

COMPACT

St John the Apostle Parish

A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish

5th Sunday of Lent Year C

13 March 2016

#16.16

“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 today's gospel the focus is not on the woman and her sin of adultery, but rather on the encounter with Jesus. In this dramatic scene the callousness of the crowd is countered by the compassion and mercy of God made manifest in Jesus.

The woman is used by the Pharisees and scribes merely as a prop in order to undermine Jesus' authority. However, it is they themselves who are outwitted and are forced to acknowledge their own sinfulness. All of us are sinners. It is through the encounter with Jesus that we experience the liberating love of God that sets us free.



Thursday's Canberra Times reported that more than twenty churches in Canberra of various denominations are displaying the banner "Refugee lives matter". I am pleased to say that our church is one of those. Kippax has had a long history of assisting and advocating for refugees and please God this will continue. The plight of refugees throughout the world is on such a scale that it threatens to overwhelm us. The temptation is to build walls of indifference. This can never be the Christian response.



I recommend Archbishop Christopher's letter titled "Healing medicine: Collective responsibility." Copies are available in the church foyer; also see the Archbishop's column in the latest issue of the *Catholic Voice*. Related to this topic is the film *Spotlight* which has generated much interest.

The Vatican paper *Osservatore Romano* gave its view on this film and said that "the film is not anti-Catholic, as has been written, because it manages to voice the shock and profound pain of the faithful confronting the discovery of these horrendous realities".

***Peace & blessings,
Gerard***

Weekly Reflection:

True Freedom

If there is a common thread running through the readings this Sunday, I think it would consist in that each in some way reveals that the primary intent of God with respect to human beings is to set them free – to call them out of the various captivities in which they find themselves into what Paul called 'the glorious freedom of the children of God' (Rom 8:21). Giving away freedom is what makes us free, just as jealously hoarding it is the ultimate enslavement.

Freedom remains always the greatest gift that God has given us, even though we don't always use it maturely. Jesus came to bring us freedom. But it's easy to lose that perspective. We've all hurt others and ourselves through the misuse of our freedom. We need to grow in maturity so as to more properly honour the great gift of freedom that we have been given.

Our model here is Jesus. Nobody has walked this earth as freely as he did. But he also had the maturity to carry such great freedom without ever misusing it. If we can believe the gospels, Jesus wasn't afraid of anything – satan, temptation, tax collectors, prostitutes, street people, rich people, poor people, church people, non-church people, moral people, and immoral people.

A subtle point about the episode in today's gospel is that Jesus never actually looks at the woman while she is the subject of accusation. Jesus' concern is to rescue the woman from her terrible plight and set her free for a new life: Jesus says to her and to us 'Go and sin no more.'

Resources used: *Reflection*, by Brendan Byrne SJ at LiturgyHelp and *Needed: A New Maturity to Match our Freedom*, by Ronald Rolheiser OMI

Key Quotes from *Laudato Si'*

Pope Francis' Encyclical on Ecology & Climate

Like his predecessor, Saint John Paul II, Francis calls us to a "global ecological conversion": "We need only take a frank look at the facts to see that our common home is falling into serious disrepair. Hope would have us recognize that there is always a way out, that we can always redirect our steps, that we can always do something to solve our problems."

LENT

SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION:

St Thomas Charnwood

Thursday 17 March - 7:30pm



Sacrament of Penance: *We pray for the children preparing to receive the Sacrament of Penance. The children will receive the Sacrament on Thursday 17th March. May they continue to grow in faith and recognise God's forgiveness and love.*

HOLY WEEK

Holy Thursday: 24 March

No 9.30am Mass

Mass of the Last Supper 7:00 pm

Please bring bells to ring during the Gloria

Prayers at the Altar of Repose:

Concluding with night prayer 10:00 pm

Good Friday: 25 March

Stations of the Cross – 10:00am

The Lord's Passion: 3:00pm

Holy Saturday: 26 March

No confession on Saturday morning

Easter Vigil – 7:30pm

Please bring bells to ring during the Gloria

Easter Sunday: 27 March

8:30am, 10:00am

Mass of the Resurrection

No 6:00pm Mass Sunday night



JUBILEE OF MERCY

THE SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY

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

COMFORTING THE SORROWFUL

Be open to listening and comforting those who are dealing with grief. Even if we aren't sure of the right words to say, our presence can make a big difference.

- Lend a listening ear to those going through a tough time
- Make a home cooked meal for a friend who is facing a difficult time
- Write a letter or send a card to someone who is suffering
- A few moments of your day may make a lifetime of difference to someone who is going through a difficult time


EASTER SERVICES

If you are a Minister of Communion and are available to serve during the Triduum, please contact Judy Netting email: judynetting@gmail.com

Fiji: Your donations totalled \$2281.20 from the appeal for Fiji last weekend. Thank you for your continued generosity. The money will be forwarded to Caritas.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB

We are reading

"Borrowed Finery: a memoir" 

By Paula Fox

Sunday 20 March 3:00 pm Parish Library.

There are 2 books available to borrow in the parish office.

ENGLISH CONVERSATION and a CUPPA. If English is not your first language then come and join in the conversation.

Thursdays - Next Meeting 17 March
10am Parish Centre

Pre-school age children welcome.

Discussions of the Catholic Bishops Statement on Refugees

A 'Kitchen Table Discussion' on the Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement 'For Those Who've Come Across the Seas-justice for asylum seekers and refugees' will be held at the parish centre Tuesday 22nd March 7.30 - 9.30pm. All welcome.

This is an initiative of the Catholic Social Justice Commission. The aim is to respectfully discuss the issues raised in the statement and to listen to all viewpoints.

The statement can be downloaded from <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/publications/social-justice-statement-2015-16>

To RSVP or if you would like more information contact facilitator Murray Bruce phone 62540577 or email murray.bruce@ed.act.edu.au.

SVDP DOORKNOCK

The St Vincent de Paul Society wish to Thank everyone who helped with the 2016 doorknock. Just over \$15,000.00 has been collected so far within the Kippax Parish. This is a great result considering we only had 65% of the area's covered, and was due to an increase of collectors by 10% and donations by 20% as compared to the last two years. Your gift of time is greatly appreciated and the money collected will assist us to help the needy and marginalised people within our community with vital assistance such as emergency accommodation, clothing, medical expenses and food.

Refugee Resettlement Committee Volunteer Information Night

31 March 7:00pm Parish Centre
Contact the Parish Office 6254 3236 for further information.

Daramalan College Open Evening Thursday 31 March 2016

Tours from 5:00 – 6:30pm
Year 7 2017 Information Evening 7:00 – 8:00pm
www.daramalan.act.edu.au

ROSTERS

20 March Ministers of Communion

6:00pm	Helen Kennedy, Eric French, Debbie Milne, Joe & Maria Catanzariti
8:30 am	Carmel Screen, Sigrid Kropp, Lyn Duck, Agnes Pham, VACANT
10:00am	Robert Greig, Jenny Howarth, Robin Williams, Bonnie & Rose Benedictos
6:00 pm	Margaret Curry, Maria Devine, Anthony Dunnicliff-Hagan, James & Toni Cox

Reading Roster

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

Palm Sunday Readers

Hospitality Roster

6:00pm	Mary Barrett
8:30 am	Norma & Clyde Sloan
10:00am	Vijy Antony, Mary Grace Tiratira
6:00 pm	Brian Mahony

Other Rosters

- 14 March **Altar Society:** Maresa Laird
14 March **Church Cleaning:** Maresa Laird, Joseph Lê Văn Hải, Kirst Vera
19 March **Presbytery Cleaning:** Maresa Laird, Meg Millband, Pat Cowburn, Sabina Van Rooy, Lynnie Traynor
20 March **Counting Roster:** Judy Netting, Joy & John McInerney
19 March **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:

A contract painter starts a new job and sees his apprentice painting a living room, but he had his raincoat and his winter coat on. He asks him why he had his coats on? He Replies, "I read the can, and it said for best results put on two coats."

LIBRARY NEWS: We have a group of newly acquired books on display this week. Our grateful thanks to those parishioners who have recently donated books to be shared by all.

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

Recently Deceased:

Anniversary: Sharon Williams, Ian Coffill, Evelyn Swaris, Josephine Hawkins, Damien Lamb, Oscar De Jesus Zamora, Darrell Rutter, Henry Sealey, Marie Hallahan, Alan Leach, Bernard Fitzgerald, Eileen Luke, Brendan Patterson, Michael Hamilton, Caelan MacKenzie, Nicola Torelli, Eugene De Rose, Helen Murphy, Patricia Wilson, Richard Kingsford, Peter Roache, Marijan Cavlovic, Briana Weston, Generoso D'Ambrosio, Jack Ransom.

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

John 8:1-11

This gospel passage begins with Jesus going to the Mount of Olives. We know the Mount of Olives best from the passion narratives in the synoptic gospels. But today's passage is not part of the last week of Jesus' life. The three synoptic gospels generally portray the ministry of Jesus as something of a journey towards Jerusalem and have him arriving just in time for the Passover and his arrest. However, the gospel of John places most of Jesus' ministry in and around Jerusalem to better focus the tension between the teachings of Jesus and the Jewish hierarchy.

Resources used: Greg Sunter at LiturgyHelp