

COMPACT

St John the Apostle Parish

A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish

1st Sunday of Lent Year C

14 February 2016

#12.16

“To be on earth the Heart of God”

Parish Administration:

Pastor Gerard McCormick msc

Email: gerard@stjohnkippax.org.au

Associate Pastor Paul Browne msc

Email: paul@stjohnkippax.org.au

**Parish Manager/Pastoral Associate
Marian England**

Email: marian@stjohnkippax.org.au

Parish Secretary Sharon Greaves

Email: kippax@cg.org.au

Parish Office:

25 Blackham Street HOLT ACT

Office Hours: 9.00am - 3.00pm Mon-Fri

Telephone: 6254 3236

Fax: 6254 4819

Web www.stjohnkippax.org.au

MASS TIMES

Vigil Saturday 6:00pm

Sunday 8:30am, 10:00am, 6:00pm

Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri 9:30am

LITURGIES

Liturgy of the Word with Communion: Tues 9:30am

Baptisms: 1st & 3rd Sun 11:30 am

Reconciliation: Sat 11:00 – 11:30 am or by
appointment with the priests

PRAYER

Charismatic Prayer: Thursday 7:30pm

Maida: 0423 658 326 Rosary 7:00pm

Meditation [Library] Friday 7.30-8.15 pm

Morning Prayer: Mon, Tues, Fri 9:10am

Stations of the Cross First Fri Monthly 5:30pm

From the Pastor's Desk.....

The setting for today's gospel takes place in the wilderness where Jesus, led by the Spirit, goes to pray and fast in preparation for his ministry. For the ancients there was nothing romantic or attractive about the wilderness. It was a place of danger, deprivation, and was thought to be the domain of the devil. It was a place of testing, but it also could be a place of encounter with the divine.

By entering into the wilderness, Jesus reveals his solidarity with humanity. Although Son of God, he enters into our human story with all its struggles, in order to show us the way to life in all its fullness and richness.

I found the following words of James Healy, the first African-American bishop, a helpful meditation on this aspect of Lent:

Whether we gaze with longing into the garden or with fear and trembling into the desert, of this we can be sure- God walked there first! And when we who have sinned and despoiled the garden are challenged now to face the desert, we do not face it alone; Jesus has gone there before us to struggle with every demon that has ever plagued a human heart. Face the desert we must if we would reach the garden, but Jesus has gone there before us.

***Peace & blessings,
Gerard***

Sanctuary Renovations

The new sanctuary is currently being built off site and will be transported and assembled in the church. The demolition of the existing sanctuary was due to commence on Monday 8th February. But as you can see that did not happen. We are currently organising a new start date with the builder. At the time of writing we had not been given an expected date. As soon as we do we will inform you. We thank you for your understanding.

Demons

The temptations of Jesus are the same temptations that we face when we are inclined to think that somehow we are in control. While the goals of the temptations may be admirable – feed the hungry, bring the world under the control of good, trust in God's power to protect us – we often choose to accomplish them in ways that are less than admirable. We try to perform the extraordinary so that what we do reflects favourably on us. We use brute force in order to achieve control. We put God to the test rather than live peacefully with God's plan as it unfolds within and around us. We seek to become the super-hero, the super-minister, the super-Christian on our own.

Demons, Jesus tells us, are to be confronted in the desert. The desert is that place where one does battle with satan. Is satan, the devil, to be conceived of as a personified force, a fallen archangel, Lucifer? Or is satan a code name for that vast range of inner disturbances (addictions, scars, paranoia, fear, bitterness, and sexual wounds) that habitually torment us? Whether the devil is a person, an addiction, or a paranoia, in the end we still need to do battle at exactly the same place.

Paranoia is the demon of bitterness, anger, and jealousy. This demon fills us with the urge to be cynical, cold, distrustful, and cursing. Woundedness is the demon that tells us that our innocence and wholeness is irretrievably broken and that, for us, it is too late. The best we can do now is to take consolation in comfort, food, drink, pornography, drugs, or some such thing. Finally, the last demon in this family is that of joylessness, the demon of self-pity which tells us that joylessness is maturity, that cynicism is wisdom, and that bitterness is justice. This is the demon that keeps us from entering the room of celebration and joining the dance.

In his responses to the tempter, we see Jesus constantly deferring to the power of God: It is not by bread alone . . . worship only God . . . do not put God to the test. In a real sense, these temptations are a reminder that the fundamental temptation is to deny our human limitations and refuse to let God be God for

US. Resources used: Reflections by Dianne Bergant CSS & Facing our Demons in the Desert by Ronald Rolheiser OMI

Key Quotes from *Laudato Si'*

Pope Francis' encyclical on Ecology & Climate On Modern Humanity: Neglecting to monitor the harm done to nature and the environmental impact of our decisions is only the most striking sign of a disregard for the message contained in the structures of nature itself.

A Marriage Blessing on St Valentine's Day

*May the raindrops fall lightly on your brow
May the soft winds freshen your spirit
May the sunshine brighten your heart
May the burdens of the day rest lightly upon you
And may God enfold you in
the mantle of His love.*

St Vincent de Paul DOORKNOCK 2016

We are now half way through the Doorknock Appeal period and ***we still need another 70 collectors.*** The demands on our services has increased significantly since last year which puts a great strain on the resources of the societies .

Our target this year is \$20,000.00

and to achieve this we need more people to KNOCK ON doors, the greater number of doors we can knock on increases the resources which enable us to help the poor and marginalized within our community. Doorknocking is a great way of helping the poor and underprivileged in our area, if you can help please pick up a kit at the table in the foyer after Mass. In each kit has a guidelines brochure to enable you to Doorknock successfully.

The SVDP members would like to thank everyone for their prayers, donations and any assistance or support they have given to the doorknock.

LIBRARY NEWS: The Father of the family: a Christian perspective", "Picking up the pieces: helping young people cope with divorce and step-families" and, "Catholic married life" are three books on display this week.

JUBILEE OF MERCY

Corporal Works of Mercy

Listed below is the last in the series of practical suggestions for living the Corporal works of Mercy in everyday life.

The 7 Corporal Works of Mercy

- feed the hungry
- give drink to the thirsty
- clothe the naked
- shelter the homeless
- visit the sick
- visit the imprisoned
- **bury the dead**

BURY THE DEAD

Funerals give us the opportunity to grieve and show others support during difficult times. Through our prayers and actions during these times we show our respect for life, which is always a gift from God, and comfort to those who mourn.

- ✦ Send a card to someone who has recently lost a loved one. Make your own card and include a special prayer
- ✦ Visit the cemetery and pray for those you have lost.
- ✦ Spend time planning your own funeral mass, read through the Order of Christian Funerals and find our hope in the Resurrection.

MINISTRY EXPO

Stewardship

Time, Talent, Treasure

There are 3 steps to this process.

1. Information weekend 27/28 Feb
Where: Church Foyer
2. Thurs 3 Mar: Discernment Evening
Facilitator: Liz Anne Smith
Where: Parish Church
3. Commitment Sunday 5/6 March

The aim of the Ministry Expo is to attract and encourage all parishioners to volunteer for various liturgical ministries. The cultural diversity of the parish is changing and we want to encourage all parishioners to participate in ministry and fulfil their baptismal covenant.

COMBINED CHOIR FOR EASTER



All singers and musicians are welcome to join the Easter Choir. We will sing on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil.

Practice starts on 17 February in the church at 7:00pm.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB

We are reading

"A Spool of Blue Thread"

By Anne Tyler

Sunday 21 February 3:00 pm Parish Library.



LENTEN PRAYER GROUPS - *Mercy*

If you are interested in joining a Lenten Prayer group there are two groups meeting in the parish; **Monday and Tuesday mornings 10:00am**. Alternatively, you may like to use the resource for your individual prayer during lent. Books are available for purchase from the bookstore. Cost: \$8:00.

RECYCLING - If you would like to recycle your printer cartridges or household batteries and have trouble getting to a recycling station, you can now leave either at the parish; the social justice committee will pass them on to recycling for you. Just leave your goods in the red labelled container in the corner of the foyer. Thank you all for your cooperation.

A night at Caritas Kitchen

Featuring African & Italian Food

Guest Speaker: Martin Mazinga

Tuesday – 16 February at 6pm

The Rheinberger Conference Centre

Supper provided: Donations Welcome

RSVP: 15 February

Contact: Lulu Mitshabu 0437 295 327 or

lulum@caritas.org.au

2016 – DATES FOR YOU CALENDAR

- | | |
|---|---|
| 17 th Feb: | Second Formation Evening for the Sacrament of Penance |
| 18 th Feb | English Conversation with Refugees – 10:00am |
| 19 th Feb | Stations of the Cross 5:30pm |
| 20 th /21 st Feb: | Presentation Masses for the Sacrament of Penance |
| 23 rd Feb | Women's Breakfast |
| 24 th Feb | Over 45's 9.30am RCIA 7.00pm |
| 26 th Feb | Stations of the Cross 5:30pm |
| 28 th Feb | Ministry Expo |

ROSTERS

21 Feb Ministers of Communion

6:00pm	Joy McInerney, Trevor Williams, Barbara Witrzens, Laurine & Daryl Smeaton
8:30 am	Janet Almond, Jean Tierney, Margaret Conlon, Pat Cowburn, Clyde Sloan
10:00am	Marie Flint, Colin Fox, Helen Druett, Erin Pitt, Maida Kajkic
6:00 pm	Peter Polkinghorne, Brian Mahony Jacinta Le, Robert & Mary Sharf

Reading Roster

6:00pm	Jim Jones, Mindalesia Jones
8:30 am	Violet Duve, Sigrid Kropp
10:00am	Children's Mass
6:00 pm	Meg Millband, Matthew Toohey

Hospitality Roster

6:00pm	Mary Barrett
8:30 am	Norma & Clyde Sloan
10:00am	Cass & Jason Pepper
6:00 pm	Brian Mahony

Other Rosters

- 15 Feb **Altar Society** Mary Cruickshank
 15 Feb **Church Cleaning:** John & Jenny Maher
 20 Feb **Presbytery Cleaning:** Maresa Laird, Meg Millband, Pat Cowburn, Sabina Van Rooy, Linnie Traynor
 21 Feb **Counting Roster:** Therese Kercher, Matthew Toohey
 20 Feb **Grounds:** David Pigram, Rob Caskie, Matthew Garton

School of Religion: – 9.15 am-10.00 am
 Sundays Parish Centre (School Term Only)
 For children not attending a Catholic School



Hearing Loop: - We have a hearing loop in the body of the church. To access it turn your hearing aid to the T-Switch setting.

On A Lighter Note:



Playing
 Transcendental hide and seek.
 Count down from 60 and then...
 try to find yourself.

Let us pray for those who are sick.
We remember them in our Masses.

Recently Deceased: John Maher (husband of Jan) Peter Julian Moore, former Director of the Catholic Educations Office (1976-1988).

A Funeral Mass for the repose of the soul of Peter will be offered at *St Thomas Aquinas Church, Charnwood, commencing at 11am, Monday, 15 February.*

Anniversary: Robert Galliano, Rene Stubbs, George Griffiths, Trent Foster, Glenn Foster, Nellie Bannon, Henry Moulis, Edward Blake-Smith, Philip Babic, John Thompson, Raychell Nolan, David Lowe, Charlotte Lansdown, Ian Bransby, Odina Finzi, Giuseppe Mammoliti, Vincas Puzas, Judith Hickey, Rodney Chapman, Rudi Meyer, James Wiley, Johanna Garratt, Reg Lazaro

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

Be with me, Lord,
 when I am in trouble.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL IN A NUTSHELL

The three temptations Jesus faces all focus upon the nature of his mission and ministry. The first temptation is to miraculously feed himself – is his ministry to be about himself or others? The second is to take power and authority over all the world – to fulfil the human expectations of what a Messiah ought to be or fulfil God's plan of service, rather than domination? The third temptation is about grandstanding – to make a spectacular declaration of his arrival or to minister to the lowly and reveal himself in that way?

The 40 days that Jesus spent praying and preparing in the wilderness is reflected in the season of Lent that lasts 40 days from Ash Wednesday until the day before Easter Sunday (not counting Sundays in the season). It has been traditional that during the time of Lent Christian people renew their efforts in prayer, fasting and almsgiving. All three of these practices are actions of preparation. Just as Jesus prepared for his ministry in the wilderness, so too is Lent an opportunity for us to be deliberate about our reflection on what we are called to do in this world.

Resources used: Greg Sunter at LiturgyHelp.