

COMPACT

St John the Apostle Parish

A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish



**Third Sunday of Lent
24 March 2019**

**Year C
#17.19**

From the Pastor's desk.....

Two tragic events have dominated the news in recent days: the terrorist attack on Muslim worshippers in Christchurch, and the devastating cyclone in Mozambique that has claimed the lives of hundreds of people. These events came suddenly and violently, claiming innocent lives. One was carried out in cold blood; the other was unleashed by the forces of nature.

In today's gospel Jesus relates two contemporary events of his time in which violence is summarily visited upon innocent lives. In one instance, the deaths occur under the brutal orders of the Roman Governor; the other is the result of an accident. Jesus underlined their innocence and thus corrects a false view that they had died because of their sins. This primitive theology, which is still around today, maintains that blessings are a sign of God's favour whereas misfortune is a sign of God's dis-favour.

But more importantly Jesus warns against complacency. He tells us that we must deliberately set about getting our lives in order; that there is an urgent need to repent. By implication, we are ultimately responsible for the direction of our lives. Ultimately, we are not subject to the circumstances of life; we *can* make choices.

Circumstances can limit us, but we still possess freewill. On Thursday evening of last week we held a parish forum in response to crisis that continues to plague our church. It is all-too-tempting to feel powerless in the light of the church's failure to respond adequately to the need for change. One of the reasons why we held this forum was to begin a process whereby our parish community can find and express its voice and seek positive ways of authentically living the gospel. We need to feel empowered by the gospel message.

Circumstances alone do not govern us. We can make life-affirming choices for our parish community in spite of the dysfunction within the institutional church.

***Peace & blessings,
Gerard***

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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.....

St John the Apostle Women's Breakfast

The next breakfast is

7:30am Tuesday
26 March 2019

Rocksalt Restaurant

4/78 Hakwer Place, Hawker

FOR THIS MONTH ONLY -
Lucky Shot Café at Kippax is renovating

Thank you to the St John the Apostle Community for your loving support during Grant's illness and for the many messages of condolence we have received. It has been a source of comfort for us during this sad time. With thanks Mandy Lalor and family.

TIME ● TALENT ● TREASURE

The ministry commitment period is....
1st June 2019 to 31st May 2020.

Through our baptism we are all called to participate in Christ's Mission. Forms for rosters and explanation brochure are on the table in the church foyer.

Please return by 31 March 2019

Over 45's will meet on **Wednesday 27 March** for Mass at 9:30am, followed by morning tea in the parish centre.

At 11:00am we have a **guest speaker** from ACT Policing regarding Community Safety Education and Diversion.

Please come and join us, you are all most welcome. Bring a plate to share.

Enquiries phone Margaret 6254 4048

SUNDAY AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB

We are reading

The Lost Man, by Jane Harper

Sunday 14 April - 3pm Parish Library
Date changed due to Easter

The children of the parish celebrated the **Sacrament of Penance** on Thursday evening. **Thank you** to the parishioners who baked cupcakes for the celebration which followed.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick
will be celebrated after the 9:30am mass on Friday 29 March

Social Justice Brochure
for March is available
in the church foyer.

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT COMMITTEE



A new family of nine desperately need blankets, towels, sheets and kitchen items. The children are: boys aged: 5, 13, 14, 15 and 18, the girls 6, 12. Toys, games and books suitable for those ages, in good condition, would also be welcome. They need clothes and shoes as well but, that may be better sourced personally by paying a visit to V de P. Contact Sigrid Kropp – 0400 304 878

Inner Peace In Divine Love The First Spiritual Exercises

Guided Spiritual conversation each week in small groups for 90 minutes

29 April – 25 May

South Belconnen Parish

Contact the parish office for an Application form
RSVP: 29 March belconnensouth@cg.org.au

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend –
relationship enrichment for married couples
26th-28th April. Mt Carmel Retreat Centre Varroville NSW
Bookings at www.wwme.org.au or
adrian.janet1@bigpond.com
Adrian and Janet Sullivan: on 0490 774 419

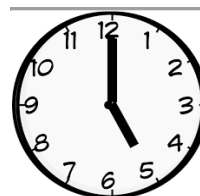
SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Formation evening for Parents.

Date: Monday 1 April

Time: 7:00pm – 8:30pm

The Sacrament will be celebrated on Thursday 16 May at 5:00pm



Changing Mass Time
End of Daylight Savings time

The Vigil mass time will move forward to 5:00pm

13 April 2019 to 6 October 2019.

Confessions will also move forward one hour 4:00pm – 4:30pm

Reflection

Truth must always be yoked to compassion.

Throughout the gospels, Jesus challenged the prevailing 'purity codes' that separated and classified people. The Jewish religious officials of the day were obsessed with the 'letter of the Law' as it applied to purity observance. Jesus told them that a spirit of compassion was much more important than the blind adherence to the Law. He suggests that it is not the lack of observance of purity codes that makes a person 'unclean' or 'sinful'; rather, it is lack of compassion informing their actions towards others.

Truth must always be yoked to compassion. Growth in our lives (be it intellectual, spiritual, psychological, professional, or moral) should not lead to arrogance, elitism, or the false judgement that we, now so free and enlightened, are stuck among the ignorant and unwashed. Rather any genuine growth should lead to a related growth in compassion, respect, gentleness, and the capacity to be more understanding of what's in opposition to us.

Jesus said as much when he instructed us to speak our truth in parables, lest our speaking it causes more harm than good. In essence, what Jesus tells us is that truth is not a sledge-hammer, and simply having the truth is not enough. Our truth must be right, but so too must be our energy. For the truth to set us free it must come with an equal dose of compassion, otherwise our being right will only lead to more divisiveness inside the community and lots of personal bitterness.

The fig tree is unproductive it has not borne fruit for three years. It symbolizes, time for repenting is running out. The one-year reprieve for the fig tree is an indication to the listeners that their change of heart and change of spirit had better take shape in the very near future.

The call to 'repent' is a call to a complete conversion of heart – to take on an attitude of compassion.

Resources used: *Reflection*, by Greg Sunter, & *Making Room for Compassion*, by Ronald Rolheiser OMI

Heart Spirituality

Reparation

Reparation is one of the main purposes of devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. All Christians are called by Our Lord himself to walk this path.

It involves many acts, the most important are: Knowledge, adoration, love, satisfaction, prayer, praise, supplication, thanksgiving, imitation, union with Jesus Christ, zeal for his glory, for souls, for mortification. To repair the insults the Heart of Jesus receives, we must in the first place make a serious effort to realise his dignity, his excellence, his greatness, his love, his suffering, the treasures of grace his Heart contains, in a word, whatever makes him worthy of the admiration of heaven and earth. This knowledge is indispensable. How could one render homage to someone whose nature and qualities are unknown? It is impossible to seek enthusiastically something that we hardly even appreciate; and even more so if we do not even know it. How rare are those who make a serious effort to gain this knowledge of the Heart of Jesus.

Jules Chevalier msc
(Le Sacré-Coeur de Jésus, p.222f, Paris 1900)

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

Stewardship

Time

The season of Lent is a time to reflect carefully on the way we spend our time. Do we give first priority to God, tending to our spiritual growth and sacramental life with diligence? Do we give next priority to our loved ones, focusing intentionally on them each day without distractions from phones, screens or thoughts of work? If not, now is the moment to repent of our waste of time or of misplaced priorities on our use of time. God is merciful but just. Let's turn to God and ask God to make our lives fruitful while we still have time to do so.

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

Recently Deceased:

Anniversary: Peter Roache, Brian Weston, Marijan Cavlovic, Generoso D'Ambrosio, Jack Ranson, Michael Lowe, Ludvik Koren, James Broderick, Ella Greig, Clement King, Alexander Van Audenaerde, Andrew McEvoy, Stanislaw Bitner, Victoria Huntley, Moira Leader, Mark Markham, Jennifer Adamik, Jack Lenihan, Catherine Wheelaghan, Sybil Lazaro, Bill Corby, Francesca Fernando, Kay Haworth, Katherine Jones, John Henshaw, Helena McGee, Harold Allester. Norah Glover, Clara Williamson

PRAYER LIFE

Charismatic Prayer: Maida: 0423 658 326	Thursday 7:30pm Rosary 7:00pm
Meditation	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	Wednesday 4:15pm – 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 rd Monday 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 Lucky Shot Espresso Bar Kippax
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 selection of newly acquired books will be on display for the next couple of weeks. Our grateful thanks to those generous parishioners who have donated a large amount of titles to our collection in recent months.

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

The Lord is kind and merciful.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Glory to you, Word of God,
Lord Jesus Christ!
Repent, says the Lord;
the kingdom of heaven is at hand.
Glory to you, Word of God,
Lord Jesus Christ!

Readings – 31 March 2019

First Reading	Jos 5:9-12
Psalm	Ps 33:2-7
Second Reading	2 Cor 5:17-21
Gospel	Luke 15:1-3,11-32

31 March

Reading Roster

6:00pm	Dennis Puniard, Joe Catanzariti
8:30am	Darren Maharaj, Elizabeth McDonald
10:00am	Colleen Reed, Ann Reynolds
6:00pm	Brian Mahony, Andrew Luck

31 March

Ministers of Communion

6:00pm	Joy McInerney, Chitra Jayawardena, Janet Almond, Marie McKie, Patrick Corr
8:30am	Fay Stephenson, Carmel Screen, Jean Tierney, Clyde Sloan, VACANT
10:00am	Anthony Noakes, Robin Williams, Bonnie & Rose Benedictos, VACANT
6:00pm	Margaret Curry, Brian Mahony, Margaret McMahon, VACANT, VACANT

31 March

Hospitality Roster

6:00pm	Chitra Jayawardena
8:30am	
10:00am	Joe Pisciotta
6:00pm	

Weekly Rosters

Altar Society:	25 Mar	Margaret Stanford
Grounds	30 Mar	VACANT
Counting:	31 Mar	Group 9

Church Cleaning:	25 Mar	Joseph Lê Văn Hải, Sam Van Nguyen
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On a Lighter note

What did the horse say after it tripped?
"Help! I've fallen and I can't giddyup!"

"To be on earth the Heart of God"