

St John the Apostle Parish

A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish

6th Sunday of Easter

Year C

1 May 2016

#23.16

“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.....

“Peace starts with a smile.” This little aphorism is a gem. It reminds us that we can all play our part. Each of us possesses enormous potential for good: a noble thought, a simple smile, a kind word, a loving gesture; all these can and do have a rippling effect making the world a better place to live in. The aphorism quoted above also tells us that peace is not simply the absence of conflict, war or violence but that peace is something that is active in our thoughts, words and deeds. We can make a difference, and as followers of Jesus we have no choice but to be agents of peace. “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you” are the parting words of the resurrected Christ before he ascends to the Father. It is both a gift, allowing us to have peace in our own hearts, and also a mission, that we become peace bearers to our world.



On Thursday evening about 50 parishioners gathered to share what it means to be an MSC parish in the light of discussions presently taking place about possible parish amalgamations within the Belconnen region. There will be a meeting next Tuesday at SFX (see notice in Compact) for parishioners of all six parishes in the Belconnen region. St John's, Kippax is the only parish administered by a religious order: the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart (MSC). This will have a bearing in all future discussions about possible amalgamations. I am grateful to those parishioners who attended last Thursday's meeting, it will help us to articulate who we are as an MSC parish, our values and spirituality that have been shaped over the last 45 years of our parish's existence and our hopes and vision for the future.

***Peace & blessings,
Gerard***

Self-Sacrificing Love

The gospel emphasises the link between love and obedience, and it speaks of the presence of God with the one who loves. Self-sacrificing love is the fundamental message of Jesus. Those who love as Jesus did will in turn be loved by his Father. We must believe and we must love God and love one another.

Scripture tells us that, in Christ, God offers a love so pure, so self-effacing, so understanding of our weaknesses, so self-sacrificing, so "self-emptying", that it's offered without any demand, however veiled, that it be recognized, met, and reciprocated in kind. God, like any parent, takes a huge risk in having children. To have children is to leave yourself painfully vulnerable. It's also to be called upon for an understanding, a patience, and a self-dethroning that, literally, can empty you of self. That's as true of God as of any mother or father.

To "self-empty" in the way Jesus is described as doing means being present without demanding that your presence be recognized and its importance acknowledged; it means giving without demanding that your generosity be reciprocated; it means being invitational rather than threatening, healthily solicitous rather than nagging or coercive; it means being vulnerable and helpless, unable to protect yourself against the pain of being taken for granted or rejected; it means living in a great patience that doesn't demand intervention, divine or human, when things don't unfold according to your will; it means letting God be God and others be themselves without either having to submit to your wishes or your timetable.

The final gift that Jesus promises to give is his own peace, a peace that he has won by overcoming sin and death. This peace issues from the union that Jesus enjoys with God, a union which we are now invited to share.

Resources used: *Reflection*, by Dianne Bergant CSS & *The Kenosis of God*, by Ronald Rolheiser OMI

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:

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.

*We congratulate and welcome
Tiffeney, Nate, Jed and Will Ronnenberg
who will be received into the Church at the
10:00am Mass this weekend.*

*May the Risen Christ fill their hearts with
joy, bring them new hope, and bless them
with peace. Amen*

Refugee Resettlement Committee

Next meeting Wednesday 4 May

Parish Library at 7.30pm.

All are welcome to attend.

Year of Mercy - Prayer Day Saturday 14th May 2016

"Merciful like the Father"

St John the Apostle Catholic Church
9:00am – 5:00pm

More information to come.

Contact Sabina Van Rooy: 0400 269 951

The Archdiocesan Commission for Women, Anglican and Uniting Churches will host an Ecumenical Response to Domestic Violence, "For Such a Time As This"

Saturday 18 June, 10am to 4pm,

The Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture,
Barton. Domestic violence experts will examine
the nature of violence and look for practical
solutions. BYO lunch, beverages provided.
Inquiries to Margaret 6231 0664 or 0417 418 838
or commissionforwomencg@gmail.com. Similar
days will occur in the other deaneries.

JUBILEE OF MERCY

The Love of Christ

The Church is commissioned to announce the mercy of God, the beating heart of the Gospel, which in its own way must penetrate the heart and mind of every person. The Spouse of Christ must pattern her behaviour after the Son of God who went out to everyone without exception. In the present day, as the Church is charged with the task of the new evangelization, the theme of mercy needs to be proposed again and again with new enthusiasm and renewed pastoral action. It is absolutely essential for the Church and for the credibility of her message that she herself live and testify to mercy. Her language and her gestures must transmit mercy, so as to touch the hearts of all people and inspire them once more to find the road that leads to the Father.

The Church's first truth is the love of Christ. The Church makes herself a servant of this love and mediates it to all people: a love that forgives and expresses itself in the gift of oneself.

Consequently, wherever the Church is present, the mercy of the Father must be evident. In our parishes, communities, associations and movements, in a word, wherever there are Christians, everyone should find an oasis of mercy. #12

Misericordiae Vultus – Pope Francis

Key Quotes from *Laudato Si'*

Pope Francis' Encyclical on Ecology & Climate

Respect must also be shown for the various cultural riches of different peoples, their art and poetry, their interior life and spirituality. If we are truly concerned to develop an ecology capable of remedying the damage we have done, no branch of the sciences and no form of wisdom can be left out, and that includes religion and the language particular to it. #63

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 Joseph the Worker Group
Celebrating the Feast of St Joseph
Monday 2 May at 9:30am Mass

followed by Morning Tea
All members of the St Joseph the Worker Group are invited to attend.

ST JOHN THE APOSTLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Open Day - Thursday 5 May

Tours are at 10am, 12pm and 5pm

No appointment necessary, just come to the one that suits you best.

Tour of the school first followed by a short information session with the acting principal - Mrs Philippa Brearley

St Francis Xavier College
Open Day Friday 13 May
9:00am – 2:30pm

Year 7 2017 Information Evening - 9 May
5:00pm tours – 6:30pm Information Session

Year 11 2017 Information Evening - 11 May
5:00pm tours – 6:00pm Information Session

www.sfx.act.edu.au



CHILDREN'S CHOIR
Practice Thursdays
St John the Apostle Church at 4:00pm
We sing next: 10:00am Mass – 8 May

English Conversation will be held on
Thursday 5 May at 10am in the parish centre.
You are welcome to come if you would like to practise your English or just to have a cup of coffee with others.

FAMILY CENACLE ROSTER – Please join with the families in prayer during May, the Cenacles of Prayer are a wonderful way of consecrating yourself and your family to the Immaculate Heart of Mary as requested by Our Lady in Fatima on the 13th July 1917.

Cenacles will be held this week at the following homes:-
John & Fay Hodgetts: PH 6254 3805 Wed 4th May 2.30pm
Joe & Judy Mewburn: PH 6254 6202 Fri 6th May 2.30pm

A ROSTER IS AVAILABLE ON THE INFORMATION TABLE IN THE FOYER

You will find a brief description of the Marian Movement of Priests and Cenacles on the back of the Roster.

ROSTERS

8 May Ministers of Communion

| | |
|---------|---|
| 6:00pm | Sharon Loiterton, Margaret Conlon, Robert Greig, Anthony & Chitra Jayawardena |
| 8:30 am | Brian Green, Fay Stephenson, Fay Hodgetts, Margaret Stanford, Shane Murtagh |
| 10:00am | Anthony Noakes, Cathy Madsen, Jojo Mathew, Shyni Jojo, Francesca Deklin |
| 6:00 pm | Henri Clementine, Marian Crowley, Andrew Luck, Andrew Webster, Barbara Gardiner |

Reading Roster

| | |
|---------|----------------------------------|
| 6:00pm | Mary French, Tom Halloran |
| 8:30 am | Mariana Rollgejser, Sigrid Kropp |
| 10:00am | CHILDREN'S MASS |
| 6:00 pm | Judith Deklin, Brian Mahony |

Hospitality Roster

| | |
|---------|-----------------------------------|
| 6:00pm | Michael Horan, Chitra Jayawardena |
| 8:30 am | Violet Duve |
| 10:00am | Anthony Noakes, Marie Flint |
| 6:00 pm | |

Other Rosters

- 2 May Altar Society: Margaret Ferguson
- 2 May Church Cleaning: Meg Millband, Sabina Van Rooy
- 14 May Presbytery Cleaning: Maresa Laird, Meg Millband, Pat Cowburn, Sabina Van Rooy, Lynnie Traynor
- 8 May Counting Roster: Margaret Sheehan, Margaret Stanford, Terry & Lynn O'Brien
- 7 May Grounds: Henri Clementine, John Gill, Rob Breen

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: The whole church watched



with nervous anticipation as the visitors sat where the Martins have sat for 42 years.

LIBRARY NEWS: Among the books on prayer currently displayed in the library are: "Walking in the Spirit", "Praying with icons", "let me sow love" and "Jesus now".

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

Recently Deceased:

Anniversary: Patricia Ticehurst, Michael Quigley, Andrea Sannazzaro, Cyril Harper, Michael Bell, Anna Rodziejewicz, Ashley Johnson. Anna Clobus, Neil White, Gertrudt Harridence, John Schmich, John Costelloe, Lillian Boyd, Ruth Lloyd, Jack Draper, Clements Cox, Robert Griffiths, Matthew Ray, Helen Kelly, Lawrence Southwick, Andrew Harker, Jeremy Hope, Kenneth Brennan, Krysta Lindstrom, Harrison Wroe, Antonia Gladwish

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

O God, let all the nations praise you!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL IN A NUTSHELL Jn 14:23-29

Just like last week's gospel, this passage also comes from the Last Supper discourse in the Gospel of John. Again, although its original context was pre-crucifixion, the language works in the post-resurrection Easter season as we anticipate the celebration of the Ascension next week. This double purpose language is, of course, no accident. The gospel was written 60 or more years after the death and resurrection of Jesus and so the writer was consciously conveying the double meaning of 'going away': Jesus going to his death; and Jesus going back to the Father. But Jesus also promises his return in this speech. Continuing the double meaning, the gospel writer knew that Jesus had come good on his promise to return after his death and so conveys to the gospel audience, and to us, a sense of confidence and hope that the second promised return will also be fulfilled at the right time.

Resources used: Greg Sunter at LiturgyHelp