Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney

Weekly Newsletter

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
17 November 2019

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
beverlyhillspriest@gmail.com

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The following is a reflection by one of our parishioners –Geraldine Zacka – on her recent pilgrimage to France and Italy. Enjoy!

I recently had the good fortune to participate in the Graces of France and Italy Pilgrimage which was organised by Sydney Catholic Schools. I would like to acknowledge Father Peter and Peter Busch the Assistant Principal of Regina Coeli school who both endorsed my application for the Pilgrimage. I joined 38 other pilgrims for this amazing trip and by the end of our time together we were well and truly friends for life. Our Spiritual Directors for this Pilgrimage were Father Michael McLean and Father Josh Miechels. Each day we gathered for Morning and Evening Prayer and our Masses were joyous occasions with amazing singing. Initially when the trip was advertised I was curious but not particularly interested but as time went on I was drawn into the idea of going to Lourdes and Assisi in particular. I realised that I had a yearning to go to these two places which are not usually on everyday tourist itineraries. Lourdes is a place you are called to go to and it did not disappoint!

Our journey commenced in Brussels, Belgium where we embarked on an extremely interesting tour of the Somme including Hamel, Villers Bretonneux, Albert, Pozieres and Amiens. Our Mass for the day was held at the Cathedral in Villers Bretonneux where an Australian flag was draped across the altar in honour of our visit and in recognition of the Australian Armed forces who sacrificed their lives to save the town from annihilation during the War. On to Paris where we stayed for 4 days discovering the beauty of the French Cathedrals, a visit to the Convent where St Catherine Laboure received the vision of the Miraculous Medal, St Vincent de Paul's resting place, Mass in Sacre Coeur Cathedral and a visit to the Louvre and the magnificent stained glass windows of St Chappelle. Time was allocated for some sightseeing which included a night trip to the Eiffel Tower, a Seine River night cruise and a walking tour of Paris. Mass was celebrated in the crypt of the majestic Cathedral of Chartres which was stormed by the German troops during the War, thinking it was occupied by the Americans! The Palace of Versailles didn't disappoint with its halls and ceilings rich with embellishments. Our guide told us of the suffering of the French and the inequality of the Class System prior to the French Revolution. The pace then began to slow as we boarded a train for Lourdes. This place is truly special and immediately on our arrival the spirit of St Bernadette was captured by all with prayer, Mass, reflection, Rosary and Reconciliation opportunities.

Our priests celebrated Mass in the main Cathedral in Lourdes and on the second day we were privileged to hear Father Michael say Mass in the Grotto. On that occasion the recessional hymn was Hail Queen of Heaven so I felt very connected to our Parish and our School! The underground Cathedral of St Pius X was an engineering masterpiece with a capacity of 22 thousand! Suspended around the walls of the Cathedral are the portraits of the Saints including St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, St John Paul ll, St Teresa of Calcutta, St Maximilian Kolbe (wearing the striped prison uniform of Auschwitz and of course St Bernadette to name a few. It was in Lourdes that I experienced the true meaning of Pilgrimage - a powerful journey of faith and prayer. I carried the prayer requests of many friends and family and sought intercession in this special place.

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The Week Ahead

Sun 17 Nov 33rd Sun in OT	8.30am 10.00am	Mass Mass
Mon 18 Nov	7.00pm	Anniversary Mass for Vincenza Oliveri
Tues 19 Nov	8:30am 9.15am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Mass with Year 5
Wed 20 Nov	7.00am	Mass
Thurs 21 Nov	9:15am	Mass
Fri 22 Nov	8:30am 9:15am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Mass
Sat 23 Nov	9.00am 4:25pm 5:00pm	Mass Reconciliation Vigil Mass
Sun 24 Nov Feast of Christ the King	8.30am 10.00am	Mass Mass

Please pray for...

Recently Deceased
Mary Pirotta

In Loving Memory
Jovito Canonizado, Donato Tozzi

Please remember those who are in ill health especially:
Michelle Makin, Pat Johnson, George Dagher, Mrs Saba, Josephina Algozzina, Genevieve Shedden, 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.

Christmas Wishing Well 2019

The St Vincent de Paul Ladies Conference will be collecting at all Masses on 23/24 November and on 30/31 November and on 7/8 December, for the Christmas Appeal.

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 -

A Day of Formation for New & Old Readers

This has been one of the things I have been procrastinating with, for a very long time! Finally, however, I have found a lady – Catherine Hilder from Sydney Catholic Schools – who is experienced in providing training for church-related activities such as reading. The occasion will not only provide our readers with the formation they will benefit from but also allow them to meet those who will become their fellow readers. All those who wish to become readers, as well as those who may have been doing it for a while, are warmly invited to what will hopefully be a meaningful, educational and enjoyable day. I intend to organize lunch for all of the participants.

Training for Readers, followed by lunch
When: 10:30am – 12pm on 30 November 2019
Where: Regina Coeli Parish Church
Please RSVP before 27 November 2019 for catering reasons: beverlyhillspriest@gmail.com or in person. If you are unable to attend the training session but would still like to become a reader, please let me know so that we can work out an alternative arrangement. *- Fr Peter -*

Rosary Statue

Mrs J Vincent
14 Warrawee Place

Ph: 9150 4996

Last Weekend 10 November 2019	
2nd Collection	**$2,057.20**
1st Collection	$1,111.15

Attendance	
5PM	
8.30AM	156
10AM	189
Total	**?**

The Candlelight procession was attended by thousands who flock daily to the Grotto and seek an answer to their prayers and pray for healing. Many pilgrims, myself included, were immersed in the baths near the Grotto - an experience I will not forget - life changing! Assisi is another special place and of course is where St Francis and St Clare rejected their privileged lives and lived simply in the service of the poor. The guide explained in detail the life of St Francis and we saw all the special places including the Cathedral of the Angels where Pope John Paul held a meeting of all world Spiritual Leaders during his Pontificate to pray for peace. The town of Assisi is so beautiful with its magnificent views over the countryside. Mass was celebrated in the Woods on a stone altar near the Hermitage where St Francis lived and worked. We attended evening Vespers at the Cathedral of St Clare where her body lies in state. There was a lock of her hair on display and the garment of hessian worn by St Francis!

Rome was calling us! We traveled via the Catacombs and heard of the early Romans and their burial practices. We stayed at Domus Australia during our visit to Rome and on the first evening I bumped into a familiar face - Father Paul Smithers! He was enjoying a well earned rest and was happy to see me and hear of our Pilgrimage. The pace picked up and over the next few days we saw the Vatican Museum, the Sistine Chapel, St Peters Basilica, Mary Major Cathedral and St John Lateran Cathedral. Whilst at St Peters we celebrated Mass and a Confirmation as one of the pilgrims had not been confirmed so Father thought there was no better place to have Confirmation than in the crypt of St Peters! The next day was special as we had tickets to attend the Wednesday Papal Audience in St Peters Square. We had very good seats and saw Pope Francis up very close as he was driven past our group. In the afternoon we had a tour of the Coliseum learning of the martyrdom of the early Christians. We also visited the Cathedral of St Paul Outside the Walls, a beautiful cathedral dedicated to St Paul. The last stop in Rome was a visit to Cavi under St Peters Basilica where St Peter's bones are said to be laid. The inside was truly magnificent with century old frescoes adorning the walls.

My Pilgrimage experience was something I will always remember. We were fortunate to be led by the very experienced personnel from Harvest travel and a representative from Sydney Catholic Schools who from the start emphasised that we were pilgrims , not tourists. We learned of the history of the Church and how martyrdom was so common, not only in Ancient Rome but during two World Wars, Revolutions and even in our world today. **- Geraldine Zacka, Pilgrim -**

Would you like to become a Catholic, finally?
Regina Coeli Catholic Parish will soon start the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Program (a.k.a. the RCIA program). This is what allows non-Catholics to formally become Catholics. It consists of a series of group sessions in which Catholicism will be explored culturally, intellectually and spiritually. "Already Catholics" who wish to gain a deeper understanding of the faith they profess are most welcome to join the RCIA program too. The journey will culminate at the Easter Vigil next year when new baptisms and/or receptions into the Church will take place, hopefully with a lifetime of spiritual adventure to follow afterward. Please contact Fr Peter for inquiries: beverlyhillspriest@gmail.com / (02) 9554 8155

My Installation Mass as Parish Priest will be celebrated by Bishop Richard Umbers on Sunday 1 December at the 10AM Mass. It will mostly be "Sunday Mass" as usual, with the Rite of Installation taking place after the homily, during which time I will be asked to renew my priestly promises, as parishioners pray for clergy. Then the bishop will ceremonially take me to all the significant places within the church (it turns out that this part cannot be omitted; as a matter of fact, it might even be quite meaningful!). Then I will be asked to make Profession of Faith and Oath of Fidelity in order to be, formally and finally, *installed*! Following the Installation Mass there will be morning tea in the hall to which all will be welcome! - *Fr Peter* -

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Cards & 2020 Columban Art Calendars will be available at the Piety Stall from this weekend.

Christmas Cards are $5.50 for a pack of 10 cards and Calendars $7.00 per calendar. Good quality & value for money as well as assisting St Vincent de Paul Men's Conference in their work in the Parish area.

The Annual Parish Christmas Party is going to be held on Saturday 14 December after the 5PM Mass.
It worked well last year to have the party on the carpark/school playground, and so we might do the same this year. Food, water, soft drinks, tea and coffee will be provided as usual. Some tables/chairs will be set up, especially for the elderly; others are encouraged to bring their own tables/chairs or picnic mats. For those who are able to, please bring a plate of dessert to share (but don't worry if you cannot, who wants a sugar-overload anyway?). Finally, the Jumping Castle - a big hit last year with children - will be back! Over the next several weekends, signup sheets will be placed at church doors for those who wish to attend, as well as for those who also wish to help out as volunteers.

First Reading Mal 3:19-20

The sun of righteousness will shine on you.

The day is coming now, burning like a furnace; and all the arrogant and the evil-doers will be like stubble. The day that is coming is going to burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, leaving them neither root nor stalk. But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness will shine out with healing in its rays.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 97:5-9. R. see v.9

(R.) The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice.

1. Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp
   with the sound of music.
   With trumpets and the sound of the horn
   acclaim the King, the Lord. *(R.)*
2. Let the sea and all within it, thunder;
   the world, and all its peoples.
   Let the rivers clap their hands
   and the hills ring out their joy
   at the presence of the Lord. *(R.)*
3. For the Lord comes,
   he comes to rule the earth.
   He will rule the world with justice
   and the peoples with fairness. *(R.)*

Second Reading 2 Thes 3:7-12

Do not give anyone food who refuses to work.

You know how you are supposed to imitate us: now we were not idle when we were with you, nor did we ever have our meals at anyone's table without paying for them; no, we worked night and day, slaving and straining, so as not to be a burden on any of you. This was not because we had no right to be, but in order to make ourselves an example for you to follow.

We gave you a rule when we were with you: not to let anyone have any food if he refused to do any work. Now we hear that there are some of you who are living in idleness, doing no work themselves but interfering with everyone else's. In the Lord Jesus Christ, we order and call on people of this kind to go on quietly working and earning the food that they eat.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 21:38

Alleluia, alleluia!
Lift up your heads and see;
your redemption is near at hand.
Alleluia!

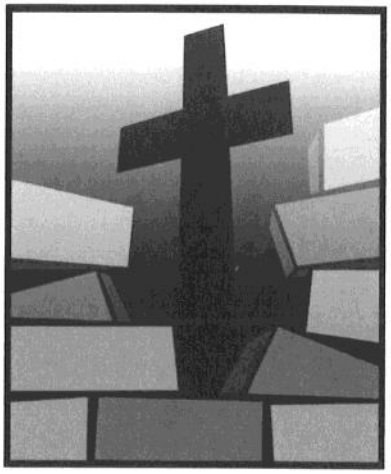
Gospel Lk 21:5-19

Your endurance will win you your life.

When some were talking about the Temple, remarking how it was adorned with fine stonework and votive offerings, Jesus said, 'All these things you are staring at now – the time will come when not a single stone will be left on another: everything will be destroyed.' And they put to him this question: 'Master,' they said, 'when will this happen, then, and what sign will there be that this is about to take place?'

'Take care not to be deceived,' he said, 'because many will come using my name and saying, "I am he" and, "The time is near at hand." Refuse to join them. And when you hear of wars and revolutions, do not be frightened, for this is something that must happen but the end is not soon.' Then he said to them, 'Nation will fight against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes and plagues and famines here and there; there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.

'But before all this happens, men will seize you and persecute you; they will hand you over to the synagogues and to imprisonment, and bring you before kings and governors because of my name – and that will be your opportunity to bear witness. Keep this carefully in mind: you are not to prepare your defence, because I myself shall give you an eloquence and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to resist or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relations and friends; and some of you will be put to death. You will be hated by all men on account of my name, but not a hair of your head will be lost. Your endurance will win you your lives.'



Reflection *by Dianne Bergant CSA*

The Day of the Lord was believed to be the time when God would come in majesty and power to set all things right. We must remember that the descriptions in today's readings are metaphoric or symbolic in nature. As with all metaphors or symbols, we miss something of their profound meaning if we merely understand them literally. It is not helpful to relate elements of the description with particular aspects of the contemporary world. Belief in the Day of the Lord is a way of testifying to our faith in the righteousness of God.

Although the narrative readings for today concentrate on the disruptions that will accompany the coming of God, they also contain hints of the salvation that will finally arrive. Malachi speaks of the sun of justice that comes with healing rays; Luke promises that the faithful disciples will escape without a hair of their heads being destroyed. Just as the descriptions of the upheavals should not be understood literally, neither should these descriptions. It may be that the faithful followers of Jesus will suffer terrible agonies. The point here is that even in the midst of their pain, they will be protected. The healing rays of justice and the rescue of the lives of the upright are references to salvation. God does not come at the end to condemn, but to save. Furthermore, the suffering that precedes the end is intended for purification and refinement, not punishment. Christians are exhorted to live in this endtime with patient endurance of difficulties.

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