

## St John the Apostle Parish

*A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish*

**The Most Holy Trinity**

**Year C**

**22 May 2016**

**#26.16**

**“To be on earth the Heart of God”**

### Parish Administration:

**Pastor Gerard McCormick msc**

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**Associate Pastor Paul Browne msc**

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**Parish Manager/Pastoral Associate**

**Marian England**

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**Parish Secretary Sharon Greaves**

Email: [kippax@cg.org.au](mailto:kippax@cg.org.au)

### Parish Office:

25 Blackham Street HOLT ACT

Office Hours: 9.00am - 3.00pm Mon-Fri

Telephone: 6254 3236

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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.....

*God Is Not Great, The Atheist Manifesto, The God Delusion* and other such titles are currently displayed in bookshops. They line up in a concerted attack on religion. But we've seen all this before with the atheistic push in the nineteenth century led by Nietzsche, Marx and Freud. All these arguments against religion assume that religion is a bad idea. In other words, people have been misguided. There is the suggestion that reason will eventually put pay to religion once and for all.

However, what they seem to overlook is that religion is not an ideology. It is faith. And faith is grounded in an encounter of the Other. In the monotheistic faiths, this Other, who is named God, is experienced in relationship. Christianity makes an even bolder claim that it is in the person of Jesus that we encounter God. This is a most remarkable claim, and one that can never be proved by argument alone.

Not that faith diminishes the importance of reason, as Pope John Paul II so eloquently put it: *Faith and reason are like two wings on which the human spirit rises to the contemplation of truth; and God has placed in the human heart a desire to know the truth—in a word, to know himself—so that, by knowing and loving God, men and women may also come to the fullness of truth about themselves (Fides et Ratio, 1998)*

Trinity Sunday reminds us of the central belief in a triune God. Not that we can ever explain the mystery of the Trinity, but we are invited to enter into this mystery and live it.



My thanks and congratulations to all who prepared and participated in the beautiful celebration of Confirmation that was held here at St John's on Thursday: the parish office staff, St John's school, school of religion, the choir and musicians, servers, readers and hospitality ministers, and of course, to the young people who were confirmed and their families who participated so reverently. We were grateful to have had the Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Adolfo Yllana, with us to confer the sacrament.

***Peace & blessings,  
Gerard***

## Weekly Reflection:

### Our Triune God

Anyone who claims to understand God is deceived because the very first dogma we have about God affirms that God is ineffable. That means that we can know God, but never adequately capture God in a concept. God is unimaginable. God cannot be circumscribed and put into a mental picture of any kind. Thank goodness too. If God could be understood then God would be as limited as we are.

God is infinite. Infinity, precisely because it's unlimited, cannot be circumscribed. Hence it cannot be captured in a mental picture. Indeed, we don't even have a way of picturing God's gender. God is not a man, not a woman, and not some hybrid, half-man and half-woman. God's gender, like God's nature, is intellectually inconceivable. We can't grasp it and have no language or pronoun for it. God, is a modality beyond the categories of human thought, is somehow perfect masculinity and perfect femininity all at the same time. It's a mystery beyond us.

God may be ineffable, but God's nature is known. Nature, religion, and Jesus conspire together to reveal an Ultimate Reality, a Ground of Being, a Creator and Sustainer of the universe, a God, who is wise, intelligent, prodigal, compassionate, loving, forgiving, patient, good, trustworthy, and beautiful beyond imagination. God cannot be deciphered, or captured in human thought; but, from what can be deciphered, we're in good, safe hands.

While the Trinity is a feast that glorifies the central mystery of our faith, a mystery that is based on the way the three divine persons relate to each other, the readings all address ways that God relates to us. If we concentrate, as the texts for today suggest that we do, on all of the ways that our Triune God has blessed us, we may be more inclined to cry out with the psalmist: 'O Lord, our God, how wonderful your name in all the earth!'

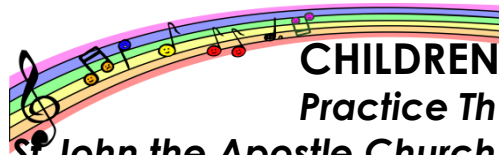
Resources used: God's Ineffability – What's Revealed in Jesus' Eyes? By Ronald Rolheiser OMI & Reflection at LiturgyHelp by Dianne Bergant CSS



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

**TUES 24 May - 7:30 am**

Little Chef Café  
Nettlefold Street Belconnen



**CHILDREN'S CHOIR**  
*Practice Thursdays*  
**St John the Apostle Church at 4:00pm**  
**We sing next: 10:00am Mass – 12 June**

## St Vinnies Veggie Run

### Help still needed for St Vinnies Veggie Run

We still have a vacancy for the St Vinnies Veggie Run! What's involved? On Sunday evening go to Belconnen Markets for about one hour from 5:30, once every 5 weeks. Collect surplus fruit, veggies and bread and pack boxes under guidance from St Matthews SVdP Conference. Deliver boxes to 4 families in our local area. You will team with one other volunteer. **Please** contact Michael Blyth if you can help – 0419818410.

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

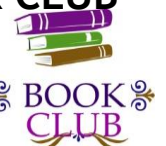
**Thursdays - Next Meeting 26 May**

We will take a break over the school holidays  
Pre-school age children welcome.

## SUNDAY AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB

We are reading

**"The Lost Mother (A story of Art and Love"**



By Anne Summers

**Sunday 19 June 3:00 pm Parish Library.**

There are 4 copies of the book available in the parish office

**Over 45's** will meet on Wednesday 25 May for Mass at 9:30am, followed by morning tea in the parish centre. Please come and join us, you are all most welcome. Please bring a plate to share.

Enquiries phone Margaret 6254 4048

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## JUBILEE OF MERCY

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### Revealing the Mystery

With our eyes fixed on Jesus and his merciful gaze, we experience the love of the Most Holy Trinity. The mission Jesus received from the Father was that of revealing the mystery of divine love in its fullness. "God is love" (1 Jn 4:8,16), John affirms for the first and only time in all of Holy Scripture. This love has now been made visible and tangible in Jesus' entire life. His person is nothing but love, a love given gratuitously. The relationships he forms with the people who approach him manifest something entirely unique and unrepeatable. The signs he works, especially in favour of sinners, the poor, the marginalized, the sick, and the suffering, are all meant to teach mercy. Everything in him speaks of mercy. Nothing in him is devoid of compassion.

*Misericordiae Vultus – Pope Francis*

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### Key Quotes from *Laudato Si'*

*Pope Francis' Encyclical on Ecology & Climate*

In this universe, shaped by open and intercommunicating systems, we can discern countless forms of relationship and participation. This leads us to think of the whole as open to God's transcendence, within which it develops. Faith allows us to interpret the meaning and the mysterious beauty of what is unfolding. #79

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### St Vincent de Paul Society of Canberra /Goulburn

Wish to thank everyone for their support during the 2016 Doorknock, our total revenue raised was \$299,586.00 and this was from only 59% of the area's within the Canberra/Goulburn Archdiocese. Apart from doorknocking we also raised funds from BBQ's at Bunnings, shopping centres and Canberra show. Once again thank you for your support in gaining this great result.

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### VINNIES CEO SLEEPOUT CHALLENGE June 23 2016

Support our parishioner Ted Kell raise funds for Vinnies. Online donations go to: [www.ceosleepout.org.au](http://www.ceosleepout.org.au) and search for Ted Kell

## Feast of the Sacred Heart Friday 3 June

Mass 9:30am followed by morning  
tea in the parish centre

School Mass 11:00am

*May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be  
everywhere loved... ..forever!*

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### "YEAR OF MERCY"

#### Parish Prayer Day

Many thanks to all those who  
assisted with the success of the day.  
"Merciful Father be with us"

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### The 12th Annual St Thomas More Parish and Forum Dinner, Friday 24 June

The keynote speaker will be Fr Chris Riley, who will speak of his ministry with young people and his desire for a church that is focused on social justice. For further information and registration call 6163 4300.

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### "Manus Lives Matter- Support for refugees and asylum seekers"

Information evening

**Date, Time:** Tues 24 May - 7:30pm – 9:00pm

**Where:** Seminar Room - Rheinberger Centre

**RSVP:** Tim McKenna 0416 062 849 or  
[mckennas\\_home@hotmail.com](mailto:mckennas_home@hotmail.com) or Cath Blunt  
0431 451 622 [cath.blunt@hotmail.com](mailto:cath.blunt@hotmail.com)

*This is a compassionate response from the  
Canberra community to the men who are  
currently detained on Manus Island, to let  
them know that we care I was a stranger and  
you welcomed me. (Matt 25:35)*

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### SUPPORTING OUR REFUGEES

Belconnen Interagency function

**Where:** Belconnen Arts Centre

**Day:** Tuesday 31 May

**Time:** 10:00am – 12noon.

**RSVP** 6264 0245

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### FAMILY CENACLE ROSTER

Cenacles will be held this week during May at  
the following homes:-

A roster is available on the information table  
in the foyer.

# ROSTERS

## 29 May Ministers of Communion

6:00pm	Eric French, Sharon Loiterton, Daryl Smeaton, Joy McInerney, Maresa Laird
8:30 am	Fay Stephenson, Carmel Screen, Janet Almond, Jean Teirney, Clyde Sloan
10:00am	Colin Fox, Anthony Noakes, Robin Williams, Bonnie & Rose Benedictos
6:00 pm	Margaret Curry, Margaret McMahon, Brian Mahony, VACANT, VACANT

## Reading Roster

6:00pm	Rob Caskie, Joe Catanzariti
8:30 am	Darren Maharaj, Elizabeth McDonald
10:00am	Colleen Reed, Kerry Yard
6:00 pm	Brian Mahony, Andrew Luck

## Hospitality Roster

6:00pm	Michael Horan, Chitra Jayawardena
8:30 am	Violet Duve
10:00am	Cass & Jason Pepper
6:00 pm	Needs Assistance

## Other Rosters

- 23 May **Altar Society:** Violet Duve
- 23 May **Church Cleaning:** Marilyn Calliess, Ann Clementine
- 28 May **Presbytery Cleaning:** Maryanne Ferguson, Margaret Sheehan, Ann Clementine, Lynette Weaver
- 29 May **Counting Roster:** Sharon Greaves, Marian England
- 28 May **Grounds:** Vacant

**School of Religion:** – 9.15am-10.00am

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:

Every year on my birthday, I looked forward to my aunt's gift—a scarf, hat, or sweater knitted by hand. One year, she must have had better things to do because I received a ball of yarn, knitting needles, and a how-to-knit book. Her card read "Scarf, some assembly required."

**LIBRARY NEWS:** We have a selection of recently acquired books on display this week including "Woman" by Edith Stein (St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross) and, "The Name of God is Mercy" by Pope Francis.

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

**Recently Deceased:** Fr. Brian Healy msc

**Anniversary:** Jim Ohlin, Hermine Raeuscher, David Pinner, Christopher Boyldew, Stan Niemiec, Gloria Harris, Suzana Katavic, Thomas Flynn, Alexander Potts, Sofie Aver, Adena Hugo, Ruby Molloy, Kevin McAlister, Pat Butcher, Maxwell Harmer, Beryl Moulis, Mary Clynych, Wally Chymko, Eric Duve, Margaret Coker-Godson, Roxanne Le Cornu.

## RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

O Lord, our God, how wonderful your name in all the earth!

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: to God who is, who was, and who is to come.

Alleluia!

## GOSPEL IN A NUTSHELL Jn 16:12-15

### The Nicene Creed

The definitive statement of Christian belief is contained within the Nicene Creed that is proclaimed by the community in the Mass. It was developed by the Council of Nicea, held in 325, in response to a variety of teachings (some declared to be heresy) that were circulating at the time and the creed was further revised in 381. The creed declares that Jesus is 'God from God, light from light, true God from true God ... of one being with the Father' and that the Holy Spirit 'proceeds from the Father and the Son'. All of these statements seek to define the oneness of the Trinitarian God.

Resources used: Greg Sunter at LiturgyHelp