

St John the Apostle Parish

A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year C

24 July 2016

#35.16

“To be on earth the Heart of God”

Parish Administration:

Pastor Gerard McCormick msc
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Web 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: 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.....

A businessman who needed millions of dollars to clinch an important deal went to church to pray for the money. By chance he knelt next to a man who was praying for \$100 to pay an urgent debt. The businessman took out his wallet and pressed \$100 into the other man's hand. Overjoyed, the man got up and left the church. The businessman then closed his eyes and prayed, "And now, Lord..., now that I have your undivided attention...."

Often prayer is associated with asking God for help. We call this prayer of petition. Jesus tells us that we must be persistent in our prayers. We need to keep knocking on the door. Does that mean that God is hard of hearing or that he is indifferent to our needs? Of course not! Persistence in prayer is necessary because it reminds us of our utter dependence on God for all our needs. Prayer of petition is a wonderful lesson in humility. It teaches us to stand before God who is the author of our lives and the provider of all our needs. Ultimately we are not self-reliant. We depend totally on God.

"Lord, teach us to prayer" is itself a petition. "Lord, we don't know how to prayer. You teach us." The prayer that Jesus gives to his disciples is in turn a prayer consisting of litany of petitions. But it's a very short list. The Lord's Prayer is a distillation of the essential attitude of the disciple. The prayer directs us to the Father – as Jesus life and mission was wholly orientated to serving the Father. And then we pray that God's will be done.

Yes, there will be times when we need to pray to God for our personal petitions and needs. But the primary petition that we address as Jesus' disciples is that God's kingdom will come, not our own.

***Peace & blessings,
Gerard***

Persistence

The focus of the entire sequence of today's readings has to do with the image of God communicated by Jesus to his followers. Each of us is created in the image and likeness of God, meaning that, each of us, holds within a divine spark, a piece of infinity, and an ingrained knowledge of that unique dignity.

Our image of God is linked to the image of our soul. St Augustine says; *The image of God is discerned in the acts and faculties and habits of the soul. The likeness of God is either a quality of this image, or it is the state of the soul as spiritual, not subject to decay or dissolution.*

The first reading and the Gospel are about prayer – more specifically in the case of the Gospel with the attitude to God that true prayer requires. Our prayer life will be influenced by our image of God.

In the gospel Jesus instructs us to ask for what we need. He assures us that God is more than willing to give us what we need. However, for this to happen we must turn to God and humbly acknowledge our need.

The most obvious characteristic of prayer depicted in the readings for this Sunday is persistence. Neither Abraham nor the man in the gospel was deterred by any obstacle. They show that it is not so much that we persist in prayer in order to change God's mind as it is that we persist in order to discover what God's mind might be.

The salutariness of prayer is often found in the change that it effects in us, not in God. By persevering in genuine prayer we may come to acknowledge that all things are in God's hands, and that we can rest content to leave them there, trusting that the situation will be cared for as God sees fit. It seems trite to say that God hears all prayer and sometimes the answer is 'No!' It is better to say that God respects the freedom of people and will seldom intervene to change the way events unfold. Still, prayer can change the one who prays and also the one for whom the prayer is offered if only human need is recognised and divine solicitude is acknowledged.

Resources used: Reflections at LiturgyHelp by Dianne Bergant CSS & Brendan Byrne SJ.

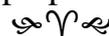
Building Community

The Pastoral Council is looking to form a committee that will oversee this priority of the Pastoral Plan. If this is an area of parish life that interests you and you would like to be a part of this initiative please contact the parish office.

RSVP 25 July 2016
Ph. 6254 3236
Email kippax@cg.org.au

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PRESENTATION MASSES

We welcome the children of the parish this weekend who are preparing to make their First Holy Communion. The children will hand their prayer card to a parishioner who is asked to pray for them during this preparation time.



Please hold these children in your prayers as they prepare to receive Jesus for the first time.

ENGLISH CONVERSATION & a CUPPA.

If English is not your first language then come and join in the conversation.

Thursdays 10:00am- Next Meeting 28 July

Pre-school age children welcome.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Practice will resume on 28 July – 4:00pm



We sing next: 10:00am Mass – 14 August

POWER POINT OPERATORS NEEDED

This notice will run until 31 July.

We need volunteers for all 4 masses.

- Vigil
- 8:30am
- 10:00am
- 6:00pm

If you are interested in joining this ministry please contact the parish office.

The PowerPoint operator is a vital role for all Liturgies. The level of participation of the congregation in all aspects of the Liturgy is much greater when the words are easy to see.

JUBILEE OF MERCY

Healing Wounds

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. #15

Misericordiae Vultus – Pope Francis

Key Quotes from *Laudato Si'*

Pope Francis' Encyclical on Ecology & Climate

On Dialogue for Human Fulfilment:

Politics must not be subject to the economy, nor should the economy be subject to the dictates of an efficiency-driven paradigm of technocracy. Today, in view of the common good, there is urgent need for politics and economics to enter into frank dialogue in the service of life, especially human life.

#189

Apostleship of the Sea – Stella Maris

The Apostleship of the Sea cares for all seafarers when they come to our shores, irrespective of race, colour or creed. All work completed by this national office is done on a voluntary basis and all funds raised are used for the support of seafarers. No funds raised are used for wages.

Seafarer Sunday was the 10th July, however we will have a leaving collection the weekend of 6/7 August.

CASUAL HOUSE KEEPER WANTED: The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference is looking for a casual House Keeper to carry out some general house keeping at the General Secretariat in Braddon, ACT. A full position description can be obtained from Carolina Ross at

admin@catholic.org.au or on 6201 9845.

Applications should be made to Glenn Mowbray, Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, GPO Box 368, CANBERRA ACT 2601 by Monday 1 August 2016.

RCIA

Journey towards Easter 2017.

Enquiry Night

Day & Date: Wednesday 31 August
Time: 7:00pm – 8:30pm

Perhaps you know someone who is interested in becoming Catholic?

Invite them to 'come and see'. Jn. 1:39



**ST JOHN THE APOSTLE
WOMEN'S BREAKFAST CLUB**

The next breakfast is:

TUES 26 July - 7:30 am

Little Chef Café

Nettlefold Street Belconnen

St Vinnies Winter Appeal

More than \$3000 was donated last weekend to support the work of St Vinnies in our local community. Your gifts will assist families to move from crisis towards stability and harmony. Thank you very much.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB

We are reading

"A Time of Gifts"

By Patrick Leigh Fermor



Sunday 21 August - 3:00 pm - Parish Library.

Over 45's will meet on Wednesday 27 July 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

Central Deanery Assembly

Mercy in Marriage & Family Life.

12 - 13 August,

St Clare's College, Griffith.

Registration essential

RSVP 5 August to the parish office.

More information call 6163 4300 or

www.bit.ly/DeaneryAssembly.

ROSTERS

31 July 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 Tierney, Clyde Sloan
10:00am	Colin Fox, Anthony Noakes, Robin Williams, Bonnie Benedictos, Rose Benedictos
6:00 pm	Margaret Curry, Margaret McMahan, 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	Lesley Givens, Chitra Jayawardena
8:30 am	David Mather, Therese Mather
10:00am	Margarete Gill, Tony Kennedy
6:00 pm	Needs Assistance

Other Rosters

- 25 July **Altar Society:** Violet Duve
25 July **Church Cleaning:**
Marilyn Calliess, Ann Clementine
6 Aug **Presbytery Cleaning:** Maresa Laird,
Meg Millband, Pat Cowburn,
Sabina Van Rooy, Lynn Traynor
31 July **Counting Roster:**
Marian England, Sharon Greaves
31 July **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. Adjust your hearing aids according to audiologist's advice.

On A Lighter Note:

A minister who was very fond of pure, hot horseradish always kept a bottle of it on his dining room table. He offered some to a guest, who took a big spoonful. When the guest finally was able to speak, he gasped, "I've heard many ministers preach hellfire, but you are the first one I've met who passed out a sample of it."

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

Recently Deceased:

Betty Coughlin (mother of Cathy Hogan)

Anniversary: *Donald Briggs, Valentini Vratovic, Therese Van der Vliet, Carol Thompson, Daniel Keneally, Jillian McInerney, Ardina Dudok, June Traynor, Mathilde Clemence, Diane Eccles, Andrew Kenna, John Connelly, Merle Maloney, Benito Berces, Marie Uhr, Evelyn Guy, Lorraine Rickard, Edward Carr, Christine Robinson, Basil Smith, Kenneth Marlor, Maryte Puzas, Joan Hafner*

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children, and in that Spirit we call God our Father.
Alleluia!



GOSPEL IN A NUTSHELL **Lk 11:1-13**

This discourse on prayer can be divided into three separate but related segments: the Lord's Prayer (vv.1,4); an example of persistence prayer (vv.5,8); the assurance of being heard (vv.10-13).

'Father' suggests a relationship that is intimate and childlike. This prayer is intended for those who enjoy such a relationship because of Jesus, who called God 'Father' and who now invites his disciples to do the same. The plea for the coming of God's reign is a prayer for eschatological fulfilment. The request for God's forgiveness acknowledges that the one praying has forgiven others. All the petitions point to the continuing need for God in the present struggles of life. This entire discourse encourages the disciples to persevere in prayer.

Resources used. Dianne Bergant CSS at LiturgyHelp

