

St John the Apostle Parish

A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish

**Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year C**

30 October 2016

#49.16

“To be on earth the Heart of God”

Parish Administration:

Pastor Gerard McCormick msc
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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

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 Place of the Altar

“The altar is Christ!” These ancient words ring with a solid affirmation of the church’s insight into the sacredness of the altar. When the altar is consecrated, the oil of chrism is lavishly poured upon the surface of the altar by the bishop. Just as persons are anointed with the oil of chrism at baptism, confirmation and priestly ordination, so the altar is anointed. It becomes Christ.

That is why, when we approach the altar we bow to acknowledge the presence of Christ.

The altar is also understood as table, as the Introduction to the Roman Missal explains:

The altar on which the sacrifice of the cross is made present under sacramental signs is also the table of the Lord at which the people of God are called together to participate in the Mass. As well, the altar is the centre of the thanksgiving that is accomplished through the Eucharist.

Care should be taken that the altar remains uncluttered with unnecessary objects so that it does not resemble a work bench rather than a sacred and dignified symbol.

In their document titled *Our Place of Worship* the Canadian bishops provide a helpful guide to the proportions of the altar.

Intended for the action of a single priest and an assembly, the altar-table should not be elongated but rather square or slightly rectangular, clearly visible without being monumental, and achieve a balance between the scale of the building and the purpose of the altar.

**Peace & blessings,
Gerard**

Conversion is a movement from Hostility to Hospitality

Offering hospitality is a profound social act. When we offer hospitality, we invite another into our world, into our lives. We shift our attention from our own cares and concerns to the needs and comfort of the other. By the act of hospitality we transform strangers into friends and intimates, just as Jesus did with Zacchaeus. The hospitality that Jesus offers dissolves all constraints. Relationships disregard the biased measures of propriety, forging bonds of reconciliation and issuing everyone an invitation to intimacy.

Because of Zacchaeus' evident willingness to welcome the message of Jesus into his life, Jesus prompts Zacchaeus to welcome him into his home. The readiness of Jesus to enter into the house of someone regarded as a sinner causes great scandal among the onlookers. What's more, Jesus is prepared to eat with this man as well – a sign of complete acceptance.

One of the key elements in spiritual conversion is to move from hostility to hospitality. Zacchaeus' statement of intent to amend his sinful ways and adopt in the future a new pattern of life is interpreted as a conversion of heart. But the hospitality this marginalised one provides immediately becomes problematic for the nameless 'they' who mutter and murmur: 'Jesus has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner.' If any party has to undergo conversion in this episode it is the murmuring, criticising 'they'.

The welcome of Zacchaeus meets the welcome of God.

The hospitality that Jesus offers recreates the world from one of insider versus outsider to one of universal inclusivity. Sinners become friends, the lost are found, and all are restored to the rightful place as children not merely of Abraham but of God. The creativity of the creator is matched by the compassion of the re-creator.

Resources used: Reflection, by Dianne Bergant CSS, Greg Sunter & Brendan Byrne SJ

Archbishop's Day of Teaching "Rich in Mercy"

Date: Saturday 5 November
Time: 9:00am to 4:00pm
Where: Rheinberger Centre, Yarralumla
Mass: 3:00pm
Cost: Free, bring your own lunch.
There will be a collection for CCR

Charismatic prayer groups and communities, and anyone who wants to deepen their spiritual journey, are invited to attend this special day of talks, praise and sharing.
To register, email: contact@ccrtract.org.au, or SMS/phone: Neda 0415 266 019 or Sandra 0405 692 999.

Benedictine Monk Fr Laurence Freeman OSB *Leader of the World Community for Christian Meditation (WCCM)*

Date: Saturday 12 November
Time: 1:00pm to 4:00pm
Where: Australian Centre for Christianity
& Culture Barton
Cost: \$20.00

Archdiocesan Commission for Women Annual Open Morning

Date: Saturday 12 November
Time: 9:00am for 9:30am
Where: Rheinberger Centre, Yarralumla
Cost: Donation \$5
Morning Tea will be provided.
Speaker: Helen Delahunty, Archdiocesan
Financial Administrator.
Topic: Where are Women in the Church?
Men and Women are welcome to attend.
Enquiries to Margaret Ryan 0417 418 838
commissionforwomencg@gmail.com.

One Day Retreat "Come Rest in the Lord"

Date: Saturday 19 November
Time: 9:30am to 5:00pm
Where: Holy Spirit Parish, Amaroo.
Facilitator: Frs. Rony & Joby George
of the Divine Retreat Centre.
Cost: BYO lunch.
Enquiries: Ph. 62429622.

Annual Mass for deceased bishops and clergy

Date: Sunday 20 November
Time: 11:00am
Where: St Christopher's Cathedral
All parishioners are welcome to attend this special Mass

JUBILEE OF MERCY

The Ten Commandments of Mercy:

- 6. Remember that mercy is not opposed to justice, but is its fulfilment.**

Mercy, as Walter Kasper so aptly puts it, is not "a kind of fabric softener that undermines the dogmas and commandments and abrogates the central and fundamental meaning of truth." That's the accusation the Pharisees made against Jesus. Mercy is where justice is meant to terminate.

By Ronald Rolheiser OMI

Refugee Resettlement Committee

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 1st Nov - 7.30pm

Meet in the parish centre. We will finish by 9pm. New members are welcome to come along.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB

We are reading

"Behind the Beautiful Forevers"

By Katherine Boo



Sunday 20 November - 3:00 pm
Parish Library.

God in the Here and Now:

A retreat for those living with a life-limiting / life threatening illness

St Mary's Towers Douglas Park
4-6 November 2016

This retreat is offered to those who are living with a life-limiting illness that causes them to face the prospect of their dying. The aim is to reflect on the meaning of life and how faith can encourage and enrich the grace we are being offered to live life in our present condition.

Retreat presenters: Michael Fallon msc,
Therese Compton, Michelle Vass,

Application forms and further information available from:

<http://towersretreat.abundance.org.au>

The Administrator,

St. Mary's Towers Retreat Centre,
PO Box 19A Douglas Park NSW 2569

phone: 02 4630 0233 fax: 024630 9364

email: towersretreat@bigpond.com

MSC MISSIONS

We welcome Fr Adrian Meaney msc who will celebrate masses in the parish this weekend. There will be a leaving collection for the MSC Missions at each of these masses.

SAVE THE DATE

Ministry thank you Lunch

Sunday 20th November 2016 - 12noon

All current members of the many parish ministries are invited to a thank you lunch.

HOLY SOULS - NOVEMBER MASSES

Please complete your November mass intention envelope and return it to the parish office. We would appreciate receiving these before 31 October. The names of your deceased loved ones who you want to remember during the month of November will be read out before the weekday mass. We will also continue to have mass intentions during the month of November for those anniversaries and intentions that occur during that month.



All Saints day – Tuesday 1 November
Mass – 9:30am

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE:

Formation Night for Parents

Mon 14 Nov 2016 - 7:00 - 8:30pm

St John the Apostle Parish Centre

NATIONAL CHURCH LIFE SURVEY (NCLS)

Archbishop Christopher Prowse is committed to all parishes in the Archdiocese participating in the survey this year. Our parish has participated in two previous surveys. We will conduct the survey on the weekend of 12/13 November.

LIBRARY NEWS: "How the Catholic Church built western civilisation", "The Church unfinished", "A Short history of the Catholic Church" and "Called to be church in Australia" are some of the books on display this week.

ROSTERS

6 November Ministers of Communion

6:00pm	Helen Kennedy, Debbie Milne, Joe Catanzariti, Maria Catanzariti, VACANT
8:30 am	Carmel Screen, Sigrid Kropp, Agnes Pham, Maria Scarr, VACANT
10:00am	Farid Naoum, Jenny Howarth, Nunga Umaru, Bonnie Benedictos, Rose Benedictos
6:00 pm	Margaret Curry, James Cox, Toni Cox, Maria Devine, Anthony Dunnicliff-Hagan

Reading Roster

6:00pm	Michael Horan, Lesley Givens
8:30 am	John O'Heir, Violet Duve
10:00am	Robin Williams, Ann Reynolds
6:00 pm	Nicole Mikkonen, Judith Deklin

Hospitality Roster

6:00pm	Joe Catanzariti
8:30 am	Agnes Pham, Carmel Screen
10:00am	Farid Naoum, Victoria Naoum
6:00 pm	VACANT

Other Rosters

- 31 Oct **Altar Society:** Mary Cruickshank
- 31 Oct **Church Cleaning:**
Marian England, Sharon Greaves
- 12 Nov **Presbytery Cleaning:**
Maryanne Ferguson, Margaret Sheehan, Ann Clementine, Lynette Weaver
- 6 Nov **Grounds:**
Barry Dwyer, Peter Onstenk, John Dudley



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

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: Br. Bill McEvoy fms

Anniversary: *Elsie Screen, Silva Santos, Gregory Robinson, Ann Raads, Paul Newton, Peter Fox, May Skelly, Gavin Smith, Maurice Scheerlinck, Emily Flynn, John Joyce, Narim Dawalibi, Anne Jones, Rex Kelley, Edward Dwyer, Ursula Bell, Grace Carmichael, Patricia Smith, John Roots, Margaret Webster, Marie-Jeanne Shatzman, Veronica Tippet*

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
God loved the world so much,
he gave us his only Son,
that all who believe in him
might have eternal life.
Alleluia!



GOSPEL IN A NUTSHELL

In today's passage, the crowds line the streets of Jericho to welcome Jesus with great fanfare but also quickly turn on him when he acts on the message of acceptance and forgiveness that he has been proclaiming throughout his ministry. When we hear this story about Zacchaeus, our focus is normally on the conversion of heart that appears to take place within Zacchaeus. However, his determination to see Jesus from the outset suggests that the conversion has already taken place within Zacchaeus. It is the muttering, grumbling crowd who are called to conversion. Throughout the gospel, the welcome and acceptance Jesus extends to the 'outsider' and the 'sinner' confronts and challenges those who would hold themselves up as being better than these others.

Resources used: Greg Sunter at Liturgy Help

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.