

“Strive to enter by the narrow door”

In today's Gospel, Jesus is asked, “Lord, will only a few be saved?” But as is often the case, Jesus doesn't answer the question directly. Instead, He turns the question back to the listeners, challenging them — and us — to examine our own lives: “Strive to enter through the narrow door.”

This is a call not to complacency, but to commitment. To be a Christian is more than claiming the name — it is a way of living, a continual striving to follow Jesus' example in concrete, often costly ways. Jesus makes it clear that familiarity with Him — hearing His words, eating and drinking in His presence — is not enough if our hearts and lives don't reflect what He taught. “I do not know where you come from,” He says to some. That's a sobering response for anyone who assumes that a label or loose association is enough.

This is where the Gospel intersects with our reality. Many people today are disillusioned with religion, often pointing to hypocrisy — the gap between what is professed and what is lived. While no one can live like Jesus perfectly all the time, we are still called to strive toward it. Our credibility as Christians depends not on our perfection but on our sincerity: our willingness to admit our faults, to seek forgiveness, to keep going, and above all, to love as He loved.

Jesus is not trying to exclude; rather, He is inviting us to a deeper integrity. The “narrow door” is not a gate for a select few, but a call to every heart to walk with humility, truth, and love. It is about letting go of pretence and entering fully into the life of discipleship. Those who are last — overlooked, broken, honest — will be first. And those who rely on status or surface religion may find themselves left outside.

So today we are reminded: to call ourselves Christian is to strive to be Christ-like — not in name only, but in action, in compassion, and in the daily choice to follow Him, even through narrow and difficult paths. That is where true life is found.

**Based on: *Living the Gospel – Consequences*
by Greg Sunter**

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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

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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*

Vinnies Winter Appeal

Thank you for your very generous response to this year's Winter Appeal. We received over \$9,500 in cash and card donations. This will make a significant difference in the lives of many struggling families in our local community. Thanks also for your donations of non-perishable food items and toiletries. Our companions love receiving a bag of groceries when we visit.

KIT @ Kippax

If you have a submission for the August KIT would you please send it to marian@stjohnkippax.org.au; by 28 August. It is parishioner's contributions that keep KIT alive and interesting.

Resurrecting Sunday Afternoon Book Club?

Do you enjoy reading and sharing ideas with others? We're exploring the idea of re-starting a **Sunday Afternoon Book Club** a relaxed gathering for conversation, reflection, and friendship over a cuppa.

The details (book s, times, and format) will be shaped by those who are interested.

If this sounds like something you'd like to be part of, please let us know!

Contact: Kirsty at kippax.finance@cg.org.au

Mental Health Week

Date: 5th – 11th October 2025

Theme: "Community"

Focus: Encouraging connection and support within communities to promote mental health and wellbeing.

10 October is World Mental Health Day

Be part of the conversation and join the Meaningful Connections Matter Campaign.

<https://worldmentalhealthday.com.au/>

LIBRARY NEWS:

There are some new books on the display table in the library:

Choices for Life: The Beatitudes for Daily Living

A Friendly Guide to Women in the Old Testament

A Friendly Guide to Women in the New Testament

A Passion for Life: Fragments of the Face of God

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST



TUESDAY 26 AUGUST – 7:30AM

BEAN ORIGIN CAFÉ

NETTLEFOLD STREET BELCONNEN

Please note that we are returning to Belconnen this month

SJA Friendship Group Morning Tea

next meeting on **Wednesday 27 August**
10:15am - parish centre.

Please come and join us, you are all most welcome. Please bring a plate to share.
Contact: Barbara Mawson in you have any quesitons on 6254 7989

Funeral Notices



Margaret Bailey

Thursday 28 August 2025 10:30am

&

Douglas Boer

Friday 29 August 2025 11:00am

“Be on earth the Heart of God”

Heart Spirituality

The ills of our time

The ills of our time (le mal modern) could not be more serious; they are worsening day by day; we cannot probe deeply into them without being shocked. The situation can be linked to three causes:

1. Contempt of all authority, especially of the most sacred authority in the world, that of the holy catholic Church that speaks in the name of God.
2. Abandonment of prayer, of public worship, of the sacraments, in short of all religious practices that are part of God's plan.
3. Ignorance of revealed truth that alone can enlighten humanity, keep it aware of its duties and put a halt to the moral depravity that is threatening the very survival of human society.

Jules Chevalier msc
Le Société, p.7 f., Bourges, Pigelet 1872.

Pilgrims of Hope

The Heart of the World

In the end, the Sacred Heart is the unifying principle of all reality, since "Christ is the Heart of the world, and the paschal mystery of his death and resurrection is the centre of history, which, because of him, is a history of salvation". All creatures "are moving forward with us and through us towards a common point of arrival, which is God, in that transcendent fullness where the risen Christ embraces and illumines all things". In the presence of the heart of Christ, I once more ask the Lord to have mercy on this suffering world in which he chose to dwell as one of us. May he pour out the treasures of his light and love, so that our world, which presses forward despite wars, socio-economic disparities and uses of technology that threaten our humanity, may regain the most important and necessary thing of all: its heart.

Pope Francis. Dilexit Nos: He Loved us, #31
On the Human and Divine love of the Heart of Jesus Christ

Mass Intentions the week of 25-31 August

Mon 25/08	
Wed 27/08	
Thur 28/08	
Fri 29/08	Margaret Hilly

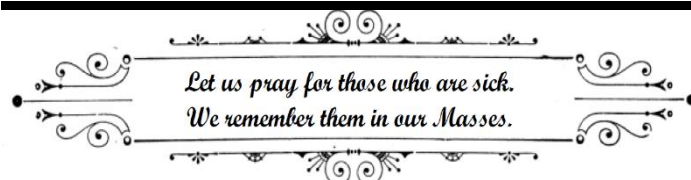
Sat 30/08	
5:00pm	Sonia Mewburn

Sun 31/08	
8:30am	
10:00am	Antonia & Anton Monica 30 th Birthday
6:00pm	

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

PARISH OFFICE HAPPENINGS

Sharon will commence leave on Wednesday 13 August and return on Wednesday 3 September.



Recently Deceased:

Margaret Bailey, Douglas Boer

Anniversary:

Ronald Ryan, Alfred Niquet, Jill McNevin, Majorie Carew. Edmund Kennedy, Alexander Aikman, Hedwig Von Straaten, Winifred Bridges, Joseph Weinhever, Andres Munoz, Tere Fearon, Bill Fearon, Anna Yoo, Sheila Dignam, Antonia Mrsnik, Armando Cavuoto, Patrick Sheehan, Barry Cormack, Gladys Anderson, Virginia Matera, Melinda Davis, Annette Polak, Mary Huon Nguyen, William Wiegold, Philip Smith, Mary Telford, Gaye Walmsley, Susan O'Dwyer, Josephine Smith, Ralph Dunn, William Schofield, Dorothy Hush, Andre Domjan, Ivan Jones, Kathleen MacKay, Collin McEvoy, Sonia Mewburn, Andrew Jeffers, Wesley Dunn, Patrick Whittle, Joseph Boyd, John Grannall.

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

SOCIAL LIFE

SJAFriendship Group	<i>Last Wednesday of the Month 10:15am shared 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>
Movie Night	<i>4th Friday of the Month 7:00pm Parish Library</i>
Community Connections	<i>3rd Sunday of the Month 3:30pm – 5:00pm Parish Centre</i>

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

Go out to all the world
and tell the Good News.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the way, the truth, and the life,
says the Lord; no one comes to the Father,
except through me.
Alleluia!

Readings 31 August 2025

First Reading	Sirach 3:17-20, 28-29
Psalm	Ps 67:4-7. 10-11
Second Reading	Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24
Gospel	Luke 14:1. 7-14

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

31 August Acolyte Roster

5:00pm	Anthony & Chitra Jayawardena
8:30am	Sigrid Kropp
10:00am	Maxime Kpudzeka, Vy Pham
6:00pm	Sabina Van Rooy, Nunga Umaru

31 August Lector Roster

5:00pm	Kirsty Vera, Kerry Yard
8:30am	Elizabeth McDonald, Shane Murtagh
10:00am	Frank Colley, Kate Lawrence
6:00pm	Karna O'Dea, Jenny McGee

31 August Ministers of Communion

5:00pm	Helen Kennedy, Joe Catanzariti
8:30am	Theresia Suh, Maria Scarr
10:00am	Francesca Deklin, Gabe Sequeira
6:00pm	Priscilla Momi

31 August Hospitality Roster

5:00pm	Helen Murphy, Judith O'Neill
8:30am	Agnes Pham
10:00am	Manel Seneviratna, Christine Lancaster
6:00pm	

31 August SJAShop

5:00pm	
8:30am	
10:00am	
6:00pm	

Weekly Rosters

Altar Society	31 Aug	Chioma Nnajide
Church Cleaning:	1 Sep	Joseph Le Van Hai Sam Van Nguyen Lanh Dang

On a lighter note.



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