

St John the Apostle Parish

A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish

Third Sunday of Lent Year A

19 March 2017

#17.17

"To be on earth the Heart of God"

"زمین تي خدا جي دل ڀي"

Parish Administration:

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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 during
10:00am Mass

Reconciliation: Sat 5:00pm – 5:30pm or by
appointment with the priest

ST JOHN THE APOSTLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Acting Principal: Matthew Garton

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REFLECTION

Living Water

The Samaritan woman has obviously come to the well to draw water for herself. Her encounter with Jesus is a moment of transformation for her. At first, she fails to comprehend his reference to 'living water' and never being thirsty again. However, in the end 'the woman put down her water jar and hurried back to the town.'

Leaving her water jar behind was a sign of the transformation that had taken place within her. She had indeed drunk of the living water of Jesus and no longer paid attention to the need for water that had brought her to the well.

The Samaritan woman's personal encounter with Jesus compels her to start spreading the good news about the amazing man she has met. She meets Jesus face to face and feels compelled to act on what she has felt.

Lent is a time for each of us to again – or for the first time – seek out a face to face encounter with Jesus. Through prayer, contemplation on scripture or reflection on encountering Jesus in the face of others, we build a one to one relationship with Jesus. When we acknowledge this relationship, like the Samaritan woman, we are compelled to act on it.

Jesus shows us who we really are. Not who we WANT to be, but who we are: Imperfect, Crabby, Selfish, and utterly lovable in God's eyes.

It's not a message we can hear with our brains. It's one that Jesus asks us to open our hearts for. "Look at me," he says, "and jump into the deep water."

Resources used: Reflection by Greg Sunter & A Contemplation on The Woman at the Well, by Maureen McCann Waldron

☞ Let us pray for those who are sick.

We remember them in our Masses. ☞

Recently Deceased:

Anniversary: *Helen Murphy, Jill Wilson, Richard Kingsford, Peter Roache, Marijan Cavlovic, Generoso D'Ambrosio, Brian Weston, Jack Ranson, Michael Lowe, Dorothy Hornick (Potts), Ludvik Koren, James Broderick, Ella Greig, Clement King, Alexander Van Audenaerde, Andrew McEvoy, Stanislaw Bitner, Victoria Huntley, Moira Leader, Mark Markham, Jennifer Adamik, Jack Lenihan, Sybil Lazaro, Catherine Wheelaghan.*



Home Visitation – Parishioners are invited to offer their services for home visitation or to take Holy Communion to the housebound. Those interested are requested to give their names and contact details to the parish office. Training will be provided.

Membership of the PPC: Ideally membership of the Pastoral Council would reflect who we are. It is important that the Council represents the ethnic diversity of the parish. Membership is made up of 8 parishioners plus the Pastor, Pastoral Associate and Principal of St John the Apostle Primary school [or representative] who are ex-officio members. As we currently have only 3 members continuing on the Council this year we are now looking for 5 new members. If you would like to nominate someone or yourself there are nomination forms in the church foyer.

On A Lighter Note:

Q. Why do bees have sticky hair?

A. Because they use honeycombs.

PARISH NEWS

Youth Ministry: A youth group planning meeting was held on Wednesday 15 March 2017. It was attended by 5 youth of the parish and 7 adults. It is envisioned that the youth group will be for high school students in years 7 to 12. Discussion centred on the type of youth group the young people would like and the structure of their gatherings. The young spoke of a group where people can explore their faith in a safe environment, share experiences, and encourage each other in their faith journey. The youth group will initially meet on the 1st & 3rd Sunday nights of the month. Their inaugural gathering will be on 2 April after the 6:00pm mass – *pizza and games night*.

The Archdiocese has appointed two youth workers for the Belconnen region. Zoe Swan has been appointed to Aranda, Page and Kippax and Katie Golding have been appointed to Kaleen, Evatt and Charnwood. They will work out of St Francis Xavier College and liaise with their appointed parishes.



The St Joseph the Worker crew were busy this week. They have commenced painting the exterior of the parish buildings. The front doors to the parish office have had a face lift and are looking fresh and clean. We thank them for their dedication in maintaining the parish buildings.



Sacrament of Penance: The children have been preparing for this sacrament since November 2016. They will make the sacrament for the first time on Thursday 23 March 2017. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

Lent 2017

Project Compassion

Hearing our Stories

Trauma has been part of Uncle Richard's life from the beginning. A survivor of the Stolen Generation, he was kidnapped from his country, his community, and his family at a very young age. Uncle Richard was held at the state run Kinchela Boys Home (KBH) in Kempsey NSW. Hundreds of indigenous boys were incarcerated there between 1924 and 1970, suffering ongoing physical and verbal abuse. They lost every aspect of their identity – their names, their culture and their families.

The Kinchela Boys Home Aboriginal Corporation (KBHAC) was formed by the KBH survivors to support them, their families and communities through a peer model of support and empowerment founded on brotherhood and neighbourly love. As an adult, Uncle Richard has battled anger and pain, which his work as an artist has helped him overcome. He gained a degree in Fine Arts and now teaches art, mentoring young Aboriginal artists. *"A lot of my artwork is based on spirituality", he says – both Dreamtime, and Christian.*

*"Commitment to truth
opens the way to lasting
reconciliation"
Pope Benedict*

Kinchela Boys Home Aboriginal Corporation (KBHAC), which is supported by Caritas Australia, has helped Uncle Richard and others like him restore their dignity and identity and heal.

Web Page: Due to a problem with the mail out function we have not been able to send out the Web Page for the past couple of weeks. We are looking into the problem and endeavour to have it fixed as soon as possible. The web site is working and the COMPACT is still accessible..... go to www.stjohnkippax.org.au click on the tab *Parish News* and then *Weekly Bulletin* You can also access past COMPACT's – follow the steps above and then click on *2017 COMPACT archive*.

SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION

St Monica's Evatt

Tuesday 28 March 7:30pm

St Matthew's Page

Wednesday 5 April 7:30pm

The RRC would like to thank the Uniting Church at Kippax, who once again allowed us to have a stall at their garage sale at the beginning of March, to raise money for our refugees. We made \$113 selling food for lunch.

Saturday Vigil Mass Time

At the Parish Pastoral Council meeting on the 9 March the council discussed the idea of bringing the Vigil mass time forward to either 5:00pm or 5:30pm during the winter months [the non-daylight saving months] April – September.

This initiative is directed at the pastoral needs of parishioners where an earlier mass time may suit them during the dark winter months.

We are now canvassing parishioners for their response to this initiative.

I would like the Vigil mass to:

☐ Move to 5:00pm

☐ Move to 5:30pm

☐ Stay at 6:00pm

NAME: _____

It is anticipated that if there is to be a change to the mass time it will happen after Easter. Please return this form to the parish office by 3 April 2017.

ROSTERS

26 March Ministers of Communion

6:00pm	Judy Netting, Marie McKie, John Drury, Barbara Witrzens, Judy Mewburn
8:30am	Violet Duvé, Janet Almond, Ted & Clare Kell, VACANT, VACANT
10:00am	Robin Williams, Libby Costello, John Blackwell, Rachel Blackwell, Marissa Blackwell
6:00pm	Margaret McMahon, Judith Deklin, Matthew Toohey, VACANT, VACANT

26 March Reading Roster

6:00pm	Marie Murphy, Elaine Laycock
8:30am	Carmel Screen, Shane Murtagh
10:00am	Louise Honan, Joe Ots
6:00pm	Marian Crowley, Andrew Luck

26 March Hospitality Roster

6:00pm	Barbara Witrzens, Marie McKie
8:30am	Bert Broekhuys, Fay Stephenson
10:00am	Lucia Moran, Judy Kenny
6:00pm	Judith Deklin

Other Rosters

20 March	Altar Society: Pat Gilchrist
20 March	Church Cleaning: Carol Blyth, Therese Edwards
25 March	Grounds: VACANT
1 April	Presbytery Cleaning: Maryanne Ferguson, Margaret Sheehan, Lynette Weaver

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

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

If today you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Glory to you, Word of God,
Lord Jesus Christ!

Lord, you are truly the
Saviour of the world;
give me living water,
that I may never thirst again.

Glory to you, Word of God,
Lord Jesus Christ!



GOSPEL IN A NUTSHELL Jn 4:5-42

The encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan woman at the well is rich in historical and cultural nuance that enhances our understanding and interpretation of this passage. Samaritans descended from one of the tribes of Israel. They held faithful to Mt Gerazim as the first place for the worship of God even when the prophet Elijah declared a new place for worship. In the 7th and 8th Centuries BCE, the Assyrians descended on the Northern and Southern Kingdoms of Israel. The Samaritans in the north assimilated with the Assyrians, whilst the Jews were taken into exile in Babylon. When the Jews returned from exile, the Samaritans offered to assist in the reconstruction of the Temple. This infuriated the Jews and led to centuries of distrust and animosity.

Having set the scene for breaking down the walls between Jews and Samaritans, Jesus then reveals to the woman unequivocally that he is the promised Messiah.

Resources used: Greg Sunter at LiturgyHelp

LIBRARY NEWS: Some of the new books on display this week are: "Jesus: uncovering the life, teachings and relevance of a religious revolutionary", "The Wisdom Jesus" and "The Heart of Christianity: rediscovering the life of faith".

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.

