

# COMPACT



## St John the Apostle Parish

*A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish*

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**THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD      Year B**

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**13 May 2018**

**#24.18**

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**“To be on earth the Heart of God”**

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### 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)

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### MASS TIMES

Vigil Saturday                      5:00pm

Sunday                              8:30am, 10:00am, 6:00pm

Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri 9:30am



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

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### 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

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### 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)

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

## From the Pastor's desk...

Travel by air is quite common these days. From our window seat we can peer down upon the earth from a great height and ride high above vast billowing clouds. Science and technology have enabled us to see the world in new ways. We can no longer picture heaven as being above the clouds or located on some Olympian mountain top. Such naivety, however charming, does not square with our present knowledge or experience. Nevertheless, science and technology also have their limits. The Ascension of the Lord, which we celebrate today, has to be approached though through the gateway of theology.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches, heaven is not a so much a place as a reality. It is described as, “the communion of life and love with the Trinity, with the Virgin Mary, the angels and all the blessed...the ultimate end and fulfilment of the deepest human longing, the state of supreme, definitive happiness.”

The Ascension of the Lord is not only about Jesus returning to glory, but about our journey in Christ toward heaven. As Jean Corbon puts it in his book *The Wellspring of Worship*, “The movement of the ascension will be complete only when all the members of Christ’s body have been drawn to the Father and brought to life by his Spirit.”

I find this dynamic understanding of the Ascension very appealing for it does not limit the Ascension to some fixed point in history, but rather sees it as a living reality in our Christian lives that direct us toward our communion with the Trinity, the saints, and all believers. This is the mystery that we celebrate in each Eucharist.

**Peace and blessings**  
**Gerard**

# PARISH NEWS



## The challenges of being Catholic in the wake of the Royal Commission

Day: Thursday  
Date: 7 June 2018  
Time: 7pm – 8:30pm  
Place: St John the Apostle Church  
Speaker: Monica Doumit  
Forum: Answering your questions

*The Parish Pastoral Council invites all parishioners to attend a forum to address any issues they may have resulting from the Royal Commission into sexual abuse. The forum will have a particular focus on personal experiences of what it is like to be a Catholic today.*

Guest Speaker Monica Doumit - is a Manager at Communications and News Media in the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney. She is a professional whose education and experience has seen her traverse law, bioethics, communications and politics. Monica is a confident communications advisor, with a focus on challenging issues, a sought-after opinion columnist and public speaker, corporate lawyer and bioethicist.

## Sacrament of Confirmation

*The children of the parish are currently preparing for the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation. The Sacrament will be celebrated by Fr. Richard Thompson on Wednesday 23 May at 5:00pm. Please keep all the children in your prayers during this preparation time.*

## PARISHIONER REGISTRATION

*If you are newly arrived in the parish or even if you have been here for some time and have not completed a registration form, 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.*

## VINNIES SLEEPOUT 21 June 2018

"One night isn't a lot, but it can make a whole lot of difference"



**Archbishop Christopher Prowse &**

**our parishioner Ted Kell**

are both participating in the **SLEEPOUT** this year. To donate go to [www.ceosleepout.org.au](http://www.ceosleepout.org.au) and donate using their particular reference.

## Spirit Retreat

*A Retreat for all youth and young adults across the Archdiocese at St Benedict's in Narrabundah. The Retreat invites youth and young adults to come together and be empowered by the Holy Spirit.*

**DATE:** Sunday 27th May

**TIME:** 12:00pm to 7:30pm

**PLACE:** St Benedict's, Narrabundah

**MORE INFO:** [cgyouthministry.org.au/retreat](http://cgyouthministry.org.au/retreat)

## Living in a Hypersexualised World

Paul Ninnies from RealTalk will run a young adults session on Living in a Hypersexualised World.

**DATE:** Friday 8th June

**TIME:** 4:00pm to 6:00pm

**PLACE:** St Christopher's Pastoral Centre, Manuka

**MORE INFO:** [youth@cgy.org.au](mailto:youth@cgy.org.au)

[cgyouthministry.org.au/youngadultformation](http://cgyouthministry.org.au/youngadultformation)

## SUNDAY AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB

We are reading

**"The Night Guest"**

By Fiona McFarlane

Sunday 20 May - 3:00 pm

Parish Library.

There are three copies of the book that can be collected from the parish office for anyone who may be interested in joining the book club.



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# Reflection

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## Presence and Absence

The Ascension is an event inside of the life of Jesus and the early church, a feast- day for Christians, a theology, and a spirituality, all woven together into one amorphous bundle of mystery.

Included in this bundle is the mystery of the fact that, how we touch each others's lives is strangely paradoxical. The wondrous life-giving power of arriving, touching another's life, speaking words that nurture, doing actions that build up, and giving life for another, depends also upon eventually leaving, being silent, absorbing rather than actively doing, and giving our goodbye and death just as we once gave our presence and our life. Presence depends too upon absence and there's a blessing we can only give when we go away.

If we were to read this passage literally, we would believe that to be a Christian one had to be able to perform exorcisms, speak in tongues, handle snakes, drink poison and heal by touch. Rather, the purpose of the passage is that Jesus sends his followers out 'to the whole world' to continue his ministry.

Every one of us is called to continue Jesus' ministry to the whole world, to 'proclaim the Good News to all creation'. It means proclaiming the Good News through our everyday actions and by being open and honest about our faith. It means treating all people as Jesus would.

Today we stand awestruck, watching Jesus ascend into the clouds of heaven, there to be enthroned at God's right hand. Today we are overwhelmed by the divinity of the one whom we have known in his humanity. Amidst shouts of joy and exaltation, Christ is enthroned in heaven in both his divinity and his glorified humanity. Now he is present with us in a new way, in a new body, in the church. He teaches through its apostles and evangelists; he ministers through its prophets and pastors. Through us he continues to heal and to comfort; to forgive and to include. We have his power, the same power with which he performed marvels when he walked the earth. We have each other; together we make up the new body of Christ.

Resources used: *Reflections* by Dianne Bergant CSS & Greg Sunter & *A Spirituality of the Ascension*, by Ronald Rolheiser OMI

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# Heart Spirituality

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## The Ascension

Jesus told his disciples:

It is for your own good that I am going to my Father, because I go to prepare a place for you, and to send you the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth who will teach you everything. The role of Jesus in heaven is the role of a mediator who never ceases to plead on our behalf and to cry aloud for God's mercy upon us: Mediator between God and humanity. *"Jesus entered heaven itself, so that he could appear in the presence of God on our behalf"* [Heb. 9:24].

Knowing our weakness and the dangers we incur here below, he asks without ceasing for the graces we need: living forever to intercede for us. Why?

Because it is his wish that we may one day possess the throne he has prepared for us.

Since his heart is full of love for us, let us ask him to bless and protect us.

Jules Chevalier  
(Meditations 1, 609f. 1891.)

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

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## Archdiocesan Clergy Assembly

Frs. Gerard and Kimi will attend the clergy assembly from

Tuesday 15 May to Thursday 17 May.

On Wednesday and Thursday mornings that week the 9:30am mass will be a Liturgy of the Word with Communion.

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## St John the Apostle Primary School 2019 enrolment period

**4 May to 25 May 2018**

### Open Day & School Tours

Wednesday: 16 May 9.00am to 1.00pm

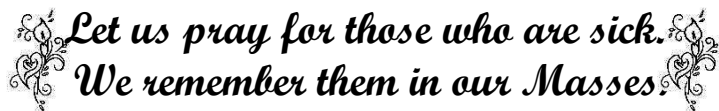
Enrolment Packs can be collected from the Front Office. An *Enrolment Pack* can be mailed or emailed to you.

<https://sjaps.act.edu.au/enrolments>

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**Web Page:** COMPACT is accessible on the WEB go to [www.stjohnkipfax.org.au](http://www.stjohnkipfax.org.au) click on the tab *Parish News* and then *Weekly Bulletin*.





## Recently Deceased:

**Anniversaries:** Lawrence Southwick, Andrew Harker, Jeremy Hope, Kenneth Brennan, Krysta Lindstrom, Harrison Wroe, Antonia Gladwish, Kevin Crossley, Sarah Sealey, Betty Cowman, Pat McLindin, Edna Hamilton, Robert Donovan, Elena D'Ambrosio, Hemult Wanda, Bryan McGurgan, Daphne Parnell, Ella Dimitres, Sandra Miniotas, Neil MacFarlane, John Loadman, Bernard Gibson, Gloria Fleming, Edward McGregor, Michael Logan, James Ohlin, June McCall, Hermine Raeuscher, David Pinner, Christopher Boylew, Stan Niemiec

## 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:** Titles of books on display this week include "The Faith of Mary: Vatican II insights on the humanity of Mary", "Reflections of life after life" and "John Main: expanding the vision".

## RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!  
All who love me will keep my words,  
and my Father will love them  
and we will come to them.  
Alleluia!

## Readings – 20 May 2018

<b>First Reading</b>	Acts 2:1-11
<b>Psalm</b>	Ps 103:1.24.29-31.34
<b>Second Reading</b>	1 Cor 12:3-7.12-13
<b>Gospel</b>	John 20:19-23

## 20 May Reading Roster

5:00pm	Bob Raadts, Judy Netting
8:30am	Violet Duve, Elizabeth McDonald
10:00am	Ivo Astolfi, Libby Kain
6:00pm	Meg Millband, Matthew Toohey

## 20 May Ministers of Communion

5:00pm	Joy McInerney, Elaine Laycock, Patrick Corr, Laurine Smeaton, Daryl Smeaton
8:30am	Jean Tierney, Margaret Conlon, Pat Cowburn, Clyde Sloan, Peter Polkinghorne
10:00am	Marie Flint, Colin Fox, Maida Kajkic, Ann Reynolds VACANT
6:00pm	Brian Mahony, Matthew Garton, VACANT, VACANT, VACANT

## 20 May Hospitality Roster

5:00pm	Mary Barrett, Lesley Givens
8:30am	Norma Sloan, Clyde Sloan
10:00am	Marie Flint, Olivia McMahon
6:00pm	Brian Mahony

## Weekly Rosters

Altar Society:	14 May	Pat Gilchrist
Grounds:	19 May	VACANT
Counting:	20 May	Group 5

Church Cleaning:	14 May	Debbie Milne, John O'Heir, Pat Keenan, Peter Hofman
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## On a Lighter note

Knock, knock!  
Who's there?  
Snow.  
Snow who?  
Snow point pretending you don't know me.