

COMPACT



St John the Apostle Parish

A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish

**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
17 February 2019**

**Year C
#12.19**

From the Pastor's desk.....

Lent begins much later this year with Ash Wednesday on March 6. This means that we have some extra Masses in Ordinary Time. This also means that we have readings that we don't normally hear during the course of the three-year cycle.

Today's gospel is a case in point. We seldom hear Luke's version of the beatitudes, which is strikingly different to the more familiar version of Matthew. In Matthew, the setting of the beatitudes is the Sermon on the Mount whereas the setting in Luke is the Sermon on the Plains. Unlike Matthew, Luke's blessings also includes a corresponding set of woes.

But what really stands out is the strong social justice emphasis that we detect in Luke. The first of the beatitudes in Matthew speaks of the 'poor in spirit'; Luke simply uses the word 'poor' without qualifications. In other words, poor means poor, it refers to those who are struggle under the burden of financial hardship. The corresponding woe warns those living in comfort and complacency: 'woe to you who are rich.'

In God's dispensation of justice it is the poor and oppressed who are favoured while the rich and opportunistic find no place in God's kingdom. This is not the first time in Luke's gospel that we see such a radical reversal of fortunes. In Mary's song of praise we hear that "the hungry he has filled with good things, the rich sent empty away" (Luke 1:53). At the beginning of his ministry, Jesus reads from the prophet Isaiah during the synagogue service in his hometown of Nazareth: 'He has sent me to bring good news to the poor' (Luke 4:18). Clearly, God has a *preferential option for the poor*.

The term *option for the poor* was coined by the Jesuit superior general, Fr Pedro Arrupe in 1968 and has since become a feature of Catholic Social teaching. *This love of preference for the poor, and the decisions which it inspires in us, cannot but embrace the immense multitudes of the hungry, the needy, the homeless, those without health care and, above all, those without hope of a better future. (Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church)*

This teaching is not new, St Ambrose, living in the fourth century, reminds his fellow Christians: *You are not making a gift of what is yours to the poor man, but you are giving him back what is his. The earth belongs to everyone, not to the rich.*

Sadly, in our world there is a huge gulf between those who struggle to survive under the weight of poverty and injustice and those who have amassed wealth far beyond their needs. The words of Jesus in Luke's beatitude impels us to work for the kingdom in which God's mercy and justice overturns the misplaced values of society.

***Peace & blessings,
Gerard***

"To be on earth the Heart of God" Parish Administration:

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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.....

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

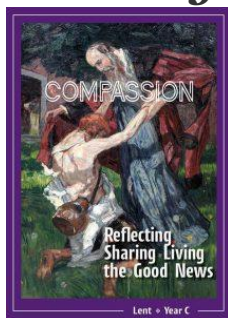
Formation Session for Parents
18 February 7:00pm

PRESENTATION MASSES

23/24 February

Please hold all the children and their families in
your prayers.

Lent Program - "Compassion"



Available now
Parish Bookstore

Book \$10 each
CD/DVD \$20 each

*If you would like to join a
Lenten Prayer Group
please telephone the Parish
Office.*



VOL NTEER

all that's missing is U!

58 Collection areas

are still unallocated -

your help can make a difference.

We're Going Back To School



PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION

ENROLLING NOW 17th February

both before and after the 10am Mass

Enrolments in the Church Foyer

Classes will commence on 24 February

Pins & Needles Craft Group

Monday 18 February
7:15pm Parish Library



Relax, Review, Reflect Faith and film

Friday 22nd February at 7:30pm



We are watching:
"The Good Lie"

To register your interest or for more information,
please contact the parish office on 6254 3236 or
kippax@cg.org.au

St John the Apostle Primary School

Twilight Fete



Agape - Youth Group

High school students in years 7 to 12

First and Third Sundays
after the 6:00pm Mass

First gathering for 2019
17 February

This group is a way for young people to learn
about the church and deepen their faith together.
Contact Eoin Eoin.garton@sfx.act.edu.au

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

rehearsals on Wednesdays
3.30. to 4.15pm - in the church



Reflection

Living a Beatitude way of Life

Jesus was a wisdom teacher and the Beatitudes are considered the very blueprint for Christian lifestyle. His teachings are confronting and challenging. This gospel in particular frequently reminds us that God does not think, feel and behave as we might expect. God's actions are frequently contrary to the expectations of society.

Today's readings challenge us to live the Beatitudes as a way of life. It is a way of paradox, a way that moves us beyond the self-centred standards of the world. The poor, the hungry, those who weep, and those who are persecuted are really the ones who are blessed. The victims of our social and economic systems, those who have been ravaged by war or have been made vulnerable by life itself are the ones who, if they place their trust in God, will be blessed in the end. They may appear to be the outcasts of this world, but, if they are filled with faith, they will inherit heaven.

As part of his sermon, Jesus announces, 'Happy are you when people hate you, drive you out, abuse you, denounce your name as criminal, on account of the Son of Man... This was the way their ancestors treated the prophets.' The prophets of the Old Testament were the chosen spokesmen of God. Their message was often unpopular and they were often threatened and berated for challenging the social order. To be treated in this way is in fact something of an affirmation that one's words and actions are reflecting the message of God.

The wealth of this world and its pleasures are not the blessings that we might think they are. They can blind us to the real values of life and prevent us from dying to the world and living resurrected lives in Christ.

The challenge for us, is to live the Beatitudes as a way of discipleship.

Resources used: *Treated as Prophets*, by Greg Sunter & *Reflection*, by Dianne Bergant CSS

Heart Spirituality

**Jesus began by doing,
then by teaching (Acts 1:1)**

If the Missionary of the Sacred wants to make their work and words effective, they must imitate the divine model who began by doing, the Gospel tells us, then by teaching.

It is after having passed his life in the practice of all the virtues that Our Lord says to us:

"Happy the poor,
happy those who suffer persecution
in the cause of justice,
happy the gentle".

People understand his language.

The Missionary of the Sacred Heart must be the same. People should see in them a great faith and a deep trust in God that does not allow them to be discouraged in times of trouble, nor to give up when meeting opposition.

(Règles 1855, p. 119f),
Jules Chevalier msc

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

Stewardship

Good Stewards Live the Beatitudes

The word "Beatitude" refers to a state of deep happiness or joy. But these sayings are paradoxes. They turn our normal expectations upside down. Jesus is bringing us a new law, new expectations on how to live. He is bringing forth the Kingdom of God. Jesus tells his followers how they are expected to live.

The Beatitudes and the rest of the Sermon on the Mount prescribe the lifestyle of a Christian disciple." Each of these "blesseds" is a statement about an important aspect of how we exercise stewardship of our lives.

Each of them offers us an ideal of how to live and how we find God living within us. Learn the Beatitudes, memorize them, make them part of your daily prayer life, and ask the Lord for the wisdom and strength to follow this stewardship way of life, a path that follows in the footsteps of Jesus.

International Catholic Stewardship Council <https://www.dbqarch.org>

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

Recently Deceased: *Adrian Meaney msc*

Anniversary: *Edward Blake-Smith,
Philip Babic, John Thompson, Raychell Nolan,
Carmel Page, Charlotte Lansdown, David Lowe,
Paulina Jabagat, Colin Waterford, Ian Bransby,
Ondina Finzi, Michael Vella, Giuseppe Mammoliti,
Vincas Puzas, Judith Hickey, Rodney Chapman,
Eamonn Murtagh, Rudi Meyer, James Wiley,
Johanna Garratt, Reg Lazaro, John Marane,
Ivan Mikulic, Angeles Arranz, Lillian Luke,
Elena Zamora, Adrian Newton, Adrienne Stewart,
Ashley Kent, Tony Lay, Ken Forester*

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 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

LIBRARY NEWS: "What Paul meant", "Prove it! God", "Ask the beasts: Darwin and the God of love", and "The Joy of the Gospel" are some of the new titles on display this week.

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Rejoice and be glad;
your reward is great in heaven.
Alleluia!

Readings – 24 February 2019

First Reading	1 Sm 26:2.7-9.12-13.22-23
Psalm	102:1-4. 8. 10. 12-13.
Second Reading	1 Cor 15:45-49
Gospel	Luke 6:27-38

24 Feb Reading Roster

6:00pm	Margaert Luck, Elaine Laycock
8:30am	Carmel Screen, Shane Murtagh
10:00am	Louise Honan, Ann Reynolds
6:00pm	Marian Crowley, Andrew Luck

24 Feb Ministers of Communion

6:00pm	Marie McKie, John Drury, Barbara Witzens, Terry O'Brien, Margaret McMahon
8:30am	Violet Duve, Judith Deklin, Ted & Clare Kell, VACANT
10:00am	Robin Williams, Libby Costello, Pat Sheppard, Erin Pitt, VACANT
6:00pm	Agnes Pham

24 Feb Hospitality Roster

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

Weekly Rosters

Altar Society:	18 Feb	Mary Cruickshank
Grounds:	23 Feb	David Pigram, Matthew Garton, Mike Lavis
Counting:	24 Feb	Group 8
Church Cleaning:	18 Feb	John & Jenny Maher, Carol Blyth

On a Lighter note

Dad: 'Be careful standing near those trees.'
Daughter: 'Why? The sky is clear, there's no chance of lightning.'
Dad: 'I don't know really, they just look kind of shady to me.'