

COMPACT

St John the Apostle Parish

A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish

The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ Year C

29 May 2016

#27.16

“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.....

The Communion procession winds its way down the aisle; and then, there before me, a little child looks up and thrusts out its hand. I have just given Communion to Mum and Dad but reluctantly have to refuse their child the bread of life – a blessing will have to suffice. Here we face a conundrum: are we excluding this child from the table of the Lord and thereby implying that they are only partially initiated into the Body of Christ.

This is the crux of the problem. At infant baptism we only partially initiate the child into the faith community. For many centuries it was the practice in the early Church for infants to receive communion at baptism. This is still the practice of the Eastern Church. But I strongly doubt that we are likely to see this practice restored in the foreseeable future.

One might argue that the child is too young to understand. I believe this is flawed. If the child were to receive communion at baptism – as in the Eastern Church – they would still probably have to wait until they are of an age in which they can reverently participate in receiving communion. But the argument still stands that it should not be based on understanding.

There is a story about Cardinal Merry del Val who argued with Pope Pius X when he lowered the age of first communion from 12 to 7. “But Holy Father”, the Cardinal was reported to say “can children at such a young age fully understand the meaning of the sacrament?” To which Pius X responded, “and you, Cardinal, do you fully understand the meaning of the sacrament?” The point was made.

Sacraments are God's free gift. We cannot earn or merit God's grace.

Peace & blessings,
Gerard

Become what you Receive

Some years ago, I was teaching Eucharistic theology to a class of college students. A non-Catholic raised her hand with a stunning declaration: "If I believed that the bread and wine were changed into the Body and Blood of Christ, I would want to be nourished on that food every day."

Why did Jesus give himself to us as food? Eating is one of the conditions for sustaining life and energy. It promotes growth, and is generally considered an enjoyable and satisfying experience. In the Johannine Gospel, Jesus understands the relationship between eating and having life when he answers the Jews: "Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you" (Jn 6:22). Being nourished by his food is the condition for life in God. At that last Passover meal, Jesus perpetuated himself by taking the form of Eucharistic food, and the disciples consumed the sacrificial offering.

God gives to humankind his Eucharistic Son, his thankful Son. Jesus, in his body, blood, soul, and divinity, gives himself as food and nourishment to his Church. The response on humanity's part is a return of Eucharist, of giving thanks. It is a mystery of faith, faith given, faith received, and the only thing which can be perceived with the senses is that of eating and drinking.

In his Easter Sermon, in the year 227, St. Augustine exhorts: "If we receive the Eucharist worthily, we become what we receive." And in receiving Christ, we become one body in him, and through him, one with the Father and the Holy Spirit. Through receiving the Eucharist, we enter into a unique and personal relationship with the Trinity and with one another, the Body of Christ. We become what we eat.

Resources used: *You are what you eat*, By Sr. Joan L. Roccasalvo, C.S.J.

Feast of the Sacred Heart Friday 3 June

Mass 9:30am followed by morning tea in the foyer

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

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Formation Evening for Parents:

Mon 27 June 7:00pm – 8:30pm

St John the Apostle Parish Centre

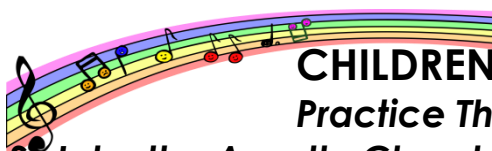
If you have a child who is in year 3 or is 8 years old or older and they would like to make their First Holy Communion please contact the parish office for further information: 6254 3236 or

kipfax@cg.org.au

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

Thursdays - Next Meeting 2 June

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



CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Practice Thursdays

St John the Apostle Church at 4:00pm

We sing next: 10:00am Mass – 12 June

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 3 copies of the book available in the parish office

VINNIES CEO SLEEPOUT CHALLENGE

23 June 2016

Support our parishioner Ted Kell
raise funds for Vinnies.

For online donations go

to: www.ceosleepout.org.au

search for Ted Kell.

JUBILEE OF MERCY

Reaching Out

In this Holy Year, we look forward to the experience of opening our hearts to those living on the outermost fringes of society: fringes which modern society itself creates. How many uncertain and painful situations there are in the world today! How many are the wounds borne by the flesh of those who have no voice because their cry is muffled and drowned out by the indifference of the rich! During this Jubilee, the Church will be called even more to heal these wounds, to assuage them with the oil of consolation, to bind them with mercy and cure them with solidarity and vigilant care. Let us not fall into humiliating indifference or a monotonous routine that prevents us from discovering what is new! Let us ward off destructive cynicism! Let us open our eyes and see the misery of the world, the wounds of our brothers and sisters who are denied their dignity, and let us recognize that we are compelled to heed their cry for help! May we reach out to them and support them so they can feel the warmth of our presence, our friendship, and our fraternity! May their cry become our own, and together may we break down the barriers of indifference that too often reign supreme and mask our hypocrisy and egoism!

#15 *Misericordiae Vultus* – Pope Francis

Key Quotes from *Laudato Si'*

Pope Francis' Encyclical on Ecology & Climate

The universe unfolds in God, who fills it completely. Hence, there is a mystical meaning to be found in a leaf, in a mountain trail, in a dewdrop, in a poor person's face.

#233.

Guinness & God – 7 June

"What is the Purpose of Catholic Education?"

Panel Members:

Associate Professor Patrick McArdle (ACU),
Maira Nadjeki (Director of CE),
Monsignor John Woods (Vicar of Education),
Loretta Wholley (Principal of Merici College),
Paul Compton (Catholic Schools Parents).

Come along for dinner and live music from 6.30pm, talk from 7:30pm, followed by a Q&A at King O'Malley's Irish Pub in Civic. G&G is a free event for all young adults (18+). For more info email youth@cg.org.au or call 6163 4300.

FAIR TRADE

Saturday 14 May was World Fair Trade Day, which highlighted the conditions of workers in third world countries, where exploitation, child labour, and unsafe working conditions are common.

The clothing industry is extremely competitive, and we in Australia benefit by being able to buy low priced fashion items. But most of us don't realise the conditions in which they are made:

"We work from 8 am till noon, then have our lunch break. After lunch we work from 1 to 5 pm. We do overtime every day, from 5.30 pm. During the peak season, we work until 2 or 3 am. Although exhausted, we have no choice. We cannot refuse overtime: our basic wage is too low. If we want to rest, our employer forces us to keep working".

Phan, a 22-year-old machinist in a Thai garment factory

'Management call us names throughout the time we are working. They call us "stupid", "lazy", "useless'. They say "You don't deserve any better". Our ears are often pulled, and managers yell directly into our ears.'

Elina, a garment worker in Indonesian factory

Baptist World Aid has produced an *Ethical Fashion Guide*, which rates Australian retailers and brands according to how well they manage exploitation, child labour, and slavery in their supply chain. Since the first Fashion Guide came out three years ago, many businesses have taken important steps to improve practices in their supply chains, so it is heartening to know that by making choices when we shop we can make a difference.

There are copies available on the information desk in the foyer if you would like to be better informed.

PETER TO ROT PRAYER GROUP

Meeting: 7 June 2016 – 6:30pm

St John the Apostle Parish Centre

Contact: Francesca 0437 40 50 52

SUPPORTING OUR REFUGEES

Belconnen Interagency function

Belconnen Arts Centre

(118 Emu Bank, Belconnen)

Tuesday – 31 May

10:00am – 12noon.

RSVP 6264 0245

ROSTERS

5 June 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, Bonne & Rose Benedictos
6:00 pm	Margaret Curry, Maria Devine, Anthony Dunnicliff-Hagan, James & Toni Cox

Reading Roster

6:00pm	Therese Kercher, Dennis Puniard
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	Ann Clementine, Rob Breen
10:00am	Libby Kain, Bryan Cowman
6:00 pm	Needs Assistance

Other Rosters

- 30 May Altar Society: VACANT
- 30 May Church Cleaning: Marian England, Sharon & Nicola Greaves
- 11 June Presbytery Cleaning: Maresa Laird, Meg Millband, Pat Cowburn, Sabina Van Rooy, Lynnne Traynor
- 5 June Counting Roster: Pat Sheppard, Ted & Clare Kell
- 4 June Grounds: Barry Dwyer, Peter Onstenk, John Dudley

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:



LIBRARY NEWS: "Joy and hope: pilgrim, priest and bishop", by Pat Power, "The Life and glories of St Joseph" and, "The Jesus I never knew" are three of the new books on display at present.;

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

Recently Deceased:

Fr. John Doggett msc, Fr. Peter Flynn msc

Anniversary: *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, Stefanie Seaton, Mary Stinton, Margaret Keogh, Thomas Guy, Stephen Carew, Elizabeth Strike, Jack Draper, Marie Johnson, Evelyn Weinman, Ian Cupitt, Denise Doyle, John Bray, Dorothea Guilfoyle*

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

You are a priest for ever,
in the line of Melchizedek.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the living bread from heaven, says
the Lord; whoever eats this bread will
live for ever.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL IN A NUTSHELL [Lk 9:11-17](#)

The gospel passage tells us that after the five thousand people had eaten as much as they wanted, the remaining scraps filled twelve baskets. What is significant about twelve baskets of left-overs? Twelve was an important number – it represented the twelve tribes of Israel. Whenever the gospels mention twelve things they are symbolically talking about the nation of Israel. In this case, the message is that no matter how many people feast on the message of Jesus and accept the reign of God, there will still be enough to 'feed' the twelve tribes of Israel. No one need be left out!

Resources used: Greg Sunter at LiturgyHelp