



# Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



## Weekly Newsletter

**31st Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**5 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



#### Pastoral Team:

Fr Peter Kwak PP

beverlyhillspriest@gmail.com

#### Parish Office Address:

5 Tarrilli Street

#### Postal Address:

PO Box 100

Beverly Hills NSW 2209

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Keeping Up Appearances' is a popular British sitcom that ran from 1990-1995. The plot centres on Hyacinth Bucket (pronounced "Bouquet"), a snobbish middle-aged Englishwoman on a lifelong quest to escape her working-class background, climb the social ladder and claim her rightful place in society.

Hyacinth hosts elegant soirees, including her famous 'candlelight suppers' complete with Royal Doulton tea set, in an effort to impose herself on high-society people, usually involving her long-suffering, but compliant husband, Richard; while striving to 'hide' her less-refined sisters, Daisy and Rose, and Daisy's slothful husband, Onslow. Yet somehow, Hyacinth's family always manages to spoil her grand designs to find fame, usually resulting in chaos and embarrassment.

However, Hyacinth is a determined lady, who has one mission in life – to impress people of influence, status and wealth!

In today's gospel, we meet some scribes and Pharisees who are also intent on 'keeping up appearances'! For them, religion has more to do with personal gain and they set out to cultivate a greater public profile, attract attention and improve their social status. They shine the spotlight firmly on themselves by wearing "broader phylacteries and longer tassels"; taking "the place of honour at banquets and the front seats in the synagogues" and having people call them "Rabbi."

But Jesus wants none of it.

True religion is never about external things, craving power and influence or putting on a show for others. Jesus confronts such superficial, shallow and self-indulgent understandings of holiness. He calls his followers to reject such an empty way of life and instead, build their lives on integrity, love and service, and to build relationships of solidarity, equality and mutual concern.

Jesus is also conscious of what the scribes and Pharisees say about the Law and how they act. They do not, as Jesus says, practice what they preach. Their teaching about the Law and its prescriptions places great burdens on people, which they do nothing to ease or remove. Their role, as they see it, puts them above others and they demand, and obviously get, plenty of attention and respect from those around them.

Ultimately, Jesus says: those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted. Humility is realising that all we are and have is a gift; that we are dependent on God for everything. Humility is an awareness that we're not alone, but embraced by God who loves us unconditionally and in whom we can have complete trust. Therefore, we have no need to inflate our egos, be seduced by fame, dominate or put others down, consider ourselves superior or find our value in physical attributes, possessions or reputations.

As humble disciples of the Good News, may we die to power, domination and ostentation; and rise to simplicity, authenticity, integrity and servant leadership.

*David J Hore CSSR @ Majellan Media 2023*

## The Week Ahead

<b>Sun 5 November</b> 31st Sunday OT	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass
<b>Mon 6 November</b>	No Mass
<b>Tue 7 November</b>	9.15am Mass <b>10.30am Funeral Mass for Val Green</b>
<b>Wed 8 November</b>	7.00am Mass
<b>Thu 9 November</b> Lateran Basilica	9.15am Mass with Year 3
<b>Fri 10 November</b> St Leo the Great	9.15am Mass
<b>Sat 11 November</b> St Martin of Tours	9:00am Mass 9:30- Adoration 9:55am & Reconciliation  4:15- Reconciliation 4:45pm 5.00pm Mass
<b>Sun 12 November</b> 32nd Sunday OT	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass

### Recently Deceased

Val Green, Rula Hanna, Ninetta Ricchiuti, Mariagrazia Ciccolella, Terence Wall, Pierre Cardoz, Anton Mandich, Pat Mortimer, Patricia Johnson, Geoffrey Connolly, Derek de Voss, Peter Phillips, Josephine Darmanin, Nicola Civitarese, Gerardi-na Civitarese

### In Loving Memory

Ken Maher, MaryMcKinnon, 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

**Mr & Mrs B. Murray**  
4 Leon Ave  
Ph: 97500776



# SAVE THE DATE

## PARISH CHRISTMAS CAROLS & PARTY

### SUNDAY 10 DECEMBER 2023

#### STARTING WITH CAROLS (CHURCH) AT 4:30PM

*If you would like to volunteer with preparations, and on the evening of the Christmas party, please contact Gina Andre, 0403236540. Thank you.*

### We'd Love You To Join The Musical Ministry @Regina Coeli

There are many ways to be involved with our church community here at Regina Coeli. One of the ways you can lend your talents in prayer is through the musical ministry. There are three different choirs that sing at each mass and are made up of many dedicated and talented individuals who either lend their vocal, musical or IT skills to enhance our masses.

Behind these choirs are dedicated choir organisers who work tirelessly behind the scenes to bring you music each week that appropriately aligns with the readings of that mass. We have dedicated people who create the weekly PowerPoints, set up equipment and ensure technology runs smoothly behind the scenes too. These teams also organise the extra special music for feast days, funerals, weddings, communion, confirmation and especially during the Easter and Christmas seasons. It definitely takes a lot of love and commitment to keep this ministry going. But we absolutely love it!

One of our resident and most senior choir organisers is Wendy Phillips who has been organising, conducting and singing in the 8:30am choir for over 40 years. What a superstar!!!

As our church community changes the numbers in these groups have slowly dropped. To keep the music alive in our church we ask that you and your families might consider joining the musical ministry. There is no age limit, there's no auditions, all are very welcome. It doesn't matter which mass but we definitely hope that you consider being part of such a wonderful ministry. Please feel free to approach the choirs in person after Mass or contact Natasha - nat\_demel@live.com.au or 0402785196 and she will direct you to the right contact in each choir.

#### Parish Secretary

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

#### Sacramental Coordinator/ PSSO

Mrs Elizabeth Gooley  
9554 8155  
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 29 October 2023

**2nd Collection \$1485.95**

1st Collection \$1061.00

Cashless Giving \$260

#### Attendance

5PM 113

8.30AM 143

10AM ?

**Total ~**



### 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.*

### November Book of Remembrance

The Holy Souls Remembrance Book has been placed at the front of the church. You are invited to write in the Book the names of your deceased family and friends. They will be remembered throughout the month of November in the prayers of the Parish



### 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](#)
- 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 Mal 1:14 – 2:2.8-10

*You have strayed from the way, you have caused many to stumble by your teaching.*

I am a great king, says the Lord of hosts, and my name is feared throughout the nations. And now, priests, this warning is for you. If you do not listen, if you do not find it in your heart to glorify my name, says the Lord of hosts, I will send the curse on you and curse your very blessing. You have strayed from the way; you have caused many to stumble by your teaching. You have destroyed the covenant of Levi, says the Lord of hosts. And so I in my turn have made you contemptible and vile in the eyes of the whole people in repayment for the way you have not kept to my paths but have shown partiality in your administration.

Have we not all one Father? Did not one God create us? Why, then, do we break faith with one another, profaning the covenant of our ancestors?

## Responsorial Psalm Ps 130

*(R.) In you, Lord, I have found my peace.*

1. O Lord, my heart is not proud  
nor haughty my eyes.  
I have not gone after things too great  
nor marvels beyond me. (R.)
2. Truly I have set my soul  
in silence and peace.  
A weaned child on its mother's breast,  
even so is my soul. (R.)
3. O Israel, hope in the Lord  
both now and for ever. (R.)

## Second Reading 1 Thes 2:7-9.13

*We were eager to hand over to you not only the Good News but our lives as well.*

Like a mother feeding and looking after her own children, we felt so devoted and protective towards you, and had come to love you so much, that we were eager to hand over to you not only the Good News but our whole lives as well. Let me remind you, brothers, how hard we used to work, slaving night and day so as not to be a burden on any one of you while we were proclaiming God's Good News to you.

Another reason why we constantly thank God for you is that as soon as you heard the message that we brought you as God's message, you accepted it for what it really is, God's message and not some human thinking; and it is still a living power among you who believe it.

## Gospel Acclamation Mt 23:9.10

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*You have one Father, your Father  
in heaven;*

*you have one teacher: the Lord Jesus  
Christ.*

*Alleluia!*

## Gospel Mt 23:1-12

*They do not practise what they preach.*

Addressing the people and his disciples Jesus said, 'The scribes and the Pharisees occupy the chair of Moses. You must therefore do what they tell you and listen to what they say; but do not be guided by what they do: since they do not practise what they preach. They tie up heavy burdens and lay them on men's shoulders, but will they lift a finger to move them? Not they! Everything they do is done to attract attention, like wearing broader phylacteries and longer tassels, like wanting to take the place of honour at banquets and the front seats in the synagogues, being greeted obsequiously in the market squares and having people call them Rabbi.

'You, however, must not allow yourselves to be called Rabbi, since you have only one Master, and you are all brothers. You must call no one on earth your father, since you have only one Father, and he is in heaven. Nor must you allow yourselves to be called teachers, for you have only one Teacher, the Christ. The greatest among you must be your servant. Anyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and anyone who humbles himself will be exalted.'



## Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Since Vatican II the responsibilities of leadership have been spread throughout the community. This has not happened simply because there are fewer priests and religious. It has occurred primarily because the Council itself insisted that by virtue of their baptism all Christians are called to discipleship, which includes active participation in the mission of the church. While those who are ordained continue in specialised forms of leadership, other people have stepped forward to assume their newly recognised responsibilities. Sometimes they have more influence in the church than do the ordained.

We derive the connection between pharisaical and hypocritical from Jesus' description of the Pharisees found in today's reading. His condemnation, along with the condemnation of the priests in the first reading, should be a warning to all who in any way exercise leadership. We must always be on our guard lest the trappings of leadership ensnare us and we fail in our responsibilities toward God and the community we serve.

There is a mode of leadership that reflects the very meaning of authority. This way of leadership authors life. It is characterised by the striking image of a nursing mother who both gives and sustains life. Those who exercise leadership in this way create a community where life is fostered, not stifled, where talents serve all of the members, and the talents of all of the members are invited to serve. Such a community not only nurtures its members, it is itself the author of life in the world.

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