

# COMPACT

## St John the Apostle Parish

*A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish*

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

**Year C**

**17 April 2016**

**#21.16**

**“To be on earth the Heart of God”**

### Parish Administration:

**Pastor Gerard McCormick msc**

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**Parish Secretary Sharon Greaves**

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### Parish Office:

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Web [www.stjohnkippax.org.au](http://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: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.....

Today is known as *Good Shepherd Sunday*, it is also *World Day of Prayer for Vocations* – obviously there is a link between the two. Jesus says, “My sheep listen to my voice and follow me.” We are all called to follow Jesus in a committed way of life, and this can be lived as single, married, ordained or as consecrated religious sister or brother. However, what remains constant is that we listen to where Jesus is calling us.

Vocations Sunday has a particular focus on vocations to the priesthood and religious life. We constantly hear that there is a shortage of priests, sisters and brothers, but does that mean that God has stopped calling men and women to priesthood and consecrated religious life. Men and women are still responding to the call to priesthood and religious life? One must admire their courage and commitment in an era that is in many ways indifferent, suspicious and in some cases hostile toward religion. So I certainly admire young men and women who do step forward to witness in a radical way to Jesus Christ and his message of love.

We need to continue to pray and support vocations to religious life and priesthood. But at a deeper level, I believe, God is calling all members of the church. First, the church is called to renewal. Certainly the scandal of sexual abuse has highlighted that in a most dramatic and, indeed, traumatic way. Attitudes and structures within the church, especially among the hierarchy, need to change. Secondly, this is the era of the laity. It is time that laity are empowered to use their gifts for the building up of Christ's body, the Church.

Christ the Good Shepherd is calling all of us to listen deeply to his voice. When we do, we will surely know his will for us and his church.

***Peace & blessings,  
Gerard***

## Diverse Communities

Both the first and the second readings depict communities made up of people from every nation, race, people and tongue, Jews and Gentile alike. This is precisely the makeup of most communities today. Parishes and religious groups that were born with a particular cultural identity have changed in complexion and composition. Despite the obvious differences, all are children of the one God, all are joined in their common confession of faith.

Christian de Cherge, the Trappist Abbott who was martyred in Algeria in 1996, was fond of sharing this story: He had a very close Muslim friend, Mohammed, and the two of them used to pray together, even as they remained aware of their differences, as Muslim and Christian. Aware too that certain schools of thought, both Muslim and Christian, warn against this type of prayer, fearing that the various faiths are not praying to the same God, the two of them didn't call their sessions together prayer. Rather they imagined themselves as "digging a well together". One day Christian asked Mohammed: "When we get to the bottom of our well, what will we find? Muslim water or Christian water?" Mohammed, half-amused but still deadly serious, replied: "Come on now, we've spent all this time walking together, and you're still asking me this question. You know well that at the bottom of that well, what we'll find is God's water."

Unity in diversity is first found in the divine union of the Trinity. All other models of unity flow from it. Not everyone is happy with diversity. Some within the early community resented the success of Paul and Barnabas and they tried to turn the people against them.

The path to unity among Christians of different denominations and the path to unity among world religions is not then the path of proselytism within which any one tradition, Christianity included, claims absolute truth for itself and demands that union can be achieved only by everyone converting to its side. Rather it lies in "digging a well together", that is, in each of us, within our own tradition, converting more deeply into the mystery of God and into all that asks of us. As we move deeper into the mystery of God we will find ourselves more and more one, as brothers and sisters in faith.

Resources used: Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSS at LiturgyHelp & Looking for the One God inside our Denominational and Faith Divisions by Ronald Rolheiser OMI

## OFFERING SANCTUARY ASYLUM SEEKERS

Meeting to discuss and clarify issues regarding the implication of offering St John the Apostle church as a place of sanctuary.

**Date:** Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April

**Time:** 7:00pm

**Place:** St John the Apostle Parish Centre

*More than 100 churches across Australia and two orders of Catholic nuns are preparing to invoke the ancient Christian doctrine of "Sanctuary" in defiance of a federal government attempt to deport 267 asylum seekers at the centre of a High Court case over offshore detention. The Australian 12 March 2016*

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## MINISTRY FORMATION

Formation sessions are listed below:

Ministers of Communion 17 April

Readers of God's Word 24 April

Hospitality 1 May

### Sunday's 3:00pm in the Church

The parish office has contacted those who have volunteered for a particular ministry. If you do not get your notice by the due date please contact the parish office.

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## MIGRANT & REFUGEE SETTLEMENT SERVICES of the ACT

MARSS Volunteer Information and Training Session.

Friday 29 April at 5:00pm

Function Room, Theo Notaras Multicultural Centre, London Circuit Canberra

Contact MARSS: [mars@marss.org.au](mailto:mars@marss.org.au)

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### Calvary Hospital Auxiliary

#### Mother's Day Cake and Craft Stall

*This year the Auxiliary is raising money for a Family Recreation Area in the Hospital grounds.*

**Place:** foyer of the Hospital

**Date:** Thursday and Friday 28th & 29th April

*For further information please contact Mary Cruickshank 62544084.*

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## Pins & Needles Craft Group

Third Thursday Monthly

**Next Meeting: 21 April**

7:15pm Parish Library

**All Welcome . If craft is not your thing, maybe conversation is.**

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# JUBILEE OF MERCY

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## Moments of Mercy

While Lent was a penitential season, the Easter season (which lasts longer than the Lenten season!) reminds us of the joy we have in the merciful love of God. The most obvious example of God's merciful love was shown to us in the Paschal Mystery of Christ. The culmination of this Paschal Mystery, following the suffering and Death of Christ, is his Resurrection, which is our assurance that Christ triumphs over death. Not only do we rejoice in this eternal victory, we also rejoice that, through our faith and participation in the sacraments, we can share in Christ's triumph as God extends his salvific mercy toward us. The Jubilee of Mercy reminds us that God "delights in mercy" (Mi 7:18), and so should we!

At the end of the day, spend some time in reflection, on your own or with others, rejoicing in the love and mercy that was shown to you by God and others today. Even if you had a rough day, where did you see God's love present in your life?

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## Key Quotes from *Laudato Si'*

*Pope Francis' Encyclical on Ecology & Climate*

When our hearts are authentically open to universal communion, this sense of fraternity excludes nothing and no one. It follows that our indifference or cruelty towards fellow creatures of this world sooner or later affects the treatment we meter out to other human beings. #92

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## Daily Meditations for the month of May

**The WORD Among Us** is a digest-size publication referencing the Scriptures for the Mass of the day, with substantive, spiritual reflections upon one of those Scriptures and a short prayer.

May issue *A New Law for a New Life* – meditations - 1 - 31 MAY Available in the bookstore \$4.00

## ST JOHN THE APOSTLE PARISH COMMUNITY MEETING - AMALGAMATION OF PARISHES IN THE BELCONNEN REGION

Date: Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April

Time: 7:30pm

Place: Parish Church

This meeting will look at and formulate a proposal regarding our community's perspective on the amalgamation of parishes.

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### BELCONNEN REGION PARISHES

Meeting of all the parishes

Tuesday 3 May 2016 7:30pm

St Francis Xavier College

Parishioners are encouraged to attend this meeting to discuss the future of parishes in the Belconnen Region.

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## Anointing of the Sick within Mass

**Friday 29 April at 10:00 am**

1. If you know of any parishioner who would benefit from this special Mass, then please advise the Parish Office.
2. If you are able to assist with transportation for those who require assistance in attending this Mass, please advise the Parish Office.

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## Funeral Notice

Requiem Mass to give thanks and celebrate the life of

**Les Savage**

will be celebrated on

Tuesday 19 April 11:00am

St John the Apostle Church

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## SAFETY – Church Driveway



The driveway in front of the church is a shared zone. We will be looking at safety issues concerning this area and ways it can be improved. When you drive through the parish grounds please limit your speed to 10KPH. We ask both pedestrians and drivers to be alert and parents to supervise their children in this shared zone.

# ROSTERS

## 24 April 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

- 18 April **Altar Society:** Mary Cruickshank  
18 April **Church Cleaning:** John & Jenny Maher  
30 April **Presbytery Cleaning:** Margaret Ohlin, Maryanne Ferguson, Margaret Sheehan, Ann Clementine, Lynette Weaver  
24 April **Counting Roster:** Kay Dwyer, Joseph Lai, Trevor Williams  
23 April **Grounds:** VACANT

**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 robot walks into a bar, orders a drink, and lays down some cash.

Bartender says, "Hey, we don't serve robots."  
And the robot says, "Oh, but someday you will."

**St John the Apostle Scripture Group** will take a break and return Tuesdays Fortnightly on 29<sup>th</sup> April in the Parish Library from 7:00pm

**LIBRARY NEWS:** This week we continue our selection of titles on different ways of praying. There are collections of prayers for many different groups of people as well as guides on how to pray.

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

## Recently Deceased: Les Savage

**Anniversary:** *Otto Trenka, Leonard Franks, Drago Polak, Barbara Normann, Delilah Wilson, Leslie Barry, Daniel Dewar, Claudio Orifice, Sheldon Doyle, Yolanda Melikian, Brenda Hudson, Basil Adkins, Monique Adamik, Hannah Kennett, Joachim Tittlebach, Michael Lowe, Joseph Kowalski, Miroslav Chodora*

## RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

We are his people, the sheep of his flock

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ is risen, the Lord of all creation;  
he has shown pity on all people.

Alleluia!

## GOSPEL IN A NUTSHELL Jn 10:27-30

In the gospel passage, Jesus says of the sheep that belong to him, 'I give them eternal life.' He does not say, I give them the promise of eternal life. The message that comes through the gospel of John is clear that eternal life is not some future existence, but rather a new way of being in the here and now. But that is not to suggest that there is not an 'eternal' quality to eternal life. The gospel of John makes clear that eternal life begins in the here and now but has no end.

**Resources used:** *Gospel Focus* by Greg Sunter at [LiturgyHelp](http://LiturgyHelp.com)