



Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



Weekly Newsletter

**22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
3 September 2023 (Father's Day)**

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

The Movie Night for Father's Day started with what could have been interpreted as an ominous sign: the sudden change of weather, even to the point of torrential rain at times. I wondered if the poor weather might provide a reason to cancel for some. But another part of me wondered if the inclement weather might actually strengthen the men's resolve to commit; after all, the movie night had been organised especially for *fathers* who are called to Christian heroism!

The rain eased just before 5pm when I left for Beverly Hills Hotel. When I arrived, there was just one other person - a dad from the parish who was also a key organiser. He bought me a beer and every sip of our beer was followed by the arrival of a new dad which, in turn, was followed by a complete round of handshakes. Soon, there were so many men that it was no longer possible to greet everyone, let alone shake their hands.

Around 5:30pm a barrage of food (pre-ordered) arrived at the long row of tables. All the men sat down. Extra food had to be ordered for a few latecomers. The atmosphere was amazing! A small army of men mixed with one another with surprising ease and cordiality. It was as though a Father's Day celebration of this sort had been a long time in the making and a lot of energy was ready to be released. The conversations could have gone for much longer, and gladly so, had it not been for the highly anticipated movie, 'Sound of Freedom.'

We were a formidable presence at Beverly Hills Cinema, with the bystanders wondering what the story was behind the unexpected arrival of such a large group of men (45 in total). When the movie started there was noticeable silence, which remained with us all throughout. After all, the movie dealt with the most confronting issue of child-trafficking for sexual exploitation. All I knew were the movements in my own heart, as well as the heavy silence which pervaded the room. When the credits rolled, it was difficult to know how to respond.

Once we flowed out onto and filled up the corridor of the cinema, the same buzz returned, except that our conversations were now exclusively about the movie. Everyone felt they had something to express, even if unsure exactly what, especially given that all (except me) had their own biological children. I lost count of how many men came up to me to thank me for the event (even though the organising committee had done most of the work) and to say that we should definitely do 'this' again. By 'this' I believe they meant something that involved shared values and fellowship between the men at Regina Coeli.

So, what was the fruit of our cinematic experience? The message was harder than expected to summarise, in need of being unpacked over time. What matters first and foremost is the story itself - a story which cries out to be heard with the force of millions of suffering children. The depravities of child abuse were only alluded to and never graphically portrayed in the movie. But these were clearly so dark as to be unspeakable, even unthinkable. The fact that anyone could commit such crimes against children seemed shocking enough but, of course, the reality is that these are currently happening on a scale unmatched in human history.

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The Week Ahead

Sun 3 September 22nd Sunday OT	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass
Mon 4 September	No Mass
Tue 5 September	9.15am Mass with Yr1&2
Wed 6 September	7.00am Mass 10:30am Funeral Mass for Pat Mortimer
Thu 7 September	9.15am Mass
Fri 8 September Nativity of BVM	9.15am Mass
Sat 9 September	9:00am Mass 9:30- Adoration 9:55am & Reconciliation 4:15- Reconciliation 4:45pm 5.00pm Mass
Sun 10 September 23rd Sunday OT	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass

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.



Volunteers Required- Laundering of Church Linen

We are in need of a volunteer or volunteers to regularly launder and iron our Church linen. These include finger towels, purifiers and corporals. Instructions on how to launder and iron this linen will be given. If you are interested in helping with this special task please speak with Fr Peter or contact the parish office. Thank you.



Father's Day Appeal

Sunday 3 September 2023

Your priests helped begin your faith journey
The Archdiocese Father's Day Appeal supports retired priests and honours our Fathers for their wonderful service to our community. Your gift is a 'thank you' to those who've contributed in so many ways in your life.



Will you help look after them in their retirement this Father's Day?
Donate today by completing the parish envelope, calling 1800 753 959 or online at www.ourfaithhourworks.org/prf



Recently Deceased

Pat Mortimer, Patricia Johnson, Margherita Barbelli, Vlado Trempus, Geoffrey Connolly, Derek de Voss, Peter Phillips, Josephine Darmanin, Nicola Civitarese, Gerardina Civitarese, Stefano Bila, Maria Bila, Alida Clemente, John McCoy

In Loving Memory

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, Quang Vo, Matt Nugent, Ann McDowell, Damiano Serravalle, Mary Daniels, Geoff McDowell, Mr TD (Terry) Wall.

OUR LADY's BIRTHDAY: Friday 8th September

Christians the world over rejoice not only at Our Lady's Immaculate Conception but also at Her birth and thus the tradition continues at Regina Coeli of Her children praying Rosaries throughout the day on Her birthday, next Friday. To participate please sign the roster sheet at the side door and choose a timeslot which suits you (each Rosary commences on the hour from 10am - 5pm)



Ordination to the Priesthood

Of Matthew Lukaszewicz and Richard Sofatzis

10:30am on Saturday 9 September 2023

At St Mary's Cathedral



Fr Peter will be going to the ordination after the Saturday 9am Mass. There will be no adoration after Mass. Confession will be available before Mass 8:30a-9:00am.

Rosary Statue

Mr & Mrs B. Kelly
16 Tallawalla St
Ph: 91507172



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

28 August 2023

2nd Collection \$1756.15

1st Collection \$1317

Cashless Giving \$440

Attendance

5PM 107

8.30AM ~120

10AM ~200

Total ~427

Continued from Page 1 One of the conversations during the dinner revolved around a World Cup controversy - how a certain official inappropriately kissed a female player in celebration of their victory - which has generated not a small amount of outrage. But where is the proportionate outrage about the diabolic prevalence of child abuse? Our society has long normalised, for example, fornication, pornography and prostitution, as though the human heart, once compromised, can easily remain immune from further corruption. Abortion and euthanasia inculcate in our psyche the notion that some lives have no intrinsic dignity or value. Power and profit-making routinely trample upon the principles of truth and justice. But what are the consequences of our unreflected blind-spots?

Human-trafficking is the biggest criminal enterprise in the world, second only to the drug trade, because there is so much money to be made there, including by involving children. The reason why there is so much money to be made is due to is high demand - those who are willing to pay a lot of money for a chance to do the unthinkable. Where such demand exists, there is *hell on earth*, which thrives in the blind-spots of our society when we look away and continue to look away. In the meantime, the pains of hell on earth are inflicted upon innocent children.

Vigilance seems to be one of the key messages of 'Sound of freedom,' at least for me, not just in relation to the safeguarding of children but also in relation to everything else, starting from what is happening in one's own heart. Vigilance is hard because *opening our eyes and seeing* requires us to feel the weight of the world, as well as the weight of our own sinfulness, which is, to say the least, overbearing, like carrying a cross! This is why true vigilance is impossible to attain on our own. We must look to Jesus and allow Him to look at us. Only the gaze of Christ into the depth of our soul can inspire and sustain true vigilance in us, such that we come alive and become surprisingly effective in our vocations. St Joseph, Guardian of the Redeemer, pray for us! Happy Father's Day!

- Fr Peter -



Congratulations to Robert Garret who became a Catholic!

Bob (Anglican) and Wendy (Catholic) married more than 62 years ago.

The following is a transcript of the speech given by Bob:

I was happy for the children to be brought up Catholic because I thought they would have a better Christian upbringing than what I had...Over the years I attended all the Christian gatherings in the Catholic Church with our children...I attended church with Wendy on Christmas and Easter.

[When Wendy could no longer drive herself to church (about 7 years ago)] I decided to bring her to church...I found out I enjoyed coming to church...it was only in recent times when Father Petr [and I] had a few words out the front and he said he appreciated the fact that I brought Wendy to church and to Thursday afternoon tea, and I said to him, 'Well, you've probably noticed that I don't go to Communion. So I suppose you've worked out by now that I'm not a Catholic.'

...a couple of weeks later, he tapped me on the shoulder and said, 'You can come on Thursday when you bring Wendy here and we can talk.' I came well prepared because I had in my little bag a certificate of baptism, a certificate of confirmation, and a Church of England Bible...because as I was sitting in his office there, I looked over at his desk and I said, you've got too many files and papers on your desk. I said you should put them away.

So anyway, I think I've got fairly easy rails run probably because of my age...the funny thing is...I was quite overwhelmed when I went back to my seat after the congregation clapped...I've never had so many women come along and give me a little hug. Joy gave me a little hug and said, 'How do you feel?' And I said, I feel good. And if you ask me now how I feel, I feel good!



First Reading Jer 20:7-9

The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced;
 you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.
 I am a daily laughing-stock,
 everybody's butt.
 Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!' The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long.
 I used to say, I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more.
 Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart,
 imprisoned in my bones.
 The effort to restrain it wearied me,
 I could not bear it.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 62:2-6. 8-9. R. v.2

*(R.) My soul is thirsting for you,
 O Lord my God.*

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;
 for you my soul is thirsting.
 My body pines for you
 like a dry, weary land without water. (R.)
2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
 to see your strength and your glory.
 For your love is better than life,
 my lips will speak your praise. (R.)
3. So I will bless you all my life,
 in your name I will lift up my hands.
 My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
 my mouth shall praise you with joy. (R.)
4. For you have been my help;
 in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
 My soul clings to you;
 your right hand holds me fast. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 12:1-2

May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice.

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled

by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

Gospel Acclamation See Eph 1:17-18

Alleluia, alleluia!
*May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
 enlighten the eyes of our heart,
 that we might see how great
 is the hope
 to which we are called.*
Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 16:21-27

Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?'

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The gospel does not say that Jesus will gallantly step forward, take suffering upon himself, and thus demonstrate his power. Instead, his fate will be a demonstration of his vulnerability. He will be taken forcibly and will suffer at the hands of others. He will do this willingly, but not as a volunteer. Jesus will be a victim. This picture of Jesus carries implications for discipleship. Whoever follows him must follow him to the cross. If we participate in his success, we must also share in his shame. Disciples have a choice to follow or not to follow, but if they choose in his favour they must be ready for suffering and humiliation.

Paul exhorts us to reject the standards of the world. This is a very difficult path to follow, especially when it seems that those who conform to this age prosper. Following Christ can place barriers between ourselves and others. If we no longer share their values and their interests, we may feel alienated. Suffering is bound to invade our ministerial lives as well. We must remember that Jesus' message antagonised many people in his day. Those who proclaim the same message in their own contexts must be prepared for a similar reaction.

After witnessing the marvellous feats that Jesus accomplished, we discover that he is going to suffer and be put to death. How can this be? With Peter we protest. With Jeremiah we wonder: Have we been duped? The realisation that we too will have to suffer becomes a crucial test of our faith.

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