

# COMPACT



## St John the Apostle Parish

*A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish*

**ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**Year B**

**17 June 2018**

**#29.18**

**“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 5:00pm  
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 4:00pm – 4:30pm 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)  
[www.sjaps.act.edu.au](http://www.sjaps.act.edu.au)

## From the Pastor's desk...

The first reading and the gospel share the same image of a tree that casts out its branches to provide shelter and shade.

In the first reading the prophet Ezekiel describes a small cutting which is planted on the mountain top and eventually grows into a tall majestic cedar. This fable of the tiny sprig growing into an immense tree symbolises Israel's election by God. Despite Israel being hemmed in by the surrounding mega empires of the Middle East, God will reverse their fortunes: "I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish". Thus God confounds the mighty and raises up the lowly.

Ezekiel reminds the people that Israel's destiny is not to lord it over other nations but rather to invite them into the saving love of God that they have been privileged to enjoy. This is symbolised by the shelter provided by the tree: "Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind." This is Israel's mission to the nations rather than be closed in on itself.

Jesus employs a similar metaphor to describe the Kingdom of God. God's kingdom cannot be thwarted, the image of the mustard seed is of a seemingly insignificant seed that grows into a large and generous bush, and like Ezekiel's image, it too provides shade and shelter.

There are disturbing trends in our own nation where the openness and generosity espoused by the prophet Ezekiel and by Jesus go unheeded. Slashing foreign aid, turning back the boats, ignoring the threat of climate change, all speak of a nation turning in on itself and ignoring the cries of the helpless.

The message that Jesus and the prophets preached is unequivocal: God will reverse the fortunes of the mighty and come to the aid of the poor. The image of the tree that puts out strong branches to provide shelter and shade without discrimination is a powerful reminder that we too, individually, and collectively, are meant to grow into God's Kingdom. This is the mission of Jesus, it is also our mission.

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

# PARISH NEWS

We welcome

**Fr. Adrian Meaney msc** from the MSC Mission office. There will be a collection for **MSC Missions** during the masses this weekend.

**SJAYouth** — Do you have an interest in the youth? We are in the process of establishing a Youth Ministry Team and would like to hear from parishioners who might be interested in supporting this ministry. We envisage that this ministry team will cover a broad spectrum of age groups. This ministry is open to all parishioners – it is not just for parents of teens attending Agape. A meeting has been organised for Sunday 1 July at 7:00pm. **[Please note – this is a change of day and time]**. Please contact the parish office by Friday 29 June to register your expression of interest.

**Pins & Needles Craft Group**  
 Third Thursday Monthly  
Next Meeting: 21 June  
7:15pm Parish Library

## SJACare — Appeal

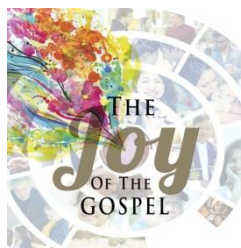
We are appealing for volunteers to supply an occasional meal on a needs basis for parishioners who are temporarily incapacitated. We have had a small response to this appeal and are in need of more volunteers who would be willing to take on this ministry. You would only be called upon as the need arises. To volunteer please register your contact details with the parish office.

## VINNIES SLEEPOUT - 21 June 2018

Support **Ted Kell &**

**Archbishop Christopher Prowse**

to donate go to [www.ceosleepout.org.au](http://www.ceosleepout.org.au) and donate using their particular reference.



**THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL –**  
**A program of Leadership and Mission,**  
**29-30 June 2018.**

*Are you interested in attending this Seminar?*

**Our Parish has ten [10] spaces available.** If you are interested in attending please contact the parish office by Tuesday 19 June.

**COST – The parish will cover the cost of this seminar.**

### PROGRAM

DAY 1 – FRIDAY 29 JUNE 5:00PM – 9:00PM

Friday night commences with Dinner

Topic One: “A Change of Era, not an Era of Change”

Topic Two: Jesus Christ, His Call and the Christian Community

Topic Three: Leadership and Mission

DAY 2 – SATURDAY 30 JUNE 10:00AM – 5:00PM

Topic Four: Our Experience of Parish – Our Desires for our Parish

Topic Five: “If you knew the Gift of God” (John 4:10)

Topic Six: Governance & Stewardship

Topic Seven: Teaching and Preaching

Topic Eight: The Power of a Witness

Topic Nine: The Beauty and Power of Music

<http://www.joyofthegospel.com.au/>

## “Winter Woolies at Calvary”

*The Calvary Hospital Auxiliary is having a WINTER WOOLIES sale*

Date: Thursday 14 July

Time: 8.00am - 4.00pm

Venue: main foyer of the Hospital.

Take the opportunity to visit and buy scarves, beanies, crocheted/knitted rugs and many more hand knitted items while supporting the work of the Auxiliary, that raises funds to provide medical equipment and items for patient comfort. Enquiries Mary Cruickshank 62544084.

## Housekeeper Position

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference is looking to employ a casual House Keeper for the General Secretariat residence in Braddon, ACT. A copy of the position description and additional information is available at [www.employmentrelations.catholic.org.au](http://www.employmentrelations.catholic.org.au) Applications close at 5pm Monday 25 June 2018. For more information contact Jane Bashiruddin on 0447 238 432 or email [oeadvisor@catholic.org.au](mailto:oeadvisor@catholic.org.au)

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# Reflection

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Last week we offered a reflection article which enumerated on six ways we can sin against the Holy Spirit. We would like to qualify that this theology is not Catholic teaching.

We hold as true that *God is Love* and as such cannot be anything other than Love. The Holy Spirit is God's gift to us. "God is Love" and love is his first gift, containing all others. "God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us." (CCC 733)



## The Reign of God within Human Reality

In many ways, parables are brain-teasers. The parables of Jesus forced his hearers to stretch their imaginations and to make connections that they might not ordinarily make. The presumption was that those who followed Jesus were always willing or able to do this.

Jesus states that the reign of God is like seed that takes root and grows and produces in secret places within human reality. In fact it is usually found in places where one would least expect to find it – among the poor and despised, in the hearts of those who suffer, in the lives of the persecuted. The potential of the reign of God is often contained in what appears to be inconsequential. Yet it thrives in its own mysterious ways.

The cedar began as a seedling that takes years to grow into a magnificent tree. The same is true of the mustard tree. It too requires time to develop its trunk and branches. The development of moral integrity in a human being is just as gradual. Rooted in God, it flourishes in God's presence and it produces fruit even into old age. Although God is present in all things, sustaining them and allowing them to follow their natural courses, God really transcends all things.

Resource used: *Reflection*, by Dianne Bergant CSS

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# Heart Spirituality

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## The Mustard Seed

The mustard seed is the smallest of all seeds, the Holy Gospel tells us; but it contains amazing expansive power. The same is true of our Saviour. He appears insignificant to human eyes, despicable, unworthy of attention; but in his nature, heart and person, he possesses infinite strength. In him we find salvation and the graces necessary to make it operative. He gives us the Eucharist, that bread of the strong and source of blessings.

The mustard seed has become a great tree and the birds have nested in its branches. What is this tree? It is the church, the body of Christ. The branches are the Saviour's teachings: his evangelical counsels; his virtues; his miracles; his sacraments; his sacrifice renewed on our altars. In the shade of these branches we find rest, nourishment, peace and salvation. And from where does this immense tree emerge? From the Heart of Jesus.

Jules Chevalier  
*Méditations I*, p. 247f

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

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## Plenary Council 2020

*"Listen to what the Spirit is saying"*

[plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au](http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au)

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## Reconciliation Action Plan [RAP] – In

conjunction with St John the Apostle Primary school our parish is embarking on developing a Reconciliation Action Plan. A RAP program provides a framework for organisations to support the national reconciliation movement. If you would like to be part of this team please contact the parish office by 6 July 2018.

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## Blessed Peter To Rot Feast Day

PNG Catechist and Martyr  
1912 – 1945

### Ecumenical Eucharistic Mass

**Where: St. John the Apostle Church**

**When: Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

**Time: 11:00am**

Followed by PNG/Islands Luncheon

Please bring a dish to share

For more information contact

Francesca Deklin Ph. 0437 405 052

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

## Recently Deceased:

**Anniversaries:** James Webb, Ingrid Soria, Marie Tyack, Mavis Southwick, Sheila Phillips, George Carney, Ann Joyce, Kerry Montgomery, Maureen Ashley, Helen Heindl, Francis Quinn, John McAppian, Christopher Robinson, Eileen Gehrig, Vivienne Thompson, Lucy Wilcott, Robert Cocks, Joan Loughry, June Henshaw, Adrian Uhr, Giovanni Scalora, Jason Murray, Arthur Yee, Kevin Maloney, Suzie Katavic, Nathan Jones, Daniel O'Connor, Eileen Schmich, John Lazaro, Mildred Holland, William Edmunds, Rohan Murphy

## 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:** A few of the library's collection of psychology and philosophy books are on display this week including the iconic "Man's search for meaning".

## RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

Lord it is good to give thanks to you.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!  
The seed is the word of God,  
Christ is the sower;  
all who come to him will live for ever.  
Alleluia!

## Readings – 24 June 2018

<b>First Reading</b>	Is 49:1-6
<b>Psalm</b>	Ps 138:1-3. 13-15
<b>Second Reading</b>	Acts 13:22-26
<b>Gospel</b>	Luke 1:57-66,80

## 24 June Reading Roster

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

## 24 June Ministers of Communion

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

## 24 June Hospitality Roster

5:00pm	Barbara Witrzens, Marie McKie
8:30am	Fay Stephenson, Margaret Ohlin
10:00am	Margarete Gill
6:00pm	Christine Lancaster

## Weekly Rosters

Altar Society:	18 June	Mary Cruickshank
Grounds:	23 June	David Pigram, Rob Caskie, Matthew Garton, Mike Lavis
Counting:	24 June	Group 8

Church Cleaning:	18 June	John & Jenny Maher, Carol Blyth
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## On a Lighter note

Said the revival preacher to the stately old Presbyterian cleric "After all, we are both doing the Lord's work - you in your way, and I in His."