



# Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



# Weekly Newsletter

## Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time 8 November 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



What a week it has been! At first there was Melbourne Cup which turned out to be a close race. Then the real race started with the US Presidential Election which gave a whole new meaning to having a close race. An entire day was not long enough for finding out who the winner was. When I heard crowds cheering by the end of Wednesday it was because of State of Origin and not the election. The Biden numbers sprang up early, with the states where he was expected to win being declared almost immediately. But for anyone who looked more closely into the matter it looked as though Trump was almost certain to win, since he was leading in most of the states which were yet to be declared. And then it happened. Every time votes were counted late, they seemed to be overwhelmingly for Biden who defied the statistical odds and overtook Trump in the “battleground states.” Consequently, the Trump campaign announced that they were taking legal actions on account of foul play, particularly in relation to mail-in-ballots.

On the basis of corona-related-concerns, many states promoted mail-in-ballots in an unprecedented manner. Some states sent out unsolicited mail-in-ballots to all registered voters. Others made it easy for people to obtain mail-in-ballots without undergoing thorough ID checks. The fact of the matter is that, long before Election Day, there were huge numbers of ballots circulating in a nation where voting was not compulsory, only slightly more than half of all eligible voters used to care enough to vote and elections had been won or lost by razor-thin margins. Does a voting system become more vulnerable to fraud when unprecedented numbers of ballots are taken out of polling booths and allowed to go on prolonged journeys? One thing is for certain, if we thought that the state of affairs was messy over there (and over here by way of influence), then, unfortunately, it looks as though we probably ain't seen nothing yet.

Last Friday's Gospel reading was on the most bizarre parable about the Dishonest Steward. Jesus pointed out that the children of this world were more astute than the children of light. (c.f. Luke 16:8) But, in the parable, the master (presumably a godlike figure) actually praised the astuteness of the dishonest steward! Does this mean that Christians ought to become less “light-filled” and more worldly? No, but there is no merit whatsoever in being naive. Naivety seems only slightly better than negligence. Even Jesus said, ‘Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.’ (Matthew 10:16) Furthermore, being un-worldly or other-worldly is no excuse for being complacent or timid. People who are driven by worldly affairs can be incredibly creative, dedicated, passionate and even prolific. I used to notice in myself that I was easily motivated when self-interest or self-preservation was at stake, but not so when it came to *charity* - loving without expecting anything in return - which is supernatural and therefore empty of “fuel” without prayer, fasting, almsgiving, etc.

I wish to tell you about someone who had plenty of fuel and burned brightly within a relatively brief lifetime - one of our newest and most contemporary saints! Well, almost. Carlo Acutis was beatified on 10 October 2020 (at least one great thing has come out of 2020 after all!). What first distinguishes Blessed Carlo Acutis from most other saints is the fact that he was born as recently as 3 May 1991! He was born in London, UK, and baptised there, after which his family moved to Milan, Italy, where he grew up.

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#### 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 8 Nov 32 Sunday Ordinary Time		<b>No need to book for Mass!</b>
Mon 9 Nov Dedication of Lateran Ba- silica	10.30am	Funeral Mass for Vince Griffin
Tues 10 Nov St Leo the Great, pope, doctor	9.15am	Mass
Wed 11 Nov St Martin of Tours, bishop	7am 9am	Mass Adoration with children
Thurs 12 Nov St Josaphat, bishop, martyr	9.15am 2.00pm	Mass <b>Afternoon Tea</b>
Fri 13 Nov	9.15am	Mass
Sat 14 Nov	9.00am 9:25-9:55am	Mass Adoration & Reconciliation
	4:15-4:45pm 5pm	Reconciliation Vigil Mass (live-streamed on Facebook)
Sun 15 Nov 33 Sunday Ordinary Time	8.30am 10.00am	Mass Mass

## Recently Deceased

Vincent Thomas Griffin

## In Loving Memory

Holy Souls, Philip Spiteri, Georgia Spiteri, Jeanette Cardoz, Families: Almeida, Ferreira, & Pereira, Sr A Dele

## Please remember those who are in ill

**health especially:** Paul Kensey, Anne Kensey, Peter Peters, Monica Costa, Quang Vo, Matt Nugent, Bob Handerson, Bevan Kelly, Ann Mc Dowell, Christopher McDowell, Damiano Serravalle, Michelle Makin, George Dagher, Mrs Saba, Josephina Algozzina, Geraldina Civitarese, Pat Mortimer, Mrs Donald Burch, Mary Daniels, Geoff McDowell, Elena Mura, Mr TD (Terry) Wall, Kim Delaney, Lauren Sotano, Sam Hy, Georgia Brown, Luke Compton, Paul Camelotti,

## Rosary Statue Miss Betty Meaney



**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

## First Holy Communion

The Sacrament of First Holy Communion is to be celebrated throughout the month of November. **The children and their families will be seated in reserved pews at the front of the church (except at Sunday 8.30am).** Thank you for understanding that these pews will not be available for parishioners at these Masses. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers.

## The return of 1st collection

With the level of our 2nd collection almost back to normal, it looks as though our parish will no longer be eligible for jobkeeper subsidies. As satisfying as it's been to have a simpler form of collection at Mass with just one box, the time might have come for reinstating 1st collection via a second box.

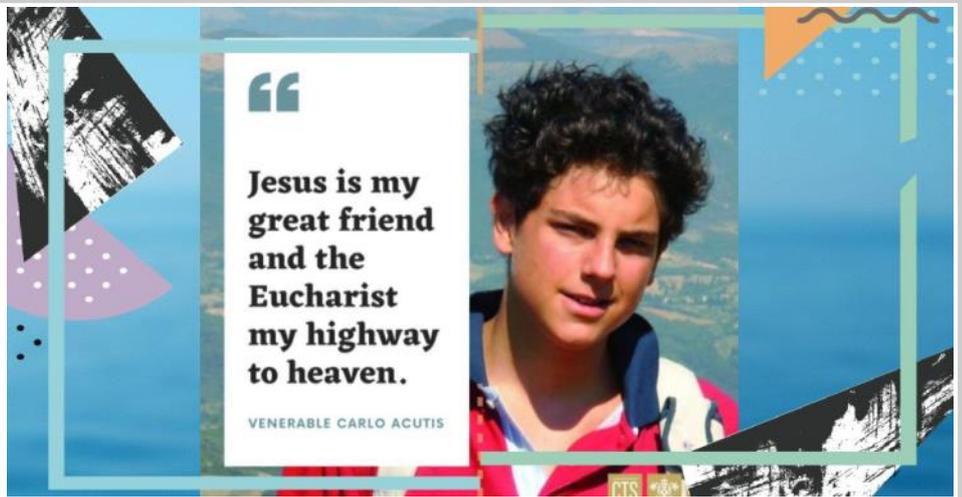
- ⇒ 1st collection looks after stipends and housekeeping for the priest. Any surplus then goes to a central fund in the Archdiocese known as 'Clergy Remuneration Fund.'
- ⇒ 2nd collection stays in the parish in its entirety and looks after all its operations.

Thank you very much for all your considerate and steadfast support!



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From a young age Carlo had a natural affinity with all things Christian, enjoying church visits and paying homage to Jesus and Mary. He looked so evidently at home in his parish church that his parents, who were not Mass-attending Catholics at the time, felt obligated to return to the practice. At the age of 7 it was determined by the parish priest that Carlo was ready to receive a hastened first holy communion. Thenceforth he attended Mass and prayed the rosary EVERYDAY, regardless of whether or not his parents



could accompany him. Carlo's mother said, '[Carlo] was a little saviour for me. Usually in families it is the family who passes on the faith. In my case it was the opposite. It was Carlo...I saw him as a bit like a father, an authoritative figure. Carlo had this authority given to him precisely because of his closeness to Jesus that one could see.'

Carlo wasted no time in trying to work out his own salvation with serious commitment. He tried to live in the presence of God at all times. Jesus was always his first priority. When asked about what he wanted to do when he grew up, he used to remark, 'Who know? But to be closer to Jesus that's my life's plan!' He went to regular confession and kept a journal, so as to grow in holiness without making excuses for himself. He said, 'What does it matter if you can win a thousand battles if you cannot win against your own corrupt passions? The real battle is within ourselves.' Upon receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation at the age of 11, Carlo became a catechist to help other children learn what he himself treasured with utmost devotion. He was saddened to discover that many children simply lacked any sufficient understanding of their faith, in particular the faith in the Eucharist which, for him, was a source of strength to live life with integrity. He said, 'The more Eucharist we receive the more we become like Jesus. So that on this earth we will have a foretaste of heaven.' He thought that the sacraments were like a 'fountain of mercy that enabled us to carry our sufferings.' Firmly believing that intimate familiarity with the Real Presence in the Eucharist would transform lives, Carlo set out on a mission to showcase the Miracle of the Eucharist.

According to his mother, Carlo was able to live the ordinary in extraordinary ways. She said, 'even the little things in life...computers, video games, football games...everything that was ordinary in the world he was able to turn into something extraordinary.' Although he enjoyed some of the things popular among young people, he also learned to exercise self-control. He was compassionate and encouraging to his peers without being overbearing. He had the courage to stand up for the weak and many were drawn to him on account of his pure and loving heart. Carlo was fascinated by technology and self-taught computer programming at the age of 9. Before too long he attained the computer literacy of a university student. He went on to set up a website dedicated to promoting Eucharistic miracles from around the world, such as the ones in which scientists were unable to explain how blood and living tissues could be emerging from *inside* consecrated hosts. The well-presented exhibitions created by Carlo are still being accessed and distributed by numerous pilgrims on the internet. Many have come to consider him an intimate friend through the faith he shared online.

Carlo suddenly fell ill at the age of 15 and soon received the shocking diagnosis of leukaemia. But he was not afraid. He told his mum that the Lord had given him a beautiful alarm clock with the heartbreaking news. Although in pain he did not complain, reminding himself and others that there were people whose sufferings were much worse than his. He offered his suffering for the Lord, the Pope and the Church. He said to his mother, 'Mama, I will like to leave this hospital but I know I will not do so alive. I will give you signs though that I am with God. I die happy because I did not spend my life wasting my time on things not pleasing to God.' The funeral Mass for Carlo was packed with those had been touched by the young teenager. Many intuited that he was exceptionally close to God and started to pray for his intercession. But how could a 15 year old have done so much to evangelise others in ways not even dreamt of by many adult Christians? Pope Francis wrote the following words about the young saint:

'He saw that many young people, wanting to be different, really end up being like everyone else, running after whatever the powerful set before them with the mechanisms of consumerism and distraction. In this way they do not bring forth the gifts the Lord has given them; they do not offer the world those unique personal talents that God has given to each of them. As a result, Carlo said, "everyone is born as an original, but many people end up dying as photocopies". Don't let that happen to you!'

Blessed Carlo Acutis used to say that our aim had to be the infinite and not the finite. He said, 'The infinite is our homeland. We have always been expected in heaven.' He certainly seems to have found his way home and one of the keys to the efficiency and fruitfulness of his journey was the Eucharist which he called 'my highway to heaven'!  
Blessed Carlo Acutis, *pray for us!*

- Fr Peter -

**First Reading Wis 6:12-16**

*Wisdom is found by those who look for it.*

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim.  
By those who love her she is readily seen,  
and found by those who look for her.  
Quick to anticipate those who desire her,  
she makes herself known to them.  
Watch for her early and you will have no  
trouble;  
you will find her sitting at your gates.  
Even to think about her is understanding  
fully grown;  
be on the alert for her and anxiety will  
quickly leave you.  
She herself walks about looking for those  
who are worthy of her  
and graciously shows herself to them as  
they go,  
in every thought of theirs coming to meet  
them.

**Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 62:2-8. R. v.2

*(R.) My soul is thirsting for you,  
O Lord my God.*

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;  
for you my soul is thirsting.  
My body pines for you  
like a dry, weary land without water. *(R.)*
2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary.  
to see your strength and your glory.  
For your love is better than life,  
my lips will speak your praise. *(R.)*
3. So I will bless you all my life,  
in your name I will lift up my hands.  
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,  
my mouth shall praise you with joy. *(R.)*
4. On my bed I remember you.  
On you I muse through the night  
for you have been my help;  
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. *(R.)*

**Second Reading 1 Thes 4:13-18**

*Those who died as Christians, God will bring to life with Jesus.*

We want you to be quite certain, brothers,  
about those who have died, to make sure  
that you do not grieve about them, like the  
other people who have no hope. We believe  
that Jesus died and rose again, and that it  
will be the same for those who have died in  
Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can  
tell you this from the Lord's own teaching,

that any of us who are left alive until the  
Lord's coming will not have any advantage  
over those who have died. At the trumpet  
of God, the voice of the archangel will call  
out the command and the Lord himself will  
come down from heaven; those who have  
died in Christ will be the first to rise, and  
then those of us who are still alive will be  
taken up in the clouds, together with them,  
to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay  
with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts  
as these you should comfort one another.

**Gospel Acclamation Mt 24:42. 44**

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Be watchful and ready:  
you know not when the Son of Man  
is coming.*

*Alleluia!*

**Gospel Mt 25:1-13**

*Look, the bridegroom comes. Go out to meet him.*

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: "The  
kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten  
bridesmaids took their lamps and went to  
meet the bridegroom. Five of them were  
foolish and five of them were sensible: the  
foolish ones did take their lamps, but they  
brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones  
took flasks of oil as well as their lamps.  
The bridegroom was late, and they all grew  
drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight  
there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here!  
Go out and meet him." At this, all those  
bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their  
lamps, and the foolish ones said to the  
sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil:  
our lamps are going out." But they replied,  
"There may not be enough for us and for  
you; you had better go to those who sell  
it and buy some for yourselves." They had  
gone off to buy it when the bridegroom  
arrived. Those who were ready went in with  
him to the wedding hall and the door was  
closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later.  
"Lord, Lord," they said, "open the door for  
us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do  
not know you." So stay awake, because you  
do not know either the day or the hour."



**Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA**

The early Christians thought that all  
their questions about death had  
been answered with the resurrection  
of Jesus. Therefore, when loyal  
Christians began to die, not only did  
their old questions come back, but  
also they were plagued with new and  
difficult ones. Was it possible that  
those loyal Christians had not been  
loyal after all? Or worse, were the  
promises made by Jesus empty  
promises? No! Paul assures us. It is  
all true. Christ has died; Christ is  
risen; Christ will come again, and all  
the faithful will be joined with him.  
*How it will happen, we do not know.  
When it will happen, we do not know.  
That it will happen, we are sure.*

The wisdom that we have culled  
from life becomes the treasury from  
which we draw the prudence and  
insight needed to negotiate life's  
paradoxes. It throws light on our  
strengths and on our weaknesses; it  
enables us to discern what is  
important and what is not; it directs  
us to bring extra oil in our lamps. Life  
and the wisdom that we have  
acquired through it, have taught us  
that we can indeed trust the  
promises of God. They have been  
fulfilled in the past, and wisdom  
assures us that they will be fulfilled  
in the future. It is wisdom that  
cautions us to be vigilant, to be  
ready to adjust our plans. It is  
wisdom that prepares us for the  
night watches of life. It is wisdom  
that instructs us to be ready at all  
times.

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