

COMPACT



St John the Apostle Parish

A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish

**First Sunday of Advent
2 December 2018**

**Year C
#1.19**

From the Pastor's desk.....

We all know how busy December can get with end of year school events, Christmas shopping and social events and other activities that crowd our diaries. However, we also realize the importance of spiritually preparing ourselves for Christmas.

The season of Advent provides us with the opportunity to become more reflective as we ponder the great mystery of the incarnation, of God visiting us in the Christ Child. One of the ways in which we can prepare for Christmas is to seek God's forgiveness and renew our commitment as missionary disciples. The parish will be offering a Liturgy of Forgiveness on Thursday 13th December at 7.30 pm.

The Rite of Penance contains a number of options for celebrating God's forgiveness: the 'First Rite', which most of us are familiar with as 'confession'; the 'Second Rite', which is a communal celebration with the opportunity for individual confession; and the 'Third Rite' with general absolution (although for some confoundable reason this rite is severely restricted). What most Catholics would be unfamiliar with is the penitential services that are contained in the Rite of Penance. These non-sacramental penitential services offer one of the many ways in which we can experience God's forgiveness. Our Liturgy of Forgiveness is adapted from these rites. An opportunity to express our sorrow and to celebrate the mercy and forgiveness that flows from the heart of the Saviour.

Next weekend I will away. I will be visiting one of our MSC parishes in Adelaide in my role as chair of the MSC Parishes Committee.

***Peace & blessings,
Gerard***

"To Be on Earth the Heart of God"

Parish Administration:

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Office Hours: 9.00am - 3.00pm
Mon-Fri

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MASS TIMES

Vigil Saturday 6:00pm
Sunday 8:30am, 10:00am, 6:00pm
Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri 9:30am
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



Hearing Loop: in the
central body of the church.

ST JOHN THE APOSTLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal: Matthew Garton
Pawsey Circuit Florey
Phone: 6258 3592
Email: office.sjaps@cg.catholic.edu.au
www.sjaps.act.edu.au

Becoming Catholic Rite of Christian Initiation of an Adult [RCIA]

St John the Apostle Parish runs a RCIA program all year. If you know someone who would like to become Catholic, please contact the parish office for more information.

PARISH NEWS

December issue of
**SJA Social Justice
Group brochure.**
out now!

Copies of the
brochure are
available on a table
in the church foyer.

Accommodation Wanted:

A quiet trustworthy parishioner is looking for accommodation in the Belconnen area preferably a granny flat. He is a single man, non-smoker with a trade (painter).

Enquiries: Graham Erickson 6254 6754.

St John the Apostle Parish Music Ministry

The parish music ministry is in need of musicians and singers alike.

6:00pm Vigil – Singers and Musicians
10:00am Sunday Children's Mass
6:00pm Sunday (1st & 3rd) to assist
AGAPE Youth Group

Contact: Parish Office kippax@cg.org.au or
Joan Breen robjoanbreen@optusnet.com.au

Christmas musicians and singers

If you are interested in participating in any of the Christmas masses as either a musician or singer, please contact the parish office.



Agape - Youth Group

High school students in years 7 to 12

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

Next gathering 2 December

Contact Jake 0431797644
jake.wenger@sfx.act.edu.au

There will be no 9:30am Mass on Thursday 29 November as Fr. Gerard will be away and Fr. Kimi will be celebrating a funeral at the Cathedral.

CHANGE OF DATE

A Liturgy of Forgiveness

Thursday, 13 December – 7:30pm

This Liturgy is a communal celebration of God's love and forgiveness.

It will be an opportunity to express our sorrow and be open to God's healing as we make our Advent journey towards Christmas.

St John the Apostle Parish Church

Change of Date

Relax, Review, Reflect Faith and film

Thursday 6th December at 7:30pm



Come and relax, (re)view a contemporary film and reflect and share how you would approach issues raised in the film in light of your own life's experience.

To register your interest or for more information, please contact the parish office on 6254 3236 or kippax@cg.org.au

St Vincent de Paul - Urgent Call for Summer Holiday Volunteers.

Vinnies Centres need volunteers able to work about 5, 4 hour shifts between the 22 Dec and 1st of Feb. Contact us by phoning 6234 7348 or by emailing volunteer@svdp-cg.org.au.

'Listen to what the Spirit is saying'

Presented by: Shane Dwyer
Where: St Thomas Aquinas Charnwood School Library
When: Wednesday 12 December
Time: 7.15pm Prayer (Vespers)
Concluding with Compline.



Working Bee

Cleaning the church in preparation for Christmas
Tuesday 11 December
10:00am – 12 Noon

Reflection

An Advent Way of Life

An Advent way of life exhorts us to 'wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Saviour Jesus Christ'. This way of life is both simple and profound. It does not necessarily require unusual behaviour on our part, but it calls us to live the usual unusually well. It affects the everyday events of life; it directs the way we interact with people; it informs the attitudes that colour our judgments and motivations. It is as ordinary as the birth of a child; it is as extraordinary as the revelation of God.

God is manifest in the ordinary, in the actual, in the daily, in the now, in the concrete incarnations of life. Our experiences of ordinary life will transform us if we are willing to experience them fully.

Your life is not about you; you are about Life! Saint Paul seems to understand this well because it happened rather dramatically to him. He writes, "I live no longer not I, but Christ lives in me" (Galatians 2:20). In the spiritual journey you come to the day when you know you're not just living your own life by yourself. You realize that Someone Else is living in you and through you, and that you are part of a much Bigger Mystery. You realize that you're a mere drop in a Much Bigger Ocean, an ocean of Love. You are a recipient, a conduit, a participant.

God's revelations are through the concrete and specific. Spirituality is not a Platonic world of ideas and theories about which you can be right or wrong. Revelation is not something you measure, but something—or Someone—you meet! This pattern of incarnation reaches its fullness in one small place on the planet, in one short period of history, in one very ordinary man named Jesus.

Resources used: *Reflection*, by Dianne Bergant CSS, & *God is in the Ordinary*, by Richard Rohr.

Heart Spirituality

Prayer of Father Chevalier

O adorable Heart of my divine Saviour,
bestow your grace on me in abundance,
for you are the source of grace.
Without your grace I can do nothing.
Enlighten my mind,
strengthen my will
and fill my soul with your love.
I ask you for all this help
through the intercession
of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.
You have made her
the Treasurer of your riches,
and the Dispenser of your graces.

(Meditations 1, p. 36)
Jules Chevalier
Issoudun 1891

**May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be
everywhere loved.....forever!**



This weekend we launch the Vinnies Christmas Appeal. There are many ways that you can donate to the Appeal, check out our table in the foyer. Your support is greatly appreciated. More information from Mike Blyth 0419 818 410.

Carols By Candlelight



Where: St John the Apostle Church carpark
When: Friday, 14 December 2018
6:30pm to 8:30pm
What to bring: Please bring your own picnic,
drinks and chairs / rugs /
pillow / beanbags.
Candles will be provided.

Hope you will join us for a
"merry, bright and holy night"

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

Recently Deceased: Paul Wilson

Anniversary: Vin Stewart, Nancy Selvatino,
John Soetens, Kane Cahil, John Martin,
Martino Forjanic, Brodie McMahon, Fryan Jasczyk,
Dinah Muench, David Fitzroy, Leo Hill msc,
Margaret Woodland, Maria Gillard, Kevin Hiscock,
Winifred Lilley, Bev Purnell, Maria Tabisz,
John Ashton, Michael Allars, Andre Domjan,
Daniel Morris, Raymond Kernan

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
Adult Choir	Wednesday 7:30pm
Children's Choir	Thursday 4:30 – 5:10pm

SOCIAL LIFE

Coffee Club	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
Youth Group	AGAPE - First & Third Sunday after 6:00pm Mass Parish Centre
School of Religion (Parish Centre)	Sunday 9.15am during school term

LIBRARY NEWS: Among the books on spirituality displayed this week are "Seeking the sacred: transforming our view of ourselves and others", "Finding God" and "Servants and leaders: current Christians in their own words."

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

The Lord has done great things for us;
We are filled with joy.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Lord, show us your mercy and love,
And grant us your salvation.
Alleluia!

Readings – 9 December

First Reading	Bar 5:1-9
Psalm	Ps 125
Second Reading	Phil 1:3-6. 8-11
Gospel	Luke 3:1-6

9 Dec

Reading Roster

6:00pm	Therese Kercher, Mary French
8:30am	Mariana Rollgeyser, Sigrid Kropp
10:00am	CHILDREN'S MASS
6:00pm	Brian Mahony, Anna White

9 Dec

Ministers of Communion

6:00pm	Sharon Loiterton, Margaret Conlon, Robert Greig, Anthony & Chitra Jayawardena
8:30am	Brian Green, Fay Stephenson, Margaret Stanford, Shane Murtagh, VACANT
10:00am	Anthony Noakes, Cathy Madsen, Frank Colley, Francesca Deklin, Sugi Mohanadas
6:00pm	Marian Crowley, Andrew Webster, Andrew Luck, John McGee, Rod Gardiner

9 Dec

Hospitality Roster

6:00pm	Michael Horan, Jenny Maher
8:30am	Violet Duve, Jean Tierney
10:00am	Judy Kenny
6:00pm	Kay Dwyer

Weekly Rosters

Altar Society:	3 Dec	Margaret Ferguson
Grounds:	9 Dec	Allan Laycock, Rob Breen, Mike Blyth, Denis Puniard, John Machin
Counting:	9 Dec	Group 4
Church Cleaning:	3 Dec	Debbie Milne, John O'Heir, Pat Kennan, Peter Hofman

On a Lighter note

I got an e-mail saying, "At Google Earth, we can read maps backwards!" and I thought...
"That's just spam."