



Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



Weekly Newsletter

The Baptism of the Lord 12 January 2020

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



When I was growing up, before the internet revolutionised contemporary entertainment, watching a Hollywood award show on television used to be something to look forward to. That was a long time ago. Since then, I heard, viewership for such shows has plummeted and one of the reasons for this is that the shows have become less entertaining and more political. Besides, instead of sitting in front of television for three hours, it is now possible to watch the highlights on Youtube for much less time, which was what I did in regard to the 2020 Golden Globes.

What stood out of the highlight reel was the opening monologue delivered by Ricky Gervais - a British comedian/producer, no stranger to controversies - who was probably invited to host the Golden Globes for the record-breaking fifth time because of his appeal as a comedian who could be relied upon to say the "unsayable" in pursuit of humour. He was certainly controversial again this year, but more so than ever before by being politically *incorrect* (or so I thought). For example, after pointing out Hollywood's hypocrisy in being loudly moralistic whilst at the same time being complicit in corruption when profit-making (or career-building) was at stake, he said, 'If you do win a award tonight, don't use it as a platform to make a political speech. You're in no position to lecture the public about anything. You know nothing about the real world. Most of you spent less time in school than Greta Thunberg!'

So it was highly ironic that there was no shortage of political statements in the acceptance speeches that followed. Perhaps the best example of this was provided by Michelle Williams who won the award for best actress. She made the strange claim that her award represented a satisfying acknowledgment of the choices she made not just as an *actor* but also as a *person*! What choices did she have in mind when she said this? She went on to say, 'as women and as girls, things can happen to our bodies that are not our choice...I've tried my very best to live a life of my own making...And I wouldn't have been able to do this without employing a woman's right to choose.' In short, her acceptance speech sounded like a public confession of having chosen abortion for the sake of her career, on account of which she wanted to feel validated, even admired.

Unsurprisingly, the mainstream media outlets were quick to celebrate this as a "powerful" speech - a landmark moment - with the potential to galvanise female voters into rising up and consolidating once and for all the 'progressive project' which includes making abortion evermore "sacrosanct." But the media elite seemed to forget the simple fact that more *women* in the US are actually pro-life than pro-choice. Furthermore, not too many women in the real world were going to be inspired by an actress claiming to have won a golden trophy at the expense of her own child. But I am afraid that Michelle Williams - no doubt, a wounded woman in need of healing - might have bought into the false narrative of the progressive project, thereby making *true progress* more difficult for herself in more ways than one. Hollywood celebrities are people too who need our prayers

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- Fr Peter -

The Week Ahead

Sun 12 Jan Baptism of the Lord	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass
Mon 13 Jan St Hilary bishop, doctor	No Mass
Tues 14 Jan	8:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9:15am Mass
Wed 15 Jan	7.00am Mass
Thurs 16 Jan	8:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9:15am Mass
Fri 17 Jan St Anthony abbot	8:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9:15am Mass
Sat 18 Jan	9.00am: Mass 4:25pm Reconciliation 5:00pm Vigil Mass
Sun 19 Jan 2nd Sun in Ordinary Time	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass

Please pray for...

Recently Deceased

In Loving Memory

Kay Frances Zaronias, Jovito Canonizado

Please remember those who are in ill health especially:

Patrick Lim, Damiano Serravalle, Michelle Makin, Pat Johnson, George Dagher, Mrs Saba, Josephina Algozzina, Geraldina Civitarese, Pat Mortimer, Greg Weekes, Mrs Donald Burch, Mary Daniels, Geoff McDowell, Elena Mura, Mr TD (Terry) Wall, Kim Delaney, Mary Emery, Lauren Sotano, Sam Hy, Mary Sortwell, Georgia Brown, Luke Compton, Paul Camelotti, Anne Maree Michels, Slavica Markotic.

Life Ascending Meetings

Third Thursday at 7:30pm
Second and fourth Fridays after the 9.15 Mass.

Parish Secretary

Mrs Margaret Doherty-Brady
9554 8155
Tues 8:30am – 1:30pm
Wed & Fri 10.30am-3.30pm
Business Manager
Mr Peter Crawford

Sacramental Coordinator/ PSSO

Mrs Elizabeth Gooley
9554 8155
reginasacramental@gmail.com
Tuesday **and** Thursday from 11.30am - 3.30pm

School Principal

Mr Chris Egan
Asst. Principal
Mr Peter Busch
REC
Mrs Elizabeth Webster

For Families in Need

Are you experiencing difficulties in providing your family with those extra needs you hadn't expected, for example, uniforms, shoes, shirts suddenly too small or maybe sports gear, etc.? There are many ways in which we can help you, so please do not feel shy or embarrassed by your needs. We are just a phone call away, waiting to assist you. Confidentiality is guaranteed at all times. If you would like to chat with us just ring any of the telephone numbers listed below. God bless.

Anne 02 9759 2357

Joy 02 9150 4996

- *The Ladies Conference of the Saint Vincent de Paul Society, Regina Coeli Parish* -

St Vincent de Paul 2020 Columban Art Calendars

are available at the Piety Stall for \$7 per calendars. Good quality & value for money as well as assisting St Vincent de Paul Men's Conference in their work in the Parish area.

Catechist Required

Next year, our Parish will be in need of catechists for the following classes-

Year 5 & Year 6 Beverly Hills North Public School on Wednesdays at 11.50am.

Year 4 Narwee on Thursday at 10.05am.

If you have a little time and are interested in becoming a catechist or a catechist helper, please speak to Fr. Peter or contact the Parish office. Also, if you have a WWC check, you are most welcome to attend and observe a class with another catechist to see if this ministry may be for you! Training courses and teaching materials are provided by the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine.

Rosary Statue

Mrs R Carnevale

20 Mayfair Crescent

Ph: 9584 2310



Last Weekend 5 January 2020		Attendance	
		5PM	
		8.30AM	148
		10AM	169
2nd Collection \$1,885.55		Total	?
1st Collection	\$1,023.90		

Collection at all Masses next weekend (Australia Day) for the St Vincent De Paul bushfire appeal

Friends, the sad tragedy of the bushfires has impacted upon our Catholic community across the Archdiocese of Sydney in a very real way. A brave Rural Fire Service volunteer Andrew O'Dwyer was farewelled at a Requiem Mass at Our Lady of Victories Parish in Horsley Park this week. The parish is providing ongoing support to his widow Melissa and 19 month old daughter Charlotte and our prayers are with them. Amidst the devastation of the fires, it has been encouraging to witness the support of so many ordinary Australians, including so many men and women of faith.



While much of the response must be at a local parish and diocesan level, such a great crisis also requires a national response. Alongside my brother bishops across the country, I encourage you to donate to a special parish collection at Masses over the Australia Day weekend (25 and 26 January) through the St Vincent De Paul Society. Through this bushfire appeal, you can make a tangible difference in the lives of those affected, whether that be to cover basic clothing or the food bill for a family evacuated from their home. The support may also come through psychological counselling services for families left traumatised by the disaster or financial counselling as they struggle to pay unexpected bills. Together we can offer real comfort and long term support to families left struggling after the bushfires.

+ Anthony Fisher OP

Heartfelt thanks from the Chater Family

On the 14th December, the day of the Parish Christmas Party, my husband Glen had a medical emergency and required urgent surgery the same day for a large bowel obstruction. Needless to say, this was not only a shock but the immediacy of it caused total distress to our family. Throughout this time, we were spiritually supported by Fr, Peter, Fr.Greg and our many friends in our Regina Coeli Parish community. Glen is now home, making a speedy recovery, thank God. On behalf of Glen, myself and all our family, we wish to express our heartfelt thanks and deep appreciation for all your prayers and messages of support. We felt great comfort, love and support knowing we were being prayed for by so many.

On reflection of our recent experience, I couldn't help but think of the numerous parishioners in our parish community who suffer trauma and grief from the terrible realities' life throws at us. Some of you may not know anyone in the parish, due to various reasons. My hope and prayers for the future of our parish, is that everyone in our parish community feels connected and supported, especially during difficult times in life where this support is greatly needed.

On another note, I know the Parish Christmas Party seems like a distant memory, but as I was absent that day, I'd like to convey my personal thanks to Connie Taglini and everyone who volunteered to assist, during the day to set up and throughout the evening. I was confident that everything would run smoothly, as I know so many people give their time so generously to help make our Christmas gatherings a wonderful parish celebration. So, to everyone who volunteered, whether you had written your name on the helpers list or whether you just helped when needed, thank you and may God bless you.

Warmest wishes,
Rita Chater

First Reading Is 42:1-4. 6-7

Here is my servant, my chosen one in whom I am well pleased.

Thus says the Lord:

Here is my servant whom I uphold,
my chosen one in whom my soul delights.
I have endowed him with my spirit
that he may bring true justice to the
nations.

He does not cry out or shout aloud,
or make his voice heard in the streets.
He does not break the crushed reed,
nor quench the wavering flame.

Faithfully he brings true justice;
he will neither waver, nor be crushed
until true justice is established on earth
for the islands are awaiting his law.

I, the Lord, have called you to serve the
cause of right;
I have taken you by the hand and formed
you;
I have appointed you as covenant of the
people and light of the nations,
to open the eyes of the blind,
to free captives from prison,
and those who live in darkness from the
dungeon.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 28:1-4. 9-10. R. v.11

*(R.) The Lord will bless his people
with peace.*

1. O give the Lord you sons of God,
give the Lord glory and power;
give the Lord the glory of his name.
Adore the Lord in his holy court. *(R.)*
2. The Lord's voice resounding on the
waters,
the Lord on the immensity of waters;
the voice of the Lord, full of power,
the voice of the Lord, full of splendour. *(R.)*
3. The God of glory thunders.
In his temple they all cry: 'Glory!'
The Lord sat enthroned over the flood;
the Lord sits as king for ever. *(R.)*

Second Reading Acts 10:34-38

God anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power.

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.

'It is true, God sent his word to the people of Israel, and it was to them that the good news of peace was brought by Jesus Christ – but Jesus Christ is Lord of all men. You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.'

Gospel Acclamation See Mk 9:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

**The heavens were opened and the
Father's voice was heard:**

this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 3:13-17

When Jesus was baptised, the heavens were opened and the Spirit of God came upon him.

Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptised by John. John tried to dissuade him. 'It is I who need baptism from you,' he said 'and yet you come to me!' But Jesus replied, 'Leave it like this for the time being; it is fitting that we should, in this way, do all that righteousness demands.' At this, John gave in to him.

As soon as Jesus was baptised he came up from the water, and suddenly the heavens opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. A voice spoke from heaven, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him.'



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The baptism of Jesus inaugurates his ministry as the anointed one of God. The passage from Isaiah indicates the kind of messiah he will be. He will not exercise harsh justice, nor will he wield the sword of vengeance on the battlefield. He will be a servant, who, though mighty is gentle; one chosen by God, yet committed to the needy and the marginal; the Son of God who attends to the least within the community. The messiah of God may have come from an insignificant village like Nazareth, but he was anointed with the Holy Spirit and with power. The messiah of God does not conform to the expectations of a proud and self-absorbed society. Filled with the Spirit of God, he acts out of a gentle, compassionate spirit.

For whom did the messiah of God come? For those whom society discarded. He came for people who are broken and suffering, for those who are blind or imprisoned. He came for people who are so easily pushed to the margins – the homeless, the unemployed, the abandoned children, the helpless elderly, the mentally and chronically ill. He also came to people who, like Cornelius, do not belong to our inner circles, people who threaten us, people we might actually despise. He came for the strangers among us, those who have different cultural customs, those who worship in different ways. He came for people we have pushed out as well as for those we have refused to let in. The messiah of God came for all people without distinction.

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