

# COMPACT



## St John the Apostle Parish

*A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish*

### 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

27 August 2017

#40.17

**“To be on earth the Heart of God”**

### Parish Administration:

**Pastor** Fr. 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 5:00pm

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 4:00pm – 4:30pm 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)

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



‘The Church with a Human Face’ is the title of a book written in 1985 by the Dutch Dominican theologian Edward Schillebeeckx (2014-2009). It is a title that has always appealed to me. But it remains an aspiration rather than a realization. Too often the church has been presented as rigid, out-of-touch, and lacking in compassion. While this may be an unfair caricature it does not help when church leaders issue statements that appear to reinforce this perception.

This is a great pity. Bishops would do well to model their ministry on the example of the Bishop of Rome, Pope Francis. His pontificate has prioritized the pastoral ministry of the bishop. This in no way ignores nor compromises the teaching and beliefs that the church is obligated to follow. But what Francis has shown is that people matter first and that the law serves people. Surely this was very much at the heart of his teaching when Jesus says that “the Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath” (Mark 2.27).

Having argued a case for pastoral sensitivity in the same sex marriage debate it is also important to underline the church’s right to argue the ‘no’ case. This argument is based on the church’s understanding of marriage. Attempts to disparage and sideline any persons or organizations that argue for the ‘no’ vote as homophobic and discriminatory are clearly unfair and miss the point that the plebiscite is meant to encourage a healthy and respectful debate. Arguing a case for the traditional understanding of marriage does not automatically rule out affirming those of same sex attraction.

Whatever one’s views on same sex marriage each person has a right to form their opinion. But in putting forward the church’s position we could well be guided by St Paul exhortation to “speak the truth in love” (Ephesians 4.15).

***Peace & blessings,  
Gerard***

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

**Recently Deceased: Antonia Mrsnik**

**Anniversary:** Joseph Weinheber, Andres Munoz, Tere Fearon, Bill Fearon, Sheila Dignam, Josephine Weinheber, Armando Cavuoto, Patrick Sheehan, Gladys Anderson, Virginia Mater, Melinda Davis, Annette Polak, William Wiegold, Philip Smith, Mary Telford, Gaye Walmsley, Susan O'Dwyer, Josephine Smith, Ralph Dunn, William Schofield, Dorothy Hush, Andre Domjan, Ivan Jones, Kathleen MacKay, Collin McEvoy, Anton Mrsnik, Sonia Mewburn, Andrew Jeffers, Patrick Whittle, Joseph Boyd, John Grannall, Michelle Brewer, Alvaro del Busto, Elizabeth Murray, Des Kiley, Sheila Whigham

## FUNERAL NOTICE

Requiem Mass to celebrate the life of

*Antonia Mrsnik*

Will be celebrated at 10:30am

Rosary will commence at 10:00am

Tuesday 29 August 2017

St John the Apostle Parish Kippax

(There will be no 9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion.)

## ST MARY'S TOWERS RETREAT CENTRE

### Douglas Park NSW

The Missionaries of the Sacred Heart have issued a new schedule of fees for spending time at the Retreat Centre. For people who may not be able to do a weekend or 6 day retreat the centre is offering a varied amount of options for spending time at the Park.

See options and schedule of fees below.

The 2017/2018 program is available at:

[towersretreat.abundance.org.au/](http://towersretreat.abundance.org.au/)

Option 1: \$20	Use of facilities morning and afternoon tea
Option 2: \$35	as above plus 2 course lunch
Option 3: \$80	as above plus spiritual accompaniment
Option 4: \$60	Spiritual accompaniment
Option 5: \$102	overnight stay and spiritual accompaniment

Costs are negotiable with the Director.

Email: [towersretreat@bigpond.com](mailto:towersretreat@bigpond.com)

## St John the Apostle Refugee Resettlement Committee

### Annual General Meeting

**Tuesday 29 August 2017 – 7:00pm**

*Please come along to hear about what we do and please consider volunteering a little of your time and become a member of the Committee.*

## Concerned Catholics Meeting

**Day & Date:** Thursday 31 August

**Time:** 7.30pm – 9.30pm

**Where:** Australian Centre for Christianity & Culture, Blackall Street, Barton.

**Presenters:** Dr John Falzon CEO of SVdP NCA;  
Sr Ruth Durick OSU  
President, Catholic Religious Aus.  
Fr Peter Day  
founder of 'HOME' in Queanbeyan.

*This second meeting of concerned Catholics will focus on how the laity of the Archdiocese might increase their participation in the Church. Some background and content can be found at:*

<https://concernedcatholicscanberra.org/>

## The Calvary Hospital Auxiliary Book Sale

Hospital main foyer

Wednesday 30th & Thursday 31st August

8.00am and 4.00pm.

ALL BOOKS WILL BE \$2.00 EACH.

Come along and get your reading material for the next few months while supporting the work of this organisation.

Enquiries Mary Cruickshank 6254 4084

## Marian Movement of Priests

*Father Andrew Grace Parish Priest of the Sacred Heart Parish in Griffith NSW and*

*National Responsible for Australia will visit Canberra on*

**Sunday 10 & Monday 11 September**

† Fr. Grace will celebrate 5.30pm Mass on Sunday at St Michael's Church Kaleen

† There will be a Cenacle at 10:00am on Monday at St Joseph's Church O'Connor. Morning tea will follow in the Parish Centre

For further enquiries phone

Judy & Joe Mewburn on 6254 6202

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## REFLECTION

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### The Power to Forgive Sins

Jesus tells Peter: "Whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven." The traditional interpretation of these texts takes their meaning to refer to the institution of the sacrament of reconciliation and to the giving of papal powers to Peter and his successors. What Jesus is doing here is giving *the whole Christian community* the power to forgive sins and the power of binding and loosing.

This means that if we are truly members of Christ's body then when we forgive sins, the person is forgiven. If you continue to love somebody, they are bound. Hell is only possible when one has put oneself totally outside of the range of love and forgiveness of the Christian community, when one has rendered oneself incapable of being loved and forgiven in that she or he has actively rejected not only the religious and moral convictions of the Christian community, but, more importantly their love.

To make this concrete: If a child, or brother or sister or a loved one of yours strays from the church in terms of practice and morality, as long as you continue to love them, hold them in union, and forgive them, they are bound, still part of the church (because of your love). Irrespective of their official external relationship to the church and Christian morality they are in grace because you are part of the body of Christ and when someone touches you they are healed and forgiven, just as persons at the time of Jesus were healed by touching him. If someone close to you dies in a state where, externally at least, he or she is not practicing as a Christian and is at odds morally with the body of Christ, your love and forgiveness will continue to bind them to the body and will continue to forgive them...even after death. To put the matter quite crassly: No one can go to hell if they are loved by someone who is within the body of Christ unless they refuse that love. It can be consoling to know that few persons will reject that type of love.

Resources used: *Incarnation Imparts Power*,  
by Ronald Rolheiser OMI

## FAITH

### *The transmission of faith and action in the modern world*

Sunday 17 September 7:00pm

National Jewish Memorial Centre

31 National Circuit FORREST

Introduction: Archbishop Prowse

Presenter: Rabbi Alon Meltzer

'Suffering of the Innocents',  
a symphony by Kiko Argüello

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### Child Protection Sunday

10 September 2017

Child protection week commences  
on Father's day 3 September

*May our families and communities,  
through love, generosity, commitment  
and patience build stronger  
communities safe for children.*

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### SUNDAY AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB

We are reading

"Emma" By Jane Austin

Sunday 17 September - 3:00 pm

Parish Library.



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**Over 45's** will meet on **Wednesday**

**30 August** for Mass at 9:30am, followed  
by morning tea in the parish centre. Please  
come and join us, you are all most  
welcome. Please bring a plate to share.  
Enquiries phone Margaret 6254 4048

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### Agape - Youth Group

High school students in years 7 to 12

**First and Third Sundays  
after the 6:00pm Mass**

**Next gathering 3 September**

*A group where young people can explore  
their faith in a safe environment, share  
experiences, and encourage each other in  
their faith journey.*

Contact the Parish Office  
for more information

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### Weekend Funnies

I went into my local DIY superstore yesterday and said to a member of staff, "Where can I find some hammers, nails, a trowel and a bag of cement?" He replied, "They're all under 'Construction'." I said, "Oh, well where will they be when they're finished?"

# ROSTERS

## 3 Sept Ministers of Communion

5:00pm	Helen Kennedy, Debbie Milne, Judy Netting, Joe and Maria Catanzariti
8:30am	Carmel Screen, Sigrid Kropp, Maria Scarr, VACANT, VACANT
10:00am	Pat Sheppard, Jenny Howarth, Nunga Umaru, Bonnie and Rose Benedictos
6:00pm	Margaret Curry, Anthony Dunncliff-Hagan, Maria Devine, James and Toni Cox

## 3 Sept Reading Roster

5:00pm	Therese Kercher, Daryl Smeaton
8:30am	John O'Heir, Violet Duve
10:00am	Robin Williams, Frank Colley
6:00pm	Nicole Mikkonen, Judith Deklin

## 3 Sept Hospitality Roster

5:00pm	Joe Catanzariti, Jenny Maher
8:30am	Carmel Screen, Rob Breen
10:00am	Libby Kain, Bryan Cowman
6:00pm	Agnes Pham

## Weekly Rosters

Altar Society:	28 Aug	Gabrielle Culhane
Grounds:	2 Sept	Group 1
Counting:	3 Sept	Group 1
Church Cleaning:	28 Aug – Agnes Le & Family	

# PARISH ACTIVITIES

## PRAYER LIFE

Charismatic Prayer: Maida: 0423 658 326	Thursday 7:30pm 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 10:00am

## 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:

Lord, your love is eternal;  
do not forsake the work of your hands.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!  
You are Peter, the rock on which I will build  
my Church;  
the gates of hell will not hold out against it.  
Alleluia!



## GOSPEL IN A NUTSHELL Mt 16:13-20

*You are Peter, to you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven.*

Like last week's gospel, this week's story takes place in a region that was outside predominantly Jewish territory. Caesarea Philippi (north of Galilee and in the region of modern day Syria) had long been a centre of pagan worship. It was used originally by the Canaanites as a site of worship; the Greeks built a temple to one of their gods there; in 20 BCE Herod the Great built a temple to Caesar Augustus; and after his death, Herod's son, Phillip, renamed the city Caesarea Philippi after Tiberius Caesar and himself. It is intriguing that Matthew's gospel chooses such a site as the location for such a significant revelation of faith.

Jesus' words to Peter, 'on this rock I will build my church', are obviously the gospel writers' words and not the words of Jesus himself. (Jesus did not set out to build a church community; that did not emerge until later.) The words are sometimes understood as asserting that Peter himself is the rock on whom the church will be built, rather than his declaration of faith being the rock. This has then sometimes become confused with the line of popes beginning with Peter.

Resources used: Greg Sunter at LiturgyHelp.

**LIBRARY NEWS:** "Fields of compassion: how the new cosmology is transforming spiritual life", "The Importance of being foolish: how to think like Jesus" and, "The Dangerous act of loving your neighbour" are three titles on display in the library 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.