

COMPACT



St John the Apostle Parish

A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish

23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8 September 2019

Year C
#41.19

From the Pastor's desk.....

An angel is walking down the main street of a country village and is carrying in one hand a bucket of water and in the other a flaming torch. All the people in the village come out of their homes to witness this strange spectacle. One of the people musters up courage to ask the angel what he is doing. The angel answers, "With this touch I will set ablaze the mansions of heaven. And with this bucket of water I will extinguish the fires of hell. Then will we see who really loves God."

The above story illustrates what has so often been the motivation of religious practice: fear of punishment and promise of reward. This type of religion can only be classed as primitive and self-serving. The gospel of love, as preached and lived by Jesus, offers a different paradigm. Love does not seek anything for itself. Rather, it is an outpouring of self. An immeasurable giving that is costly. In Jesus' case, the cost of his love is a total giving of himself to the point of death.

To be a disciple of Jesus is likewise costly. In today's gospel Jesus outlines three criteria for discipleship: the priority of following Jesus over family ties [and friendships], the willingness to take up one's cross, and the relinquishment of possessions. On the surface these demands seem harsh; even a negation of life.

Our only way to understand this "cost of discipleship" is to grasp its paradoxical nature. When we make Jesus the centre of our lives our relationships deepen and become more real, rather than lead to isolation and alienation (which is the result of turning away from God). When we take up our cross we open ourselves to transformation and new life. Finally, by having the freedom to give up everything for the sake of the Kingdom, we in turn are made rich beyond measure, for everything ultimately comes from God.

The two parables in today's gospel speak of the need to give of our all in following Jesus, for there is no such thing as a part-time Christian. Yes, the gospel is uncompromising, but it is the paradoxical way to freedom and life.

Peace & blessings,
Gerard

Parish Administration:

Pastor Fr. Gerard McCormick msc
Email: gerard@stjohnkippax.org.au

Assistant Pastor
Fr. Kimi Vunivesilevu msc
Email: kimi@stjohnkippax.org.au

Pastoral Associate/Parish Manager
Marian England
Email: marian@stjohnkippax.org.au

Parish Secretary Sharon Greaves
Email: kippax@cg.org.au

Youth Minister Eoin Garton
Email: Eoin.Garton@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
Web: www.stjohnkippax.org.au

MASS TIMES

Vigil Saturday	5:00pm
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 4:00pm – 4:30pm



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.....



SEASON OF CREATION

"The Web of Life"

1 September – 4 October

Pope Francis has called on Christians to use this period as a season to "reflect on our lifestyles" and how they affect the environment.

<https://seasonofcreation.org/2019/09/02/pope-francis-on-the-season-of-creation/>



SUNDAY AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB

We are reading
The Year of the Farmer, by
Rosalie Ham

Sunday 15 September- 3:00 pm
Parish Library.

There are three copies of the book available at the parish office

BELCONNEN YOUTH

Agape - Youth Group

High school students in years 7 to 12

First and Third Sundays
after the 6:00pm Mass

Next gathering 15 September

This group is a way for young people to learn about the church and deepen their faith together. Contact Eoin.Garton@cg.org.au

Guinness & God "Believe"

11 September at 6:30pm
King O'Malley's Irish Pub



Pins & Needles Craft Group

Monday 16 September
7:15pm Parish Library



Relax, Review, Reflect Faith and film

Friday 27 September at 7:30pm

We are watching: "NIGHT TRAIN TO LISBON"

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



SUNDAY READINGS WITH

COMMENTARY - Available on the table in the church foyer are the readings and commentary for the following weekend for parishioners who would like to pray with the readings in preparation for mass. These are not the readings that are produced for the Lectors on the reading ministry but a separate issue particularly for the general body of the congregation.

SJA Men's Group Meeting Monthly



Next gathering: Friday 20 September
St John the Apostle Parish Centre: 6:00pm

St Mary's Towers Douglas Park Upcoming Program

October

4-10	Flowing in the Light – Prayer with Mechthilde of Magdeburg - Michelle Vass
18-20	Abide in my love – Prayer Weekend Pauline Compton fdnsc
25-31	I call you Friends - Michelle Vass

Email: towersretreat@bigpond.com

<http://www.towersretreat.org.au>

"Social Media –

The Good, the Bad and the Ugly"

You are invited to a free workshop on this year's Social Justice Statement, *Making It Real: genuine human encounter in our digital world*

Date: 14 September

Time: 10am-12noon

Place: Haydon Hall, St Christopher's Pastoral Centre, Manuka.

For catering and notes, please RSVP by Tuesday, 10 September to the Catholic Social Justice Commission, 0412 145 088 or e-mail: Social.Justice@cg.org.au .

Celebrating Thomas Keating

Screening of an award-winning film 'A Rising Tide of Silence'. After lunch there will be a short session on *Lectio Divina*

Date: 12 October

Time: 10:30am – 2:30pm

Venue: Marian Hall, Page

Facilitated by Sr. Lorraine Cupitt

Enquiries: 62547168 or

peter.ahern@bigpond.com

Please bring a personal lunch.

Morning tea provided

Reflection

Renouncing Possessions

The fleeting nature of life as characterised in the psalm forces us to look at the meaning of life. When the day dawns for us to return to dust, what will we have gained from life?

We live in a society that places great importance upon external signs of success. We have to assure ourselves and others that we are valuable and important—because we inherently doubt that we are!

People living under capitalism find it almost unnatural to know their own centre. Dignity must always be “acquired” and earned. We live in an affluent society that’s always expecting more, wanting more, and believes it even deserves more. But the more we own, ironically enough, the less we enjoy. This is the paradox of materialism. The more we project our soul’s longing onto things, the more things disappoint us.

Happiness is an inside job. When we expect to find happiness outside of ourselves, we are always disappointed. We then seek a “higher” or more stimulating experience and the spiral of addiction and consumption continues.

Discipleship demands that, in the face of all the choices available to us, we keep our priorities straight. In the gospel, Jesus insists that we must be single minded. We must cling to the one thing necessary, and that one thing is authentic discipleship.

In choosing Jesus, we choose other things as well. We choose new relationships with the very people to whom we have already been committed. Those who were slaves, or lower class, or employees, or providers of service are now regarded as sisters and brothers in Christ.

In choosing Jesus, we also choose the cross. We choose to live in a way that calls us to travel the high road: to forgive offences committed against us; to live simply so that others can simply live; to take responsibility for the moral character of society.

Resources used: *Reflection*, by Dianne Bergant CSA & *Enoughness and Contentment*, by Richard Rohr OFM.

Heart Spirituality

The Heart of Jesus revealed in the Gospels

If we follow Jesus in his public life, we see his Heart pour itself out on every sort of misfortune, on every sort of misery, moral and physical.

From where comes the forgiveness and the infinite mercy that he shows towards sinners, that so tender compassion for those who suffer? From his Heart.

What inspired him to heal so many sick people who appealed to his power; His Heart, always his Heart.

All the kindnesses that Jesus sowed along his path, all the miracles he worked are so many outpourings of the ineffable goodness of his Heart. Thus the Gospel that relates them could be called the *gospel of the Sacred Heart*.

Jules Chevalier msc
(Le Sacré-Coeur de Jésus p.9f, Paris 1900)

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

Stewardship

Disciples must renounce all possessions.

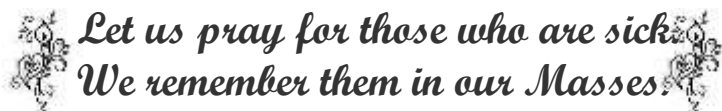
Possessions can stand in the way of being a disciple and being a good steward. It is a question of trust.

Trust is at the centre of a stewardship way of life. Jesus tells us that we need to trust in Him to a greater extent than in ourselves or in what we may possess. That is, not easy for us.

Nevertheless, to place our trust in the Lord is exactly what it means to be His disciple. Psalms perfectly captures the challenge we face and provides the answer to the challenge as well. “Man says to God, ‘Show me and I will trust You.’ And God replies “Trust me and I will show you’.”

[Stewardship Reflections from TheCatholicSteward.com](http://TheCatholicSteward.com)

“To be on earth the Heart of God”



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

Recently Deceased:

Anniversary: *Alvaro del Busto, Christopher Halloran, Elizabeth Murray, Des Kiley, Sheila Whigham, Giuseppe Scalora, John O'Neill, Leslie Collins, Joan Larkham, Jennifer Kenny, Alice Gibb, Taya Quade, Marie Happ, Susan Ferguson, Honoria Kelly, Kathleen Wiltshire, Cedric Pratt, Denise Busch, Mary Prosper, Raymond Free, Graham Ottewill, Robert Caskie, Pauline Jones, Therese Le, Don Nicol, Peter Hill, Allan Biggs*

PRAYER LIFE

Charismatic Prayer: Maida: 0423 658 326	Thursday 7:30pm Rosary 7:00pm
Meditation	Friday 7.30-8.15 pm
Rosary	Monday – Friday 9:05am
Adult Choir	Wednesday 7:30pm

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
Mens Group	2 nd Friday of the Month Venue to be advised

School of Religion (Parish Centre)	Sunday 9.15am during school term
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LIBRARY NEWS: More of the titles on display at present covering the subject of refugees in Australia are "Immigration and refugee policy: Australia and Canada compared", "Intermarriage: a study of migration and integration", and "The Drownings argument: Australia's inhumanity: offshore processing of asylum seekers".

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

In every age, O Lord,
you have been our refuge.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Let your face shine on your servant,
And teach me your laws.
Alleluia!

Readings – 15 September 2019

First Reading	Ex 32:7-11,13-14
Psalm	50:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19
Second Reading	1 Tm 1:12-17
Gospel	Luke 15:1-32

15 Sept

Reading Roster

5:00pm	Bob Raadts, Judy Netting
8:30am	John O'Heir, Kerry Yard
10:00am	Ivo Astolfi, Libby Kain
6:00pm	Terry Fewtrell, Joe Ots

15 Sept

Ministers of Communion

5:00pm	Joy McInerney, Elaine Laycock, Laurine Smeaton, Maresa Laird, Gerard Teng
8:30am	Margaret Conlon, Pat Cowburn, Clyde Sloan, Peter Polkinghorne, VACANT
10:00am	Marie Flint, Ann Reynolds, Judy Lane, Sugi Mohanadas, Bernadette Madsen
6:00pm	Brian Mahony, Matthew Garton, Stephanie Stewart, Rod Gardiner, VACANT

15 Sept

Hospitality Roster

5:00pm	Lesley Givens
8:30am	Mercia Needham, Norma & Clyde Sloan
10:00am	Marie Flint
6:00pm	Brian Mahony

Weekly Rosters

Altar Society:	9 Sept	Pat Gilchrist
Grounds	14 Sept	Allan Laycock, Rob Breen, Mike Blyth, Dennis Puniard
Counting:	15 Sept	Group 5
Church Cleaning:	9 Sept	Ted & Carol Quade

On a Lighter note

Remember, the best angle to approach a problem is from the "try" angle.