

COMPACT

St John the Apostle Parish

A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish



33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
17 November 2019

Year C
#51.19

From the Pastor's desk.....

We are almost at the end of the liturgical year. Next week we celebrate the feast of Christ the King which marks the last Sunday of the liturgical calendar. Therefore, it is not surprising that the readings for this Sunday speak about the end times. But predictions of the future are not meant to concern us greatly. What is important is that we have a future that is bound up in God's future and promise. This, surely, is the ground of our hope.

Last night the Parish Pastoral Council met for its final meeting of the year. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome and thank Kirsty Vera for accepting the invitation to join the Council. The present members including Kirsty are Carl Madsen (chair), Tim Gill, Norma Barakat, Dennis Puniard, Kim Wilson, Judy Lane, Stephanie Stewart (ex officio, representing the School Principal) Marian England (ex officio), Fr Kimi Vunivesilevu, Fr Michael Stephan and myself. I thank them all for their ongoing service to the parish. During the year the Pastoral Council has participated in the National Plenary Council, has initiated the Men's Group, the Annual Parish Picnic and is about to launch *Heart Groups* – a way for parishioners to gather together for social and spiritual occasions.

Many parishioners have asked me about my sabbatical which will begin in late January next year. I am conscious of my vague responses. The fact is that I am still haven't finalized my plans. Basically, the sabbatical will be an opportunity for me to pursue further studies in liturgical music. I have a number of compositions that I hope to publish and record during my sabbatical. Where I'll be living is not yet decided, but most probably I will be residing in one of our MSC houses in Australia.

Peace & blessings,
Gerard

"Be on earth the Heart of God"

Parish Administration:

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Assistant Pastor
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Marian England
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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 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



**SMOKE-FREE
ZONE**

Parish News.....

Workshop on The Prayer of the Faithful

This workshop will explore the historical and theological background of the Prayer of the Faithful and its liturgical framework. It will also focus on the craft of writing the prayers and petitions. The workshop is intended for those who write these prayers for our Sunday Eucharist, but is also open to any interested parishioner.

When: Tuesday 3 December

Time: 7.30pm to 8:30pm

Where: Parish Library

Christmas Eve

Choir singers needed



6:00pm Children's Mass

9:00pm Mass

Midnight Mass

Practice in the Church Wednesdays at 7:30pm

If you are available to sing at any of the Christmas Masses please contact the parish office on 6254 3236 for more information.

BELCONNEN YOUTH

Agape - Youth Group

High school students in Years 7 to 12

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

Next gathering 17 November

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

Pins & Needles Craft Group

Monday 18 November

7:15pm Parish Library



**Relax, Review, Reflect
Faith and film**

Friday 22 November at 7:30pm

We are Watching: "One who flew over the cuckoo's nest"

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



Over 45'S

Mass - 11:00am

Wednesday

27th November

**Followed by shared lunch in the
parish centre.**

Please come and join us, you are all most welcome. Please bring a plate to share. There will be a collection for the MSC Missions Clean Water Project.
RSVP: Margaret 6254 4048

Parish Finance Council is exploring the idea of forming a Stewardship Committee and is seeking parishioners who may be interested in being part of this initiative.

The work of the Stewardship Committee is both spiritual and practical.

Spiritual - by acknowledging that everything we have comes from God.

Practical - challenging all parishioners to share the financial responsibility of the parish.

Please contact Marian at the parish office to express your interest.

CONCERNED CATHOLICS Canberra-Goulburn Public Forum

Thurs 28 Nov 2019 - 7:30pm

The Chapel, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture - 15 Blackall Street Barton ACT

New Wine - New Wine Skins

FRANCIS SULLIVAN

www.concernedcatholicscanberra.org

ST. PAUL IN THE LIGHT OF MODERN SCHOLARSHIP -

A seminar by Dr Patricia Moroney.

Reflecting on fresh insight into Paul's teaching.

Wed 20 Nov - 6.45 pm. Entry Free

Holy Trinity Parish Centre, Curtin.

To register phone 6286 3388.



Vinnies Christmas Appeal

will be launched in the Parish on the weekend of 30 November and 1 December. Donations of food, gifts, money and time will be gratefully accepted.

Watch Compact for more information.

Reflection

God's Fidelity gives us Hope

Writings such as today's gospel passage about what will happen at the end of the world and how God will be revealed are described in the Christian tradition as 'apocalyptic writing'. 'Apocalypse' comes from the Greek word meaning, 'to lift a veil' or 'to reveal'. The apocalypse is not the end of the world, but rather the revelation that will come at the end of the world.

When bad things happen to good people, when they happen to us, we have choices. We can give into desolation, depression and despair. Or we can choose to hope. Christian hope is not about 'pie in the sky when we die'. It is not about 'putting on a happy face, come what may'. St Augustine tells us hope is based on the justice God wants in this world, and will see done in the next. Interestingly, one of the signs Jesus speaks about in today's Gospel is famine. We have known for thirty years that if we all lived justly and shared from our abundance, we could have seen an end to starvation. We choose otherwise and sometimes blame God.

In today's gospel, Jesus offers us the hope of God's fidelity whatever suffering we may endure. We are challenged to counter despair, not place our trust in things or institutions which we can see but to not be afraid and stand up for faith and hope. St Thomas Aquinas teaches us that hope, along with faith and love, is one of the prongs in the anchor of Christian belief. No matter how stormy are the waters, how much we are tossed and buffeted by life's winds, this anchor keeps us rooted in God until calmer seas return. Hope is about holding on, come what may.

Today's Gospel is not interested in a timetable for disaster. It's about encouraging us to drop the anchor of hope overboard when the times get tough.

God does not come at the end to condemn, but to save.

Resources used: *Homily*, by Richard Leonard SJ & *Reflection*, by Greg Sunter

Heart Spirituality

The transformation of the material world

"The heavens are the work of your hands; all will banish." That is true, but explaining it further King David adds: "You will change them Lord like a garment" [Ps 102:25f].

What is announced here is a destruction, of form not of substance.

"The present sky and earth are destined for fire, and are only being reserved until judgement day so that all sinners may be destroyed" [2 Pet.3:7,10]. That will be the general purification of the universe, a universe "unable to attain its purpose, but not for any fault of its own.

Freed from its slavery to decadence, it will enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God.

From the beginning until now the entire creation, as we know has been groaning in one great act of giving birth" [Rom. 8:20-22]

This giving birth that is being prepared refers to the new universe: "What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heaven and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home" [2 Pet. 3:13].

Jules Chevalier msc
(Le Sacré-Coeur de Jésus p.303f, Paris 1900)

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

Stewardship

The Challenge of Stewardship

We often understand that change is necessary ("Repent!") in our lives, and that we are to follow the model presented to us by Jesus in our lives as well if we wish to be His disciples.

The challenge for us is to do it. We have often pointed out that living the life of a good steward requires action. It is not passive. There are those inevitable levels of stewardship progression:

1. Understanding what stewardship means;
2. Accepting that it is indeed what we need to do;
3. Doing what we need to do. (this is where the challenge lies)

However, Jesus warns us in this Gospel that it is not easy, and it may require sacrifice and the strength to withstand the attitudes of a world around us where living as Christ told us to is not always accepted. Our strength, of course, is in the Lord.

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

Recently Deceased:

Anniversary: Maria Wegener, Jamie Gruber, Kathleen Randall, Garry Marsh, Nell Clark, Matthew Biggs, Marie Corr, Joey Griffiths, Nelson Canas, Irene Collbourne, Constianus Slusser, Patricia McGee, Honorio Arranz, Dorothy Lenihan, Mary-Ellen Roots, Krissy Thomas, Herbert Gallagher, John Welfare, John Patterson, Winifred O'Neill, John Burns, John Costelloe, Darren O'Brien, Leslie Lincoln, Conelly Andrae.

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 Venue to be advised

School of Religion (Parish Centre)	Sunday 9.15am during school term
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LIBRARY NEWS: "A Power for good: a history of the CWA and the CWL in Canberra, 1945-1995", "Canberra Monastery: MSC House of Studies", "The Hallowed high adventure: Catholicity on the Limestone Plains" and "Things both old and new, 1939-1989 – St Christopher's – our story" are some of the books about our local church on display this week.

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor,
To make you rich out of his poverty.
Alleluia!

Readings – 24 November 2019

First Reading	2 Sm 5:1-3
Psalm	Ps 121:1-5
Second Reading	Col 1:12-20
Gospel	Luke 23:35-43

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

24 November Reading Roster

6:00pm	Elaine Laycock, Dennis Puniard
8:30am	Carmel Screen, Shane Murtagh
10:00am	Judy Lane, Ann Reynolds
6:00pm	Marian Crowley, Andrew Luck

24 November Ministers of Communion

6:00pm	Marie McKie, John Drury, Margaret McMahon, VACANT, VACANT
8:30am	Agnes Pham, Gerard Teng, Ted and Clare Kell, VACANT
10:00am	Robin Williams, Libby Costello, Pat Sheppard, Erin Pitt, Maida Kajkic
6:00pm	Raquel Salmeron, Ignatius Rozario, Mark Haureliuk, James and Toni Cox

24 November Hospitality Roster

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

Weekly Rosters

Altar Society:	18 Nov	Mary Cuickshank
Grounds	23 Nov	David Pigram, Mike Lavis Matthew Garton
Counting:	24 Nov	Group 7

Church Cleaning:	18 Nov	Carol Blyth, Beatrice Williams
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On a Lighter note

Do you want a brief explanation of an acorn?
In a nutshell, it's an oak tree.

What tree produces fruit that tastes like chicken?
Poultree.