

St John the Apostle Parish

A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish

5th Sunday of Easter

Year C

24 April 2016

#22.16

“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.....

“I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.” Jesus is not simply saying that love should characterise our way of living, but that we should love in the same manner in which he himself loved. In other words, he offers the template of his own life as the model for us to adopt. That’s a tall order! Jesus loved completely, to the point of laying down his life.

Jesus did not start a new religion – Christianity emerged post-resurrection. Jesus lived and remained within the Jewish religion. What he did offer was a new way of interpreting and living out that religious faith that placed love as central.

Throughout the Easter Season we have been holding a number of meetings for various ministries – acolytes, communion ministers, readers, pastoral care etc. I am very grateful for all who have been able to attend. I have been touched by the level of commitment of so many parishioners who by their dedication to their ministry help build up the Body of Christ here at Kippax.

Another important meeting took place on Thursday evening with regard to our parish offering to be part of the sanctuary movement. There was a strong indication of support for this initiative at this meeting. The debate around the treatment of asylum seekers is complex. But as a parish we wish to send a clear message that compassion, founded on the example of Jesus, must always override the politics of fear and the adoption of cruelty as a means of deterrent.

***Peace & blessings,
Gerard***

Love & Community

Everything is new! There is a new law of love, a new heaven and earth that is established in the church, a new depth of communion, and a new glory of God that shines forth from its members.

The new commandment that Jesus announces is more than tolerance or mutual respect. It requires self-sacrificing love. Perhaps the greatest obstacle to this love is the diversity discussed last Sunday. It is hard enough to love those who are like us; how can we possibly love those who are different? And how can we love those who do not love us? It is no wonder that the commandment is called new. It calls for something completely different.

The new commandment given to the disciples – that they are to love one another, ‘just as I have loved you’ – flows from the revelation that God is love. It is new in the sense that it is called for by the new set of circumstances that is fast approaching. After Jesus’ death and return to the Father, the community will no longer have the physical presence of Jesus to make the divine love palpable in their midst. Their own, equally palpable, love for one another must instead take on this role. If this high requirement is fulfilled, if they do indeed love one another after the pattern he has set, then this will signal to outsiders that they are truly his disciples.

“God is love,” scripture says, “and whoever abides in love abides in God and God abides in him or her.” However, we often miss what that means because of our tendency to romanticise love.

It might best be rendered this way: “God is community, family, parish, friendship, hospitality and whoever abides in these abides in God and God abides in him or her.” God is a trinity, a flow of relationships among persons. The realities of dealing with each other in community, at the dinner-table, over a bottle of wine or an argument, not to mention the simple giving and receiving of hospitality are not pure secular experiences but the stuff of church, the place where the life of God flows through us.

Resources used: Reflections by Dianne Bergant CSS & Brendan Byrne SJ at Liturgy & Finding God in Community by Ronald Rolheiser OMI

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

Date: Thursday 28th 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.

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.

MINISTRY FORMATION

Formation sessions are listed below:

Readers of God's Word 24 April

Hospitality 1 May

Music Date to be confirmed

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.

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.

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

JUBILEE OF MERCY

FOUNDATIONS

Mercy is the very foundation of the Church's life. All of her pastoral activity should be caught up in the tenderness she makes present to believers; nothing in her preaching and in her witness to the world can be lacking in mercy. The Church's very credibility is seen in how she shows merciful and compassionate love. The Church "has an endless desire to show mercy". Perhaps we have long since forgotten how to show and live the way of mercy. The temptation, on the one hand, to focus exclusively on justice made us forget that this is only the first, albeit necessary and indispensable step. But the Church needs to go beyond and strive for a higher and more important goal. On the other hand, sad to say, we must admit that the practice of mercy is waning in the wider culture. In some cases the word seems to have dropped out of use. However, without a witness to mercy, life becomes fruitless and sterile, as if sequestered in a barren desert. The time has come for the Church to take up the joyful call to mercy once more. It is time to return to the basics and to bear the weaknesses and struggles of our brothers and sisters. Mercy is the force that reawakens us to new life and instils in us the courage to look to the future with hope. #10

Misericordiae Vultus – Pope Francis

Key Quotes from *Laudato Si'*

Pope Francis' Encyclical on Ecology & Climate

A sense of deep communion with the rest of nature cannot be real if our hearts lack tenderness, compassion and concern for our fellow human beings. #91

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



**ST JOHN THE APOSTLE
WOMEN'S BREAKFAST CLUB**
The next breakfast is:

TUES 26 April - 7:30 am

Little Chef Café
Nettlefold Street Belconnen

Over 45's will meet on Wednesday 27 April for Mass at 9:30am, followed by morning tea in the parish centre. Please come and join us, you are all most welcome. Enquiries phone Margaret 6254 4048

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE meets at 11.10am on Sunday 1 May in the Parish Library. All welcome. New members needed.

Social Justice Statement 2015-16

"It is not wealthy nations like Australia who bear the cost of care, but those least able to afford it. Developing nations host 86% of the world's refugees and this proportion has increased by 16% over the past two decades. The available food, shelter, security and medical care are inadequate, and people have no chance of getting on with their lives and raising a family in dignity. Many people have spent years in such appalling conditions."

Year of Mercy – Parish Prayer Day Saturday 14th May 2016

"Merciful like the Father"

St John the Apostle Catholic Church
9:00am – 4:30pm

If you would like to be a reader please select a time and add your details to the prepared sheet in the foyer.

Contact Sabina Van Rooy: 0400 269 951

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.

ROSTERS

1 May Ministers of Communion

6:00pm	Helen Kennedy, Eric French, Debbie Milne, Joe & Maria Catanzariti
8:30 am	Carmel Screen, Sigrid Kropp, Agnes Pham, Maria Scarr, VACANT
10:00am	Farid Naoum, Jenny Howarth, Nunga Umaru, Bonnie & Rose Benedictos
6:00 pm	Margaret Curry, Maria Devine, Anthony Dunnicliff-Hagan, James & Toni Cox

Reading Roster

6:00pm	Michael Horan, Lesley Givens
8:30 am	John O'Heir, Violet Duve
10:00am	Robin Williams, Tony Kennedy
6:00 pm	Nicole Mikkonen, VACANT

Hospitality Roster

6:00pm	Joe Catanzariti
8:30 am	Agnes Pham, Carmel Screen
10:00am	Farid & Victoria Naoum
6:00 pm	Needs Assistance

Other Rosters

- 25 April **Altar Society:** Gabrielle Culhane
- 25 April **Church Cleaning:**
Ann Clementine, Marilyn Calliess
- 30 April **Presbytery Cleaning:** Margaret Ohlin, Maryanne Ferguson, Margaret Sheehan, Ann Clementine, Lynette Weaver
- 1 May **Counting Roster:**
John O'Heir, Marlene Purnell, Gary Potts
- 30 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:

- Q.** What did the pop star do when he locked himself out?
- A.** He sang until he found the right key!

LIBRARY NEWS: "God of a hundred names: prayers and meditations from many faiths and cultures", "50 ways to pray: practises from many traditions and times" and "The Lion book of famous prayers" are three of the books currently on display.

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

Recently Deceased: Fred Hayes, Jim Hawes

Anniversary: Monique Adamik, Hannah Kennett, Joachim Tittlebach, Michael Lowe, Joseph Kowalski, Miroslav Chodora, Patricia Ticehurst, Andrea Sannazzaro, Michael Quigley, Cyril Harper, Michael Bell, Anna Rodziewicz, Ashley Johnson. Anna Clobus, Neil White, Gertrudt Harridence, John Schmich, John Costelloe

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 13:31-35

The passage from the Gospel of John actually comes from the Last Supper account, as is indicated by the opening line: 'When Judas had gone'. However, the passage is being used during the post-resurrection Easter season. The passage about being glorified can be read in this context as referring to the crucifixion that was, rather than the crucifixion that is still to come in the original setting. The reference that Jesus will not be with the disciples much longer can also be read as an indicator towards the Ascension. It is a clever liturgical use of a gospel passage out of its intended context.

Resources used: Gospel Focus by Greg Sunter at LiturgyHelp