

COMPACT



St John the Apostle Parish

A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish

**Third Sunday of Advent
12 December 2021**

**Year C
#03.22**

Reflection

God came to us as a Baby

We often think that we can bargain with God to get the best possible deal out of life. The problem with this bargaining image is that it is based on faith that does not believe in Advent. The bargaining image of God is the furthest thing from the mind of the writers of today's readings – Zephaniah, the Canticle from Isaiah, Philippians and Luke. Each of them rejoices in the undeserved gift God gives to the world. We do not deserve God's love given to us in the Babe of Bethlehem. It is God's overflowing goodness which pours out in Jesus and through him and the Spirit we have been welcomed into the family of God and bear his name.

These Scriptures remind us that God has not held back one thing in his love for us. By becoming one with us in our flesh, God has done everything he can to assure us of his saving love. He has shown us all what can be shown about how to live lives of sacrifice, justice and love to transform our world.

In today's Gospel John's disciples are full of wanting to know what they can do to earn God's love. The crowds, tax collectors and soldiers ask what they can do to gain God's favour. While there is much to do, Advent reminds us every year that all we do is a response to the initial, undeserved goodness of God.

Still the image of us 'doing a deal' with God is so prevalent in our theology and prayer. 'I will be a better person if I get well.' 'I will return to Sunday Mass if I pass my exams.'

All dreadful stuff. And the Church has to take some responsibility for this and correct it.

Advent teaches us that we have to witness to a God who risked everything so that we might know love and life in this world and in the next. We hold and proclaim, in season and out of season, a God who emptied himself of power and might and came to us as a baby.

That's not the profile of a deal-doer. It's the portrait of a lover.

Resources used: *Homily*, by Richard Leonard SJ

Parish Administration

Parish Priest

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Assistant Priest

Fr. Michael Stephan msc

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Pastoral Associate/Parish Manager
Marian England

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Sacristan Maryanne Ferguson

Youth Ministers

Grace Braybon - Liturgy

Grace.Braybon@cg.org.au

Diane Magnocavallo - Youth Group

Diane.Magnocavallo@cg.org.au

Parish Office:

25 Blackham Street HOLT ACT

Office Hours: Mon-Fri

9.00am-3.00pm

Telephone: 6254 3236

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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



Mask

ENCOURAGED

HOLY COMMUNION



**We request all
parishioners receive
the Eucharist in the
hand ONLY.**



Memories and experiences of 2021

We are requesting your submissions for the December edition of KIT of your memories and experiences of 2021. You may just have a single word or a sentence or a photo that sums up your 2021. If enough people respond we will be able to fill a whole page.

Please note change in submission date

Please send your submissions to Marian marian@stjohnkippax.org.au by Friday 17 December. We plan to send out KIT on Friday 24 December.

**St John the Apostle
Women's Breakfast**
21st December – 7:30am
3rd Tuesday of the Month –
a week earlier due to Christmas

Bean Origin

5/32 Nettlefold St, Belconnen

SJA Men's Group

Meeting Monthly

6:00pm – 8:00pm

Next gathering: Friday 17 December

End of year BBQ on the deck

St John the Apostle Parish Presbytery

VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Thank you for your generous response to the Vinnies Christmas Appeal. Food items for hampers and children's gifts should be left in the church foyer this weekend. Please include the name tag from the tree with the gift, unwrapped or in a gift bag. You can still sign on to help with hamper delivery which will occur on Saturday 18 December.

FAMILY CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

Friday 24 December – 6:00pm



To comply with COVID restrictions the 6:00pm family mass will be held outdoors. This will allow us to accommodate as many families as possible.

Advent Reconciliation

The 1st Rite of reconciliation
will be available during

Adoration

Thursday 23 December

7:30 – 8:30pm



“Be on earth the Heart of God”

Heart Spirituality

Trust in Jesus Christ

Our trust in Jesus Christ is based on his goodness. His incomparable goodness gave us his death, his Church, his sacraments his Heart, his divine Mother.

Jesus loved me and gave his life for me (Gal 2:20). After so many signs of love, could we hesitate in showing him boundless trust? Moreover, we shall obtain from his Father everything that we ask for in his name. Whatever our weakness, our temptations and even our failures, let us drive away all discouragement and open our hearts to trust. Why are you fearful? Let us cast ourselves without hesitation into his Heart. He will not let us perish.

Jules Chevalier msc -
Meditations I, p. 223f Issoudun, 1891

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

Stewardship

Making our lives a gift

When the crowds hear John the Baptist's message that their Saviour is coming, they ask him what they should do to prepare. He responds, "Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do the same." He tells tax collectors to stop collecting more than is prescribed and soldiers, to be satisfied with their wages. In other words, he tells them to be good and generous stewards of all God's gifts to them!

As the great feast of Christmas draws near, let us rejoice in Christ's extravagant love. Let's avail ourselves of the peace He longs to give us. And let's look carefully at our lives to make sure we are indeed making of them a gift fitting for Him.



Recently Deceased:

Anniversary:

John Ashton, Ian Loiterton, Michael Allars, Andre Domjan, Daniel Morris, Raymond Kernan, Patricia Jacobs, Yvonne Dunn, Bernadette Anetts, Branko Kukolic, Kathleen Randall, Michael Gunning, Amy Carney, Edward Clifford, John MacKay, Marie Cody, Robert Carew, William Roots, Christopher Fitzsimon, Kathleen Edmunds

Mass Intentions the week of 13 – 19 December

Mon 13/12	Elizabeth Hallahan
Wed 15/12	Bernadette Anetts
Thur 16/12	Fallace Family Members
Fri 17/12	Available [contact the office]

Sat 18/12	
6:00pm	Available [contact the office]

Sun 19/12	
8:30am	Available [contact the office]
10:00am	Available [contact the office]
6:00pm	Available [contact the office]

To ensure that a mass time is available please
telephone the parish office to make a
booking.

Parish Office Hours over the Christmas break

The parish office will be closed from
Saturday 25 December 2021
and will re-open on
Wednesday 5 January 2022

*"Advent is a journey towards
Bethlehem. May we let
ourselves be drawn
by the light of
God made man."*

- Pope Francis.



SACRAMENTAL LIFE

Baptisms	1st & 3rd Sun during 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 10:00am
Meditation	Friday 6.15-7.15 pm
Rosary	Monday – Friday 9:05am
Eucharistic Adoration	1 st Friday of the Month 7:30pm – 8:30pm
Adult Choir	Wednesday 7:30pm

SOCIAL LIFE

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 Bean Origin Belconnen
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**



Check In CBR App is mandatory
<https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/business-and-work/check-in-cbr/information-for-businesses#Using-the-app-at-your-business-or-venue>

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

Cry out with joy and gladness:
for among you is the
great and Holy One of Israel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
He sent me to bring
Good News to the poor.
Alleluia!

Readings – 19 December 2021

First Reading	Mi 5:1-4
Psalm	Ps 79:2-3, 15-16, 18-19
Second Reading	Heb 10:5-10
Gospel	Luke 1:3-45

19 Dec Lector Roster

6:00pm	Joe Catanzariti, Judy Netting
8:30am	Carmel Screen, Darren Maharaj
10:00am	Libby Kain, Joe Ots
6:00pm	Matthew Garton, Terry Fewtrell

19 Dec Ministers of Communion

6:00pm	Janet Almond, Maria Catanzariti
8:30am	Fay Stephenson, Theresia Suh
10:00am	Sugi Mohanadas, Ann Reynolds
6:00pm	Brian Mahony, James Cox

19 Dec Hospitality Roster

6:00pm	Carol Moore, Marie McKie
8:30am	Clyde & Norma Sloan
10:00am	Marie Flint
6:00pm	Brian Mahony

Weekly Rosters

Altar Society:	12 Dec	Pat Gilchrist
Grounds	18 Dec	VACANT
Church Cleaning:	13 Dec	VACAT

On a Lighter note

Q: Why didn't Rudolph make honor roll in school this marking period?

A: Because he went down in History.

Q: Did Rudolph go to public school?

A: Nope – he was elf-taught.

