

St John the Apostle Parish

A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish

**Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year C**

11 September 2016 #42.16

“To be on earth the Heart of God”

Parish Administration:

Pastor Gerard McCormick msc

Email: gerard@stjohnkippax.org.au

Associate Pastor Paul Browne msc

Email: paul@stjohnkippax.org.au

Parish Manager/Pastoral Associate
Marian England

Email: marian@stjohnkippax.org.au

Parish Secretary Sharon Greaves

Email: kippax@cg.org.au

Parish Office:

25 Blackham Street HOLT ACT

Office Hours: 9.00am - 3.00pm Mon-Fri

Telephone: 6254 3236

Fax: 6254 4819

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

ST JOHN THE APOSTLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal: Matthew Egan-Richards

Pawsey Circuit Florey

Phone: 6258 3592

Email: office.sjaps@cg.catholic.edu.au

www.sjaps.act.edu.au

From the Pastor's Desk.....

The parable of the Prodigal Son has been described as the greatest short story ever composed. And that is from a literary point of view. The story has all the dramatic hallmarks that make it an engaging tale which bears retelling time and time again.

On a theological level the story is even more breathtaking. In telling the story, Jesus is obviously having a swipe at the Pharisees in the manner by which he sketches out the character of the older brother. The older brother represents all that is repugnant in the stance of the self-righteous. The younger brother is no angel. He is a fool who through selfishness squanders his father's hard-earned wealth. But the difference between these two characters is that the younger brother comes to his senses. He confronts his folly and is deeply repentant. The older brother remains rigid and unwilling to see from the perspective of his father.

But the story is not only about conversion. It is one of the most revealing and tender images of God that we find in the scriptures. The title of the story 'the prodigal son' is a later appendage. In some ways it detracts from the story itself in that it focuses too much attention on the younger son. It is probably more fitting to be called the parable of the Prodigal Father. The father is reckless. A squanderer. But not from any selfish motive. It is love that the father is reckless with. He squanders his love unstintingly on both his sons. This is the God that Jesus reveals to us. A tender, loving merciful God.

***Peace & blessings,
Gerard***

We welcome Fr. Brian Vale SSC who will be visiting the parish next weekend 17/18 September. Fr. Brian is a Columban priest who will talk about Columban Missions and the "Far East" Magazine.

Parables of the Lost

We are in free love relationship. Jesus is clear about our freedom to choose between life in Him and the path which draws us away. The way human beings grow in love relationship, is by losing and finding. There are three different parables that Jesus tells about losing and finding: The lost sheep, the lost coin, the lost son; the animal world, the physical world, the human world. And in each case you think you have it, you lose it, you rediscover it. And after each is found, a party is thrown. The party is thrown only after the re-discovery. Because you really don't have it until you lose it and re-choose it consciously. Now that's the human journey.

Jesus tells these parables as a defence against the criticism he is receiving for the welcome he is giving to 'tax collectors (social outcasts) and sinners' and his 'eating with them' – that is, his festive celebration of their being 'found' or 're-found' by God.

In each case, then, the behaviour, response and attitude of the person who loses something images the behaviour, response and attitude of God to human beings 'lost' through sin. Taken together, the parables show that the chief issue at stake is not so much sin and its forgiveness but the loss and recovery of human beings, who are so precious in God's sight. The whole mission of Jesus is to reclaim human lives for God and to show people how much God values them by publicly celebrating that reclamation.

The third parable (the 'Lost Son') introduces a further character – the older brother, whose reaction shows the difficulty human beings have in coming to terms with such a vision of God. The older brother did not think his younger sibling deserved to be treated so indulgently. But what human beings might be thought to 'deserve' does not control the action of God.

Resources used: *Love is Stronger than Death*, by Richard Rohr
OFM & Scripture Commentary, by Brendan Byrne SJ

Child Protection Sunday

11 September 2016

Stronger Communities, Safer Children



NAPCAN
PREVENT CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT

CHANGES TO WEEKDAY MASSES

Weekday Morning Masses will be celebrated in the Parish Centre during the renovations to the Sanctuary area. All weekend Masses will be celebrated in the Church. It is expected that the Sanctuary will be completed by mid October.

JUNIOR ALTAR SERVERS

We are looking for boys and girls who would like to serve on the Altar.

A prerequisite for this ministry is that you have made your first Holy Communion.

Training will be provided. If you are interested in becoming an Altar Server contact the parish office on 62543236 or kippax@cg.org.au.

Anointing of the Sick within Mass

Friday 23 September at 10:00 am

We invite the elderly, the sick and housebound of our parish to participate in the special liturgy that celebrates the healing love of Christ. As the wellbeing of our parishioners is the responsibility of all fellow parishioners we are asking for the following assistance:

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.

JUBILEE OF MERCY

In the parables devoted to mercy, Jesus reveals the nature of God as that of a Father who never gives up until he has forgiven the wrong and overcome rejection with compassion and mercy. We know these parables well, three in particular: the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the father with two sons. In these parables, God is always presented as full of joy, especially when he pardons. In them we find the core of the Gospel and of our faith, because mercy is presented as a force that overcomes everything, filling the heart with love and bringing consolation through pardon. #9

Misericordiae Vultus – Pope Francis

Key Quotes from *Laudato Si'*

Pope Francis' Encyclical on Ecology & Climate

If we acknowledge the value and the fragility of nature and, at the same time, our God-given abilities, we can finally leave behind the modern myth of unlimited material progress. A fragile world, entrusted by God to human care, challenges us to devise intelligent ways of directing, developing and limiting our power. #78

Pins & Needles Craft Group

Third Thursday Monthly

Next Meeting: 15 September

7:15pm Parish Library

All Welcome . If craft is not your thing, maybe conversation is.

On A Lighter Note:

Mr. Green peered over his fence and noticed that the neighbour's little boy was in his backyard filling in a hole. Curious about what the youngster was up to, Mr. Green asked, "What are you doing, Jimmy?" Tearfully, little Jimmy replied, "My goldfish died, and I've just buried him." "That's an awfully large hole for a goldfish, isn't it?" Mr. Green said. Patting down the last bit of earth, little Joey replied, "That's because he's in your cat!"

PLANNED GIVING

Thank you for your response to the recent planned giving appeal. If you pledged to join the Planned Giving Program or to increase your existing giving and have not returned your form would you please do so at your earliest convenience. We thank you for your continued commitment to our parish community. If you have any queries please contact the parish office.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB

We are reading



"The Prison Book Club" 

By Ann Walmsley

Sunday 18 Sept - 3:00 pm - Parish Library.

Fr Brian Maher's final book...

A Slice Of Tipperary, A Story of Boorowa NSW Catholic Community,

is available through St Vincent de Paul Parish Office, Aranda 62511525 (Tues & Thurs 10am-3pm) Cost \$10 per copy. Mary Malycha at aranda@cg.org.au for further information.

Amicus, a support group for widowed, divorced and separated Catholics

Next Gathering:

ADORE Tea Gold Creek

Sunday 11th September 2016

12 NOON for Lunch.

To join us call Patricia 0412 351 548.

CGHS (Merici) Class of 1976 40 Year Reunion - Saturday 22 October 2016

We're having a get together to catch up and remember our school days. Anyone who left in 1974 (SC) or 1976 (HSC), or anyone who may have left but who would have graduated in our age year is invited. For more details, please email cghs7176@gmail.com or write to us at PO Box 251 Dickson ACT 2602.

LIBRARY NEWS: As a follow-up from the canonisation of St Teresa of Calcutta we shall display a collection of books about the lives of the other two famous saints with the same name – of Avila and Lisieux.

ROSTERS

18 September Ministers of Communion

6:00pm	Joy McInerney, Elaine Laycock, Maresa Laird, Laurine Smeaton, Daryl Smeaton
8:30 am	Jean Tierney, Margaret Conlon, Pat Cowburn, Clyde Sloan, VACANT
10:00am	Marie Flint, Colin Fox, Erin Pitt, Maida Kajkic, Patrick Corr
6:00 pm	Peter Polkinghorne, Brian Mahony, Jacinta Le, VACANT, VACANT

Reading Roster

6:00pm	Jim Jones, Mindaleisa Jones
8:30 am	Bert Broekhuysen, Elizabeth McDonald
10:00am	Ivo Astolfi, Libby Kain
6:00 pm	Meg Millband, Matthew Toohey

Hospitality Roster

6:00pm	Mary Barrett
8:30 am	Norma Sloan, Clyde Sloan
10:00am	Joe Pisciotta, Marie Hannan
6:00 pm	Brian Mahony

Other Rosters

- 12 Sept **Altar Society:** Maresa Laird
12 Sept **Church Cleaning:** Maresa Laird, Joseph Lê Văn Hải
17 Sept **Presbytery Cleaning:** Maryanne Ferguson, Margaret Sheehan, Ann Clementine, Lynette Weaver
18 Sept **Counting Roster:** Judy Netting, Joy McInerney, John McInerney
17 Sept **Grounds:** David Pigram, Rob Caskie, Matthew Garton, Mike Lavis



PARISH ACTIVITIES

PRAYER LIFE

- 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
Children's Mass Second Sunday monthly 10am

SOCIAL LIFE

English Conversations	Thursdays during school term 10:00am Parish Centre
Coffee Club	Second & Fourth Sunday after 10:00am Mass
Over 45's	Last Wednesday of the Month 9:30am Mass and morning tea
Pins & Needles	3 rd Thursday of the Month 7:15pm Parish Library
Book club	3 rd Sunday of the Month 3:00pm Parish Library
Women's Breakfast	4 th Tuesday of the Month 7:30am Little Chef Café Belconnen

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

Recently Deceased: *Christopher Halloran*

Anniversary: *Sue Ferguson, Honoria Kelly, Kathleen Wiltshire, Mary Prosper, Raymond Free, Graham Otterwill, Pauline Jones, Theresa Le, Don Nicol, Peter Hill, Allan Biggs, John Haley, Frances Critchlow, Antonio Ahn, Magda Ripszam, Marijona Grybaitis, Jana Nassir, Jo Mulligan, Luke White, Beryl Mannix, Aileen Antcliffe*

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

I will rise and go to my father.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world
to himself;
and the Good News of reconciliation he
has entrusted to us.
Alleluia!



GOSPEL IN A NUTSHELL Lk 15:1-32

The accusation that Jesus eats with sinners would have been considered incredibly insulting and defamatory. In that time, dining was as much a political act as it was a social one.

The three parables that appear in Luke 15 are unique to the gospel of Luke – none of the other gospels use these parables. They are used by the gospel writer to further highlight a theme that runs throughout this gospel: the release and acceptance of those who are oppressed and afflicted. It stems from the declaration of Jesus' mission in Ch. 4 when he reads from the scroll of Isaiah. More than any other gospel, this one portrays Jesus as having a special care and compassion for those who have been rejected by society.

Resources used. Greg Sunter at LiturgyHelp

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.