

COMPACT



St John the Apostle Parish

A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

17 September 2017 #43.17

“To be on earth the Heart of God”

Parish Administration:

Pastor Fr. Gerard McCormick msc

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Pastoral Associate /Parish Manager

Marian England

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Parish Office:

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Web 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: 1st & 3rd 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

www.sjaps.act.edu.au

From the Pastor's Desk.....

In today's gospel Jesus tells a parable about a king who cancels the debt owing to him by his servant. The amount is 10,000 talents. A talent was the highest unit of currency of that time and a single unit represented a very large amount, so 10,000 talents was an unbelievable amount, difficult to translate into our own monetary terms. In other words, what Jesus is telling his audience is that the servant in the story had no way of repaying this incredibly huge sum.

The very word “for-give” implies an act of generosity. The king in the parable shows himself not only to be compassionate and merciful, but also generous. When the servant fails to do likewise, the king is outraged.

The point of the parable is clear – as God acts with mercy, compassion and generosity, so too are we meant to act. This can be a pointer to the church in its communication to society. Above all the church is called to announce the good news of the kingdom. Too often the church is perceived as a voice of condemnation, of laying down the law. It would seem to me that it would be wiser for the church, while not in any way compromising its moral and ethical teaching, to be more visible and vocal in its proclamation of a God of love, justice, mercy and forgiveness as the teaching of Jesus constantly underlines. As Jesus reveals to us a God who is tender hearted, it behoves the church to likewise be an icon of love rather than a dispenser of the law.

Peace & blessings,

Gerard

International Day of Peace

Thursday 21 September

Together for Peace:

Respect, Safety and Dignity for All.

We pray for peace in our hearts

We pray for peace in our relationships

We pray for peace in our families

We pray for peace in our communities

We pray for peace in our country

We pray for peace in our world.

In Christ and through the Spirit we pray.

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

Recently Deceased: Giuseppe Scalora

Anniversary: *Christopher Halloran,
Pauline Jones, Therese Le, Don Nicol, Peter Hill,
Allan Biggs, John Haley, Frances Critchlow,
Antonio Ahn, Magdalen Ripszam, Marijona Grybaitis,
Jana Nassir, Josephine Mulligan, Luke White,
Beryl Mannix, Aileen Antcliffe, James Sharah,
Zoila Wait, Philip Hazell, Patrick Clarke,
Lidia Torelli, Georgina Kukolic, Hok Tung,
Edmond Sarrah, Joseph Sciberras.*

SUNDAY AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB

We are reading

"Emma" By Jane Austin

Sunday 17 September - 3:00 pm
Parish Library.



Agape - Youth Group

High school students in years 7 to 12

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

This Sunday 17 Sept

We gather for a meal, play games and share our stories. 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

Pins & Needles Craft Group



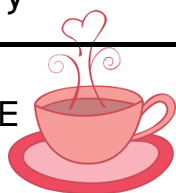
Third Thursday Monthly

Next Meeting: 21 Sept 2017

7:15pm Parish Library

ST JOHN THE APOSTLE WOMEN'S BREAKFAST CLUB

The next breakfast is:



Tuesday 26 September 7:30 am

Little Chef Café
Nettlefold Street Belconnen

Contemplating Consumption A Benedictus Seminar

When: Saturday 14 October

Time: 9:30am – 2:30pm

Where: Blackfriars Building, ACU Watson

Cost: \$30 (\$15 conc.) incl. morning tea & lunch

RSVP: Wednesday 11 October

info@benedictus.com.au

www.benedictus.com.au

Speakers: **Linda Chapman, Peter Martin, Sarah Bachelard**
Much of our identity is bound up with being producers and consumers, and our economic system is premised on generating desire for more and continuous growth, and yet excessive consumption is ecologically unsustainable and socially distorting. How might a contemplative perspective help us reimagine our identity? What alternative models of economy are possible?



HOME Movie Fundraiser

Our annual HOME movie fundraiser screening, The Belier Family, a heart-warming comedy and the most successful French film of all time.

Friday 6 October 2017 @ 6pm

The Q Theatre, 253 Crawford Street, Queanbeyan

Movie tickets: \$75 Inc. Drinks Hot snacks + entry

Tickets: www.theq.net.au or

The Q Box Office Phone: (02) 6285 6290

God is Near -

A retreat inspired by the songs and prayers of Taizé

Retreat Day: 21 October 2017 - 10am - 6pm

Where: Weston Creek Uniting Church,
16 Parkinson Street, Weston ACT.

Come share a day in song, prayer, silence and sharing, and come away refreshed by spending time with '*...a God who simply loves and can do nothing else, a God who never stops seeking us.*' (Brother Roger of Taizé).

To register, visit <https://god-is-near-retreat-2017.eventbrite.com>
or email CBRTaizeFriends@internode.on.net.

Weekend Funnies

A Sunday School teacher had just concluded her lesson and wanted to make sure she had made her point.

She said, "Can anyone tell me what you must do before you can obtain forgiveness of sin?"

There was a short pause and then, from the back of the room, a small boy spoke up. "Sin," he said.

REFLECTION

Nothing new happens without forgiveness

Jesus left us an example of forgiveness by forgiving his executioners while he hung dying on the cross. Until recently we thought that forgiveness begins with the offender repenting of the offence and then asking for pardon. Today many maintain that reconciliation must begin with the one offended offering forgiveness. This willingness to forgive transforms a victim into a survivor. Such magnanimity might then touch the heart of the offender, who may thus be transformed from being an offender to becoming a friend.

If God has been so generous in forgiving us, surely we should be generous in forgiving others. The process of becoming a forgiving person takes time. For some, it may take a lifetime. Only little by little are our pettiness and indignation reduced and our desire to strike back diminished. We are expected to give the forgiveness that we have been given.

Such forgiveness does not provide an easy way out for offenders, for ultimately justice will prevail. Our unwillingness to forgive can eat away at us, and we can carry hurts from childhood far into adult years. Forgiving others, as difficult as that may be, is in the long run much easier than bearing the weight of resentment, vindictiveness and unresolved frustration.

Forgiveness is the only way to free ourselves from the entrapment of the past. We're in need not only of individual forgiveness; we need it on a national, global, and cosmic scale. Old hurts linger long in our memories and are hard to let go. We must each learn how to define ourselves by the present moment—which is all we really have. I will not define myself by what went wrong yesterday when I can draw upon Life and Love right now. Life and Love are what's real. When we forgive we truly begin to be healed.

Resources used: *Reflection*, by Dianne Bergant CSS & *Including Everything*, by Richard Rohr.

Social Justice Sunday 24 September.

This year, the Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement is titled:

'Everyone's Business: Developing an inclusive and sustainable economy'.

The Statement calls for an economy that is founded on justice and offers dignity and inclusion to every person.

You can access the statement the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council website (www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au)

Archbishop Christopher Prowse's

Pastoral Message on SAME-SEX MARRIAGE is available at <http://cgcatholic.org.au/2017/09/pastoral-message/>

If you are unable to access the web there are a few copies available in the church foyer.

PARISH NEWS

Appointment of Principal: It is with great delight that we advise you of the appointment of Matthew Garton as principal of St John the Apostle Primary School. Matthew, his wife Moira and family are long time parishioners of St John's. We congratulate Matthew on his appointment and wish him well.

Saturday Vigil Mass Time
will revert to 6:00pm on
Saturday 7 October 2017.



The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Perhaps you know someone who is interested in becoming a Catholic?
Enquiry Night

Monday 9 October 2017 - 7:00pm
Come and See John 1:39

***Please note a change of
day and date***

ROSTERS

24 Sept Ministers of Communion

5:00pm	Marie McKie, John Drury, Barbara Witzens, Terry O'Brien, Margaret McMahon.
8:30am	Ted Kell, Clare Kell, Violet Duve, Janet Almond, Vacant.
10:00am	Rachel, Marissa & John Blackwell, Robin Williams, Libby Costello.
6:00pm	Judith Deklin, Agnes Pham, Vacant, Vacant, Vacant.

24 Sept Reading Roster

5:00pm	Elaine Laycock, Rob Caskie.
8:30am	Carmel Screen, Shane Murtagh.
10:00am	Louise Honan, Joe Ots
6:00pm	Marian Crowley, Andrew Luck

24 Sept Hospitality Roster

5:00pm	Barbara Witzens, Marie McKie
8:30am	Bert Broekhuysen, Fay Stephenson
10:00am	John Blackwell, Louise Bulfin
6:00pm	Judith Deklin

Weekly Rosters

Altar Society:	18 Sept	Pat Gilchrist
Grounds:	23 Sept	Group 4
Counting:	24 Sept	Group 7

Church Cleaning:	18 Sept	Carol Blyth & Therese Edwards
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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 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:

The Lord is kind and merciful;
slow to anger and rich in compassion.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.
Alleluia!



GOSPEL IN A NUTSHELL Mt 18:21-35

I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times seven.

This gospel passage follows directly from last week's passage. It concludes the whole of Matthew Chapter 18 that deals with sin, forgiveness and reconciliation. Peter's question to Jesus and suggested answer is a reflection of the view that there is a limit to the number of times we should forgive someone. Seven is a significant number in scripture and implies a 'perfect' amount. Even though by his use of seven, Peter is suggesting that he should forgive someone many, many times, Jesus quickly corrects Peter and says not seven, but seventy-seven times (or seventy times seven). Jesus plays on the use of the number seven and multiplies it to indicate that one should forgive as many times as is required – without keeping count; without keeping score. Peter is suggesting that there is an ideal number of times that one should forgive. Jesus blows this out of the water by saying, take that perfect number of times and multiply it by seventy. There is no perfect number of times to forgive.

Resources used: Greg Sunter at LiturgyHelp

LIBRARY NEWS: More titles to help us choose our personal spiritual direction in life are displayed in the library this week – books of prayers and books about praying.

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.