

## St John the Apostle Parish

*A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish*

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

**13 November 2016 #51.16**

**“To be on earth the Heart of God”**

### Parish Administration:

**Pastor** Gerard McCormick msc

Email: [gerard@stjohnkippax.org.au](mailto:gerard@stjohnkippax.org.au)

**Associate Pastor** Paul Browne msc

Email: [paul@stjohnkippax.org.au](mailto:paul@stjohnkippax.org.au)

**Parish Manager/Pastoral Associate**

Marian England

Email: [marian@stjohnkippax.org.au](mailto:marian@stjohnkippax.org.au)

**Parish Secretary** Sharon Greaves

Email: [kippax@cg.org.au](mailto: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](http://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: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:office.sjaps@cg.catholic.edu.au)

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## From the Pastor's Desk.....

The surprise election of Donald Trump as the next president of the United States has come close on the heels of the equally surprising decision of UK voters to leave the European Union. Our world seems to be increasingly volatile and unpredictable. Of course, the world has always experienced change, uncertainty, conflict and upheavals of one kind or another. But there just seems to me – and I'm sure I'm not alone – that the unpredictable nature of human events seems to be increasing at such a rate that makes any speculation on the future more and more futile. The concept of the “march of time” – which suggests an orderly unfolding of events – might perhaps be replaced with the notion of the “stampede of time” to describe the present.

The ever increasing rate of change cannot be healthy. Human beings need a certain amount of stability in order to plan and achieve those things that give meaning and purpose to life. During my holidays I had the opportunity to visit one of the world's famous monasteries, Montserrat. The Benedictine way of life is a great testimony to stability. In fact Benedictine monks and nuns, in addition to the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience, take a fourth vow of stability. This is noticeable when visiting such monasteries. The day is ordered around prayer, work and recreation. Life is harmoniously tuned to the pattern of the day and to the unfolding of the seasons. We can learn much from these monastics in our topsy-turvy world.

We have another foil to the constant changes in our world. And that is the celebration of the liturgical calendar. Each year the liturgical seasons unfold with a gracious and predictable certainty. We are coming to the end of one liturgical year and will soon celebrate a new liturgical year with the beginning of Advent. It is a reminder that God is the centre of all that is; the still point of our being. Through prayer and the celebration of the liturgical year we move into God's time. Here we find our true repose and the place where we are renewed with a purpose that sets us calmly moving forward into God's future.

***Peace & blessings,  
Gerard***

## Faith & Struggles

Whilst this Gospel is located in Jesus earthly life, the discourse really looks out beyond his death and resurrection to the time of the Church. It deals with what might be called the 'passion of the disciples', the trials and temptations that await them in the long space of time before the Kingdom was finally in place. They would be persecuted, hauled before law-courts, and – most poignantly – suffer inner-community and inner-family division and betrayal.

The 'time of the Church' addressed in the discourse has extended vastly beyond anything the early believers ever expected or foresaw. But we retain the doctrine of the 'Second Coming' in our creeds, not because we literally believe – as fundamentalists do – that Jesus will one day appear on the clouds of heaven, but because we believe in the eventual triumph of God's sovereignty in the universe and that all is provisional until then.

Wars, famines, earthquakes continue. Injustices abound, those who proclaim the Gospel in word and deed, who work for justice and a more human life for all are overthrown, cast into prison and 'disappeared'. Grounds for dismay, disillusionment, loss of faith are always there.

Some of the major faith and church struggles of our time, as manifest within the more highly secularized parts of our world are:

*The struggle to live in torn, divided, and highly-polarized communities, as wounded persons ourselves, and carry that tension without resentment and without giving it back in kind.*

*The struggle for community and church, the struggle inside a culture of excessive individuality to find the healthy line between individuality and community, spirituality and ecclesiology.*

*The struggle to link faith to justice ... the struggle to get a letter of reference from the poor, to institutionally connect the gospel to the streets, to remain on the side of the poor.*

The discourse of this Gospel is for our time as much as for the early generations of believers.

Resources used: Commentary by Brendan Byrne SJ, & *The Ten Major Faith Struggles Of Our Age*, by Ronald Rolheiser OMI .

# 2017 – Appointments

After much prayer and in consultation with the Provincial it has been decided that Fr. Paul will leave St John the Apostle Parish at the end of January 2017. Paul will be living and doing pastoral ministry in the Maitland/Newcastle Diocese. Please keep Paul in your prayers as he embarks on this new phase of his life.

At this point in time we have not been advised by the Provincial if anyone will be replacing Paul.

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*The Year 7 St Francis Xavier students will join Mass on **Thursday 17 November at 9:30am.***

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## NATIONAL CHURCH LIFE SURVEY (NCLS)

We will conduct the survey this weekend. Archbishop Christopher Prowse is committed to all parishes in the Archdiocese participating in the survey this year. Our parish participated in the 2006 & 2011 surveys.

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## EMMANUEL 2016

### Daily Advent and Christmas Reflections

These reflections have been written by twelve contributors from the Diocese of Wollongong. A pocket size book containing short daily reflections for the season of Advent.

Available in our bookstore: \$4.00 each

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## Refugee Resettlement Committee

would like to thank the Uniting Church at Kippax who allowed us to have a stall at their garage sale on Saturday 5th November. We raised \$140 from this, which will go to ongoing help for refugee families supported by the parish. We very much appreciate their kind offer and their help with the stall.

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**LIBRARY NEWS:** For the next couple of weeks we shall display a selection of new titles recently added to the library collection including "Mercy: the essence of the Gospel and the key to Christian Life".

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## JUBILEE OF MERCY

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### The Ten Commandments of Mercy:

#### 9. *Remember that mercy calls us to do works both spiritual and physical.*

Our Christian faith challenges us to perform mercy in a double way, corporeally and spiritually. The classic corporal works of mercy are: *Feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, shelter the homeless, cloth the naked, visit the sick, visit the imprisoned, and bury the dead.* The classic spiritual works of mercy are: *instruct the ignorant, counsel the doubtful, comfort the afflicted, admonish the sinner, forgive offenses, bear wrongs patiently, and pray for the living and the dead.* God has given us different gifts and all of us are better at some of these than at others, but mercy is manifest in all of them.

By Ronald Rolheiser OMI

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### Key Quotes from *Laudato Si'*

#### Pope Francis' Encyclical on Ecology & Climate

"The relationship between a good aesthetic education and the maintenance of a healthy environment cannot be overlooked". By learning to see and appreciate beauty, we learn to reject self-interested pragmatism. If someone has not learned to stop and admire something beautiful, we should not be surprised if he or she treats everything as an object to be used and abused without scruple. #215

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## Church Spruce Up....

*Cleaning the church for Christmas*

December 10<sup>th</sup> 9:00am – 12noon

**Put this date in your diary!**

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### On A Lighter Note:

Johnny paid his way through college by being a waiter in a restaurant. "What's the usual tip?" asked a customer. "Well," said Johnny, "this is my first day, but the other guys said that, if I got five dollars out of you, I'd be doing great." "Is that so?" growled the customer. "In that case, here's twenty dollars." "Thanks. I'll put it in my college fund," Johnny said. "By the way, what are you studying?" asked the customer. "Applied psychology."

## St Vincent De Paul Christmas Hampers

The local conference will again be preparing hampers for members of our community struggling at this time. Food lists and gift cards will be available from the Christmas tree in the church foyer from the weekend of 26 & 27 November. For further information contact Gabe Culhane Ph: 62543012

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## Karinya House for Mothers & Babies Open Day

18 November - 10.00am to 2.00pm

There will be an opportunity to tour the new complex plus sustenance. A gold coin donation will assist with catering expenses. For privacy reasons and managing numbers please register your interest and preferred visiting time at <https://karinyahouse.asn.au/events/new-karinya-open-day/>

Enquiries Jo Saccasan M: 0429 945 804  
[Jo.Saccasan@karinyahouse.asn.au](mailto:Jo.Saccasan@karinyahouse.asn.au)

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## 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@cz.org.au](mailto:kippax@cz.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.**



# ROSTERS

## 20 November Ministers of Communion

6:00pm	Joy McInerney, Elaine Laycock, Maresa Laird, Laurine & 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, Vacant, Vacant, Vacant

## 20 November Reading Roster

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

## 20 November Hospitality Roster

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

## Other Rosters

- 14 Nov Altar Society:** Maresa Laird
- 14 Nov Church Cleaning:** Maresa Laird, Joseph Lê Văn Hải
- 26 Nov Presbytery Cleaning:** Maresa Laird, Meg Millband, Pat Cowburn, Sabina Van Rooy, Lynnie Traynor
- 19 Nov 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

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 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the Month 7:15pm Parish Library
Book club	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Month 3:00pm Parish Library
Women's Breakfast	4 <sup>th</sup> 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:

**Anniversary:** Maria Van Audenaerde, Brenden Keir, Cornelia Onstenk, William Castle, Richard Witrzens, Gloria Hunter, Maria Wegener, Jamie Gruber, Kathleen Randall, Garry Marsh, Nell Clarke, Matthew Biggs, Joey Griffiths, Nelson Canas, Irene Collbourne, Corstianus Slusser, Honorio Arranz, Patricia McGee, Dorothy Lenihan, Mary-Ellen Roots, Krissy Thomas, Herbert Gallagher, John Welfare, John Patterson, Winifred O'Neill, John Burns, John Costelloe, Susan Sutch

## RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Lift up your heads and see;  
your redemption is near at hand.  
Alleluia!



## GOSPEL IN A NUTSHELL

When the gospel of Mark was written around the year 75 of the 1st Century, the people of that community firmly believed that the world was about to end and that Jesus' return to earth was going to happen any day. Another 10 or so years later, the communities of the gospels of Matthew and Luke were enduring persecution and great hardship. They felt that surviving through this time of struggle would be rewarded with the return of Jesus. However, by the time of the gospel of John, another 10 years later, we see an acceptance that the end is still to come sometime in the future. The language of passages like today's gospel can be off-putting at times and can also be seized upon by those who would interpret scripture literally. The message to a struggling community is to 'keep going.'

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.