



# Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



## Weekly Newsletter

**32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**12 November 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



Every culture and religion has its own way of celebrating weddings. Weddings were a very big deal in the time of Jesus. They might start late, well into the night, because the families had to negotiate the dowry before the wedding could begin. A long negotiating was a compliment to the bride; she was a treasure. Finally, when the dowry was settled, the groom would come and all would go out to meet him. They would need oil. Lots of oil. The feast would begin and, it could last a week!

Christians hearing the parable would liken the bridegroom to Christ. He was expected to return and begin the messianic banquet. They would also liken the foolish girls to less fervent Christians. Christians suffered for their faith and they were tempted to disappointment. Why doesn't Jesus come and set things right? What's taking him so long? We are attempted to ask the same questions these days. The parable speaks of vigilance, preparedness and watchfulness; especially in the face of tragedies.

We must not limit the idea of being ready to welcome the Lord to only the moment of death. That is not what the parable is saying. The kingdom of heaven begins here and now. Christ comes into our life every day, in many ways. But are our eyes and ears open to perceive his presence? Are we alert to welcome him and to respond to his invitation, "Follow me"?

How might we be prepared when he does come? The kingdom of heaven is present when "kingdom activity" is taking place: the hungry are fed, the thirsty given water, the sick are visited, homeless given shelter. We do not have to wait for death to experience the kingdom of heaven. The bridegroom Jesus comes to us to form us and lead us to full life, which has been made possible by his death and resurrection.

We might conclude from the parable that the virtuous are those who stay constantly alert. But note that all the virgins "became drowsy and fell asleep," because the bridegroom was delayed. The difference between the wise and foolish virgins is that the wise ones are prepared and have brought extra oil to see them through their waiting for the bridegroom. He is delayed, but that does not mean that he will not come. It's only when he comes that the celebrating begins. So, we are being asked to live in hope that what Jesus has promised will come to be, but for now we wait and hope.

The parable also contrasts wisdom and folly; being sensible and being silly. It's an invitation to us. Which would we rather be? Ready, or distracted? The oil is a symbol for readiness, not just at the end of our lives, but now. Ready for any surprise, good or bad, which we must face in our lives. "Stay awake" – Jesus' advice to us today, especially at the key moments, the turning points, in our lives. Be prepared, be wise, then go ahead. What can help us stay awake, keep us alert to what's happening in our lives now?

*Continued page 3*

#### Pastoral Team:

Fr Peter Kwak PP

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Welcome to Regina Coeli Catholic Church

## The Week Ahead

|                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Sun 12 November<br>32nd Sunday OT | 8.30am Mass<br>10.00am Mass  |
| Mon 13 November                   | No Mass  |
| Tue 14 November                   | <b>8.45am Parent Pilgrimage</b><br><b>St Mary's Cathedral</b><br>Mass  |
| Wed 15 November                   | 7.00am Mass  |
| Thu 16 November                   | 9.15am Mass with Year 4  |
| Fri 17 November<br>St Elizabeth   | 9.15am Mass  |
| Sat 18 November                   | 9:00am Mass<br>9:30- Adoration<br>9:55am & Reconciliation<br><br>4:15- Reconciliation<br>4:45pm<br>5.00pm Mass |
| Sun 19 November<br>33rd Sunday OT | 8.30am Mass<br>10.00am Mass  |

### Recently Deceased

Sam Pergola, Val Green, Rula Hanna, Mariagrazia Ciccolella, Terence Wall, Pierre Cardoz, Anton Mandich, Pat Mortimer, Patricia Johnson, Geoffrey Connolly, Derek de Voss, Peter Phillips, Josephine Darmanin, Nicola Civitarese, Gerardina Civitarese

### In Loving Memory

Ron Xuereb, Ken Maher, Mary McKinnon, Serena Fatseas, Paul Kensey, David Brown, James Roebuck, Alida Clemente, June Roebuck, Tony Tesoriero, Barbara Chater, Donato Tozzi, Donato Carnevale, Peter Peters, Frank Capra, Bob Henderson.

### Please remember those who are in ill

**health especially:** Lucy Blundell, 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.

### Rosary Statue

**Mrs Kay Peters**  
**38 Weston Ave**  
**Ph: 95334547**



*Regina Coeli Parish*  
INVITES YOU TO  
**CHRISTMAS CAROLS**  
and  
**PARISH PARTY**  
**December 10**  
Carols in the church 4:30pm  
followed by **Party** on school grounds

- ★ Dinner Provided
- ★ Please bring dessert to share
- ★ Make it a picnic & bring a rug!

RSVP by Dec 3: [Reginachristmasparty@gmail.com](mailto:Reginachristmasparty@gmail.com)  
or SMS Gina: 0403 236 540  
Want to donate food or help on the day? Please call!

*If you would like to volunteer with preparations, and on the evening of the Christmas party, there is a separate signup sheet at the back of the church for those willing to volunteer. Thank you.*

THE ST GEORGE NETWORK OF FAMILY EDUCATORS INVITES YOU TO

**MEN'S BUSINESS**

FAITH  
FRIENDSHIP  
FOOD

WEDNESDAY 15 NOV 6.30PM  
ST DECLAN'S PENSURST  
SCHOOL HALL  
ENTER VIA PENSURST ST

Cost - \$10 includes guest speakers, light meal, drinks and lucky door prizes.  
Register and pay via QR code by 10th November

Tuesday  
**14**  
November

**PARENT Pilgrimage**  
**ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL**  
DEPARTING REGINA COELI AT 8:45 AM  
RETURNING AT 2:45PM

RSVP HERE

#### Parish Secretary

9554 8155  
Tues 11am-4pm  
&  
Fri 11am-4pm

#### Sacramental Coordinator/ PSSO

Mrs Elizabeth Gooley  
9554 8155  
[reginasacramental@gmail.com](mailto:reginasacramental@gmail.com)  
Tuesday & Friday from  
10.30am - 4.00pm

#### School Principal

Mr Chris Egan  
Asst. Principal  
Mr Peter Busch  
  
**REC**  
Ms Lisa Scott

### Last Weekend 5 November 2023

|                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| <b>2nd Collection</b> | <b>\$1429.05</b> |
| 1st Collection        | \$909.45         |
| Cashless Giving       | \$285.00         |

#### Attendance

|              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| 5PM          | 100        |
| 8.30AM       | 103        |
| 10AM         | 100        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>303</b> |



**Continued from page 1-** The parable suggests what we already know, we need to learn patience. This is particularly true with God. God keeps us waiting. The bridegroom, Jesus Christ, arrives late and because he does, we might not be prepared. The wise ones in the parable are prepared for the delay. But we need to remember that the bridegroom is in charge, not me. My task is to be ready and prepared, even for the delay.

So we ask ourselves: what is the oil I have in my lamp as I wait for the Lord to come? What do I need that will sustain me during the delay? Simple, a regular habit of prayer; worship; works of mercy; acts of love, justice and forgiveness. **Fr Jude Siciliano OP** [preacherexchange.com](http://preacherexchange.com)

### **Advent Special: A talk by Dr Robert Tilley**

#### ***The Real Presence of Jesus versus the Virtual World: The End of the World and the Birth of the New***

**On Thursday 30 November 2023, 6:30pm @ Regina Coeli Church**

In Advent the world is ending, and on Christmas day a new world begins. In the Book of Revelation the end comes with the rise of what is dark, false, and unreal; while at Christmas the beginning comes with the one who is the Truth and the Light. With the turn of 2023 to 2024, everything seems on the edge of an abyss, and all that is offered is the screen and the promise of AI; a virtual world in which we can hide away immersed in distractions. But Advent is the time to look away and consider what is real and what has meaning, to look to Christmas for it says that what is real is the Real Presence of the Lord Jesus Christ; there the light shines in darkness. By way of the Scriptures and the teaching of the Church this talk seeks to explain and explore not the 'beginning and the end', but the 'end and then the beginning'.

*Dr Robert Tilley did his Doctorate at the University of Sydney with a thesis entitled Reading the Sacred Text. His thesis set out to rethink the nature of 'creation as a text of God' (natural theology) by way of an engagement with Scripture (revealed theology) and did this by way of late and postmodern discussions on the nature of textuality. He has lectured widely on a variety of topics, endeavouring to show how Scripture, theology, philosophy, and the arts all interrelate. He has lectured in Biblical Studies at the Catholic Institute of Sydney for close to fourteen years now, and for a longer period of time was a regular lecturer in Biblical Studies, the arts, and theology at the Aquinas Academy which was based at Wynyard. He has also lectured at UNDA Sydney and tutored in Biblical Studies at the University of Sydney.*

### **Sydney Street Feast 2023 – Volunteers Welcome**

On Friday, 17 November, Archbishop Anthony Fisher will host a free luncheon for Sydney's homeless in the forecourt of St Mary's Cathedral from 12 pm to 2 pm.

A large number of guests are expected and volunteers from parishes are invited to help serve food and to sit and accompany guests during lunch. This is a great opportunity to show support and solidarity with fellow Sydneysiders experiencing homelessness.

Register your interest to assist at <https://bit.ly/StreetFeast2023>



### **Seeking Vinnies Members**

The St. Vincent de Paul Society is looking for people who are interested in becoming Members of the Beverly Hills Conference.

Regina Coeli parishioners have always been very generous in raising funds for the Conference to assist those in need. We very much appreciate this support.

We are now looking for new Members who can volunteer some time to attend meetings and help distribute assistance to those in need. This is due to the recent retirement of a number of Conference Members after many years of dedicated service. We understand that your level of involvement will depend on your personal circumstances such as study, work and family commitments. Any time you can contribute will make a real difference to those in need.

Please consider becoming a Vinnies Member and providing a hand up to the most vulnerable members of society. In our good works, Vinnies Members encounter Christ in the poor and share his compassionate love.

To find out more about becoming a Member of the Society, you can:

- look at the information available at this website: [Become a member | St Vincent de Paul Society - Vinnies](https://www.becomeamember.org.au)
- email President Brian Wall on [brian.wall@vinnies.org.au](mailto:brian.wall@vinnies.org.au)
- speak to one of our Vinnies Members after Mass on the weekend of 11-12 November 2023 or
- join us at our Vinnies Information session at the Parish Centre 7.30pm on 22 November 2023.

**First Reading Wis 6:12-16**

*Wisdom is found by those who look for it.*

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim.  
By those who love her she is readily seen,  
and found by those who look for her.  
Quick to anticipate those who desire her,  
she makes herself known to them.  
Watch for her early and you will have no  
trouble;  
you will find her sitting at your gates.  
Even to think about her is understanding  
fully grown;  
be on the alert for her and anxiety will  
quickly leave you.  
She herself walks about looking for those  
who are worthy of her  
and graciously shows herself to them as  
they go,  
in every thought of theirs coming to meet  
them.

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 62:2-8. 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. On my bed I remember you.  
On you I muse through the night  
for you have been my help;  
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. (R.)

**Second Reading 1 Thes 4:13-18**

*Those who died as Christians, God will bring to life with Jesus.*

We want you to be quite certain, brothers,  
about those who have died, to make sure  
that you do not grieve about them, like the  
other people who have no hope. We believe  
that Jesus died and rose again, and that it  
will be the same for those who have died in  
Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can  
tell you this from the Lord's own teaching,

that any of us who are left alive until the  
Lord's coming will not have any advantage  
over those who have died. At the trumpet  
of God, the voice of the archangel will call  
out the command and the Lord himself will  
come down from heaven; those who have  
died in Christ will be the first to rise, and  
then those of us who are still alive will be  
taken up in the clouds, together with them,  
to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay  
with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts  
as these you should comfort one another.

**Gospel Acclamation Mt 24:42. 44**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Be watchful and ready:**

**you know not when the Son of Man  
is coming.**

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel Mt 25:1-13**

*Look, the bridegroom comes. Go out to meet him.*

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The  
kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten  
bridesmaids took their lamps and went to  
meet the bridegroom. Five of them were  
foolish and five of them were sensible: the  
foolish ones did take their lamps, but they  
brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones  
took flasks of oil as well as their lamps.  
The bridegroom was late, and they all grew  
drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight  
there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here!  
Go out and meet him." At this, all those  
bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their  
lamps, and the foolish ones said to the  
sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil:  
our lamps are going out." But they replied,  
"There may not be enough for us and for  
you; you had better go to those who sell  
it and buy some for yourselves." They had  
gone off to buy it when the bridegroom  
arrived. Those who were ready went in with  
him to the wedding hall and the door was  
closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later.  
"Lord, Lord," they said, "open the door for  
us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do  
not know you." So stay awake, because you  
do not know either the day or the hour.'



**Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA**

The early Christians thought that all  
their questions about death had  
been answered with the resurrection  
of Jesus. Therefore, when loyal  
Christians began to die, not only did  
their old questions come back, but  
also they were plagued with new and  
difficult ones. Was it possible that  
those loyal Christians had not been  
loyal after all? Or worse, were the  
promises made by Jesus empty  
promises? No! Paul assures us. It is  
all true. Christ has died; Christ is  
risen; Christ will come again, and all  
the faithful will be joined with him.  
*How it will happen, we do not know.  
When it will happen, we do not know.  
That it will happen, we are sure.*

The wisdom that we have culled  
from life becomes the treasury from  
which we draw the prudence and  
insight needed to negotiate life's  
paradoxes. It throws light on our  
strengths and on our weaknesses; it  
enables us to discern what is  
important and what is not; it directs  
us to bring extra oil in our lamps. Life  
and the wisdom that we have  
acquired through it, have taught us  
that we can indeed trust the  
promises of God. They have been  
fulfilled in the past, and wisdom  
assures us that they will be fulfilled  
in the future. It is wisdom that  
cautions us to be vigilant, to be  
ready to adjust our plans. It is  
wisdom that prepares us for the  
night watches of life. It is wisdom  
that instructs us to be ready at all  
times.

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