

COMPACT



St John the Apostle Parish

A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish

Celebrating 50 Years

The Nativity of the Lord
25 December 2022

YEAR A
#05.23

Reflection



Parish Administration

Parish Priest

Fr. Kimi Vunivesilevu msc

Email: kimi@stjohnkippax.org.au

Assistant Priest

Fr. Michael Stephan msc

Email: michael@stjohnkippax.org.au

Pastoral Associate/Parish Manager

Marian England

Email: marian@stjohnkippax.org.au

Parish Secretary Sharon Greaves

Email: kippax@cg.org.au

Sacristan

Maryanne Ferguson

Parish Office:

25 Blackham Street HOLT ACT

Office Hours: Mon-Fri

9.00am-3.00pm

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

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



A CHRISTMAS BLESSING

Loving Father, help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and worship of the wise men. Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clear hearts. May the Christmas morning make us happy to be your children, and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake.

Amen.

Attributed to Robert Louis Stevenson

The Incarnation

*Make ready for the Christ,
Whose smile, like lightning,
Sets free the song of everlasting glory
That now sleeps, in your paper flesh,
like dynamite.*

—Thomas Merton, "The Victory"

'The Christmas Mystery has two parts: the Nativity and the Epiphany. A deep instinct made the Church separate these two feasts. In the first we commemorate God's humble entrance into human life, the emergence and birth of the Holy, and in the second its manifestation to the world, the revelation of the Supernatural made in that life. And the two phases concern our inner lives very closely too. The first only happens in order that the second may happen, and the second cannot happen without the first. Christ is a Light to lighten the Gentiles as well as the Glory of His people Israel. Think of what the Gentile was when these words were written—an absolute outsider. All cosy religious exclusiveness falls before that thought. The Light of the world is not the sanctuary lamp in your favourite church.

Beholding His Glory is only half our job. In our souls too the mysteries must be brought forth; we are not really Christians till that has been done. "The Eternal Birth," says [Meister] Eckhart, "must take place in you." [1] And another mystic says human nature is like a stable inhabited by the ox of passion and the ass of prejudice; animals which take up a lot of room and which I suppose most of us are feeding on the quiet. And it is there between them, pushing them out, that Christ must be born and in their very manger He must be laid—and they will be the first to fall on their knees before Him. Sometimes Christians seem far nearer to those animals than to Christ in His simple poverty, self-abandoned to God.

The birth of Christ in our souls is for a purpose beyond ourselves: it is because His manifestation in the world must be through us. Every Christian is, as it were, part of the dust-laden air which shall radiate the glowing Epiphany of God, catch and reflect His golden Light. Ye are the light of the world—but only because you are enkindled, made radiant by the One Light of the World. And being kindled, we have got to get on with it, be useful. As Christ said in one of His ironical flashes, "Do not light a candle in order to stick it under the bed!" [Mark 4:21].

When you don't see any startling marks of your own religious condition or your usefulness to God, think of the Baby in the stable and the little Boy in the streets of Nazareth. The very life was there which was to change the whole history of the human race.

Richard Rohr, *The Birth of Christ in Us Is What Matters*.

Resource used:

Evelyn Underhill, "Incarnation and Childhood," in *Light of Christ: Addresses Given at the House of Retreat, Pleshey, in May, 1932* (Wipf and Stock: 2004), 40, 41–42, 45.



*Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year!*

*We thank you for a wonderful 2022
and wish you all the best for 2023.*

Frs. Kimi and Michael

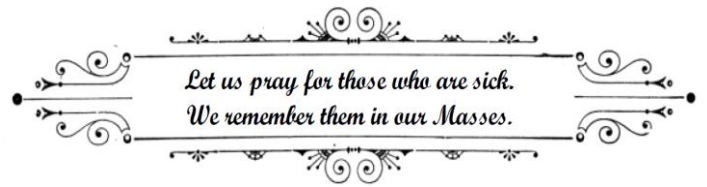
Feast of St John the Apostle
Tuesday 27 December
Mass: 11:00am
BBQ Lunch: 12 noon

PARISH OFFICE HAPPENINGS

The parish office will be closed on
Monday 26 December 2022
and reopening on
Wednesday 4 January 2023

"Be on earth the Heart of God"

Heart Spirituality



Christmas and the Sacred Heart

We all know that the mystery of the Incarnation is the fruit of the love of God for the human race: *God so loved the world*. This love that is immense, beyond measure, took flesh in a Heart, that will pour out on us the treasures of heaven; and that heart was given to us on this Feast the Church celebrates today.

O day forever to be remembered, when the human ear, pressed on the bosom of God, incarnate in a little child, has heard for the first time the beating of the Heart of God, and the human hand has felt this gentle throb.

Before the crib, in the stable of Bethlehem, the first adorers of Jesus meet: the first disciples of the devotion that must save the world.

Jules Chevalier msc,
Personal notes, pp.101-103f. Issoudun 1856.

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

Stewardship

The Joy of Christmas

At Mass on Christmas Eve we hear, "I proclaim to you good news of great joy; today a Saviour is born for us, Christ the Lord." It is this joy we need to feel, this joy we need to carry to others. Many have expressed the joy of today. Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI once said this about Christmas: "Joy is the true gift of Christmas. We can communicate this joy simply: with a smile, a kind gesture, a little help, forgiveness. And the joy we give will certainly come back to us... Let us pray that this presence of the liberating joy of God shines forth in our lives."

God is near us today; He is so near that He became a child. Let us take that joy and share it with others; let us take that joy and change our lives and the lives of others. When we say "Merry Christmas" let us mean it with every fabric of our being.

www.catholicsteward.com

Recently Deceased:

Anniversary: Anne Hudson, Michael Devlin, John Dickinson, Patrick Laverty, Paul MaxKenzie, Louise Ball, Geoffrey Walsh, Elana Powell, Jarrod Smith, Dora Roberts, Luis Soria, Cora Newman, Ellen Ottewill, Yvonne Williamson, Ted Murphy, Michael Costelloe, Walter Hawkins, Robert Wise, Margaret McCallion, Hannah Mecham, Joseph Davis, Clarice O'Callaghan, Kevin McMahan, Nita Smith, Geoffrey Bogg, Bill Raadts, Florence Anthony.

Mass Intentions the week of 26 December – 1 January

Mon 26/12	Bridie Hammond
Wed 28/12	Kevin McMahan
Thur 29/12	Available [contact the office]
Fri 30/12	Peter Seneviratna

Sat 31/12	
6:00pm	Reginaldo, Lara and Gomez families

Sun 01/01	
8:30am	Jack Guy
10:00am	Mary Hogan
6:00pm	Parish Intentions

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

THE MARIAN MOVEMENT OF PRIESTS

invites you and your friends to

THE 16th ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S EVE PRAYER VIGIL

Where: St Brigid's Church
Address: 2 Bancroft Street, Dickson
Date: Saturday 31st December 2022
Time: 8.00pm

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

Exposition from 8.00pm until Benediction just before Midnight. For further inquiries:
Phone Judy & Joe Mewburn 6254 6202

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 5:15-6.30 pm
Rosary	Monday – Friday 9:05am
Eucharistic Adoration	1 st Thursday of the Month 7:30pm – 8:30pm
Adult Choir	Wednesday 7:30pm

SOCIAL LIFE

St Johns Friendship Group	<i>Last Wednesday of the Month 9:30am Mass and morning tea</i>
Pins & Needles	<i>3rd Monday of the Month 7:15pm Parish Library</i>
Women's Breakfast	<i>4th Tuesday of the Month 7:30am Bean Origin Belconnen</i>
Men's Group	<i>3rd Friday of the Month 6:00pm Parish Centre</i>

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia

God News and great joy to all the world:
Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.
Alleluia

Readings – 1 January 2023

First Reading	Nm 6:22-27
Psalm	Ps 66:2-3, 5, 6, 8
Second Reading	Gal 4:4-7
Gospel	Luke 2:16-21

ROSTERS

1 Jan **Lector Roster**

6:00pm	Fay Padarin, Paul McGrath
8:30am	Elizabeth McDonald, John O'Heir
10:00am	Robin Williams, Frank Colley
6:00pm	Joe Ots, Erin Trevaskis

1 Jan **Ministers of Communion**

6:00pm	Joy McInerney, Judy Netting
8:30am	Carmel Screen, Pat Cowburn
10:00am	Anthony Noakes, Shovin Weerawarnakala
6:00pm	

1 Jan **Hospitality Roster**

6:00pm	Kay Dwyer, Chitra Jayawardena
8:30am	Rob Breen, Carmel Screen
10:00am	Libby Kain, Margarete Gill
6:00pm	Christine Lancaster

1 Jan **SJAShop**

6:00pm	
8:30am	
10:00am	Chris Gray
6:00pm	

Weekly Rosters

Altar Society	25 Dec	Margaret Stanford
Grounds	31 Dec	All Groups
Church Cleaning:	25 Dec	Joseph Le Van Hai, Sam Van Nguyen

On a lighter note

If athletes get
athletes
foot, what do
astronauts get?
Missile Toe

What did the
salt say to the
pepper?
Season's
Greetings!

What do you
call an Elf
who sings?
A Wrapper!

Who makes
toy guitars
and sings,
"Blue
Christmas"?
Elfis



**TOP
XMAS
CRACKER
JOKES!**

Who hides
in
the bakery
at Christmas?
A Mince Spy



On which side
do turkeys
have the most
feathers?
The outside

What do
reindeer hang
on their
Christmas trees?
Horn-aments!

What happens
if you eat
Christmas
decorations?
You get
'Tinsel'-it is