

St John the Apostle Parish

A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish

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

6 November 2016

#50.16

“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.....

It is good to be back in the parish after returning from my annual holidays. I spent most of my holidays walking the Camino. The way to Santiago de Compostela (where the pilgrimage ends) is well marked, making it almost impossible to get lost. This was very reassuring. It reinforced for me the importance of signposts. Signposts point us in the right direction. This is where religion becomes so important. It provides us with those signposts. Sunday Mass, the Scriptures, the teachings of the church, together they offer us a signpost to heaven. So these markers that I followed along the way to Compostela became a metaphor for living.

Along our journey through life we are often faced with crossroads. Without the necessary guidance and assurance as to which is the right direction to take, we run the risk of getting lost. The other reassuring thing about the Camino is the fellowship with other pilgrims. Our Christian journey is a communal experience. Again, this is most reassuring. We know we are not alone on our journey, we are in fellowship with fellow pilgrims, in fellowship with the saints who have gone before us, and most importantly, we are in union with our God. So for me, walking the Camino has reinforced these aspects of our Christian journey. Applying this to our parish can, I believe, help us to encourage one another along the journey and reassure one another that we are on the right path and that our God is always with us.



**Peace & blessings,
Gerard**

Weekly Reflection:

Life after death

We understand our lives best when we see them against the horizon of the infinite. Nowhere is this more important than in the belief that there is a life beyond this one.

When we stop believing in life after death we tend to put too much pressure on this life to give us the full symphony. When we stop seeing our lives as being completed by something beyond the present world, it becomes natural to become more frustrated with the limits of our lives and to begin to demand, however subtly or unconsciously, that our spouses, children, friends, careers, jobs, and vacations give us something they can't give, namely, complete fulfilment, full meaning, final satisfaction, joy beyond frustration, ecstasy, heaven.

Unless we can somehow place our present lives against an horizon of an after-life that completes it, the punishing limits, daily inadequacy, and brute mortality of this world will eventually drive us to depression, bitterness, or violence. Outside of a vision of life after death, we can't come to full peace with this life, the sophisticated stoicism of so much of contemporary theology and spirituality notwithstanding.

Belief in resurrection is not the same as the conviction of the immortality of the soul. The latter is based on the makeup of the human person; the former rests on the fidelity of God. The doctrine of resurrection is grounded in the concept of covenant, which claims that God has established a relationship with human beings. At issue is whether or not death is powerful enough to break the ties that bind us in covenant with God. Jesus says 'No!'

The relationship God seeks to forge with human beings here and now is one that causes them to enter into God's own eternal being and so necessarily transcends death. Ultimately, then, denial of the resurrection is a denial of God as Israel – and the whole Judeo-Christian tradition deriving from Israel's faith – conceives God to be.

Resources used: *Against an Eternal Horizon*, by Ronald Rolheiser OMI & *Reflection*, by Dianne Bergant CSS

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.

November Baptisms

We welcome into our community:



Michael Huszar,
son of Simon & Marnie;
Daniel Martin-Medina,
son of Rodrigo & Angelica;
Mackenzie Knight,
daughter of Damien & Tess;
Charlotte Jiang,
daughter of William & Stephanie;
Iylah Botham,
daughter of Ty and Taylah

EMMANUEL 2016

Daily Advent and Christmas Reflections

These reflections have been written by twelve contributors from the Diocese of Wollongong including: Mr Ken Bryant, Sr Eileen Brown, Miss Trish McCarthy and Fr. David Catterall.

A pocket size book containing short daily reflections for the season of Advent.

Available in our bookstore: \$4.00 each

SUNDAY AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB

We are reading

"Behind the Beautiful Forevers"

By Katherine Boo



Sunday 20 November - 3:00 pm
Parish Library.

Thank You: *Two parishioners have donated \$1,000.00 each toward the new Baptistry. We thank them for their generosity.*

JUBILEE OF MERCY

The Ten Commandments of Mercy:

7. **Remember that only the practice of mercy will make God's Kingdom come.**

Jesus promised us that someday the meek will inherit the earth, the poor will eat plentiful, rich food, and all tears will be wiped away. That can only happen when mercy replaces self-interest.

By Ronald Rolheiser OMI

Key Quotes from *Laudato Si'*

Pope Francis' Encyclical on Ecology & Climate

What is the purpose of our life in this world? Why are we here? What is the goal of our work and all our efforts? What need does the earth have of us? It is no longer enough to simply state that we should be concerned for future generations. We need to see that what is at stake is our own dignity. Leaving a habitable planet to future generations is, first and foremost, up to us. The issue is one which dramatically affects us, for it has to do with the ultimate meaning of our earthly sojourn.

Ministry Thank You Lunch

Invitation Thank You Lunch

Day: Sunday
Date: 20 November 2016
Time: 12 Noon
Place: St John the Apostle Parish Centre
RSVP: 14 November 2016
Ph 6254 3236 or kippax@cs.org.au

We thank you for your commitment to ministry and the care and wellbeing of our parish. Join with other parishioners as we take the opportunity to celebrate the past year and give thanks for the gifts of our parish.

We will supply the meat and drinks and would appreciate you bringing either a salad or dessert.

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.

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

MSC Missions thank you

Fr. Adrian Meaney msc would like to thank you for your generosity. The appeal last weekend collected \$3700.

LIBRARY NEWS: Further titles on the history of the Church are displayed this week:- "The Early Church", "A History of Christianity", and "The Church emerging from Vatican II".

On A Lighter Note: Riddle

I like to roam but I'll always stay home,
I leave a silver track,
If you carried what I could carry with
the way I moved ,
You'd break your neck and back.
What am I?

A: A snail

ROSTERS

13 November Ministers of Communion

6:00pm	Sharon Loiterton, Margaret Conlon, Robert Greig, Anthony & Chitra Jayawardena
8:30 am	Brian Green, Fay Stephenson, Fay Hodgetts, Margaret Stanford, Shane Murtagh
10:00am	Anthony Noakes, Cathy Madsen, Jojo Mathew, Shyni Jojo, Francesca Deklin
6:00 pm	Henri Clementine, Marian Crowley, Andrew Luck Andrew Webster, Barbara Gardiner

Reading Roster

6:00pm	Mary French, Tom Halloran
8:30 am	Mariana Rollgejser, Sigrid Kropp
10:00am	CHILDREN'S MASS
6:00 pm	Judith Deklin, Brian Mahony

Hospitality Roster

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

Other Rosters

7 Nov	Altar Society:	Margaret Ferguson
7 Nov	Church Cleaning:	Meg Millband, Sabina Van Rooy
12 Nov	Presbytery Cleaning:	Maryanne Ferguson, Margaret Sheehan, Ann Clementine, Lynette Weaver
12 Nov	Grounds:	Henri Clementine, John Gill, Rob Breen, Mike Blyth

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

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

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

Recently Deceased: Br. David Merrick msc
Br. Kevin Blyth fms (Uncle of Mike Blyth)

Anniversary: Edward Dwyer, Ursula Bell, Grace Carmichael, Patricia Smith, John Roots, Margaret Webster, Marie-Jeanne Shatzman, Veronica Tippet, Maria Van Audenaerde, Brenden Keir, Cornelia Onstenk, William Castle, Richard Witzens, Gloria Hunter, Maria Wegener, Jamie Gruber, Kathleen Randall, Garry Marsh, Nell Clarke, Matthew Biggs, Joey Griffiths, Nelson Canas, Irene Collbourne, Corstianus Slusser, Patricia McGree, Honorio Arranz, Dorothy Lenihan

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

Lord, when your glory appears,
my joy will be full.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the dead;
glory and kingship be his
for ever and ever.
Alleluia!



GOSPEL IN A NUTSHELL

Jesus is in a theological discussion with the Sadducees about the possibility of resurrection. He first draws a line of distinction between this age when procreation is necessary, and the age to come, when there will be no death. He employs a very traditional Jewish method to argue his point. Reading a text literally, he draws conclusions from it that was probably never in the mind of the author. He refers to the narrative of Moses' encounter with God at the burning bush (cf. Exod 3:1-6). The text has God say 'I am', not 'I was'. The implication is that God is a God of the living, not of the dead. They were all joined to God through the covenant. Jesus' interpretation is claiming that death does not sever the union that the covenant forges.

Resources used: Dianne Bergant 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.