



Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



Weekly Newsletter

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



The Presentation of the Lord 2 February 2020 Catechist Sunday

What an upset - the biggest of 2020 so far! No, I am not talking about tennis. Last weekend was a quieter than usual long weekend and a very hot one at that. I felt terrible having to explain at all the masses that there were going to be three (!!!) collections, with the third being a special collection for the victims of bushfire. I expected the total of all collections to be only slightly higher than usual, except, spread over three collections instead of two. Well, it turned out to be a weekend of stunning upset, especially for my skeptical expectation. The special collection alone raised \$5407.55!!! As you will see on page 2, even the usual collections were not bad for a quieter than usual long weekend! Thank you for allowing me to witness another proud moment in Regina Coeli's history!

On a different note, although I tend to think that too much is being made of the corona-virus (perhaps due to my own ignorance), the issue has been brought to my attention by more than a few people. It has been suggested that, as has already happened in some parishes, distributions of the precious blood of Christ be suspended at all Masses until further clarification/notice. Please understand and be extra mindful of staying hygienic! Should I wear a mask at mass? They have probably run out of masks anyway ;)

At the very start of 2020, I wrote, 'I wish to tell you an enthralling story - one of those stories you might never forget ;)' And then I proceeded to talk about the parish photocopier for the entire page! I apologise if my sarcasm at the time was not very obvious. This time, however, I really do wish to tell you, over the next few weeks, an important story - not sure about 'enthralling' but certainly *a story worth noting* - **about the "landswap" of 2017, what followed after and what might happen in the near future.** The reason for telling you the story is twofold: to inform and to consult. By 'consult' I mean that I wish to offer every parishioner a chance to contribute to the discussion. What I am looking for are views backed up with good reasons. In this way, I hope to ensure that all of the best reasoned views have been heard and that the final decision we arrive at will be meritorious and capable of withstanding the most cogent of counterarguments. So, here is the story:

On 31 May 2017, my predecessor announced the "landswap-agreement" in a letter which is still available on the main page of our parish website. The essence of the agreement was that a block of parish land - the "corner block" where the demountables are currently standing - was to be acquired by Sydney Catholic Schools (a.k.a SCS) for the purpose of expanding primary education. In return, the parish was to be given 7 Tarrilli Street and some money in the bank - enough to buy, let's say, a moderate house in Beverly Hills. By the time of my arrival in December 2017, something appeared to have changed: SCS acquired other properties in the vicinity of the school and changed direction in terms of permanent extension, thereby no longer needing (nor wanting) the corner block in the long run; what was given to the parish through the landswap-agreement was then preserved (more than 99% of it!) in preparation for, among other things, a possible reverse-landswap. More to come next week, please stay tuned!

- Fr Peter -

Pastoral Team:

Fr Peter Kwak PP

beverlyhillspriest@gmail.com

Parish Office Address:

5 Tarrilli Street

Postal Address:

PO Box 100

Beverly Hills NSW 2209

Telephone: 9554 8155

Email: reginaparish@gmail.com

Web: reginacoeliparish.org.au

The Week Ahead

Sun 2 Feb Presentation of the Lord	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass
Mon 3 Feb St Blaise bishop, martyr St Ansgar bishop	No Mass
Tues 4 Feb	8:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9:15am Mass
Wed 5 Feb St Agatha virgin, martyr	7.00am Mass 9:15am Whole School Mass
Thurs 6 Feb St Paul Miki & companions, martyrs	9:15am Mass
Fri 7 Feb	8:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9:15am Mass
Sat 8 Feb St Jerome Emiliani St Josephine Bakhita, virgin	9.00am: Mass, Adoration and Reconciliation 4:25pm Reconciliation 5:00pm Vigil Mass
Sun 9 Feb 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass

Please pray for...

Recently Deceased

Sr Mary Grant, James Harkin, Josephine Cockburn

In Loving Memory

Brian Burgess, Jovito Canonizado

Please remember those who are in ill health especially:

Beven Kelly, Ann Mc Dowell, Christopher McDowell, Damiano Serravalle, Michelle Makin, Pat Johnson, George Dagher, Mrs Saba, Josephina Algozina, 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/

PSO

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 Clothing Drive dates 2020

FEBRUARY	8
MAY	2
AUGUST	1
NOVEMBER	7

Please ensure bags are placed outside by 8:00am on the Saturday of collection. Bags should be visible from the street this will assist collectors which will be most appreciated. Please do not leave clothing bags at the Church or Parish Centre they will be collected from your home.

The St Vincent de Paul Beverly Hills Conference wish to thank our very generous parishioners for donating \$5407.55 to last weeks Bush Fire Appeal. All donated money will go directly to those whose lives have been greatly effected by the recent bush fires.

The Lenten program will commence on Tuesday 3rd of March after 9:15am Mass. If interested please contact
Sr Patricia on 9554 3227

Rosary Statue

Mr & Mrs M Inacio

7/207 Penshurst Street
Ph: 9534 4697



Last Weekend
26 January 2020

2nd Collection \$1,990.85

1st Collection \$987.45

Attendance

5PM
8.30AM 134
10AM
Total ?

Catechist Sunday.

Today we celebrate Catechist Sunday. During Mass, Fr. Peter will bless and recommission our catechists as they begin another school year. We also remember the deceased and retired catechists who generously gave of their time over the many years.

Presently, in our parish 10 catechists teach 147 children (2019 figures) in two local primary schools. We attend Beverly Hills North Public School on Wednesday mornings and Narwee Public School on Thursday mornings. The lessons run for thirty minutes. The curriculum, lesson plans and student activity books are provided. The Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) also runs courses to prepare and assist us with our teaching.

If you have a little time and are interested in becoming a catechist or a catechist helper, please speak to Fr. Peter, me 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!

Thank you, Elizabeth Gooley, Catechist Coordinator.

The “other” financial report

For the past two financial years now, annual parish financial report has been published (the last one on 18/25 August 2019, the bulletins of which you can view/download on our parish website). These financial reports relate to *SECOND COLLECTION*—the one which goes to the parish and supports its operations. But, as we know, there is another collection, namely *first collection*. What is it?

First collection (a.k.a. pastoral revenue) covers priest-related expenses such as monthly stipends, presbytery housekeeping/utilities, etc. But any *surplus* in first collection gets transferred to a central body known as Clergy Remuneration Board whose function is to manage a common fund and to support clergy who cannot be sufficiently supported by first collection in their own parishes.

From now on, the “other” annual financial report on *pastoral revenue* (a.k.a. first collection) will also be published each year. I am happy to announce that Regina Coeli is comfortably in surplus when it comes to first collection and I sincerely thank you for the fact that I am able to feel no concern whatsoever in this regard!

\$ Income	2018-9*	2017-8	2016-7
1st collection	64,486	64,026	64,687
Stole fees**	2,350	6,239	4,695
Dues***	1,864	5,289	1,629
Total	68,700	75,651	71,056

\$ Expenditure	2018-9	2017-8	2016-7
Housekeeping	6,064	9,828	24,218
Utilities	5,744	3,473	4,270
Monthly Stipend	21,290	36,075	47,868
Supply	1,375	2,050	220
Total	34,473	51,426	76,576

	2018-9	2017-8	2016-7
Surplus/deficit sent to the fund	34,330	24,225	-5,520

*Each year period is a financial year period

**Optional offerings to the priest at baptisms or weddings

***Easter and Christmas dues (the special envelopes for which I am not in the habit of putting out).

Next Weekend: 9 February 2020			
	Welcomers	Readers	Extraordinary Ministers
5PM	E Chipman, L&Z Rodriguez, Cheryl W.	Eliz M, Eliz G, Owen	Gloria, Regina, +2
8.30AM	Brian, Anne, Connie Campisi	Carmel, Judy	Katja, Liz, +2
10.00AM	M Payne, C Bills, Gloria	Josh, Kevin	Adriana, Kim, +2

First Reading Mal 3:1-4

The Lord whom you seek will come to his temple.

The Lord God says this: Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his temple; and the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire and the fuller's alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to the Lord as it should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will then be welcomed by the Lord as in former days, as in the years of old.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 23:7-10. R. v.10

**(R.) Who is this king of glory?
It is the Lord!**

1. O gates, lift up your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory! (R.)
2. Who is the king of glory?
The Lord, the mighty, the valiant,
the Lord, the valiant in war. (R.)
3. O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory! (R.)
4. Who is he, the king of glory?
He, the Lord of armies,
he is the king of glory. (R.)

Second Reading Heb 2:14-18

He had to be made like us in all things.

Since all the children share the same blood and flesh, Jesus too shared equally in it, so that by his death he could take away all the power of the devil, who had power over death, and set free all those who had been held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. For it was not the angels that he took to himself; he took to himself descent from Abraham. It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers so that he could be a compassionate and trustworthy high priest of God's religion, able to atone for human sins. That is, because he has himself been through temptation he is able to help others who are tempted.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 2:32

Alleluia, alleluia!

**This is the light of revelation to
the nations,**

and the glory of your people Israel.

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 2:22-40

My eyes have seen your saving power.

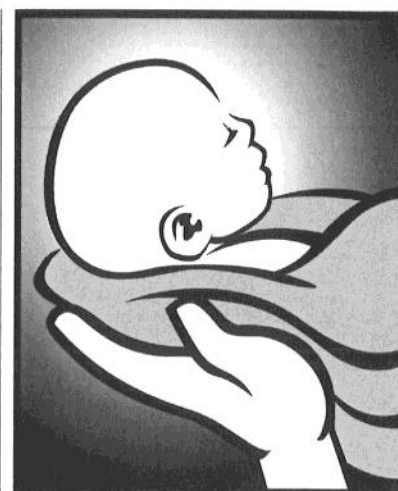
When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God, and he said:

'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace,
just as you promised;
because my eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared for all the nations
to see,
a light to enlighten the pagans
and the glory of your people Israel.'

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.'

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Traditionally this is the fortieth day of Christmas. Though the Christmas season closed with the Epiphany, the Presentation brings us back to some of the Christmas themes. The feast is on the edge, a kind of hinge between the seasons of Christmas and Lent.

The temple is not merely a building where believers gather to worship God. It is sacred because it is the dwelling place of God on earth. Therefore, the coming of God to the temple was always a time of great anticipation and excitement. It promised blessing and rejoicing.

The first reading declares that God will come to the temple in might and power. This coming will be terrifying. The sacred precincts have been desecrated and so God will come to purify it with fire and lye. This picture of purification is modified by the reading from the Letter to the Hebrews where we see that the purging and refinement are accomplished in the self-sacrifice of Christ.

It took the eyes of the old man and the faith of an old woman to recognise that the Lord had indeed come into the temple. Ritually, it was the child who was redeemed. In fact, it is the world that will be redeemed by this child. He is the light that shines in the darkness of the world; he will enlighten all people, Jew and Gentile alike. This feast shares the theme of universality so prominent on the feast of the Epiphany. The king of glory opens the portals for the entire universe to enter.

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