

Reflection

Family, the Cornerstone of Society.

In today's gospel we encounter the Holy Family—Jesus, Mary, and Joseph—as they participate in the Jewish ritual of presenting the child at the temple.

A strong image that emerges from this passage is the faithfulness of Mary and Joseph. Their whole purpose in visiting the Temple is to fulfil the requirements of their faith. They are faithful to the Jewish tradition, and it is into this tradition that they initiate Jesus. It underscores the importance of religious and cultural traditions within the family unit.

Families serve as the primary transmitters of values, traditions, and faith. In this narrative, Mary and Joseph exemplify their commitment to their religious heritage by fulfilling the customary rituals associated with the birth of a child. This emphasizes the role of the family in preserving and passing on cultural and spiritual practices, which contribute to the cohesion and continuity of society.

The support and communal affirmation within the family unit create a foundation for individuals to thrive and contribute positively to the wider social fabric. Healthy families foster a sense of belonging and cooperation that extends beyond their immediate circles.

The concept of family as the cornerstone of society is deeply embedded in these verses. It suggests that the well-being of society is intricately tied to the health and stability of its constituent families. Strong families contribute to the moral, spiritual, and cultural foundation of a community, fostering an environment where individuals can grow, learn, and ultimately, positively impact the world around them.

The Holy Family serves as a timeless model, urging us to recognize and nurture the pivotal role of family in building a strong and flourishing community.

Resource used: Living the Gospel-Faithful, by Greg Sunter

“Be on earth the Heart of God”.

Parish Administration

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MASS TIMES

Vigil Saturday 5:00pm

Sunday 8:30am, 10:00am, 6:00pm

Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri 9:30am

Liturgy of the Word with Communion:

Tues 9:30am

Ministry

Sacristan: Maryanne Ferguson

kippax@cg.org.au

Pastoral Council Chair

Jenny McGee

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Safeguarding Officer

To Be Advised

safeguarding.kippax@cg.org.au

ST JOHN THE APOSTLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Pawsey Circuit Florey

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www.sjaps.act.edu.au



St John the Apostle Parish Kippax is committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and people at risk in our community.

Thank you from Vinnies.....

The weekend before Christmas 22 parishioners helped deliver 64 hampers to individuals and families in our local community. The hampers included gifts for 88 children from newborn to 16 years old, donated by parishioners. Your financial contributions allowed us to include an Eftpos card in each hamper. Thank you for your love and compassion. It helped make Christmas a more joyful and peaceful time for these struggling families.

Christmas blessings from Vinnies.

Tribunal of the Catholic Church

Marriage breakdown is a traumatic experience for all those concerned. The Church reaches out in support of those who are divorced, while upholding the permanence of a true Christian marriage. The Canberra Office of the Tribunal extends an invitation to any divorced person who would like to talk about the annulment process. You can be assured that your privacy will be respected. Should you choose to apply for an annulment, you will be guided and supported through the process.

For further information please phone the Canberra Office of the Tribunal Office on **6239 9813** or email tribunal@cg.org.au

Save the Date and Register Now for 2024

We are excited to announce that the St Thomas More Forum will be back in 2024 and registrations are now open for the first two events.

Wednesday 20 March 2024 | 7.30PM - 9PM

How Christianity Triumphs in a Newly Pagan Society

Keynote Speaker: Greg Sheridan –
Author & Foreign Editor,
The Australian Newspaper

Register Now:

<https://bit.ly/stmf-200324>

Friday 14 June 2024 | 6.45pm for 7.30PM

Engaging an AI Generation

Keynote Speaker:

Fr Rob Galea

Founder FRG Ministry

Register Now: <https://bit.ly/stmf-140624>

PARISH OFFICE HAPPENINGS

The parish office will reopen on
Tuesday 2 January 2024

Christmas Masses 2023

The Liturgy Team extends its gratitude to everyone who contributed in numerous ways to this year's Christmas Masses. Our parish is truly blessed to have dedicated parishioners actively participating in diverse roles that contribute to the smooth and harmonious flow of the Mass liturgy. Your invaluable support and commitment enhance the worship experience for the entire community, and we are deeply appreciative of your contributions.

Thank you for being an integral part of our parish's spiritual journey.

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR 2024

Thursday 4 January

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7:30pm - Church

Monday 15 January

Pins and Needles
7:00pm – Parish Library

Friday 19 January

Men's Group
6:00pm – Parish Centre

Tuesday 23 January

Women's Breakfast
7:30am – Bean Origin Café Belconnen

Friday 26 January

(Australia Day - Parish Office Closed)

Anointing of the Sick after Mass
After 9:30am Mass

Friday 26 January

Movie Night
7:00pm – Parish Library

Sunday 28 January

Welcome Potluck Lunch for Fr. Tru
12noon – Parish Centre

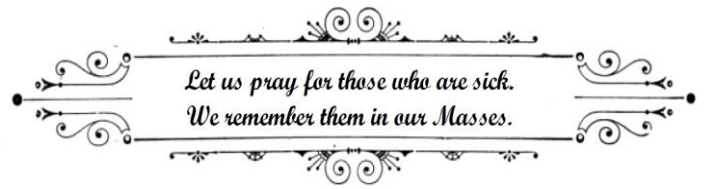
Wednesday 31 January

SJA Friendship Group
9:30am Mass followed by Morning Tea

Thursday 1 February

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7:30pm - Church

Christmas Season



Love Alone

The Child we seek
doesn't need our gold.
On love, on love alone
he will build his kingdom.
His pierced hand will hold no scepter,
his haloed head will wear no crown;
his might will not be built on your toil.
Swifter than lightning
he will soon walk among us.
He will bring us new life
and receive our death,
and the keys to his city
belong to the poor.

Gian Carlo Menotti

Stewardship

The Holy Family

Today, we celebrate the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Just as the Holy Family is holy, we are also called to be holy. This holiness is achievable by living as disciples of Christ.

St. Paul calls us to put on "heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience... as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do." Let us "give thanks to God the Father" by being good stewards of His love and mercy to all our family members.

Today's Gospel says a lot about trust and surrender to our Lord. When Simeon and Anna prophesized about what was to come, Jesus' parents were "amazed at what was said about him." We can imagine that two parents would be taken back by these words! Yet, the Holy Family surrendered their lives to God and had unwavering faith and trust in His plan.

God's plan will fulfill our hearts more than we could have ever imagined. Like the Holy Family, we just need to trust, surrender and be attentive to God's voice.

www.catholicsteward.com

Recently Deceased:

Tony Hagerty [father of Erin]

Anniversary: Yvonne Williamson, Ted Murphy, Michael Costelloe, Walter Hawkins, Robert Wise, John Suckling, Margaret McCallion, Hannah Mecham, Joseph Davis, Clarice O'Callaghan, Kevin McMahon, Nita Smith, Geoffrey Bogg, Bill Raadts, Florence Anthony, Kathryn Jones, Charles Taylor, Terry O'Gorman, Therese Markham, Barry Dwyer, Ken Lorraway, Pauline Burt, Cooper McDonald, Jamie Bourke, Mary Gorey, John Machin

Mass Intentions the week of 1 – 7 January

Mon 01/01	
Wed 03/01	Karna O'Dea
Thur 04/01	Ken Lorraway
Fri 05/01	Doris Galea

Sat 06/01	
5:00pm	Tony Grace

Sun 07/01	
8:30am	Parish Intentions
10:00am	Joe Galea
6:00pm	Karna O'Dea

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

Fertility Care Program

Do you want to know more about how your menstrual and fertility cycle works?

Are you looking for something to manage your fertility that is entirely natural?

The FertilityCare, Creighton Model System (CrMs) is based upon the knowledge and understanding of naturally-occurring phases of a women's fertility and infertility.

To find out more or arrange a consultation please text 0474 728 868 or email mianuicare@aol.com . Further information available at

<https://www.fertilitycare.org/>

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

Baptisms	1st & 3rd Sun during Mass
Reconciliation	Sat 4:00pm – 4:30pm
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:

The Lord remembers his
covenant for ever.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia
May the peace of Christ rule in
your hearts,
and the fullness of his message
live within you.
Alleluia

Readings – 7 January 2024

First Reading	Is 61:1-2, 53-54
Psalm	Lk 1:46-50, 53-54
Second Reading	1 Thes 5:16-24
Gospel	John 1:6-8, 19-28

ROSTERS

7 Jan Acolyte Roster

5:00pm	John Hogan, Rodney Gardiner
8:30am	Lourdes Asoy, Victoria Gonzales
10:00am	Elaine Carter, Maxim Kqudzcha
6:00pm	Maryanne Ferguson, Peter Le

7 Jan Lector Roster

5:00pm	Fay Padarin, Marian England
8:30am	Elizabeth McDonald, John O'Heir
10:00am	Frank Colley, Robin Williams
6:00pm	Joe Ots, Erin Trevaskis

7 Jan Ministers of Communion

5:00pm	Judy Netting
8:30am	Bernadette Murnane, Pat Cowburn
10:00am	Anthony Noakes, Shovin Weerawarnakula
6:00pm	Andrew Luck, Caitlyn D'Cruze

7 Jan Hospitality Roster

5:00pm	Kay Dwyer, Chitra Jayawardena
8:30am	Rob Breen, Carmel Screen
10:00am	Libby Kain
6:00pm	Christine Lancaster

7 Jan SJAShop

5:00pm	Lynn O'Brien
8:30am	Marilyn Calliess
10:00am	Chris Gray
6:00pm	

Weekly Rosters

Altar Society	31 Dec	Chioma Nnajide
Grounds	6 Jan	
Church Cleaning:	31 Dec	Edgar & Chioma Nnajide

On a lighter note



“After calling ‘room service,’ he asked where the pool and spa were located. I’ll need to remind him that this is a hospital, and not a hotel.”