

# COMPACT



## St John the Apostle Parish

*A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish*

**Fourth Sunday of Lent  
31 March 2019**

**Year C  
#18.19**

### **From the Pastor's desk.....**

In today's gospel we hear about a feast. In the parable there are two sons who both, in their own way, hurt their father: the first, by his self-centred behaviour, the other, by refusing to celebrate his brother's return. But in spite of this the father shows nothing but love and solicitude. He invites them both to a feast. It is a feast of reconciliation. The Eucharistic, among other things, is also a feast of reconciliation. For in the Mass we are called to be reconciled to one another and to God in this banquet that expresses our unity.

After the Eucharistic Prayer the assembly stands to pray the Lord's Prayer which is followed by the Sign of Peace. These two actions help prepare us for Communion by reminding us of the intrinsic connection between Eucharist and Reconciliation. In the Lord's Prayer the fourth petition, "give us this day our daily bread" relates to the Eucharist in which we are about to partake. The fifth petition, "And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us", is a reminder that of our need to be reconciled with God and one another in order that our communion be holy.

We pray to "Our Father", not "My Father..." conscious that we belong both to God and God's family. The Sign of Peace naturally follows the Lord's Prayer, reinforcing our oneness in Christ. Thus we are prepared to receive communion in its widest, deepest and truest meaning: communion with Christ and one another.

The gospel story has both a happy and a sad ending. While the younger son *is* reconciled to his father, the older son remains embittered and estranged. This parable is a challenge for us as followers of Jesus to be ambassadors of God's reconciliation through our own practice of reaching out in healing love. May our celebration of the Eucharistic be for us a source of peace and reconciliation.

***Peace & blessings,  
Gerard***

**"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  
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Pastoral Associate/Parish Manager  
Marian England  
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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  
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](mailto:office.sjaps@cg.catholic.edu.au)  
[www.sjaps.act.edu.au](http://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.....

### 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



### TIME ● TALENT ● TREASURE

*Forms are due this weekend*

The ministry commitment period is....  
1<sup>st</sup> June 2019 to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2020.

### Agape - Youth Group

High school students in years 7 to 12

**First and Third Sundays  
after the 6:00pm Mass**

**Next gathering 7 April**

This group is a way for young people to learn  
about the church and deepen their faith  
together. Contact [Eoin.Garton@sfx.act.edu.au](mailto:Eoin.Garton@sfx.act.edu.au)

### SUN DAY AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB

We are reading

*The Lost Man*, by Jane Harper



**Sunday 14 April - 3pm Parish Library**

**Date changed due to Easter**



### 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

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

### Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend – relationship enrichment for married couples

26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> April. Mt Carmel Retreat Centre Varroville NSW

Bookings at [www.wwme.org.au](http://www.wwme.org.au) or

[adrian.janet1@bigpond.com](mailto:adrian.janet1@bigpond.com)

Adrian and Janet Sullivan: on 0490 774 419

### FUNERAL NOTICE

Requiem Mass to celebrate the life of

*John O'Brien*

will be celebrated at 1:30pm

Tuesday 2 April 2019

St John the Apostle Parish Kippax

### Hospitality Ministry Meeting

all ministers to attend the following meeting:

Day: Sunday April 7

Time: 2:45pm

Venue: Parish Library

Contact: [Judynetting@yahoo.com.au](mailto:Judynetting@yahoo.com.au)

### CLAIM THE DATES

**Thurs 11 April** – Parish Pastoral Council  
Information night - recruiting new members

**Sun 5 May** - Ministry thank you lunch

**Sun 19 May** - Parish family picnic

### REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT COMMITTEE



for all of the donations we have  
received.

We still require a clean queen size mattress.  
Please contact Sigrid Kropp – 0400 304 878

### MEN'S GROUP

The men of  
St John the Apostle  
Community



*you're invited*  
**to a pizza and beer evening**

**Friday 5 April - 6:00pm - Presbytery Deck**

*A time to gather as catholic men in  
fellowship with opportunity to explore the  
idea of forming a men's group in the  
parish.*

**LIBRARY NEWS:** "Sure beats selling cardigans:  
fostering our relationship with God" is the title of one  
of our new books on display at present. Others are  
"Walking the way of Jesus" and "Oh God, why?; a  
journey through Lent for bruised pilgrims".

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# Reflection

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## God's Love

The Gospel accepts that life is tragic, but it graciously adds that we can survive and will even grow from this tragedy. Growth happens: in honest community and committed relationships. Love is learned in the encounter with “otherness” as the Jewish philosophers Martin Buber and Emmanuel Levinas taught. It all depends on whether we are willing to see down as up and learn to draw upon the Infinite Source.

When we human beings “admit” to one another “the exact nature of our wrongs,” we invariably have a human and humanizing encounter that deeply enriches both sides—and even changes lives! It is no longer an exercise to achieve moral purity or regain God's love, but in fact, a direct encounter *with* God's love. It is not about punishing one side, but liberating both sides.

Love, like forgiveness, is a decision. It's a decision in your mind and in your heart. And you'd better make it early in the day, because once you're a few hours into resentment, it's too late.

Forgiveness becomes central to Jesus' teaching, because to receive reality is always to “bear it,” to bear with reality for not meeting all of our needs. To accept reality is to forgive reality for being what it is, almost day by day and sometimes even hour by hour. Such a practice creates patient and humble people.

Forgiveness reveals *three goodnesses* simultaneously. When we forgive, we choose the goodness of the other over their faults, we experience God's goodness flowing through ourselves, and we also experience our own capacity for goodness in a way that almost surprises us. We are finally in touch with a much Higher Power, and we slowly learn how to draw upon this Infinite Source.

**Resources used:** *Forgiving Reality for Being What It Is*, by Richard Rohr

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# Heart Spirituality

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## The return of the prodigal son

He has made up his mind:

*I shall arise and go....*

He does not put off his departure until tomorrow. He sets out right away at a fast pace. He hurries to throw himself into the arms of him whom he has saddened so much by his foolish flight; him whom he has offended grievously by his disorderly behaviour. He thinks only of one thing: to appeal to his mercy and to ask his pardon. His heart is broken in repentance, making him shed tears of sorrow.

This is how I should feel! I have offended God who is my Father. In a moment of foolishness I have distanced myself from him; I have saddened his heart by straying. He is worried about what is happening to me; I feel that he is calling me; he is yearning for my return; he is waiting for me day and night; he makes the first move by his grace. I cannot resist any longer.

So it is decided:

*I shall arise and go!...*

Jules Chevalier msc  
(Retraite, p.84, Issoudun 1904)

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

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## Stewardship

God created all things, and God never transferred the ownership of his creation to humankind. So if God owns everything, what are we supposed to do? Our role is to be a steward. And a steward is a manager of someone else's possessions.

Acknowledging God's ownership requires a transformation of thinking and this is never an easy thing to do. It's easy to give intellectual assent to the idea that “God owns all that I have,” but still live as if this wasn't true at all. When we acknowledge God's ownership, every spending decision becomes a spiritual decision.

We owe God everything! But let's start by giving him one little thing. Take even a faltering step closer to Him — go to confession, join in the Stations of the Cross, call a family member or friend you are at odds with and try to reconcile. That is what lent is all about.

<https://compasscatholic.org/gods-stewardship-message/>



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



## **RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:**

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

Praise and honour to you,  
Lord Jesus Christ!

I will rise and go to my Father and tell him:  
Father, I have sinned against heaven  
and against you.

Praise and honour to you,  
Lord Jesus Christ!

## **Readings – 7 April 2019**

First Reading Is 43:16-21  
Psalm Ps 125  
Second Reading Phil 3:8-14  
Gospel John 8:1-11

### **7 April**

### **Reading Roster**

6:00pm	Elaine Laycock, Leslie Givens
8:30am	John O'Heir, Elizabeth McDonald
10:00am	Robin Williams, Frank Colley
6:00pm	Matthew Garton, Dennis Puniard

### **7 April**

### **Ministers of Communion**

6:00pm	Helen Kennedy, Janet Almond, Judy Netting, Joe & Maria Catanzariti
8:30am	Carmel Screen, Sigrid Kropp, Maria Scarr, Victoria Scarano, VACANT
10:00am	Pat Sheppard, Jenny Howarth, Nunga Umaru, Bonnie & Rose Benedictos
6:00pm	Margaret Curry, Maria Devine, Anthony Dunncliff-Hagan, James & Toni Cox

### **7 April**

### **Hospitality Roster**

6:00pm	Joe & Maria Catanzariti
8:30am	Carmel Screen, Mercia Needham
10:00am	Libby Kain, Margarete Gill
6:00pm	Agnes Pham

## **Weekly Rosters**

Altar Society:	1 April	Gabrielle Culhane
Grounds	6 April	VACANT
Counting:	7 April	Group 2

Church Cleaning:	1 April	Marian England, Sharon Greaves
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## **On a Lighter note**

"The circle is just the most ridiculous  
shape in the world.

There's absolutely no point to it."

## **Recently Deceased:** John O'Brien

**Anniversary:** Ella Greig, Clement King,  
Alexander Van Audenaerde, Andrew McEvoy,  
Stanislaw Bitner, Victoria Huntley, Mark Markham,  
Moira Leader, Jennifer Adamik, Jack Lenihan,  
Catherine Wheelaghan, Sybil Lazaro, Bill Corby,  
Francesca Fernando, Kay Haworth, John Henshaw,  
Katherine Jones, Helena McGee, Harold Allester,  
Vivienne Montgomery, Jordan Matthews,  
John Napier, Caitlin Brice, Alyssa Brice,  
Betty Kerekes, Janelle Brice, Leonard Smith,  
Trevor Agnew, Elena Guindas, Kenneth Marlor,  
Jim Curran, Noel Smith, Leon Fernando,  
Kees Van Rooy, Daniel Cassar, Leslie Thomson,  
Edward Yewdall, Ian Stephenson, Wanda Parkitny,  
Paul Rogers, John Margetts, Adrian Krook,  
Keith Aikins

## **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	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> Monday 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 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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