

## St John the Apostle Parish

*A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish*

Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Year B

9 September 2018

#41.18

“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.....

Today is Child Protection Sunday. Society has become more conscious of the need to ensure that children have a right to a safe and nurturing environment – whether that be in the home, school, parish, sporting club or other institution. The Catholic Church has issued its response to the findings of the Royal Commission into institutional responses to child sexual abuse in institutions.

The Church has adopted 98% of the Royal Commission's recommendations. It can be argued that the Church has shown a willingness to cooperate and support the Royal Commission. It set up the Truth, Justice and Healing Council with its panel of experts including the talent and commitment of the likes of Patrick Sullivan. The Church was the first organization to pledge itself to the redress scheme and indeed has offered substantial payment above the award suggested by the Commission.

And yet in spite of these measures there seems to be continual accusations made against the Church with the present sticking point hovering around the seal of confession.

Archbishop Mark Coleridge, as president of the Australian Bishop's Conference, has argued that the protection of children and the inviolability of the seal of confession are not mutually exclusive and that breaking the seal of confession will not make children any safer. Anecdotal evidence would seem to suggest that paedophiles operate in secrecy and duplicity and are therefore highly unlikely to resort to the confessional. Nevertheless, I personally find that Church leaders have not been convincing in putting forward their position. Church law and practice can and does change. Individual confession with absolution was a medieval development in the practice of reconciliation. (In the study of the reconciliation it is remarkable to see how this sacrament has varied so much in its evolution.)

Perhaps a more productive response to the question of the seal of confession would be for Church leaders to commit to a thorough examination of the issue that would involve the disciplines of theology, canon law, church history,

and pastoral practice. If Church leaders were to offer such a pledge to investigate further on the nature and practice of confession it would offer an openness to explore this issue further, rather than appearing to wind up the draw bridge and take up a defensive posture. However, it should be added that in the eyes of the church's harshest critics nothing the church may say or do will ever satisfy them.

When all is said, many children remain at risk in our society through cyber bullying, domestic violence, homelessness and poverty, not to mention the children locked up in detention on Nauru and Manus Island and plight of aboriginal children living in third world conditions. In the light of these massive social challenges the present spotlight on the seal of confession seems a distraction; at worst, it runs the risk of sucking oxygen from the conversation and action needed in responding to the real and present dangers facing children living in contemporary society.

**Peace & blessings,  
Gerard**

---

## Heart Spirituality

---

### The Heart of Jesus

*Though composed of different members, humanity is formed by one same body and blood, unum corpus multi sumus.*

*The heart which gives life to all the members of this great body is the Heart of Jesus.*

*He alone unites us together and he alone unites us to God. As soon as we separate ourselves from him, we separate ourselves from one another and we lose the true feeling of human fraternity by losing the life of God which is its source. This divine Heart is then the centre around which all hearts gravitate.*

Constitutiones MSC 1865  
Jules Chevalier

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

---

## Reflection

---

### Healed by Love

There is a true story told about a baby girl who was seriously ill in a Neonatal ICU. The paediatric specialist said there was very little hope. The baby's five-year-old brother, Michael, kept begging his parents to let him see his sister. 'I want to sing to her', he kept saying. Children were not allowed in the ICU, but Michael's mother eventually insisted that he be able to see his sister.

When he got to the humidicrib he sang: 'You are my sunshine, my only sunshine, you make me happy when skies are grey'. The nurse reported that as Michael sang, the baby's pulse rate began to calm down and become steady. 'Keep on singing, Michael', encouraged his mother with tears in her eyes. 'You never know, dear, how much I love you. Please don't take my sunshine away.' The baby recovered and left the hospital three weeks later. There is no suggestion for a moment that Michael's song healed his sister, but we should never underestimate the power of human support and love. It helps us to be healed.

The Gospel story of the healing of the deaf mute is striking because it is one of the few stories where the crowd makes the request of healing from Jesus.

Jesus opens our eyes to the reality of God's presence in our midst, in the goodness of people and in the tenderness of life, even in its vulnerability. He opens our ears to hear the word of God spoken to us by others, revealed to us through the created world.

However, we still miss the mark. We still judge each other by appearances. We still miss the presence of God in the poor and the dispossessed, in those who suffer from disease or war or loneliness. We still shun those of another race, or those who have been shaped by another culture, or those who worship God in a different way.

Jesus calls to us through today's gospel to also be open to compassion and open to the needs of those around us.

Resources used: Homily, by Richard Leonard SJ, & Reflection, by Dianne Bergant CSS, at LiturgyHelp

# PARISH NEWS

## Church Seating Arrangements for parishioners with mobility issues.

Two spaces have been made available for disability seating, in the small section of blue chairs near the sliding doors.



We have modelled this on the disability seating system used in movie theatres. It is not compulsory that people with wheelchairs or walkers sit in this space, it is provided with the intention of it being of beneficial help for those parishioners. We would appreciate your feedback on this initiative.

## Fr. Peter Wood msc RIP

The burial service for Peter will be held at St Mary's Towers Douglas Park  
Wednesday 12 September – 2:00pm

## PLENARY COUNCIL 2020

*Listen to what the Spirit is saying while  
engaging in the question -*

*What do you think God is asking of us in  
Australia at this time?*

Our first plenary session will be held on

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> November 7:00pm

and repeated on

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November 3:00pm

### **Sharing our Stories**

Pope Francis calls for a listening church at all levels of church life.

**Where everyone's voice is heard!**

**Come and share your story.**

## SUNDAY AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB

We are reading

**"The Sympathizer"**

by Viet Thanh Nguyen

Sunday 16 September - 3:00 pm

Parish Library.

There one copy of the book in the parish office to borrow.  
**New members are always most welcome**



## Sunday Scripture Readings

The Sunday readings for mass with a commentary will be available for parishioners who are interested in praying with the Scriptures for the upcoming weekend.

**We will commence this on Sunday 16 September the readings will be for 23 September.**

## Alpha Team Training Workshop

**Saturday 15 Sept 9:00am – 4:30pm**

The Parish Pastoral Council is seeking a parishioner who may be interested in attending this workshop. Please contact the Parish Office by Wed 12 Sept.

## Pins & Needles Craft Group



Third Thursday Monthly

Next Meeting: 20 September

7:15pm Parish Library

## Women's Cursillo

Date: 15-18 November - 6:00pm

Venue: Greenhills Conference Centre

Transport can be arranged in needed.

Cost: \$280 includes accommodation, meals

If cost is difficult or if you require further information about the Cursillo, please contact the Lay Director, Lorraine Barker 0437329 371 or email [lorraine-barker@grapevine.com.au](mailto:lorraine-barker@grapevine.com.au)

## The future of the Catholic Church in Australia

Concerned Catholics of Canberra-Goulburn will hold its 4<sup>th</sup> Public Forum at the Australian Centre for Christianity & Culture, Barton on

**11 September** at 7:00pm.

Special guest speakers:

- Bishop Vincent Long **OFM Conv DD** – Diocese of Parramatta
- Sr Clare Condon – Sisters of the Good Samaritan
- Ms Anne Kirwan - CEO Catholic Care, Canberra-Goulburn

## ACU Blackfriars Lecture Series

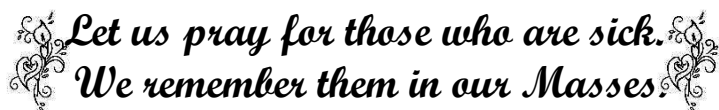
*"Designing for transforming a tale of two worlds"* – lecture by Danielle Dal Cortivo

Date: 19 September

Time: 5.30pm (registration & refreshments) for 6.00 – 7.00 pm

The lecture will held in Room 301.1.20, Veritas Building, ACU (Signadou Watson

**RSVP** 14 Sept [canberra@acu.edu.au](mailto:canberra@acu.edu.au).



**Recently Deceased:** Susan Joy Nevile  
Frank Perry msc

**Anniversaries:** Elizabeth Murray, Des Kiley, Sheila Whigham, Giuseppe Scarlora, Leslie Collins, Joan Larkham, Jennifer Kenny, Alice Gibb, Taya Quade, Marie Happ, Cedric Pratt, Susan Ferguson, Honoria Kelly, Denise Busch, Kathleen Wiltshire, Mary Prosper, Raymond Free, Graham Ottewill, 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 Antcliff, James Sharah, Zoila Wait, Philip Hazell, Patrick Clarke, Lidia Torelli, Georgina Kukolic, Hok Tung

## 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 <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

Answer to the Riddle: The letter "E"

**LIBRARY NEWS:** "Themes and Issues in Christianity" are the topics covered in the display of library books this week.

## RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

Praise the Lord, my soul!

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Jesus preached the Good News  
of the kingdom  
and healed all who were sick.  
Alleluia!

## Readings – 16 September 2018

First Reading	Is 50:5-9
Psalm	Ps 114:1-6. 8-9.
Second Reading	Jas 2:14-18
Gospel	Mark 8:27-35

## 16 September Reading Roster

6:00pm	Bob Raadts, Rob Caskie
8:30am	Judith Deklin, Elizabeth McDonald
10:00am	Ivo Astolfi, Libby Kain
6:00pm	Terry Fewtrell, Joe Ots

## 16 September Ministers of Communion

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

## 16 September Hospitality Roster

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

## Weekly Rosters

Altar Society:	10 Sept	Pat Gilchrist
Grounds:	15 Sept	VACANT
Counting:	16 Sept	Group 5
Church Cleaning:	10 Sept	Ted & Carol Quade

## On a Lighter note

From the beginning of eternity  
To the end of time and space  
To the beginning of every end  
And the end of every place.  
What am I?  
Answer somewhere in Compact !