

COMPACT



St John the Apostle Parish

A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish

Fourth Sunday of Advent
20 December 2020

Year B
#4.21

Reflection

BUT WHAT OF JOSEPH?

Luke's account of the Annunciation (and indeed much of the infancy narrative) focuses its attention on Mary. But what of Joseph? A few verses in Matthew and Luke tell us all we know about St. Joseph. They provide just enough information to demonstrate why he was the divine choice to become the husband of Mary and the foster father of Jesus. Joseph was genealogically perfect for these roles. A distant descendant of King David, he gave Christ the King his royal lineage. Joseph also came from the right hometown. He was from Bethlehem, the city that Scripture predicted would produce the messiah (see Micah 5:1). And as a carpenter (see Matthew 13:55), Joseph was poor—Christ's condition of preference.

Imagine the confusion of emotions that must have flooded him when Mary confided that she was going to have a baby by the Holy Spirit! As a devout observer of the law, Joseph knew that he might have to repudiate his betrothal. But his kindness and confidence in Mary prevented his taking such a harsh step, which would have shamed her. It may have even put her in danger of capital punishment (see Deuteronomy 22:20–21). However, foreshadowing the compassion of Jesus himself, Joseph acts purely out of compassion and continues with his marriage to Mary.

Scripture portrays Joseph as open to God, obedient, upright, and, above all, kind. The saint displayed all of these qualities in his handling of Mary's surprise pregnancy. Joseph must have agonized over his decision, praying intently about it. Finally, he decided to divorce Mary quietly. But Joseph was open to God, and in a dream a divine messenger told him to take Mary home as his wife. Joseph did exactly as he was told.

Joseph's wise dealing with Mary is a model for us when we face complex moral and personal issues. He subordinated his feelings to do what God required. He was open to whatever God wanted, and when he sensed the divine will, he obeyed.

Resource used: Saint Joseph – Loyola Press
<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/saints/saints-stories-for-all-ages/saint-joseph/>

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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

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



Christmas Eve



Pins & Needles Craft Group

Monday 21 December
7:15pm Parish Library



SJA Women's Breakfast



7:30am Tuesday - 22 Dec 2020

Lucky Shot Espresso Bar

Hardwick Crescent KIPPAX

BOOKING FOR WEEKEND MASSES

To assist the parish office manage COVID-19 regulations we need parishioners to do two things.

1. Use CBR App
2. Use Trybooking to register

1. CBR App helps ACT Health with tracking the spread of Coronavirus.



2. Trybooking registration for attendance at mass assists the Parish office in the management of numbers allowed to attend Mass within the available space in the church whilst maintaining physical distancing of 2 square metres.



We need you to use both. Please register for Mass using the TryBooking link and sign in using the CBR App and the sign in sheet

Parish Office Hours over the Christmas break

The parish office will be closed from
Thursday 25 December 2020
and will re-open on
Monday 4 January 2021

PARISH BOOKSHOP



Columban Calendars 2021 \$ 9.00
Majellan Christmas Cards \$ 7.00 (Pk. 10)



This weekend, parishioners distributed Christmas hampers to 56 families, including gifts for 77 children. They were gratefully received. Thank you for your generosity to make this Christmas one like no other with joy, hope, love and peace, in a year like no other. Merry Christmas good people of St John's.

Mass Times Weekend of 26-27 December

Saturday 26 December 6:00pm Vigil
Sunday 27 December
8:30am & 10:00am

Feast of St John the Apostle - 27 Dec
To celebrate the feast day there will be a cup of tea after the 10:00am mass

There will be **NO** 6:00pm evening mass on Sunday 27 December.

TRYBOOKING LINKS FOR WEEKEND MASSES

26 / 27 December

<https://www.trybooking.com/BNIGJ>

2 / 3 January

<https://www.trybooking.com/BNQOK>

Links are now open and will close on
Wednesday 23 December for both Weekends
due to the parish office being closed.

Archbishop's Christmas Appeal

2020 will be conducted at all Christmas masses throughout the archdiocese. There will be a leaving collection at each mass. This year you can also make a donation using the QKR! App. Funds raised will be split across a number of charities. Money collected will support Diocesan projects locally, within Wilcannia Forbes Diocese and globally.



Heart Spirituality



Our Lady guards the source of grace

Mary!

What is your place in God's plans?

The Angel of the Lord greets you
as full of grace.

Then the source itself of all graces
gives himself to you,
enclosing himself in your womb.

You command all the roads to this source;
rightly you preside over the distribution of
its mysterious waters; for at your word they
have welled up over the world, purifying it,
bringing it life and making it fertile.

Thus God wishes that this unique Virgin
have charge of this sacred fountain to which
all people will come to draw water
(Zech 13:1; Jn 4:14).

He wants her to administer these waters
faithfully, forever, and be their only channel.

Jules Chevalier msc,
(Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, p.70)

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

Stewardship

There are just five days left until the
celebration of Christmas begins. Let's live
these last days of Advent well.

We read in today's Gospel passage from
Luke the wonderful words of the Blessed
Mother's "fiat," her "yes" to God's plan.

"Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May
it be done to me according to your word."

These are among the most beloved words in
the Gospel. But the next sentence is also
important for the Christian steward.

After Mary's fiat, we read, "Then the angel
departed from her." Our Blessed Mother was
left with a lot of unexplained details about
God's plan for her! Yet, she followed God's
will perfectly. She gave herself and her life
fully to God as a gift. She was the first
disciple. We are called to follow her example
today.

This Christmas let us resolve to make our
whole life a gift to the One Who has given us
everything. He will give us all the help and
strength we need.

Stewardship Reflections from TheCatholicSteward.com

Recently Deceased:

Anniversary: Amy Carney, Edward Clifford,
John MacKay, Marie Cody, Robert Carew,
William Roots, Christopher Fitzsimon,
Kathleen Edmunds, Anne Hudson, Michael Devlin,
John Dickinson, Patrick Laverty, Paul MacKenzie,
Louise Ball, Geoffrey Walsh, Elsa Powel,
Jarrod Smith, Dora Roberts, Luis Soria,
Cora Newman, Ellen Ottewill, Yvonne Williamson,
Ted Murphy, Michael Costello, Walter Hawkins,
Robert Wise

New Year's Eve Prayer Vigil

31 – December (8.00pm)

The Marian Movement of Priests invites you and
your friends to the 14th annual Canberra New
Year's Eve Vigil.

St Brigid's Church, 2 Bancroft Street, Dickson

- First Cenacle is prayed at 8.00pm
(Joyful Mysteries)
- Second Cenacle at 9.00pm
(Luminous Mysteries)
- Third Cenacle at 10.00pm
(Sorrowful Mysteries)
- Fourth Cenacle at 11.00pm
(Glorious Mysteries)

Exposition from 8.00pm until Midnight
Mass. Benediction will take place before
Midnight Mass.

Enquiries: Judy & Joe Mewburn 6254 6202

Tribunal of the Catholic Church

Marriage breakdown is usually a traumatic
experience for all those concerned with many
divorcees unsure of the validity of this marriage
within the Catholic Church. The Church reaches
out in support of those whose marriage has
broken down, while upholding the permanence of
a true Christian marriage. If you are divorced or
in the process of finalising your divorce and would
like information about the annulment process,
please contact the Tribunal on 6239 9813 or by
email tribunal@cg.org.au. All enquiries remain
confidential to the Tribunal.

"Be on earth the Heart of God"

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

Baptisms	1st & 3rd Sun during 10:00am Mass
Reconciliation	Sat 5:00pm – 5:30pm
Sacramental Program	Contact Parish Office
School of Religion (Parish Centre)	Sunday 9.15am during school term

PRAYER LIFE

Charismatic Prayer: Maida: 0423 658 326	Thursday 7:30pm Rosary 7:00pm
Meditation	Friday 6.15-7.15 pm
Rosary	Monday – Friday 9:05am
Eucharistic Adoration	1 st Friday of the Month 8:00pm – 9:00pm
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
Men's Group	3 rd Friday of the Month 6:00pm Parish Centre

SMOKE FREE ZONE

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



Hearing Loop: in the central body of the church.



TAP & GO –

The donation amount is set at \$10. As Tap & Go is anonymous we have no way of identifying who has made the donation so we are unable to provide a tax receipt



Donations to the 1st & 2nd Collections at St John the Apostle Parish can now be made using **Qkr**

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

For ever I will sing
of the goodness of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the servant of the Lord:
May his will for me be done.
Alleluia!

Readings – 27 December 2020

First Reading	Gen 15:1-6, 21:1-3
Psalm	Ps 104:1-6.8-9
Second Reading	Heb 1:1-2
Gospel	Luke 2:22-40

27 December Reading Roster

6:00pm	Elaine Laycock, Joe Ots
8:30am	Carmel Screen, Shane Murtagh
10:00am	Ann Reynolds, Colleen Reed/Libby Kain
6:00pm	NO MASS

27 December Ministers of Communion

6:00pm	John Drury
8:30am	Ted Kell, Agnes Pham
10:00am	Pat Sheppard, Ruth Blackwell
6:00pm	NO MASS

27 December Hospitality Roster

6:00pm	
8:30am	Fay Stephenson
10:00am	
6:00pm	NO MASS

Weekly Rosters

Altar Society:	21 Dec	Mary Cruickshank
Grounds	26 Dec	David Pigram, Mike Lavis, Matthew Garton

Church Cleaning:	21 Dec	Carol Blyth, Beatrice Williams
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On a Lighter note

