Fouad Attia, Santo Ilardo, Jeanette Cardoz, Gail Moore, Peter Peters, Frank Capra, Bob Henderson.

Please remember those who are in ill

health especially: Lucy Blundell, Peter Raju, Ryan Henderson, Dennis McInerney, Mary Patricia Hanrahan, Mitchell Morris, Brian Moore, Josephina Algozzino, Josh Venture, Carmen Bajada, Anne Kensey, Monica Costa, Quang Vo, Matt Nugent, Ann McDowell, Damiano Serravalle, Pat Mortimer, Mary Daniels, Geoff McDowell, Mr TD (Terry) Wall.

There are **3 ways** to make a booking:

1. Kindly **fill in the form** (available at the door) and return your form with cash **ASAP (no later than 30 July 2023)**. We will start collecting forms and cash payment from 1st July 2023 after Weekend Masses only (after Saturday 5pm Mass and after Sunday 8.30am and 10am Mass)
2. **Visit the Parish Office** Tuesday and Fridays only from 11am to 3pm, forms and cash payments will be collected by Elizabeth Gooley.
3. **Book Online**

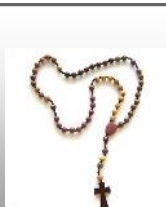
If you would like to book your tickets online instead, please scan the QR code or visit the website
<https://www.trybooking.com/CJJKI>



Please note: All Visa/Mastercard, Paypal, Google Pay and Apple Pay bookings must be done online. In person bookings are Cash only.

Rosary Statue

Mrs A Capra
168 Moorefields Rd
Ph: 0490532693



Contact: For more information or queries please contact Carmel or Mia
rcparishdinner@gmail.com or
0418 251 947/0420 932 036

Please let us know if you need transport!

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
 Ms Lisa Scott

Last Weekend 9 July 2023	
2nd Collection	\$1561.60
1st Collection	\$879.00
Cashless Giving	\$170

Attendance	
5PM	97
8.30AM	112
10AM	~145
Total	~354

JULY 21st Friday

Night of Prayer



St Mary Magdalene

Friday 21 July 7pm
Holy Hour with live music



ST. MARY MAGDALENE

Regina Coeli Church

WINTER APPEAL RECEIPTS

Winter Appeal Receipts for those who requested a receipt are now available at the Ponyara Road entrance to the Church. The St Vincent de Paul Beverly Hills Men's Conference would like to thank our loyal supporters for their generosity in supporting our Winter Appeal. The amount raised is \$8459.80 a wonderful effort during somewhat difficult times. Your generosity will go a long way in providing the means for us to continue supporting those struggling within our parish Area.

Regina Coeli Youth Group

Term 3 Dates!

29 July

12 August

26 August

9 September

23 September

Contact Fr. Peter at

rcyg77@gmail.com to RSVP.

Taxation Receipts

Thank you for your steadfast support. If you would like a receipt for last financial year's giving, please contact the parish office. The receipt may be emailed to you, or posted to your home address. Please note there is no longer any tax deductibility for Planned Giving. Tax deduction receipts are only available for CWF, Priest's Retirement Fund, and Caritas.

Excerpts from Words of Remembrance for Peter Phillips

- By the three daughters Roseann, Melanie, Marina -

We called Peter, PA. When we were kids and decided we were too old to call him daddy, he objected to dad because he said it made him feel old, so we came up with the nickname PA which stood for Peter Anthony.

PA met Ma (Wendy Phillips) at the tax department where his mother, Nanny, worked as the tea lady. Ma's sister, Aunt Judy, lived a few doors down from Nanny. Once Ma met Nanny on the train, and she offered to take Ma to Aunt Judy's. Nanny then arranged a date for PA and Ma, and it went from there. After a year or so they were engaged and were married a year later and have been married for over 51 years.

PA was a quiet, humble person who was very laid back and believed in not making waves. He was not a complainer, even in later years when his health continued to decline. He battled various health issues his whole life, but you wouldn't have known it.

He was a very intelligent man, knowledgeable and interested in many subjects including astronomy, chess, history, music, current affairs and politics – he was an active and enthusiastic member of the Labour party.

...PA was loyal and close to his family. He kept in regular contact with Nanny every week. He was a happy, funny Dad to us who was very rarely, if ever angry. We will remember him laughing at some silly joke in his ever-present cap and recall his extreme talent at falling asleep anywhere at any time. We thank you PA for leaving us with wonderful memories, for being a great Husband and Dad. We will always love you and think of you.



First Reading Is 55:10-11

The rain makes the earth fruitful.

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 64:10-14. R. Lk 8:8

(R.) The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

1. You care for the earth, give it water,
you fill it with riches.
Your river in heaven brims over
to provide its grain. (R.)
2. And thus you provide for the earth;
you drench its furrows,
you level it, soften it with showers,
you bless its growth. (R.)
3. You crown the year with your goodness.
Abundance flows in your steps,
in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. (R.)
4. The hills are girded with joy,
the meadows covered with flocks,
the valleys are decked with wheat.
They shout for joy, yes, they sing. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 8:18-23

All creation is waiting for the revelation of the children of God.

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

**The seed is the word of God,
Christ is the sower;**

all who come to him will live for ever.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 13:1-23

(or shorter form Mt 13:1-9)

A sower went out to sow.

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

Then the disciples went up to him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because' he replied 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled:

You will listen and listen again, but not understand,
see and see again, but not perceive.
For the heart of this nation has grown coarse,
their ears are dull of hearing,
and they have shut their eyes,
for fear they should see with their eyes,
hear with their ears,
understand with their heart,
and be converted
and be healed by me.

'But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it.

'You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.'



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The readings for this Sunday call us to self-examination. The gospel describes various levels of receptivity, the willingness to allow ourselves to receive from another, to be influenced by another, perhaps even to be transformed. The more independent we are, the less likely we will be open to others and, consequently, less receptive to their ideas. By definition disciples are receptive to the one they follow. To be a disciple of Jesus requires receptivity, so it is important that we scrutinise ourselves to discover the extent to which we are open. To what should we be receptive? To the words of Scripture, the words of the liturgy, the words of the sacraments, the living tradition of the community. God's word is sown in many forms and under many guises. It makes little difference who sows the seed. How will we receive it?

Besides the word of God, the readings speak of the world of God. The people of biblical times were aware of the revelation of God in and through the natural world. Isaiah teaches about the effectiveness of the word of God through the metaphor of rain. The psalmist uses the natural world to describe God's work of salvation. Paul claims that eschatological fulfilment will include all of creation. Finally, Jesus' parables are rooted in stories about nature. We cannot afford to close our eyes to the needs of the natural world, or stop our ears to the cries of the earth, or harden our hearts to the world of which we are a part, for the word of God will accomplish the end for which God sent it.

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