

COMPACT



St John the Apostle Parish

A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
30 March 2025

YEAR C
#18.25

The Prodigal Father

Luke presents one of Jesus' most well-known parables, often called The Parable of the Prodigal Son. Yet, this title only tells half the story. The deeper irony of the passage is that it is not only the son who is prodigal—wastefully extravagant—but also the father, in a way that mirrors God's abundant and limitless grace.

The younger son's prodigality is obvious. He demands his inheritance prematurely, essentially wishing his father dead, and then squanders it on reckless living. His extravagance leaves him destitute, feeding pigs—a striking image of his spiritual and social degradation. However, when he reaches rock bottom, he comes to his senses and decides to return home, rehearsing an apology that acknowledges his unworthiness.

The father's response, however, is even more shocking than the son's initial wastefulness. Instead of rebuking or demanding repayment, the father runs to meet his son—a culturally undignified act for a man of his stature. He embraces him before a word of apology is spoken, robes him in dignity, and throws a lavish feast. This is prodigal love: a love that is reckless in its generosity, extravagant in its mercy, and boundless in its welcome.

The elder son, however, struggles with this abundance. He sees the father's mercy as unjust, refusing to enter the feast. He has been dutiful, obedient, and hard-working—yet, in his resentment, he too is lost, though in a different way. His struggle reveals how difficult it can be to accept grace when we believe it must be earned.

At its heart, this parable is about God's prodigality—His wastefully extravagant love that is given freely, not based on merit, but on His own overflowing compassion. Whether we see ourselves in the younger son, lost in sin and self-inflicted suffering, or in the elder son, resentful of grace given to others, the invitation is the same: to enter the feast of God's mercy.

God's love is never measured, never rationed, never earned. It is prodigal—lavish beyond reason. The question remains: will we accept it?

Based on: *Have you thought? The Prodigal*, by Greg Sunter

Parish Administration

Parish Priest

Fr. Tru Nguyen msc

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Marian England

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Parish Office:

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Office Hours: Mon-Fri
9.00am-3.00pm

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MASS TIMES

Vigil Saturday 5:00pm

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

Monday and Friday 9:30am

Liturgy of the Word with Communion:

Tues 9:30am

St Thomas Aquinas Charnwood Mass

Wednesday and Thursday 9:30am

Ministry

Sacristan: Maryanne Ferguson

Kippax@cg.org.au

Pastoral Council Chair

James Nield

Email: ppc.kippax@cg.org.au

Safeguarding Officers:

Carl Madsen and Jenny McGee

safeguarding.kippax@cg.org.au

ST JOHN THE APOSTLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal: Jo Reed

Pawsey Circuit Florey

Phone: 6258 3592

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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

QUARTERLY APPEAL

There will be a leaving collection this weekend to assist the quarterly:

- insurance
- levy
- electricity expenses.

Our goal is to raise an additional \$10,000.00 to meet these quarterly expenses.

Donations can be made in cash or EFT
St John the Apostle Parish

BSB: 062 786

Account: 0001 3630

Reference: Your Name

We thank you and appreciate your support

PPC CHAIR EMAIL ISSUE

Due to IT issues, James Nield [PPC Chair] is not currently able to access the PPC email. If you have tried to contact James recently regarding the SJA-STA Steering committee minutes or for any other reason, please forward your email to kippax@cg.org.au

MenAlive Recharge

When: Saturday 24 May (2.00pm to 5.30pm) followed by rosary, Mass and a shared meal

Where: Mary Help of Christians Parish, South Woden, 115 Hodgson Cres, Pearce

Cost: Nothing. Let's come together, renew our faith, and encourage one another to respond to the great need.

Contact Mat at 0438446489 or Fr Emil at 0414 523 036.

Canberra-Goulburn Cursillo Retreat
Fri 4 - Sun 6 April 2025, St Clements
Retreat Centre, Galong

Deepen your faith life through an established program of talks, meditations and prayer. Renew your relationship with God and share fellowship with other men and women.

Contact Michael at michaelderaadt@gmail.com
Info and registration <https://bit.ly/cursillo2025>

“Be on earth the Heart of God”

Community morning tea will be held on **Sunday March 30** after 10:00am mass in the Church Foyer. All welcome. Please bring a plate to share. If you want to help please contact



Time, Talent and Treasure forms are available in the foyer. Brochures that describe each ministry are also available.

Please take the Time and Talent form home and prayerfully discern where God is calling you to serve.

Please return the form on
Commitment Sunday 5 April

ADORATION DURING LENT

Thursdays 27 March and 3 & 10 April

Contemplative Prayer with the Blessed Sacrament
7:30pm – 8:30pm

Come for 15 or 30 minutes – whatever time you can spare – there is no requirement to stay for the whole hour

Lent Reconciliation

The 1st Rite of reconciliation
will be available during Adoration
7:30 – 8:30pm

Thursday 3 April

RECONCILIATION DURING LENT

Fr. Chung will be available on Mondays and Friday during Lent after morning Mass

Call for Weekday Mass Lectors

We are currently compiling a roster for Lectors for our weekday Masses (Monday and Friday). If you are interested in serving as a regular lector for either of these Masses, please contact the parish office with your preferred day and week of the month.

Thank you for your willingness to serve!

Heart Spirituality

The return of the prodigal son

He has made up his mind: I shall arise and go... He does not put off his departure until tomorrow. He sets out right away at a fast pace. He hurries to throw himself into the arms of him whom he has saddened so much by his foolish flight; him whom he has offended grievously by his disorderly behaviour. He thinks only of one thing: to appeal to his mercy and to ask his pardon. His heart is broken in repentance, making him shed tears of sorrow. This is how I should feel! I have offended God who is my Father. In a moment of foolishness, I have distanced myself from him; I have saddened his Heart by straying. He is yearning for my return; he is waiting for me day and night; he makes the first move by his grace. I cannot resist any longer. So it is decided: I shall arise and go!..

Jules Chevalier msc
Ignatian Retreat, p. 84. Issoudun 1904

Mass Intentions the week of 31 March – 6 April

Mon 31/03	Jack Lenihan
Wed 02/04	Fr Joseph Nguyen
Thur 03/04	
Fri 04/04	Kes Van Rooy
Sat 05/04	
5:00pm	Doris Galea
Sun 06/04	
8:30am	Fallace Family
10:00am	
6:00pm	

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

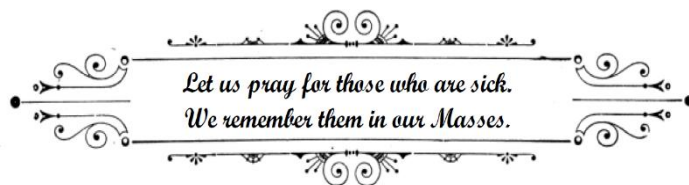
Pilgrims of Hope

Love and the Human Heart

Love and the human heart do not always go together, since hatred, indifference and selfishness can also reign in our hearts. Yet we cannot attain our fulfilment as human beings unless we open our hearts to others; only through love do we become fully ourselves. The deepest part of us, created for love, will fulfil God's plan only if we learn to love. And the heart is the symbol of that love.

The eternal Son of God, in his utter transcendence, chose to love each of us with a human heart. His human emotions became the sacrament of that infinite and endless love. We need to keep in mind that his divine love is inseparable from his human love.

Pope Francis, *Dilexit Nos: He Loved Us*, #59 & #60
A Love that is Tangible



Recently Deceased:

Anniversary: Ludvik Koren, James Broderick, Ella Greig, Clement King, Andrew McEvoy, Alexander Van Audenaerde, Stanislaw Bitner, Victoria Huntley, Moira Leader, Mark Markham, Jennifer Adamik, John O'Brien, Jack Lenihan, Catherine Wheelaghan, Bill Corby, Kay Haworth, Sybil Lazaro, Robyn Klatt, Francesca Fernando, Katherine Jones, John Henshaw, Helena McGee, Harold Allester, Una Luff, Joseph Pisciotta, Vivienne Montgomery, Jordan Matthews, John Napier, Caitlin Brice, Alyssa Brice, Betty Kerekes, Janelle Brice, Leonard Smith, Trevor Agnew, Elena Guindas, Kenneth Marlor, Jim Curran, Noel Smith, Leon Fernando, Kees Van Rooy, Marnie Dunn, Daniel Cassar, Leslie Thomson, Edward Yewdall, Paul Rogers, Ian Stephenson, Wanda Parkitny, Joan Aikins

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

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

Baptisms	1st & 2nd 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

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

SJAFriendship Group	Last Wednesday of the Month 10:15am shared morning tea
Pins & Needles	3 rd Monday of the Month 7:15pm Parish Library
Women's Breakfast	4 th Tuesday of the Month 7:30am Bean Origin Belconnen
Men's Group	3 rd Friday of the Month 6:00pm Parish Centre
Movie Night	4 th Friday of the Month 7:00pm Parish Library
Community Connections	3 rd Sunday of the Month 3:30pm – 5:00pm Parish Centre

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Praise and honour to you,
Lord Jesus Christ!

I will rise and go to my Father and tell him:
Father, I have sinned against heaven and
against you.

Praise and honour to you,
Lord Jesus Christ!

Readings 6 April 2025

First Reading	Is 43:16-21
Psalm	Ps 125
Second Reading	Phil 3:8-14
Gospel	John 8:1-11

Bequest: Have you ever thought of leaving a Bequest to your parish?

By remembering your faith community in your Will, you contribute to the spiritual legacy that has enriched your life. Your bequest ensures the continuation of the traditions, teachings, and support that have shaped your journey.

ROSTERS

6 Apr **Acolyte Roster**

5:00pm	John Hogan, Rod Gardiner
8:30am	Lourdes Asoy, Victoria Gonzales
10:00am	Maxime Kpudezka
6:00pm	Maryanne Ferguson, Peter Le

6 Apr **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, Busi Nkomo

6 Apr **Ministers of Communion**

5:00pm	Chitra Jayawardena
8:30am	Pat Cowburn, Angela Boreham
10:00am	Anthony Noakes, Shovin Weerawarnakula
6:00pm	John McGee, Peter Igoe Taylor

6 Apr **Hospitality Roster**

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

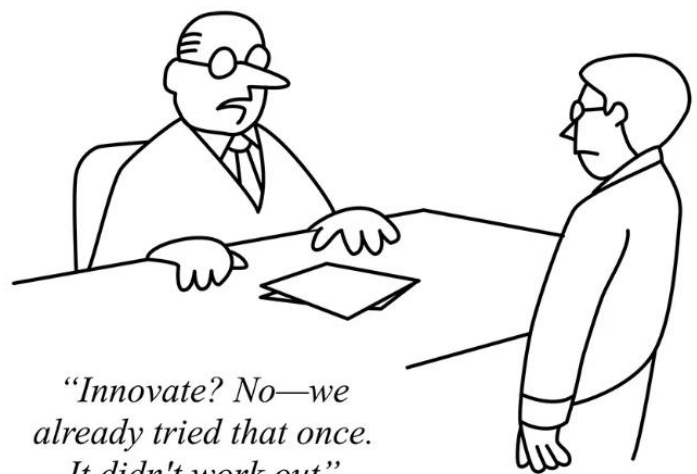
6 Apr **SJAShop**

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

Weekly Rosters

Altar Society	30 Mar	Chioma Nnajide
Church Cleaning:	31 March	Parish Staff Team

On a Lighter note



*“Innovate? No—we
already tried that once.
It didn't work out”*