



Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



Weekly Newsletter

First Sunday of Advent 3 December 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

I have been away for so long that it feels slightly surreal to be back. I had been wondering for about a year what it might be like to be free from any stress of work for a prolonged period of time. Now that I know, I must admit to having mixed feelings, which I might discuss perhaps on another day. But I am not complaining! I have been very fortunate to have enjoyed an unbroken, month-long break. None of this would have been possible, had it not been for a number of key people who could be relied upon to look after the parish in my absence so that I could be free of any concern and easily so. I wish to thank all of them from the bottom of my heart! In particular, I thank Fr Paul Hilder who has been officially retired for a month but is yet to enjoy properly the leisurely freedom of retirement. I trust that by now he has been well and truly reacquainted with most of the parishioners at Regina Coeli.

One of the things which has kept Fr Paul busy over the past month has been the celebration of funerals, of which there have been quite a number. As far as I am aware, at first there was the most tragic death of a father who had two children under the age of ten. And then Val Green, who had hitherto been the most senior parishioner at Regina Coeli, passed away one month shy of 99. And then Sr Marie Therese Weeks, who had been a local resident until several years ago, passed away at the age of 93. Finally, Arthur Webster, a longtime acolyte who used to look after all things liturgical almost single-handedly, also departed from this world. It seems that November really has been a month of holy souls!

The first significant event upon my return has been to host Dr Robert Tilley who gave an Advent talk last Thursday. The idea for this event came about because, just before I left for my annual leave, it dawned on me that there ought to be more opportunities for faith-formation at Regina Coeli. To borrow some of the concepts from the talk itself, our faith has substance which is as real and solid as the coming of God in flesh as a baby. By contrast, what is of the devil is empty and insubstantial, although it can be replete with glamour, which can be rather seductive and addictive. Therefore, in order for us to resist what is of the evil one - what is false, pseudo or virtual - we need to be in contact with the substance of our faith, for the sake of which faith-formation is vitally important. I hope to organise a series of lectures in 2024 precisely for the purpose of providing faith-formation which has substance. Please stay tuned!

The next significant event, which is almost at our doorstep, is the Christmas Carols and Party (next Sunday)! A number of good people have been involved, including a new coordinator. All the updates upon my return have been promising. As I am writing this (Friday), the singers have just left the church after practising the carols. It looks as though we can look forward to another great parish celebration! Please sign up and let it be known that you wish to participate, if you have not done so already. I hope everyone does!

- Fr Peter -

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Fr Peter Kwak PP

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The Week Ahead

Sun 3 December First Sunday of Advent	8.30am Mass 10.00am Family Mass
Mon 4 December	No Mass
Tue 5 December	9.15am Mass
Wed 6 December	7.00am Mass 9.15am Whole School Thanksgiving Mass Outdoors
Thu 7 December St Ambrose	9.15am Mass
Fri 8 December Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	9.15am Mass
Sat 9 December	9:00am Mass 9:30- Adoration 9:55am & Reconciliation 4:15- Reconciliation 4:45pm 5.00pm Mass
Sun 10 December Second Sunday of Advent	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 4.30pm Parish Christmas Carols 5.15pm Parish Christmas Party

Recently Deceased

Arthur Webster, Maria Passeggio, Norman Shannon, Sr Marie Weeks OP, 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

Francis Law, 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: Lucita Lucerna, Betty Meaney, Monica Costa, Ronnie Gaudry, Steve Ghantons, Vincent Roberts, Lucy Blundell, Ryan Henderson, Dennis McInerney, Mary Patricia Hanrahan, Mitchell Morris, Brian Moore, Jo-

Rosary Statue
Katja Poolice
Ph: 0481 230 322



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

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
or SMS Gina: 0403 236 540
Want to donate food or help on the day? Please call!

All are invited to attend the Parish Christmas carols and party! For catering purposes, please RSVP on the signup sheet at the back of the church.

Also, 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.

Call Out To- Christmas Carol Singers and Musicians!

We would love for You to join us - So if you are a singer or musician and would love to be part of this years parish carols on Sunday 10 December @4:30pm please get in touch with Nat - nat_demel@live.com.au or Lauren - laurenlim650@gmail.com

Please note that there will be rehearsals on Friday 1 December and Friday 8 December commencing at 6pm in the Church. No experience necessary, just a passion for Christmas carols.

We hope to see you there!



Last Weekend 26 November 2023

2nd Collection \$1389.70

1st Collection	\$990.40
Cashless Giving	\$62

Attendance

5PM	99
8.30AM	136
10AM	171
Total	406

Nativity Play



Dear Parish community, we invite children who would like to be part of the Christmas nativity play for the **Family Christmas Vigil Mass on 24th December**. Please send an email with your contact number and details by Monday 4th December (rosetta.p@outlook.com). Also feel free to approach me at church or the school. There will be two practise sessions in the lead up to Christmas.

Thank you, Rosetta.

Christmas Wishing Well Appeal

As is tradition here at Regina Coeli, the St Vincent de Paul Beverly Hills Conference are to hold their Christmas Appeal to raise money for those much in need in our area. The ladies will be collecting after all Masses on the weekends of 9/10 December and 16/17 December.

Thank you.



Christmas Cards and 2024 Columban Calendars

The St Vincent de Paul Beverly Hills Conference will be selling St Vincent de Paul Christmas Cards & 2024 Columban Art Calendars from this weekend. Purchases can be made by visiting the Piety Stall, with money raised used to assist the needy in our Parish area.

Christmas Cards of high quality will be selling for \$5.00 for a pack of 10 cards. Columban Art Calendars, highlighting Solemnities, Feasts & Memorials, are selling at the bargain price of \$7.00 per calendar.



Mass for Expectant Mothers and those Hoping to Conceive

All expectant mothers and those hoping to conceive are warmly invited to come to 10:30 Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral on Sunday, 10 December, with an opportunity to receive a special blessing from Bishop Richard Umbers with relics of St. Gerard Majella and St. Gianna Molla.

Register before 1 December for catering purposes at <https://www.trybooking.com/CLMSM>

An Occasion of Common Lamentation and Prayer for Peace

Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP and Bishop Michael McKenna, Chair of the Bishops' Commission for Christian Unity and Inter-Religious Dialogue invites you to **An Occasion of Common Lamentation and Prayer for Peace**

Date: Wednesday 6th December

Time: 6:30pm-7:30pm

Location: St Mary's Cathedral

Family Event with Jason Evert

Jason's Evert's presentation of 'Purified' and 'Gender & Theology of the Body' brings parents and teens (13years+) together to discover God's plan for love and opens an opportunity to continue the discussion about this important topic at home with resources that work. Jason mixes humour with down-to-earth practicality, making the difficult conversations about love much easier, and ends with adoration, praise and worship, and an opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, transforming the day into a mini retreat for the whole family.

Date: Saturday, 9 December 2023

Venue: Patrician Brothers College Hall, 268 The Horsley Drive, Fairfield

Time: 9:00am to 1:30pm

Event fee: \$25 per person

For more information and to register for the event, visit:

<https://www.sydneycatholic.org/events/summer-series/>

First Reading Is 63:16-17; 64:1.3-8

Oh that you would tear the heavens apart and come down.

You, Lord, yourself are our Father,
Our Redeemer is your ancient name.
Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your
ways
and harden our hearts against fearing
you?

Return, for the sake of your servants,
the tribes of your inheritance.

Oh, that you would tear the heavens
open and come down
– at your Presence the mountains
would melt.

No ear has heard,
no eye has seen
any god but you act like this
for those who trust him.
You guide those who act with integrity
and keep your ways in mind.
You were angry when we were sinners;
we had long been rebels against you.
We were all like men unclean,
all that integrity of ours like filthy
clothing.

We have all withered like leaves
and our sins blew us away like the
wind.

No one invoked your name
or roused himself to catch hold of you.
For you hid your face from us
and gave us up to the power of our
sins.

And yet, Lord, you are our Father;
we the clay, you the potter,
we are all the work of your hand.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19 R. v.4

**R. Lord, make us turn to you, let us see
your face and we shall be saved.**

1. O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim
throne.

O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help. (R.)

2. God of hosts, turn again, we
implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has
planted. (R.)

3. May your hand be on the man you
have chosen,
the man you have given your
strength.
And we shall never forsake you
again:
give us life that we may call upon
your name. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Cor 1:3-9

The revelation we looked for, Christ Jesus our Lord.

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus
Christ send you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the
graces you have received through Jesus
Christ. I thank him that you have been
enriched in so many ways, especially
in your teachers and preachers; the
witness to Christ has indeed been
strong among you so that you will not
be without any of the gifts of the Spirit
while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus
Christ to be revealed; and he will keep
you steady and without blame until
the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus
Christ, because God by calling you has
joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and
God is faithful.

Gospel Acclamation Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.**

Alleluia!

Gospel Mk 13:33-37

Stay awake! You never know when the Lord will come.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your
guard, stay awake, because you never
know when the time will come. It is like
a man travelling abroad: he has gone
from home, and left his servants in
charge, each with his own task; and he
has told the doorkeeper to stay awake.
So stay awake, because you do not
know when the master of the house is
coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow,
dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he
must not find you asleep. And what I say
to you I say to all: Stay awake!'



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Today's readings contain several
images: the faithfulness of those
who suffer, even as they lament
their predicament; the admonition
to watch and wait; the expectation
of the coming of the Day of the
Lord. As trustees of the one who is
coming, we live in the 'in between'
time of ambiguity and hope. The
placement of these readings at the
beginning of Advent shapes the
context for understanding the
entire season. They fix our gaze on
the world of human pain and then
moves beyond it to the hope of a
brighter future. Lamentation and
expectation find fulfilment in the
Day of the Lord.

Waiting is a prominent image this
Sunday. Some people wait to be
released from suffering, others
await the second coming of Christ.
Waiting saps our energies and
stifles our enthusiasm. Yet wait we
must, and as we wait, we wonder:
'What should I be doing?' The
readings suggest that we should
wait with patient expectation for
the day of reconciliation and peace;
we should wait in joyful hope that
what is to come will come soon.
While we wait, we should faithfully
fulfil our responsibilities. We
believe that we have a future worth
waiting for, that there are promises
that God will keep. And so we look
expectantly to the Day of the Lord,
that future day of ultimate
fulfilment.

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