

COMPACT

St John the Apostle Parish

A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish



**The Epiphany of the Lord
5 January 2020**

**Year A
#6.20**

From the Pastor's desk.....

Along with the rest of Canberra, I woke up on the first of January to be greeted by noxious smoke. Not a great start to the New Year. It signals the extent of the bush fires that have been raging across Australia. The tragic loss of life and property and the widespread devastation to fauna and flora is truly heartbreaking.

It was therefore heartening to read Pope Francis' message for World Day of Peace which falls on the 1st January. The title of this year's message is 'Peace as a Journey of Hope: Dialogue, Reconciliation and Ecological Conversion'.

The metaphor of journey I found particularly helpful. We cannot predict the future but we can journey into the future with courage and hope. As Pope Francis puts it: *"Hope is thus the virtue that inspires us and keeps us moving forward, even when obstacles seem insurmountable."*

Australia is facing unprecedented challenges as a result of the ongoing drought and the severity of bushfires. Our prayers are needed more than ever. We also need to reflect deeply on the state of our world. Putting aside the important political, economic and scientific considerations, there is also a spiritual dimension that needs to be taken into account.

Spirituality is essentially about relationship. Relationship with God, one another and our relationship with creation. This spirituality of relationship calls us to 'fraternal encounter that shatters the culture of conflict.' Pope Francis spells out the importance of reconciliation.

This journey of reconciliation also calls for listening and contemplation of the world that God has given us as a gift to make our common home. Indeed, natural resources, the many forms of life and the earth itself have been entrusted to us "to till and keep" (Gen 1:15), also for future generations, through the responsible and active participation of everyone.

***Peace & blessings,
Gerard***

"Be on earth the Heart of God"

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
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SMOKE FREE ZONE

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



Parish Office will re-open on
Monday 6 January 2020

FR. GERARD – 2020:

In 2020 Fr. Gerard will be absent from the parish on sabbatical. We will give thanks for Gerard's eight years with us with a Pot Luck Lunch on.....**Sunday 19 Jan 2020 - 11:30am for 12 noon.**

*Please bring a salad or a desert.
Meat and drinks will be supplied.*

As a sign of our thanks there will be a leaving collection for Gerard at all masses next weekend **11/12 January.**



SJA Men's Group
Meeting Monthly
6:00pm – 8:00pm

Next gathering: Friday 17 January
St John the Apostle Parish – Parish Centre



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*

The Rainmaker

Carl Jung, Sigmund Freud's premier student in the field of psychoanalysis, often spoke of the power of miracles by telling the following story:

There was a village that had been experiencing drought for five consecutive years. Many famous rainmakers had been called, but they had all failed to make rain. In the villagers' last attempt, they called upon a renowned Rainmaker from afar.

When he arrived in the village, all he did was set up his tent and disappear inside it for four days. On the fifth day, the rain started to fall and quenched the thirst of the parched earth. The people of the village asked the Rainmaker how he had accomplished such a miracle.

The Rainmaker replied, "I have done nothing."

Astounded at his explanation, the villagers said, "How can that be? After you came, we had rain for four continuous days."

The Rainmaker explained, "When I arrived, the first thing I noticed was that everything in your village was out of harmony with heaven. So I spent four days putting myself into harmony with the Divine. Then the rains came."

Taken from: *The Secrets of the Rainmaker*, by Chin-Ning Chu

January 2020 Calendar

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

Revelation

The Incarnation Mystery is repeated and represented in the Eucharist. In it we have material reality, in the form of these universal foods of bread and wine, as the hiding place and the revelation place for God. We are reminded that God is always perfectly hidden and perfectly revealed in this very concrete and material world.

One great idea of the biblical revelation is that God is manifest in the ordinary, in the actual, in the daily, in the now, in the concrete incarnations of life. Our experiences of ordinary life will transform us if we are willing to experience them fully.

God's revelations are through the concrete and specific. Spirituality is not a Platonic world of ideas and theories about which you can be right or wrong. Revelation is not something you measure, but something—or Someone—you meet! This pattern of incarnation reaches its fullness in one small place on the planet, in one short period of history, in one very ordinary man named Jesus.

The Incarnation proclaims that matter and spirit have never been separate. Jesus came to tell us that these two seemingly different worlds are—and always have been—one. We couldn't even imagine it until God put all of this together in one body (see Ephesians 2:11-22), one life (1 John 1:1-2), and one shocking epiphany.

The manifestation of God among us changes the ways in which we perceive each other. Christ's birth provides us with the light by which we see a new criterion for relating. The Magi represent the multi-ethnic and cultural diversity in civic and parish situations, as well as the many religions of the world. All people, regardless of race or ethnic origin, can be co-heirs with Christ.

Resources used: *God is in the Ordinary*, by Richard Rohr OFM & *Reflection*, by Dianne Bergant CSA

Heart Spirituality

The Heart of the Mystical Body

Though composed of different members, humanity forms one body and blood. The heart that gives life to all the members of this great body is the Heart of Jesus. He alone unites us together and he alone unites us also to God. As soon as we separate ourselves from him, we separate ourselves from one another and we lose the true feeling of human fraternity by losing the life of God, which is its source.

This divine Heart is the centre around which all hearts gravitate. It is the sacred bridge thrown across the bottomless chasm that separates divinity from humanity.

Jules Chevalier msc
(*Messenger du Sacré-Coeur de Jésus* p.529f, 1865)

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

Stewardship

The Magi brought the Lord those famous gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh — but they brought something much greater than that, something which we as good stewards need to recognize and emulate. These were people of incredible faith. These were people who sought the truth. These were people who did not just seek the Messiah, but they recognized Him in Jesus. They knew He was their Saviour; they knew it when He was only a child.

Perhaps they were the first disciples. We know they were good stewards. However, what stewardship calls us to is discipleship. All we hear from Matthew is that rather than returning to Herod, “they departed for their country by another way.”

You may be aware that early Christians called themselves “the Way.” This is most likely the “way” that the Magi followed. It is quite probably the “way” to which we are called as good stewards. Why “the way?” Its goal, our goal, and the goal of the Magi is to be with God.

Stewardship Reflections from TheCatholicSteward.com

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

Recently Deceased:

Anniversary: Nita Smith, Geoffrey Bogg, Willy Raads, Florence Anthony, Kathryn Jones, Charles Taylor, Therese Markham, Barry Dwyer, Ken Lorroway, Pauline Burt, Cooper McDonald, Jamie Bourke, Mary Gorey, John Burt, Mary Costelloe, Edna Lydon, Terence Martin, Caterina Fallace, Ann Grannall

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
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
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LIBRARY NEWS:

Whilst we are still in the Christmas Season we continue to display the meditation books relating to Christmas and the Advent season? Pop into the library and take a look.

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
We have seen his star in the East;
And have come to adore the Lord.
Alleluia!

Readings – 12 January 2020

First Reading	Is 42:1-4, 6-7
Psalm	Ps 28:1-4, 9-10
Second Reading	Acts 10:34-38
Gospel	Matthew 3:13-17

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

12 Jan Reading Roster

6:00pm	Mary French, Therese Kercher
8:30am	Mariana Rollgejser, Sigrid Kropp
10:00am	Ann Reynolds Libby Kain/Colleen Reed
6:00pm	Brian Mahony, Anna White

12 Jan Ministers of Communion

6:00pm	Margaret Conlon, Robert Greig, Marian England, Anthony & Chitra Jayawardena
8:30am	Fay Stephenson, Margaret Stanford, Brian Green, Shane Murtagh, Peter Polkinghorne
10:00am	Anthony Noakes, Cathy Madsen, Frank Colley, Francesca Deklin, Margarete Gill
6:00pm	Marian Crowley, Andrew Webster, Andrew Luck, Margaret Curry, VACANT

12 Jan Hospitality Roster

6:00pm	Michael Horan, Jenny Maher
8:30am	Mandy Lalor, Mercia Needham
10:00am	Judy Kenny
6:00pm	Kay Dwyer, John McGee

Weekly Rosters

Altar Society:	6 Jan	Margaret Ferguson
Grounds	11 Jan	Allan Laycock, Rob Breen, Mike Blyth, Dennis Puniard
Counting:	12 Jan	Group 3

Church Cleaning:	6 Jan	Debbie Milne, John O'Heir, Pat Keenan, Peter Hofman
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On a Lighter note

A rule of thumb for preachers:

If after ten minutes you haven't struck oil, stop boring!