

# COMPACT



## St John the Apostle Parish

*A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish*

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT Year B

11 March 2018

#15.18

**"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)

**Assistant Pastor** Fr. Kimi Vunivesilevu msc  
Email: [kimi@stjohnkippax.org.au](mailto:kimi@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  
Email: [kippax@cg.org.au](mailto:kippax@cg.org.au)  
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



**Hearing Loop:** - in the body of the church.

### 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

**Principal:** Matthew Garton  
Pawsey Circuit Florey  
Phone: 6258 3592  
Email: [office.sjaps@cg.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office.sjaps@cg.catholic.edu.au)  
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### From the Pastor's desk.....

A story has it that Cyrus, the founder of the Persian Empire, once captured a prince and his family. When they were brought before him, Cyrus asked the captured prince, "What will you give me if I release you?" "The half of my wealth," was his reply. "And if I release your children?" "Everything I possess." "And if I release your wife?" "Your Majesty, I will give myself." Cyrus was so moved by his devotion that he freed them all. As they returned home, the prince said to his wife, "Wasn't Cyrus a handsome man!" With a look of deep love for her husband, she said to him, "I didn't notice. I could only keep my eyes on you—the one who was willing to give himself for me."

Lent is the time for us to remember Jesus, the one who was willing to give his life for us and the manner in which he did, in fact, give his life for us. The willingness to give, even of one's very life, is not possible without love. This is the essence of today's gospel –

*For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. (John 3.16)*

Jesus not only gave himself for us on the cross, but in all the activities of his earthly life Jesus was continually giving of himself. And Jesus continues to give of himself in the sacraments, especially in the Eucharist.

Grace is poured upon grace, for it is in the very nature of God to give. As Paul reminds us: *For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing: it is the gift of God. (Ephesians 2.8)*

Everything comes from God. All that we have and possess has its origins in the bountiful love of God. We have all been gifted in many, many ways: gifted naturally and gifted supernaturally through baptism. The question now becomes: how do we use and share our gifts

**Peace & blessings,**  
**Gerard**

# PARISH NEWS

*The St John the Apostle  
Parish Community is invited to join  
in the Nuptial Mass celebration of  
the wedding of  
Stephanie Cox and  
Brent Thompson  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 2.00pm*

Thank You: *The Murtagh family wish  
to thank all who have helped us at this sad  
time on the death of Eamonn.*

**Stations of the Cross  
Every Friday during lent  
after the 9:30am Mass.**

*New Parishioners - Meet and Greet  
Friday 6 April - 5:30pm*

All parishioners are invited to a meet and greet BBQ to welcome new members of our community. We will contact new parishioners who have registered with the parish – but all new parishioners are encouraged to attend. For catering purposes please RSVP by Tuesday 3 April.

## **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

**St John the Apostle Primary School**  
Please help the School  
earn points towards  
sporting equipment.  
Please collect your  
**Coles sport for school  
vouchers** and leave them in the box in  
the church near the bookstall or drop  
them off at St John the Apostle School.  
Even one voucher can make a  
difference. Thank you



## **PLANNED GIVING APPEAL**

Thank you to those parishioners who have already responded to the appeal. There are Commitment Pledge forms, Credit Card and Direct Debit forms available on the table in the foyer. You can return your completed forms to the box in the foyer, to the parish office or on the plate during mass.

## **SVDP DOORKNOCK APPEAL**

The KIPPAX Door Knock Collections this year came in at just under \$11,000.00 and is well short of our \$20,000.00 budget.

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.

**Second Rite of Reconciliation  
St Michael's Church, Kaleen,  
Thursday, 22 March at 7.30pm.**

**Daramalan College Opening Evening  
Tuesday 27 March  
Tours from 5.00-6.30pm**

Optional information sessions for Year 7, 2019 at 4.45pm and 7.00pm.

Year 11, 2019 Information Session at 6.00pm.  
Contact 62456348 for further information.

**Concerned Catholics of Canberra –  
22 March 2018**

*3<sup>rd</sup> public forum of Concerned Catholics  
of Canberra-Goulburn. Francis  
Sullivan, CEO, Truth Justice and  
Healing Council, will provide an  
analysis of the Royal Commission's  
final report* **Contact: Rod Page**  
[concerned.catholics.cnagbn@gmail.com](mailto:concerned.catholics.cnagbn@gmail.com)

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## REFLECTION

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### Moral Relativism

As Christians in the world we cannot help but be influenced by the developments that happen around us. Indeed, we believe that many of these advances are gifts from God, given to us to enjoy. One recent and alarming development is the false thinking that we cannot judge other people, or that we should not be judged. The wider community regularly maintains that no one is in a position to judge another's behaviour or statements. This approach holds that everyone's words and actions are of equal value. We regularly hear statements from Christian men and women like, 'We're not in a position to judge' or 'You can't judge them' and 'If it's fine for them, then it's fine'. This thinking has a name. It's called moral relativism and it tries to claim that the morality of behaviour is only determined by the person who does the act, or the context within which the action is taken.

Our Catholic tradition teaches us that a context is very important in trying to work out if someone is to blame for what they say and do, but that a person's particular circumstances never change the fact that the words or actions are in themselves wrong. We hold that while all human beings have equal value and dignity, we do not believe that everyone's opinion and actions are of equal worth. We believe that 'right judgement' is a gift of the Holy Spirit and that it's best exercised with humility and compassion.

When I hear people say I should not judge others, I assume they are telling me that I should not condemn other people. There is a world of difference between judging and condemning. To judge is to make an assessment. To condemn is to damn. In today's Gospel, however, John tells us that even God has forfeited the right to condemn the world, but has sent Jesus to be the world's light, life, truth and saviour.

The saving love of Christ is always available to us, inviting us to come out of the darkness into his light. Secrecy is often the ally of sin and the more open and transparent we are, the more confident we can be that we are walking as children of the light.

Resources used: *Homily*, by Richard Leonard SJ

## Heart Spirituality

### The Sacred Heart revealed God's mercy on earth

The Heart of Jesus is essentially merciful, because it is the Heart of God; mercy is his very nature. The Blessed Trinity put in his Heart for our sake all the treasures of its tenderness and love, and so the Sacred Heart poured them out profusely on every misfortune he came across. His role on earth was not to condemn but to forgive;  
Not to spurn those who suffer  
but to comfort them;  
Not to alienate sinners,  
but to enlighten and convert them;  
Not to turn away the sick,  
but to heal them;  
Not to abandon a lost sheep,  
but to bring it back to the sheepfold;  
Not to quench the smoking wick,  
but to make it burn brightly;  
Not to break the crushed reed,  
but to strengthen it.  
That is the Sacred Heart.  
What kindness, what mercy!

Meditations II, (p.641f) 1891.  
*Jules Chevalier*

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

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## End of Life Choices

### 23 March

Submissions are urgently needed from all ACT citizens regarding euthanasia. The ACT Legislative Assembly is conducting an inquiry into End of Life Choices and submissions are due on 23 March 2018.

[https://www.parliament.act.gov.au/in-committees/select\\_committees/end-of-life-choices](https://www.parliament.act.gov.au/in-committees/select_committees/end-of-life-choices)

Most needed are short personal stories of positive experiences of the palliative care of loved ones. If euthanasia or assisted suicide is legalised in the ACT, it is unlikely that palliative care will receive adequate funding in the future. For ideas to help you write your submission go to <http://www.no euthanasia.org.au/issues>

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

**Recently Deceased:** *Baby Liana Rivera*

**Anniversaries:** *Damien Lamb, Oscar Zamora, Darrell Rutter, Henry Sealey, Marie Hallahan, Alana Leach, Bernard Fitzgerald, Eileen Luke, Brendan Patterson, Michael Hamilton, Caelan MacKenzie, Nicola Torelli, Eugene De Rose, Helen Murphy, Jill Wilson, Richard Kingsford, Richard Corr, Peter Roache, Marijan Cavlovic.*

## 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 4:00 – 5:00pm

## 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 <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
Youth Group	AGAPE - First & Third Sunday after 6:00pm Mass Parish Centre

School of Religion (Parish Centre)	Sunday 9.15am during school term
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**LIBRARY NEWS:** "Sacred reading: the art of Lectio Divina", "Centring prayer", "Into the silent land: the practice of contemplation" and "Through Lent with Luke" are some of the books currently on display.

## NEW PARISHIONER BOOK

*If you are newly arrived in the parish you are invited to enter your name and contact details in the new parishioner book. The book is on a table in the foyer. Thank you.*

## RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!  
God loved the world so much,  
he gave us his only Son,  
that all who believe in him  
might have eternal life.  
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

## Readings –18 MARCH 2018

First Reading	Jer 31:31-34
Psalm	Ps 50:3-4. 12-15
Second Reading	Heb 5:7-9
Gospel	John 12:20-33

## 18 Mar

## Reading Roster

6:00pm	Daryl Smeaton, Bob Raadts
8:30am	Violet Duve, Elizabeth McDonald
10:00am	Ivo Astolfi, Libby Kain
6:00pm	Meg Millband, Matthew Toohey

## 18 Mar

## Ministers of Communion

6:00pm	Elaine Laycock, Patrick Corr, Laurine Smeaton, Vacant, Vacant.
8:30am	Jean Tierney, Margaret Conlon, Pat Cowburn, Clyde Sloan, VACANT
10:00am	Marie Flint, Colin Fox, Maida Kajkic, Ann Reynolds, VACANT
6:00pm	Peter Polkinghorne, Brian Mahony, Matthew Garton, VACANT, VACANT

## 18 Mar

## Hospitality Roster

6:00pm	Mary Barrett, Lesley Givens
8:30am	Norma and Clyde Sloan
10:00am	Anthony Noakes, Marie Flint
6:00pm	Brian Mahony

## Weekly Rosters

Altar Society:	12 Mar	Margaret Ferguson
Grounds:	17 Mar	VACANT
Counting:	18 Mar	Group 5

Church Cleaning:	12 Mar	Maresa Laird, Joseph Lê Văn Hải
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## On a Lighter note



"I'll call you back...  
I'm just going into a tunnel!"

