

COMPACT



St John the Apostle Parish

A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Year A
29 December 2019 #5.20

From the Pastor's desk.....

We have just celebrated the birth of Jesus. And now this feast of the Holy Family offers us further reflection on the mystery of the incarnation – of God taking on our human flesh.

I have always been amazed that our God would come to us in the form of a helpless vulnerable infant. Fortunately, he was placed in the hands of two loving parents, Joseph and Mary. But danger was never far away. Joseph was warned in a dream to take his wife and child and flee in haste. And so the Holy Family became refugees, forced out of their homeland because of the paranoia and brutality of King Herod.

Fortunately, the Holy Family found a temporary haven in Egypt. This is not the case for millions of refugees throughout our world. The refugee crisis often means families are separated, adding to the enormity of their suffering. War, environmental degradation, unjust distribution of wealth, all impact upon the family's wellbeing. Even in affluent countries excessively long working hours rob fathers and mothers of essential time with their children.

Government has a huge responsibility. It has power to legislate and also use its resources and revenue to assist families – especially those who are vulnerable or who have special needs.

The Holy Family offers us a profound model for human existence. In the Holy Family we see God's circle of love that embraces, protects and nurtures. This circle of love is the antidote to the greed and destructive forces so evident in our world.

***Peace & blessings,
Gerard***

Parish Administration:

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Parish Office:

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Office Hours: 9.00am - 3.00pm
Mon-Fri
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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



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

SMOKE FREE ZONE

There is a 4-metre smoke free zone from the entrance and exits of the church buildings. Thank you



Parish News.....

Parish Office Hours over the Christmas break



The parish office will be closed from
Wednesday 25 December 2019
and will re-open on
Monday 6 January 2020



SUNDAY AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB

We are reading
Dark Emu, by Bruce Pascoe
Sunday 19 January
3:00 pm Parish Library

Pins & Needles Craft Group

Monday 20 January
7:15pm Parish Library



Relax, Review, Reflect Faith and film

Friday 24th January at 7:30pm



We are watching:
"As Good As It Gets"

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 Women's Breakfast

Every Fourth Tuesday of the month

28 January 2020 at 7:30am

Lucky Shot Espresso Bar

Hardwick Crescent KIPPAX

The Over 45's First meeting of the
year will be on **Wednesday 29
January** with Mass at 9:30am followed
by morning tea in the parish centre.

January Baptisms

We welcome into our community:



Barnaby Stevens,
Son of Adam and Amber;
Chelsea Turnbull,
Daughter of Ryan and Monique;
Benjamin Cassar,
Son of David and Shantara;
Sesethu Ludidi,
Daughter of Gloria Nkomo

Thank you The Liturgy Team would

like to express their thanks to all the
parishioners who participated in ministry for
the Christmas masses. Your participation
enhanced our celebrations.

STAMPS FOR THE MISSIONS

With the Christmas and holiday season with us, and
the corresponding increase in mail, it is timely to
remind parishioners that there is a box on the table in
the foyer near the parish shop, where unwanted used
and also unused postage stamps can be left for the
MSC Missions.

These stamps will be sent to the MSC office in
Sydney where they will be sorted and sold and the
proceeds used to further the work of the Missions.
This is a valued fundraising help to our MSC
Missionaries in their missionary outreach.

Thank you all for your continuing help in this
outreach.

FR. GERARD – 2020: At the end of next
year Fr. Gerard will have completed his 3rd three-
year term as parish priest. In 2020 Gerard will be
absent from the parish on sabbatical. His last
Sunday here will be 19 January 2020 and a
farewell pot luck lunch will be held on that day.
There will be a leaving collection for Gerard after
all masses on 11/12 January.

2020 Calendar January

5	The Epiphany of the Lord
6	Parish Office Reopens
12	The Baptism of the Lord
27	Australia Day Holiday- Parish Office Closed
31	Anointing of the Sick after 9:30am Mass

Reflection

The Holy Family

Today's feast tells that Jesus, Mary and Joseph had a career in holiness. I suspect there are not many of us would write Saviour or Saints on the people in our family trees! But there is every reason to believe that holiness is handed down from one generation to the next.

The problem with holiness is that we often equate it with perfection. To be a holy person does not mean one is perfect. Perfection rests only in God. Jesus enjoyed perfection in his humanity, but we must allow Mary and Joseph to be less than perfect, else we make them truly divine as well. As a family, they were not perfect, they were holy. They struggled together to understand the best way they could bring God's reign to bear in our world.

Their destinies were vastly different, but intimately connected. They needed each other.

And so to us. If we allow the Holy Family to be too removed from our experience, they have little to say to the fights, misunderstandings and problems that can sometimes characterise our families. If on the other hand we concede that Jesus, Mary and Joseph, as a family, were not perfect, they can be a model of the very thing we want in our own homes: love, justice, fidelity and kindness that reveal a life of holiness. They can show us a mutual respect that allows each family member to find his or her own path to revealing God's creative and saving love for our world. And they can provide us with the assurance of knowing that as a result of their holiness we have all been welcomed into the family of God.

Resources used: Homily, By Richard Leonard SJ at LiturgyHelp

“Be on earth the Heart of God”

Heart Spirituality

Missionaries of the Sacred Heart

All have the duty to pray earnestly to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, from whom proceeds every perfect gift, and to Mary Immaculate who has been granted so great an influence over this divine Heart; they also should take care that others be devoted to them, so that our Society may deserve to increase and to persevere in fervor of spirit.

Moreover, since Saint Joseph was the helper, friend and guardian of Jesus and Mary, the Society will place all its houses, now and in the future, under the care of this outstanding protector and acknowledge him as their master and patron in perpetuity.

Jules Chevalier msc
(Constitutiones MSC 1877, Ch.XII nn.1f)

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

Stewardship

Paul's instruction to “put on” compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and forbearance towards each other is the best possible formula for family hospitality. Paul is reminding us that (especially in the messiness of family life) we won't always feel the feelings of compassion, kindness, and so forth. What can we do? We can “put them on” — we can act in ways that a compassionate, kind, humble person would act. This will create a transformative atmosphere of hospitality within the home that will spill out in the family's interactions with those outside the home. Of course this is not easy to do.

But we can turn to the Holy Family for help. Lest we think that the Holy Family is somehow unable to sympathize with our struggles, we see in our Gospel passage from Matthew that this Family was certainly not free from trials and stress; quite the contrary. The very life of the newborn Jesus was threatened by Herod's extreme jealousy such that the family had to flee suddenly into a foreign land for protection until Herod's death. Yet Mary and Joseph remained united and ever obedient to the leading of the Holy Spirit for direction. Who better to turn to for help and inspiration for our own families?

Happy feast day to all families living a stewardship way of life!

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

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

Recently Deceased: Cronin Turner

Anniversary:

Louise Ball, Geoffrey Walsh, Elana Powell,
Jarrod Smith, Dora Roberts, Luis Soria,
Cora Newman, Ellen Ottewill, Yvonne Williamson,
Ted Murphy, Michael Costelloe, Walter Hawkins,
Robert Wise, Margaret McCallion, Hannah Meham,
Joseph Davis, Clarice O'Callaghan, Kevin McMahon,
Nita Smith, Geoffrey Bogg, Willy Raadts,
Florence Anthony, Kathryn Jones, Charles Taylor,
Therese Markham, Barry Dwyer, Ken Lorraway

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

Becoming Catholic

Rite of Christian Initiation of an Adult [RCIA]
please contact the parish office for more information.

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
Men's Group	3 rd Friday of the Month 6:00pm Parish Centre
School of Religion (Parish Centre)	Sunday 9.15am during school term

Archbishop's Christmas Appeal

A total of \$1637.10 was raised. This Money will support Diocesan projects locally, within Wilcannia Forbes Diocese and globally, within the Dioceses of Otukpo, Nigeria. Other projects the collection supports are: the poor within the La Salette Matha Province in India; Bush Fire affected Dioceses in Northern NSW towards their recovery endeavours.

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

Happy are those who fear the Lord and
walk in his ways.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,
And the fullness of his message
live within you.
Alleluia!

Readings – 5 January 2020

First Reading	Is 60:1-6
Psalm	Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13
Second Reading	Eph 3:2-3, 5-6
Gospel	Matthew 2:1-12

Sunday Readings with Commentary-

Available on the table in the church foyer for all 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

5 Jan

Reading Roster

6:00pm	Michael Horan, Lesley Givens
8:30am	John O'Heir, Elizabeth McDonald
10:00am	Robin Williams, Frank Colley
6:00pm	Matthew Garton, Margaret Luck

5 Jan

Ministers of Communion

6:00pm	Helen Kennedy, Janet Almond, Judy Netting, Joe & Maria Catanzariti
8:30am	Carmel Screen, Sigrid Kropp, Maria Scarr, Victoria Scarano, Darren Maharaj
10:00am	Priscilla Gonsalves, Pat Sheppard, Jenny Howarth, Bonnie & Rose Benedictos
6:00pm	

5 Jan

Hospitality Roster

6:00pm	Joe & Maria Catanzariti
8:30am	Carmel Screen, Judith O'Neill, Rob Breen
10:00am	Libby Kain, Margarete Gill
6:00pm	Emily Gill, Saraid Garton, Liam Stewart

Weekly Rosters

Altar Society:	30 Dec	Gabrielle Culhane
Grounds	4 Jan	VACANT
Counting:	5 Jan	Group 1
Church Cleaning:	30 Dec	Marian England, Sharon Greaves

On a Lighter note

How did Mary and Joseph know that Jesus weighed 3.34kg when he was born?
They had a weigh in the manger