



Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



Weekly Newsletter

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
10 September 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

A potential weakness at Regina Coeli, which is my fault, is the absence of an officially stated parish vision. This is partly due to an actual deficiency in my own vision, and partly due to my lack of enthusiasm for corporate concepts and terms. Nevertheless, there can be no doubt that having a vision for the parish, in substance and not just in words, is critically important. So, during my speech at the parish dinner last month, I attempted to articulate an aspect of what might be our parish vision. This is the first part, to be followed by the second (and the best) part, hopefully next week:

What I am about to say has been inspired by a recent conversation I had with a lady who is not from the parish of Regina Coeli. She is a committed Catholic and astute enough to have published at least a few books on faith-related topics. She asked me how the parish was going. I gave her what I thought was a reasonable assessment of our situation. She then proceeded to tell me about her own parish. She said, 'We love our parish! But it is so sad to see the numbers declining.' She belonged to one of the parishes near the city and, apparently, their numbers had fallen so low that it was heartbreaking, especially post-covid. But as I heard her speak about what the parish meant to her, I could not help but think that what I was hearing was actually a success story, and here is why.

This lady said, 'We love our parish!' She was referring to a small community of parishioners who shared in her heartfelt love for the parish. Now, this small group could not possibly be held responsible for everything that happened in their parish. But, when it came to what was still within their control, it seemed to me that their story was one of beautiful success. After all, this small group had kept the faith, learned to love one another and become like a family together. None of this happened overnight but took nearly twenty years, at least for this particular lady. But, now, the long-term benefit and privilege of belonging to such a faith community had become so self-evident that she and the others could honestly say, 'We love our parish!'

What is a parish but a collection of small communities which are bound by the same faith, as well as the same place of worship? Imagine a parish which has small communities, even just one, which can honestly say, 'We love our parish!' Such a parish can be said to have a heartbeat, as well as a huge potential, because the Holy Spirit is at work in them. After all, small communities of parishioners who have authentic love for their parish - pure and gentle, not possessive and self-centred - are highly likely to be willing to come together whenever necessary. They will not hesitate to invite others and welcome them. They will gladly place themselves at the service of others and aspire to grow into saints together. So, my hope for Regina Coeli is that small communities of parishioners who love their parish will always exist and that new ones will continue to emerge, under the influence of Our Lady Queen of Heaven!

- Fr Peter -

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Fr Peter Kwak PP

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The Week Ahead

Sun 10 September 23rd Sunday OT	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass
Mon 11 September	No Mass
Tue 12 September	9.15am Mass 9.50am Reconciliation 5W
Wed 13 September	7.00am Mass
Thu 14 September	9.15am Mass
Fri 15 September Nativity of BVM	9.15am Mass
Sat 16 September	9:00am Mass 9:30- Adoration 9:55am & Reconciliation 4:15- Reconciliation 4:45pm 5.00pm 1st Communion Mass
Sun 17 September 24th Sunday OT	8.30am Mass 10.00am 1st Communion Mass

Recently Deceased

Anton Mandich, MendPat Mortimer, Patricia Johnson, Margherita Barbelli, Vlado Trempus, Geoffrey Connolly, Derek de Voss, Peter Phillips, Josephine Darmanin, Nicola Civitarese, Gerardi-na Civitarese, Stefano Bila, Maria Bila, Alida Clemente, John McCoy

In Loving Memory

Barbara Chater, Carmelo Algozzino, Ron & Stephen Xuereb, Bartolo Tesoriero, Myriam Barbe, Mark Alexander, Donato Tozzi, Mark Phillips, Donato Carnevale, Fouad Attia, Jeanette Cardoz, 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, Ann McDowell, Damiano Serravalle, Mary Daniels, Geoff McDowell, Mr TD (Terry) Wall.

Rosary Statue

Mrs. G. Langridge
51 Chick St
Ph: 02 9759 7497



First Holy Communion Program 2023

The Sacrament of First Holy Communion is to be celebrated in Regina Coeli Parish on the weekends of 9/10 & 16/17 September.



If you're looking for a quiet, less crowded Mass, please go to the Sunday 8:30am Mass.

The Inaugural, 'Catholic Men's Conference', – BE NOT AFRAID is a one-day conference for men (18 yrs. plus) at St Mary's Cathedral Hall from 8 am to 4.30 pm. The conference will include breakfast, coffee/tea, guest speakers, a Q&A Panel, adoration, confession, mass in St Mary's Cathedral, lunch and fellowship.



Keynote Speakers: Fr Daniele Russo on 'Reclaiming the Lord's Day' and Fr Greg Morgan on the call to 'Be Not Afraid'

Special Guest: Danny Abdallah on the 'Power of Forgiveness'

Celebrant and Homilist: Fr Lewi Barakat

Date: Saturday, 16 September 2023

Time: 8:00 am - 4:30 pm


Location: St Mary's Cathedral Hall, St Mary's Road, Sydney NSW 2000

Cost: Tickets are \$55 and Concession Ticket is \$45.


CLERGY and SEMINARIANS are FREE.

Not to be missed. Limited tickets and Register NOW at <https://www.trybooking.com/CKKFQ>

RAISING Resilient CHILDREN



Dr John Poon
Catholic Psychologist



Thursday 21 Sept
6:30pm

Regina Coeli Catholic Church
70 Ponyara Rd, Beverly Hills

Raising Resilient Children Thur 21 Sept 6:30pm

Link: <https://www.trybooking.com/CLCBM>

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 Prin-
cipal**
Mr Chris Egan
Asst. Principal
Mr Peter Busch

REC
Ms Lisa Scott

Last Weekend 3 September 2023

2nd Collection \$1735.95

1st Collection \$1030.05

Cashless Giving \$470

Attendance

5PM 97

8.30AM ~117

10AM ~175

Total ~389

Excerpts from Words of Remembrance for Patricia Johnson by Peter Johnson (Son)

Patricia Maud Catherine Cantwell was born on 23 May 1933, the only child of Theresa and Edward... This is where mum's first love developed, her parents. She adored her father, he adored her. No car, but a motorbike and sidecar. Pattie was always keen to go with her father, not like her mum. Mum's mum was a bit spoilt, dad did a lot of the cooking, Pattie helped her dad. A deep love developed that lasted throughout mum's life. (Right: A tired but happy traveller)



...Times were tough, her parents could only afford to rent one bedroom in someone else's house... Things improved for the family, they were now living in a rented house close to St Thomas, Lewisham.... Here mum developed an enduring love of school, church, the men and women of the church and of the Virgin Mary... Back then when children made their First Holy Communion they had a meal/party afterwards. There were too many children so parents were now allowed in, mum kept pinching food and passing it through the window to her parents... Mum tried boarding school but missed her parents and came back home. She then went to Bethlehem Ladies College at Ashfield up until the intermediate certificate - Year 9. The parents' business was going well. **They decided to move to an outer suburb, Beverly Hills, in 1948.**



When mum left school she was supported by her parents rather than working, she cared for the house and was able to immerse herself in the life of the parish of Regina Coeli. She loved it then and this love continued for the rest of her life. Mum was playing tennis, joining in the activities of the CYO (Catholic Youth Organisation), she taught Scripture at the local primary school, was involved with the Children of Mary, made many friends, made her debut... A real bond, friendship, love and respect was formed between mum and the Parish Priest, Fr William Evans...

(Left: Parish Dinner 2019)

Eventually she met my father, she was dating his cousin first though. He knew he had a good catch, proposed, was accepted and announced at mum's 21st. They married in 1956 in the old church (now the hall), honeymooned at Surfers Paradise and started married life. A house was built down the road from her parents and the church. Mum loved this house and lived there until only recently when she moved to Stella Maris at Cronulla.

I was born in 1958. A tragedy occurred in 1959, mum's father died unexpectedly. She was heartbroken. Mum was saved by the birth of her daughter Catherine just over a month later.... Mum's life revolved around family, she cared for her husband's relatives, church and raising her children. Love from her was always present. After the death of her father a deeper love developed with her mother... mum took a job at St Patrick's College Strathfield, managing the senior canteen, she was there for 20 years. She loved it, the Christian brothers at the school, the lay staff, a number of which became good friends and travel companions.... Mum's next great love was the grandchildren that came along... and in later years this love of family was accentuated by the birth of great grandchildren.

When she retired from work much time was available and she made the most of it. She became more involved in the life and work of the church e.g. helping and visiting others through the work of the St Vincent de Paul Society, arranging flowers for the church - something she did before marriage as well. She was able to rejoin the same Thursday tennis group after a 20 year gap. Trave, more travel and even more travel. Mum joined the Catholic Bushwalking Club, she loved it, she loved the people she met and the adventures they had together.

While this was going on she became more involved in the care of her mother, eventually moving her mother in with her to provide for her in her final years.... After the death of her mother in 2007 she was able to do more of the things she enjoyed and loved. My mother was able to live a full life even after health setbacks. She faced these without complaint, maybe with a little help from above and definitely from the care of many medical professionals. She got over most things, serious things e.g. 2 cancer, heart attack, mini-stroke, serious blood loss, etc. Even Covid and her new life at Stella Maris did not prevent her from leading the life she loved.... Our mother was a wonderful mother, nan, nan-nan, cousin, devoted Catholic, friend, neighbour, patient and volunteer who led a fulfilling life. May she rest in peace.



The latest stained glass window to be added to the church of Regina Coeli has been donated by Patricia Johnson who, to the best of my knowledge, has been the longest surviving parishioner until recently (75 years). She did not want the fact of her donation to be known at the time. The window displays three angels who represent Pat's father, mother and Fr Evans. At the centre is Our Lady who stands calmly and graciously on the troubled waters of life. Perhaps it has been Our Lady that Pat has been modelling herself on and following. Incidentally, she passed away on 15 August 2023, the feast of the Assumption.

First Reading Ez 33:7-9

If you have not warned the wicked man, then I will hold you responsible for his death.

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, ‘Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.’

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 94:1-2.6-9. R. v.8

**(R.) O that today you would listen to 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 13:8-10

Love is the fulfilment of the Law.

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your

fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

Gospel Acclamation 2 Cor 5:19

Alleluia, alleluia!
**God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself;
and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.**

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 18:15-20

If your brother or sister listens to you, you will have won that person back.

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

‘I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.

‘I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.’



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

It is difficult for leaders to call people to accountability. Such is the unenviable responsibility of pastors in the parish, coordinators of religious education, members of the parish council, principals in the school, directors of liturgical ministry, to name but a few. Disciples must also engage in the very difficult process of reconciliation. Differences of opinion, misunderstandings, and actual offenses tend to alienate people. We see this happen in families, neighborhoods, parish communities, workplaces. It is not enough to say that we must try to forgive from our hearts. The process of reconciliation requires significant movement toward the admission of guilt as well. Both the one offended and the offender must be willing to be transformed.

Gathering two or three together in prayerful collaboration is not as easy as it sounds. If collaboration is to be effective, we have to be open and honest about our opinions and our biases, and respectful of the opinions and biases of others. We must work for the common good and not merely for what we personally think is best. We must be willing to accept and implement decisions with which we may not totally agree, and we must live with them gracefully. All of this calls for unselfish love. Love fulfills the entire law only: when we honor our personal commitments and the personal commitments of others; when we value the life, dignity, and reputation of others; and when we respect their possessions. It is only because love is so demanding that it covers all of our responsibilities.

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