

## St John the Apostle Parish

*A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish*

**Fourth Sunday of Lent Year A**

**26 March 2017**

**#18.17**

**“To be on earth the Heart of God”**

**Για να είναι στη γη η Καρδιά του Θεού**

**"Gia na éinai sti gi i Kardiá tou Theóú"**

### Parish Administration:

**Pastor Gerard McCormick msc**

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

**Pastoral Associate /Parish Manager**

**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 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**

Pawsey Circuit Florey

Phone: 6258 3592

Email: [office.sjaps@cg.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office.sjaps@cg.catholic.edu.au)

[www.sjaps.act.edu.au](http://www.sjaps.act.edu.au)

## REFLECTION

### God chooses whom God chooses

Humans see and judge by appearances, but God looks into the heart, and there finds the real person. God's standards are not superficial, as are so many of the standards of the world. It is not age, beauty or physical strength that is important; it is not social position or religious role that is preferred. God chooses whom God chooses. God saw in David, the insignificant shepherd, the potential for being the chief shepherd of his people. The man who was born blind became the one through whom others would see the mighty works of God. Yet, neither young David nor the man in the gospel made the initial step; each simply responded with openness to God's choice of him.

Although the man's physical sight is restored by Jesus simply enough, his journey from darkness into light is a more complicated affair. He faces disbelief, ridicule and even abuse from the Jewish authorities as they try to discredit Jesus and diminish the impact of the miracle. In fact, their treatment of the man is what drives him along the road from recipient of an act of mercy to a confirmed believer. Furthermore, the Jewish authorities, despite their physical capacity for sight, are shown to be the ones who are truly blind and trapped in darkness because they deny the light that is before their very eyes.

By what criteria do we judge others? Are we overly concerned with status? Do we categorise people according to the disease or physical limitation that they must endure? Do we sometimes blame them for their disability? Do our eyes perceive life in accord with the standards of a materialistic, body-orientated, pleasure-seeking society? Or do we look into the other's heart, as God does?

Jesus is the one who gives sight to blind eyes and religious insight to those open to receive it. However, there is a price to pay. Will it be the standards of the world, or the power of God in Jesus Christ?

Resources used: *Reflection*, by Dianne Bergant CSS &  
*Reflection*, by Greg Sunter

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

**Recently Deceased:** Fr. Jim McMahon msc

**Anniversary:** Ludvik Koren, James Broderick, Ella Greig, Clement King, Andrew McEvoy, Alexander Van Audenaerde, Stanislaw Bitner, Victoria Huntley, Moira Leader, Mark Markham, Jennifer Adamik, Jack Lenihan, Sybil Lazaro, Catherine Wheelaghan, Bill Corby, Francesca Fernando, Kay Haworth, Katherine Jones, John Henshaw, Helena McGee, Harold Allester, Vivienne Montgomery, Jordan Matthews, John Napier, Caitlin Brice, Alyssa Brice, Betty Kerekes, Janelle Brice, Joan Boulsover.

### SVDP DOORKNOCK APPEAL 2017

The KIPPAX Door Knock Collections this year came in at \$13,360.60.00 this is well short of our \$20,000.00 budget. This is a disappointing result which was due to a large decrease in volunteer collectors and a drop in donations as compared to the last two years. The target for the diocese was set at \$320,000.00 and to date \$290,000.00 has been banked

**A BIG THANK YOU** to all who helped with the Door Knock this year your gift of time is greatly appreciated and the money collected will assist us to help the needy and marginalized people within our community with vital assistance such as emergency accommodation, clothing, medical expenses and food.



ST JOHN THE APOSTLE  
**WOMEN'S BREAKFAST CLUB**

The next breakfast is:

**TUES 28 March - 7:30 am**

Little Chef Café  
Nettlefold Street Belconnen

### SUNDAY AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB

We are reading

**"The Good People"**

By Hannah Kent

**Sunday 23 April - 3:00 pm** Parish Library.

Three copies of the book are available from the parish office.



## PARISH NEWS

**Speed Humps:** The St Joseph the Worker crew installed speed humps in the church drive this week. This is a shared zone for cars and pedestrians and both need to be aware of each other. Small children run in this area and drivers are asked to maintain a speed limit of less than 10km.



**Sacrament of Penance:** Thirty two children of the parish made their First Reconciliation on Thursday night. The celebration of the sacrament was a beautiful experience for the children of God's loving forgiveness. The liturgy was followed by a celebratory supper. Please continue to keep the children in your prayers as they journey towards their First Holy Communion in August.



**The 2016 Finance Report** is now available for parishioners. Copies are on a small table in the church foyer.



**Over 45's** will meet on **Wednesday 29 March** for Mass at 9:30am, followed by morning tea in the parish centre. There will be guest speaker from the **Stroke Foundation**. Please come and join us, you are all most welcome. Please bring a plate to share. Enquiries phone Margaret 6254 4048

### DARAMALAN COLLEGE – OPEN EVENING

Thursday 30 March Tours 5:00pm – 6:30pm  
Year 7, 2018 Information Sessions at:  
4:45pm – 5:15pm or 7:00pm – 7:45pm

[www.daramalan.act.ed.au](http://www.daramalan.act.ed.au)

**FEPCOW CHARITY PROJECT - RAFFLE**  
Raising funds for humanitarian charity work in many countries. Raffle tickets are \$2.00 each. For tickets Ring Eric Weinman - 0433 532 448

[www.fepcow.org](http://www.fepcow.org)

# Lent 2017

## Project Compassion

### A Caring Community

In a small town in Vietnam, a severe disability kept young Nguyet behind closed doors. Constrained by the high demands of her condition, her parents were also isolated from their neighbours. There is a high level of disability in Vietnam, particularly as a legacy of war, but little support for families whose children have disabilities. People with disability have poorer health outcomes, lower educational achievements, lower economic participation and higher rates of poverty than people without disability.

*"To live as true children of God  
means to love our neighbour  
and to be close to those who  
are lonely and in difficulty"*  
*Pope Francis*

A neighbour kindly introduced the family to the Capacity Building for Parent Associations Supporting Children with Disabilities program, which has given them support on several levels. The neighbour, a teacher, has been able to offer Nguyet home-based education, and there is capacity building for her parents and others in the same situation, through their local Parents' Association. At Association meetings, Nguyet's mother has been able to increase her skills for managing her daughter's condition, and share her experiences with other parents of children with disabilities. Nguyet has learnt to read and write and better manage her physical needs, and her creative gifts have been unlocked.

Capacity Building for Parent Associations Supporting Children with Disabilities (CBPA) has been supported by Caritas Australia since 2010. The program is managed by Catholic Relief Services, a local partner of Caritas Australia in Vietnam.

## SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION

St Monica's Evatt

Tuesday 28 March 7:30pm

St Matthew's Page

Wednesday 5 April :30pm

### Canberra Women's Cursillo 27-30 April

Greenhills Conference Centre, Stromlo ACT

Spiritual Director: Fr Bernie Patterson

For further information and application

contact Irma Jambor (02 6242 7332) or

[irma.jambor25@gmail.com](mailto:irma.jambor25@gmail.com)



### Canberra Men's Cursillo 4-7 May

Hartzer Park, NSW.

contact either Joe Jambor (02 6242 7332) or

[irmandjoe@gmail.com](mailto:irmandjoe@gmail.com) or Rod Gardiner

0439 845 655 or [rodney.gardiner@bigpond.com](mailto:rodney.gardiner@bigpond.com)

*A Cursillo provides a wonderful opportunity  
to renew and recharge your spirituality.*

### Book Sale - The Calvary Hospital Auxiliary

**Where:** Foyer of the Hospital.

**When:** Thursday 30th and Friday 31st March

**Time:** 8.00am -4.00pm

This year the Auxiliary is supporting Stroke Research and Mental Health Rehabilitation

**NOTHING OVER \$2.00**

Enquiries Mary Cruickshank 62544084

### 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 saying 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

## 2 April Ministers of Communion

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

## 2 April Reading Roster

6:00pm	Therese Kercher, Dennis Puniard
8:30am	John O'Heir, Violet Duve
10:00am	Robin Williams, Ann Reynolds
6:00pm	Nicole Mikkonen, Judith Deklin

## 2 April Hospitality Roster

6:00pm	Joe Catanzariti
8:30am	Rob Breen
10:00am	Libby Kain, Bryan Cowman
6:00pm	VACANT

## Other Rosters

27 March	<b>Altar Society:</b> Violet Duve
27 March	<b>Church Cleaning:</b> Marilyn Calliess, Joan Chapman
1 April	<b>Grounds:</b> Barry Dwyer, Peter Onstenk, John Dudley
1 April	<b>Presbytery Cleaning:</b> 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 Friday Monthly After 9:30am Mass
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

## RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!  
I am the light of the world,  
says the Lord;  
who ever follows me will have the light of life.  
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!



## GOSPEL IN A NUTSHELL

Today's gospel reading is the second in a series of three quite lengthy readings from the gospel of John that are a feature of the Lenten season in Year A of the liturgical cycle. The three readings address three significant themes and images: water; light; and new life. Although today's passage is about the healing of a blind man, the event takes place as part of a longer section of the gospel dealing with the image of light and specifically the image of Jesus as Light of the World. The events of today's gospel passage occur when Jesus attends Jerusalem for the Feast of Tabernacles. A feature of the feast was the illumination of the Temple. Pilgrims would cover the Temple with lights and torches so that it shone out over the entire city. It was during this feast that Jesus declared himself to be the Light of the World and, a few verses later, healed the blind man and brought light into his world.

Resources used: [Greg Sunter at LiturgyHelp](#)

**LIBRARY NEWS:** "Christian spirituality: God's presence through the ages", "Spiritual direction and the gay person" and "The Joy of being wrong: Original Sin through Easter eyes" are three of the new titles on display this week.

**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.



**On A Lighter Note:** I was on my way to church and was almost there when I looked at my mobile and it said "NO SERVICE". So I turned around & went home.