



Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



Weekly Newsletter

**27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
(Plenary Council Opening Mass)
3 October 2021**

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 roadmap to reopening is finally out! Hopefully it is reliable and there aren't too many surprises still lurking about. But will we be able to embrace "normal life" after having been climatized for so long to the milieu of lockdown? Of course, we can, but only with the help of God's grace! You might have heard that churches will be exempted from having to exclude the unvaccinated. This, I think, has been largely due to the clear stance taken by some of the religious leaders in NSW, especially our own Archbishop Anthony Fisher who said:

I would insist that Jesus is Lord of all, and his gospel is a gospel for all. A 'No Entry' sign at the door of the church is wholly inconsistent with the Gospel preached inside. Race, gender, ethnicity, age, education, wealth or health status (including vaccination) must not be points of division within the Christian community or barriers to communion with Christ Jesus.

I support vaccination wholeheartedly, especially for those who feel at the risk of suffering severely, even mortally, from the coronavirus. But it looks as though the virus is becoming endemic and there will be a series of booster shots, season after season, variant after variant, similarly to the manner in which flu shots are produced and distributed. Consequently, I am not sure that any society should rush into mandating a "never-ending" vaccination program against a virus which cannot be eliminated. At the very least, the issue needs to be debated patiently and transparently. After all, some might find their natural immune system to be more than sufficient, whilst others benefit greatly from the assistance offered by the vaccines.

I received my second jab this week. I am now what they call a "fully" vaccinated person, that is, at least for the time being. I have asked myself very carefully why, in the final analysis, I am happy to have been vaccinated. Here are two reasons. Make of them what you will. The first is 'solidarity' - something about the nature of my priestly vocation tells me that it is meaningful for me to share in what so many others are going through, both in good times and in bad. For this reason alone, I think that, even in the worst case scenario, I'll still have no regrets. The second is practical: I want to be able to "get on with it" and not be prevented from carrying out my priestly duties, for example, around hospitals and nursing homes. That's it! And I feel absolutely no animosity toward those who remain unvaccinated for good reasons of their own. In fact, I believe it's critically important for us to preserve, especially at this point in history, the freedom of conscience and the principle of subsidiarity (excessive centralization has a dark undertone, does it not?).

Speaking of "getting on with it," when will our beautiful church of Regina Coeli return to being what it is supposed to be, namely, a place of worship and prayer open to all? Churches being able to welcome everyone, regardless of their vaccination status, comes into effect at 80%, not at the 70% vaccination rate. So the Archbishop has made the decision (which I fully support) that our churches will officially reopen at 80% for everyone rather than at 70% only for the vaccinated. This means that **public Masses will be celebrated once again here at Regina Coeli around 25 October** and we have about three weeks to prepare for some heartfelt and meaningful participation in the celebration of the Eucharist! - 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

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| Sun 3 October 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time | 8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass |
| Mon 4 October St Francis of Assisi | No Mass |
| Tue 5 October | 9.15am Mass |
| Wed 6 October | 7am Mass |
| Thu 7 October Our Lady of the Rosary | 9.15am Mass |
| Fri 8 October | 9.15am Mass |
| Sat 9 October | 7.00am Mass 7.25-8.00am Adoration 9:55am & Reconciliation 4:15-4:45pm Reconciliation 5pm Vigil Mass |
| Sun 10 October 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time | 8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass |

No Public Mass During Lockdown



Frank and I were married on the afternoon of Saturday the 2nd of October 1971, at St Joseph's Catholic Church Narrabeen by Frank's uncle who was the Parish priest at the time. I recall it was a very windy and blustery. Now some 50 years later we have three beautiful children Michelle, Louise and Francis. Our family has grown across the years with the addition of in-laws, out-laws and ten grandchildren who are the light of our lives. Recently we have been told we will soon be great grandparents. Where have the years all gone? It only seems like yesterday that we were planning our big day and here we are 50 years later with children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren on the way. God has been good to us and we count ourselves most fortunate to count Regina Coeli Parish as our second home and the parishioners there as dear friends and companions on the journey. We have had some great parish priests.

- Judy and Frank -

Recently Deceased

Frances Finch, June Roebuck, Bradley Murphy, Bernie Langtry, Ron Sang, John Harnett, Patricia Hay, Luigia Zegarelli, Peter Peters, Christopher McDowell, Frank Capra


In Loving Memory

Barbara Chater, Bartolo Tesoriero, Frank Grima, Doreen Simmons, Roy Mitchell, John Bridge, Vanessa Succar, Rosa Germano, Fouad Attia, Jeanette Cardoz

Please remember those who are in ill health especially: Josephina Algozzina, Mildred Petit, James Ybasco, Josh Venture, Carmen Bajada, Anne Kensey, Monica Costa, Quang Vo, Matt Nugent, Ann McDowell, Damiano Serravalle, George Dagher, Mrs Saba, 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

Mr V. Cardoz
67 Melvin St.
Ph: 02 9591 9402



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| <p>Parish Secretary TBC 9554 8155 Tues 8:30am-1:30pm Wed & Fri 10.30am—3.30pm</p> | <p>Sacramental Coordinator/ PSSO Mrs Elizabeth Gooley 9554 8155 reginasacramental@gmail.com Tuesday and Thursday from 11.30am - 3.30pm</p> | <p>School Principal Mr Chris Egan Asst. Principal Mr Peter Busch</p> <p>REC Mrs Elizabeth Webster</p> |
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OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

7th October

Please join us for the livestreamed rosary this Thursday at 7pm via Parish Facebook page! <https://m.facebook.com/Regina-Coeli-Catholic-Church-Beverly-Hills-696738427074740/>

A faith story shared by Carmen Bajada

On the 8/5/1954 which was my mum Josephine's birthday, when she fell seriously ill. The next day - Mother's Day - she found herself in hospital and diagnosed with rheumatic fever.

Her main concern was her 5 young children (four girls & the baby boy only 13 months old) and, who would look after them for the 6 weeks she would be in hospital? My dad Spiro as a shift worker at Cockatoo Island couldn't manage this so he turned to our then Parish priest Father Patrick Kerwick in our Herne Bay settlement. Father Kerwick arranged for our care in the Convent at Brooklyn, and the baby with a relative. On the way to Brooklyn he took us to see Mum at the hospital and he gave her a special blessing and said not to worry about the children and said that he would pray for her. That same day mum turned to our lady and said "I promise I will light a Candle and place a Rose in your honour to your image for the rest of my life please help me to get well," she called her Our Lady of Sorrows because the little picture Mum had of Our Lady had tears in her eyes just as she did leaving her children. Mum did recover completely and so kept her promise to Our Lady.

On a visit to Malta to see their families the holy picture of Our Lady went with them. One day they returned from an outing to find the holy picture had fallen onto the candle flame and was burnt. Mum was devastated at the time, but learnt a lesson in Faith, for the following day they went to see the bomb on display in Mosta Church and as they approached the steps of the Church they saw the wind blowing a number of Holy Pictures around they both began to gather them and to their amazement there amongst them was the exact picture of Our Lady that had burned the previous day. 67 years later we still continue with Mum's promise to Our Lady in Mum and Dad's Memory.

Father Kerwick was a revered priest and whenever he visited us in the school huts in the settlement he was always surrounded by a sea of children and always had a huge grin and laugh with us . Some parishioners might still remember him God love him.

Malta WWII. In 1942 in Malta a German bomb went through the Dome of that Church in Mosta but never exploded and no one was hurt. On the day the detonator was removed my Dad was the driver for the Commander. The Bomb Disposal Officer said to the Commander and the Priest "the detonator was intact and there was no reason why it didn't explode," the Commander said "I'm not really a religious person but if I was to believe in Miracles I would start to believe in them now." That was the topic on the way back to Dockyard & Base. Dad said the bomb has since been removed and a smaller bomb is now on display in Mosta Church. The original bomb weighed 500 pounds.



Carmen was the girl on the top left-hand corner!



This Sunday all public (livestreamed) Masses are celebrated as Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit, to mark the opening of the Plenary Council of Australia. What is a plenary council? *A Plenary Council is the highest formal gathering of all local churches in a country. Our Plenary Council is being held so that we can dialogue about the future of the Catholic Church in Australia.* (From the website: <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/>)

As a matter of principle, I fully support the practice of being open, listening, dialoguing and collaborating (all of which are encapsulated by the word 'synodality') in order to better carry out the Mission. In fact, I believe this to be indispensable. Nevertheless, I am experienced enough to realise that true synodality depends largely on the integrity of those who are involved, especially the leaders. So, let's pray for them! Archbishop Tim Costelloe SDB, President of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia, will officiate at the Opening Mass of the Plenary Council to be celebrated at St Mary's Cathedral, Perth. This Mass will be livestreamed for the faithful at 11.00 am Perth time (2pm Sydney time) via the Plenary Council website: plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au

Alternatively, you can watch Archbishop Anthony Fisher do the same at St Mary's Cathedral, at 10.30am: <https://www.youtube.com/c/StMarysCathedralSydney>

Readings for the Opening Mass of the Plenary Council

First Reading (Deut 30: 10-14)

Moses said to the people: 'Obey the voice of the Lord your God, keeping those commandments and laws of his that are written in the Book of this Law, and you shall return to the Lord your God with all your heart and soul. 'For this Law that I enjoin on you today is not beyond your strength or beyond your reach. It is not in heaven, so that you need to wonder, "Who will go up to heaven for us and bring it down to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?" Nor is it beyond the seas, so that you need to wonder, "Who will cross the seas for us and bring it back to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?" No, the Word is very near to you, it is in your mouth and in your heart for your observance.'

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 18:8-11

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

The law of the Lord is perfect,
it revives the soul.

The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple.

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

The precepts of the Lord are right,
they gladden the heart.

The command of the Lord is clear,
it gives light to the eyes.

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

The fear of the Lord is holy,
a binding forever.

The decrees of the Lord are truth,
and all of them are just.

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

They are more to be desired than gold,
than the purest of gold,
and sweet are they than honey,
than honey from the comb.

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

Second Reading (Phil 2: 1-4)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians
If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead.

Gospel Acclamation

cf. Jn 16:13, 14:2

Alleluia, Alleluia.

When the Spirit of truth comes, he will teach you all truth and bring to your mind all I have told you.

Alleluia.

Gospel

John 14:23-29

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
Jesus said to his disciples:

'If anyone loves me he will keep my word,
and my Father will love him,
and we shall come to him
and make our home with him.

Those who do not love me do not keep my words.

And my word is not my own;
it is the word of the one who sent me.

I have said these things to you
while still with you;

but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit,
whom the Father will send in my name,
will teach you everything
and remind you of all I have said to you.

Peace I bequeath to you,
my own peace I give you,
a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you.
Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.

You heard me say:

I am going away, and shall return.

If you loved me you would have been glad to know
that I am going to the Father,
for the Father is greater than I.

I have told you this now, before it happens,
so that when it does happen you may believe.'

Prayer of Petition to the Holy Spirit

*We stand before you, Holy Spirit, conscious of our
sinfulness, but aware that we gather in your name.
Come to us, remain with us, and enlighten our hearts.
Give us light and strength to know your will, to make
it our own and to live it in our lives. Guide us by your
wisdom, support us by your power, for you are God,
sharing the glory of Father and Son. You desire jus-
tice for All, enable us to uphold the rights of others;
do not allow us to be misled by ignorance or corrupt-
ed by fear or favour. Unite us to yourself in the bond
of love and keep us faithful to all that is true. As we
gather in your name may we temper justice with love,
so that all our decisions may be pleasing to you, and
earn the reward promised to good and faithful serv-
ants, Amen.*