

COMPACT

St John the Apostle Parish

A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish

2nd Sunday of Lent Year C

21 February 2016

#13.16

“To be on earth the Heart of God”

Parish Administration:

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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.....

In the opening lines of today's gospel we read:

“Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray.”

However, it turns out that Jesus is the only one who *does* pray. The others fall asleep, presumably overcome by the exertions of a steep and strenuous climb.

During this season of Lent we are encouraged to pray more. But often we are like the apostles – we are just too tired to pray. With the hectic pace of life, constant demands on our time, and the all-too-many schedules, it becomes difficult to find the time and space necessary for prayer.

Yet prayer is essential for our wellbeing; without it something is lacking in our lives. When way of understanding prayer is that prayer opens us to God's transforming grace.

***Peace & blessings,
Gerard***

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.

Love & Transfiguration

An American Jesuit theologian, John Powell, tells the story of a young man named Tommy who was the resident atheist during one of his courses in the Philosophy of God at Loyola University in Chicago.

At the end of the course while he was turning in his final paper, Tommy said to Fr Powell, 'Do you think I will ever find God?' 'No', Powell replied bluntly, but as he walked away he continued, 'But I think God will find you'. Tommy kept walking.

Years later, Tommy returned to see John Powell to tell him that he had been diagnosed as having terminal cancer. More than ever, Tommy said, he wanted to find God or to be in the right place at the right time to be found by God. John Powell told Tommy to go and tell the people that he most loved in the world that he loved them.

Within a week Tommy reported to John Powell that in the midst of doing this he had a genuine and significant encounter with God. They had found each other. Tommy died three months later. John Powell reports that the only way to describe the final three months of Tommy's life was to say that, whatever happened to him in the process of telling others he loved them, he was transfigured by God.

The Transfiguration is no mountaintop light show. In borrowing heavily from similar stories in the Old Testament, it describes, in a dramatic way, how loved Jesus was by God and how this experience was seen and known by his disciples.

So often we hear people deny the existence of God. These readings show us that if you want to encounter God then you have to experience love. St John says, 'The one who says they love God, yet they hate their brother or sister, is a liar.'

The problem with love is that we have devalued the currency. We say 'I love you' to people we don't love and because we have learnt that actions are more telling than words we don't easily believe others when they tell us they love us.

God loves us as we are, not as we like to be. As the old saying goes, 'you don't have to get good to get God. Nothing we do stops God from loving us.'

Resources used: Ronald Rolheiser OMI

Key Quotes from *Laudato Si'*

Pope Francis' Encyclical on Ecology & Climate

On A Universal Communion: "Everything is related, and we human beings are united as brothers and sisters on a wonderful pilgrimage, woven together by the love God has for each of his creatures and which also unites us in fond affection with brother sun, sister moon, brother river, and mother earth."

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

At the masses this weekend we will welcome the parish children preparing to receive the Sacrament of Penance. The children will hand out their prayer cards asking a parishioner to pray for them during this preparation time.



May they continue to grow in faith and recognise Gods forgiveness and love.

GOOD FRIDAY

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

If you are interested in participating in the Good Friday - Stations of the Cross, contact the Parish Office on 6253 3236 or Kippax@cg.org.au.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB

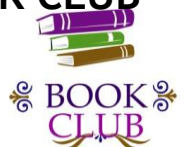
We are reading

"A Spool of Blue Thread"

By Anne Tyler

Sunday 21 February

3:00 pm Parish Library.



**ST JOHN THE APOSTLE
WOMEN'S BREAKFAST CLUB**

The next breakfast is:

TUES 23 February- 7:30 am

Little Chef Café

Nettlefold Street Belconnen

Answer: As the water rises, so does the rope ladder
The water will never cover the rung.

LIBRARY NEWS: This week we are displaying a few of our psychology books including "The Life Fact" and "The Tao of Chaos"

JUBILEE OF MERCY

THE SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY

The Spiritual Works of Mercy have long been a part of the Christian tradition, appearing in the works of theologians and spiritual writers throughout history. Just as Jesus attended to the spiritual well-being of those he ministered to, these Spiritual Works of Mercy guide us to "help our neighbour in their spiritual needs"

The seven Spiritual Works of Mercy are:

- ✦ Counselling the Doubtful
- ✦ Instructing the Ignorant
- ✦ Admonishing the Sinner
- ✦ Comforting the Sorrowful
- ✦ Forgiving Injuries
- ✦ Bearing Wrongs Patiently
- ✦ Praying for the Living and the Dead

Everyone has moments of doubt in their faith journey. Nevertheless, we should always remember that Christ is the Way, the Truth, and the Life and turn to him along our way.

- Listen to counsel and receive instruction, that you may eventually become wise" Prov. 19:20.
- Follow Christ with the witness of your life so that others may see God's love revealed in your actions

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.

Kitchen Table Conversations

Join small parish groups to discuss the Bishop's Social Justice Statement 2015-2016, *"For those Who've Come across the Seas - justice for asylum seekers and refugees"*. Come to the training and information evening
When: Monday 29 Feb 7.30 - 9pm
Where: Rheinberger Centre, Yarralumla.
Contact Cath Blunt on 62911827 0431 451622

St. Thomas More Forum:

Date: Wednesday, 24 February, 7:30pm,
Topic: 'The death penalty in the world today, and the execution of Thomas More'.
Presenter: Julian McMahon, Barrister, President of Reprieve Australia and Board Member of Jesuit Social Service.
Tickets: Online \$12, Online Concession \$5 pay at the door \$14, Concession \$6.
Contact: Sharon Brewer, 6163 4300

SVDP DOORKNOCK 2016

Two more weeks to go.

You can Door knock from 10am to 7pm any day up to and including the 28th February 2016. At present we have 60% of our 162 area's covered, but **we desperately need more volunteer collectors**. The vacant area's needing a collector If doorknocked would return approximately \$9750.00. This amount would go a long way in assisting the poor and marginalized in our community. If you can help please see one of the SVDP members at the tables in the foyer and we can supply you with a kit. Kits can be returned before or after any mass this weekend or next.

A big **THANK YOU** to everyone who has helped in any way with this year's Doorknock

St Vinnies Veggie Run Vacancy

We have two vacancies for the St Vinnies Veggie Run. Sunday evenings at Belconnen Markets for about one hour. Collect surplus fruit, veggies and bread, pack boxes and deliver them to 4 or 5 families in our local area. Work in a team with one other volunteer. Easy! Contact Michael Blyth if you can help – 0419818410.

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 Wednesdays in the church at 7:00pm.



2016 – DATES FOR YOU CALENDAR

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
3 rd Mar	English Conversations 10:00am
	Ministry Discernment Night 7:00pm
4 th Mar	Stations of the Cross 5:30pm
5 th /6 th Mar	Ministry Commitment Days

ROSTERS

28 Feb Ministers of Communion

6:00pm	Judy Netting, Marie McKie, John Drury, Maresa Laird, Judy Mewburn
8:30 am	Ljiljana Argy, Violet Duve, Ted & Clare Kell, VACANT
10:00am	Anthony Pitt, Ann Reynolds, Libby Costello, Rachel & Marissa Blackwell
6:00 pm	Margaret McMahon, Judith Deklin, Matthew Toohey, VACANT, VACANT

Reading Roster

6:00pm	Marie Murphy, Elaine Laycock
8:30 am	Carmel Screen, Shane Murtagh
10:00am	Louise Honan, Joe Ots
6:00 pm	Marian Crowley, Andrew Luck

Hospitality Roster

6:00pm	Marie McKie
8:30 am	Margaret Ohlin, Kay Dwyer
10:00am	Judy Kenny, Mark McMahon
6:00 pm	Judith Deklin

Other Rosters

- 22 Feb **Altar Society** Gabrielle Culhane
22 Feb **Church Cleaning:** Needs Assistance
5 March **Presbytery Cleaning:** Margaret Ohlin, Maryanne Ferguson, Margaret Sheehan, Ann Clementine, Lynette Weaver
28 Feb **Counting Roster:** Kay Dwyer, Joseph Lai, Trevor Williams
27 Feb **Grounds:** Needs Assistance

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: Riddle

Not far off shore a ship stands with a rope ladder hanging over her side. The rope has 10 rungs. The distance between each rung is 12 inches. The lowest rung touches the water. The ocean is calm. Because of the incoming tide, the surface of the water rises 4 inches per hour. How soon will the water cover the third rung from the top rung of the rope ladder?

Answer can be found somewhere in Compact

✠ Let us pray for those who are sick.

We remember them in our Masses. ✠

**Recently Deceased: Carmel Page
Tom Byrne (brother of Dawn Spencer)**

Anniversary: *Giuseppe Mammoliti, Vincas Puzas, Judith Hickey, Rodney Chapman, Rudi Meyer, James Wiley, Johanna Garratt, Reg Lazaro, Ivan Mikulic, Angeles Arranz, Lillian Luke, Elena Zamora, Adrian Newton, Adrienne Stewart, Ashley Kent, Hayden Ricketts, James McKay, Dorothy Jeffrey, Leo McDonald, Rachael Netting, Francisca Benedictos, Sharon Williams, Ian Coffill, Evelyn Swaris*

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL IN A NUTSHELL

In all three versions of this Transfiguration event that appear in the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, the context in which the event occurs is identical. That's a little unusual with these three gospel writers who like to put their own spin on events and often play with the chronology or settings of events. However, in this case, all three writers report the Transfiguration event as taking place immediately after a particular sequence of events. Jesus has asked the disciples who they think he is and Peter has made his confession of faith by declaring that Jesus is the Messiah. This declaration is followed by Jesus teaching about the demands of discipleship and then the account of the Transfiguration. When all three of the synoptic gospels use the same story with little variation and all three retain the same context around the event then there are some pretty clear signals that this was a commonly accepted sequence of events and their sequence holds significance. The core message of this sequence of stories is about the faith of the disciples. The following failure by the disciples to cast out a demon shows that they still haven't understood fully who and what Jesus is. What a great reading for the season of Lent!

Resources used: Reflection by Greg Sunter at LiturgyHelp