

## Reflection

### The Joy of the people of faith

The visitation is one of the moving scenes in the Gospel. On a human level, here are two cousins, unexpectedly pregnant in the most extraordinary circumstances, meeting and offering each other greetings and support. We can see the scene and feel the bond.

In the Gospel of Luke this moment is pivotal. These women meet in the mountains where God has always been manifest to the Israelites. Elizabeth is the Old Covenant made to Israel and she carries John who will be the herald of the Messiah. Mary, literally, embodies the new, and final, covenant in Jesus.

Elizabeth's unlikely pregnancy confirms for Mary the even greater truth of her own pregnancy. These two women, separated by age and distance, share a common experience of God acting in their lives to bring about unlikely events. The lives of their two children will be inextricably linked such that the one who leapt for joy in his mother's womb will eventually baptise the other and announce the arrival of his ministry to the people of Israel.

The joy expressed by Elizabeth and her child reflects the joy of all people of faith as we draw so close to the celebration of Christmas and the greatest expression of God's love – to enter into the world as one just like us and share our experience.

The story of the visitation tells us that just when we think we can figure God out, predict how God will enter our lives and our world, he does something none of us can imagine.

As we wait for Christmas to come again into our lives, let's make room for Jesus Christ who turns our expectations upside down and always enters our lives in ways which surprise.

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

## Parish Administration

### Parish Priest

Fr. Kimi Vunivesilevu msc

Email: [kimi@stjohnkippax.org.au](mailto:kimi@stjohnkippax.org.au)

### Assistant Priest

Fr. Michael Stephan msc

Email: [michael@stjohnkippax.org.au](mailto:michael@stjohnkippax.org.au)

Pastoral Associate/Parish Manager  
Marian England

Email: [marian@stjohnkippax.org.au](mailto:marian@stjohnkippax.org.au)

Parish Secretary Sharon Greaves

Email: [kippax@cg.org.au](mailto:kippax@cg.org.au)

Sacristan Maryanne Ferguson

### Youth Ministers

Grace Braybon - Liturgy

[Grace.Braybon@cg.org.au](mailto:Grace.Braybon@cg.org.au)

Diane Magnocavallo - Youth Group

[Diane.Magnocavallo@cg.org.au](mailto:Diane.Magnocavallo@cg.org.au)

### Parish Office:

25 Blackham Street HOLT ACT

Office Hours: Mon-Fri

9.00am-3.00pm

Telephone: 6254 3236

Email: [kippax@cg.org.au](mailto:kippax@cg.org.au)

Web: [www.stjohnkippax.org.au](http://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

### ST JOHN THE APOSTLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal: Matthew Garton

Pawsey Circuit Florey

Phone: 6258 3592

Email: [office.sjaps@cg.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office.sjaps@cg.catholic.edu.au)

[www.sjaps.act.edu.au](http://www.sjaps.act.edu.au)



Mask 

ENCOURAGED

HOLY COMMUNION



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

**Friday 24 December  
CHRISTMAS EVE 6:00pm**

**FAMILY MASS**

will be celebrated outdoors  
[weather permitting].

Whilst there will be some seats available there will not be enough for everyone. Please have a folding chair in the boot of your car as a back up to ensure that you do not have to stand during the mass.

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Donations to the Poor Box during November to support our twin conference in Tamil Nadu in India raised almost **\$1600**. The Christmas Appeal leaving collection raised over **\$6000**. Thank you for your donations of food items which contributed to **55 hampers** and donations of **gifts for 79 children**. Thanks to those who helped with hamper delivery. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

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# KIT @ Kippax

The mail out date for the December KIT has been revised to **Friday 31 December**. Please send in your submissions by Friday 24 December. Thank you.

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**St John the Apostle  
Women's Breakfast**



**21<sup>st</sup> December - 7:30am**  
**Breakfast is a week earlier due to Christmas**

**Bean Origin**

**5/32 Nettlefold St, Belconnen**

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**Parish Office Hours**

**Christmas ● New Year**



The parish office will be closed from 25 December and will reopen Wednesday 5 January 2022.

**We wish you a blessed and holy Christmas**

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**Advent**  
*The Season of Hope and Expectation*



**Reconciliation**

The 1<sup>st</sup> Rite of reconciliation will be available during

**Adoration**

**Thursday 23 December**

**7:30 - 8:30pm**

# Heart Spirituality

## Prayer to Mary

O Mary, how grateful I should be to you! I like to think that when you gave your consent to the work of Redemption, you gave it in a special way for my sake, as if I were the only one to be set free and saved.

You saw, dear Mother, how my poor soul had sunk deep in an abyss of sin and damnation.

You took pity on me and you prayed to God:

"I offer You my Son,  
In order to sanctify this soul,  
And I accept with Him  
All the humiliations of His life  
And all the sorrows of Calvary."

Blessed are you, O Holy Virgin!  
Grant that I may bless you forever.

Jules Chevalier msc - Le Sacré-Coeur de Jésus  
dans ses Rapports avec Marie 1883

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

## Stewardship

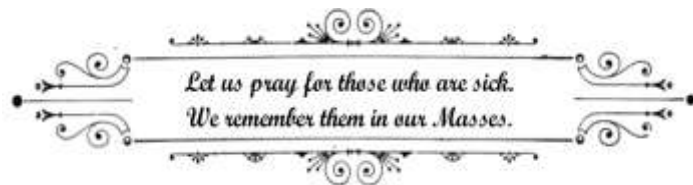
### Mary a model of hospitality & service

Immediately after her "yes" to the angel Gabriel's message, "Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah... and greeted Elizabeth." Mary instantly begins to think of others before herself, setting out quickly to be with her cousin, modeling two of the pillars of stewardship – Hospitality and Service.

What warmth and humility the Mother of our Saviour shows, traveling to Elizabeth to spend time with her, rejoicing with Elizabeth over her own incredible pregnancy, and assisting her in a time of need. And what joy this hospitality and service brings to Elizabeth.

After our Lord Himself, Mary is our model and guide to a stewardship way of life.

[www.catholicsteward.com](http://www.catholicsteward.com)



## Recently Deceased:

Gordon Aikman, husband of Rose

## Anniversary:

Michael Gunning, 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, Elana Powell, Jarrod Smith, Dora Roberts, Luis Soria, Cora Newman, Ellen Ottewill, Yvonne Williamson, Ted Murphy, Michael Costelloe, Walter Hawkins.

## Mass Intentions the week of 20 – 26 December

Mon 20/12	Danny & Trina McGrath
Wed 22/12	Sheahan & McGrath Families
Thur 23/12	McGrath Family
Fri 24/12	<b>NO 9:30am mass</b>

### Christmas Eve

6:00pm	
9:00pm	Kevin Crossley
Midnight	

Sun 26/12	
8:30am	
10:00am	Kevin McMahon
6:00pm	

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

## Simbang Gabi

The celebration of nine consecutive Masses

### 15-23 December 2021 St Monica's Church, Evatt

You are all invited to join the Simbang Gabi. This is a traditional Filipino novena to prepare our hearts and minds for the birth of Our Lord Jesus. The Masses will commence at 8pm and will be celebrated in English.

For more details please contact  
Fr Loi Viovicente on 02 6241 3364.

We hope you can join us.



# 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 <sup>st</sup> 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 <sup>rd</sup> Monday of the Month 7:15pm Parish Library
Book club	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Month 3:00pm Parish Library
Women's Breakfast	4 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>rd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> 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>

**“Be on earth the Heart of God”**

## RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

Lord, make us turn to you;  
Let us see your face and we shall be saved.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

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

## Readings – 26 December 2021

First Reading 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28  
Psalm Ps 83:2-3, 5-6, 9-10  
Second Reading 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24  
Gospel Luke 2:41-52

## 26 Dec Lector Roster

6:00pm	Christmas Day – No Mass
8:30am	Wendy Wade, Shane Murtagh
10:00am	Keran Niquet, Nunga Umaru
6:00pm	Andrew Luck, Marian Crowley

## 26 Dec Ministers of Communion

6:00pm	Christmas Day – No Mass
8:30am	Brian Green, Darren Maharaj
10:00am	Francesca Deklin, Robin Williams
6:00pm	Priscilla Gonsalves-Momi, Theresia Suh

## 26 Dec Hospitality Roster

6:00pm	Christmas Day – No Mass
8:30am	Fay Stephenson
10:00am	Francesca Deklin
6:00pm	Prasadi Martinez

## Weekly Rosters

Altar Society:	19 Dec	Mary Cruickshank
Grounds	25 Dec	Christmas Day
Church Cleaning:	20 Dec	Carol Blyth, Beatrice Williams, Dushyanthi & Nisham Upasena

## On a Lighter note

## A Christmas Gift

A guy bought his wife a beautiful diamond ring for Christmas.

After hearing about this extravagant gift, a friend of his said, "I thought she wanted one of those sporty four-wheel-drive vehicles."

"She did," he replied.

"But where was I going to find a fake Jeep?"