

To be on earth the Heart of God

KII OKIPPAX 318

St John the Apostle Parish – Kippax ACT

MAY 2021

## Time out for reflection



Winter is a beautiful season to me. The cold days and being indoors can bring a sense of deep peace and quiet reflection. Now there is time for introspection. A time to recharge, make lists, think, clean out the cupboards, nap, get rid of junk, watch football and organize your spices. You can do all of these things and not feel guilty about being inside.

In winter there are stacks of books waiting to be read, hearty stews and soups making the house smell like nanna's. Of course it is much easier to clean the house than to clean the excess baggage from the mind and soul. But winter can be a time of healing for the soul as the pace of life seems a little slower.

### Winter means

- Waking up in the morning to a beautiful frost which makes everything look pretty.
- Curling up in my warm dressing gown and Ugg Boots on a cold day.
- My fluffy doona on a cold, cold night.
- The warm fire which gives me a sense of romance.
- Thick soups and hearty stews which warm the 'cockles of my heart'.
- Being able to have the sun on my face without worrying about sunburn.

In the depth of winter I finally learned that there was in me an invincible summer.

### IN THE MIDST OF WINTER

### **Creator God**

In the midst of Winter, when the days are cold and wind can pierce - remind us of the warmth of your love.

In the midst of Winter, when days are short, dawn comes late, and dusk arrives early - remind us that in the darkness your light still shines.

In the midst of Winter, when flowers lie hidden in the earth, when leaves are off the trees, and the world can seem bleak remind us that Spring is but a short time away.

And when in our lives we feel as if we are experiencing a season of winter, reach out to us with the power of your resurrection so that we may feel the warmth of your love and see your light that alone can take away the darkness of our soul.

(Cal Wick)

(Albert Camus)

## The Feast of Corpus Christi



The Feast of Corpus Christi (Ecclesiastical Latin: *Dies Sanctissimi Corporis et Sanguinis Domini lesu Christi,* lit. 'Day of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Jesus Christ the Lord'), also known as the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, is a Roman Catholic, Anglican, and Western Orthodox liturgical solemnity celebrating the Real Presence of the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ in the elements of the Eucharist. Two months earlier, the institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper is observed on Maundy Thursday in a sombre atmosphere leading to Good Friday. The liturgy on that day also commemorates Christ's washing of the disciples' feet, the institution of the priesthood and the agony in the Garden of Gethsemane.

The feast of Corpus Christi was proposed by Saint Thomas Aquinas, Doctor of the Church, to Pope Urban IV, in order to create a feast focused solely on the Holy Eucharist, emphasizing the joy of the Eucharist being the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ. Having recognized the authenticity of the Eucharistic Miracle of Bolsena on input of Aquinas, in 1264, the pontiff, then living in Orvieto, established the feast of Corpus Christi as a Solemnity and extended it to the whole Roman Catholic Church.

The feast is liturgically celebrated on the Thursday after Trinity Sunday or, "where the Solemnity of The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ is not a holy day of obligation, it is assigned to the Sunday after the Most Holy Trinity as its proper day".

At the end of Holy Mass, there is often a procession of the Blessed Sacrament, generally displayed in a monstrance. The procession is followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. A notable Eucharistic procession is that presided over by the Pope each year in Rome, where it begins at the Archbasilica of St. John Lateran and passes to the Basilica of Saint Mary Major, where it concludes with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

The celebration of the feast was suppressed in Protestant churches during the Reformation for theological reasons: outside Lutheranism, which maintained the confession of the Real Presence, many Protestants denied the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist other than as a merely symbolic or spiritual presence. Today, most Protestant denominations do not recognize the feast day. The Church of England abolished it in 1548 as the English Reformation progressed, but later reintroduced it. Most Anglican churches now observe Corpus Christi, sometimes under the name "Thanksgiving for Holy Communion".

Corpus Christi is a moveable feast, celebrated on the Thursday after Trinity Sunday or, in countries where it is not a holy day of obligation, on the following Sunday.

Corpus Christi is a public holiday in some countries with a predominantly Catholic population including, among others, Austria, Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, parts of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Colombia, Croatia, Dominican Republic, East Timor, Equatorial Guinea, Haiti, (Jerusalem) Israel, parts of Germany, Grenada, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, parts of Puerto Rico, San Marino, Spain, parts of Switzerland, Saint Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago, parts of the United States, and Venezuela.

#### Sabina Van Rooy

LITURGY COMMITTEE

## A chasuble with Napoleonic connections



SOURCE: PARISH OF ST PATRICK, CHURCH HILL, SYDNEY

At St Patrick's Church at Church Hill, Sydney, a faded red chasuble is on display. It was discovered in the mid-1980s crumpled up and pushed into the back of a cupboard. This example of exquisite eighteenth century embroidery has a fascinating story. The chasuble is part of the heritage of the Marist Fathers. The Fathers came to New South Wales in 1848 and became administrators of St Patrick's Parish in 1868. The chasuble reputedly belonged to Cardinal Joseph Fesch, the half-brother of Napoleon Bonaparte's mother – Napoleon's uncle. Cardinal Fesch was Archbishop of Lyons and Napoleon Bonaparte's ambassador to Rome. How the vestments arrived in Australia is a mystery. There is no mention in the Marist Fathers' Provincial Archives of the arrival of the vestments' in Australia. However, the vestments are mentioned in several published works. A newspaper clipping from 1930 contains some factual inaccuracies and must be treated with caution.

... [the vestments] belonged to Cardinal Fesh [*his name was Fesch*], uncle of Napoleon, Archbishop of Lyons till the downfall of his illustrious nephew in 1815. They passed on to Fr Collins SM, founder of the Society of Mary [founded by Fr Colin not Collins], who on leaving for missionary work in Oceania, brought them with him [Fr Colin did not work in Oceania]. When the Marist Bros [a different order to the Marist Fathers] were entrusted with St Patrick's Parish in 1868 the vestments were given for the use of the parish.

A second article reports that the vestments were a gift from Cardinal Fesch to the Australian people in the early 1800s, and that they narrowly missed being lost in a fire that destroyed Sydney's first cathedral in 1865. Without supporting documentary evidence, this 'origin story' must also be treated with caution. A third story contends that on his death in 1839, Cardinal Fesch bequeathed part of his extensive art collection to the city of Lyons. Cardinal Fesch took a genuine interest in the education of priests and, as the Marist Fathers were founded in Lyons in 1816, it is possible that they acquired vestments belonging to the Cardinal as a gift or a bequest. In any event, it is highly likely the vestments either came to Sydney with the first Marist Fathers in 1848, or sent from Lyons to St Patrick's around 1868 when the Fathers became the parish administrators. Records indicate that there were once two sets of vestments, white and red, and that they were still in use in the 1920s. Today, only the red vestments remain. They are exquisite examples of the Neo-baroque vestment style popular in the late eighteenth century. The design of grapes, wheat ears and floral motifs, including passionflowers, is worked in raised gold thread embroidery on a red silk background. They are remarkable survivors of a tradition of ecclesiastical embroidery that stretches back a thousand years.

## Thank you, Joan Breen



Over 40 years of music ministry at St John's and beyond! Have you ever wondered what inspired Joan Breen to dedicate her energy and considerable talents to God and to this community? Talents that have included liturgy planning and participation, organ and piano playing, singing, choir training, conducting? She has enlivened, blessed, and enriched our worship at literally thousands of masses, and played at multiple weddings and funerals. And for those of us still staggering on, how many do we still hear saying, "I want Joan to play at my funeral." Such dedication and commitment doesn't just happen. It is not always an easy ride, but there are many blessings on the way.

From childhood, Joan inherited music. Her father's family was a mini orchestra, each of the seven children learning to play a different instrument. In her growing years, Joan, her extended family - parents, children, aunt and two uncles - lived and worked as a group to welcome and care for guests at the Crown Hotel in Sale. Joan recalls listening to classical music each morning on her Uncle John's radio, a precious daily ritual she grew to love.

She had music lessons at school, but it was not possible to have a piano at the hotel, so her teacher, Sr Aloysius at St Mary's primary, arranged for her to practise after school for two hours each day. Afterwards she would ride home on her trusty bike, full of energy and song. While still in early secondary classes she managed to pass through all the grades much assisted by the family being able to purchase a piano after they moved to a different residence.

Sadly, she had to leave school early to care for her mother who was ill, and amazingly, it was not till she turned 28 that she was finally able to complete her secondary schooling and qualify for entrance to the Conservatorium where her great desire was to study under Margaret Schofield. However, her mother, having appreciated the care given during a very serious illness, believed that nursing was the better profession for Joan to follow at the time. Music temporally receded while she completed nursing at the Gippsland Base Hospital. Joan values her nursing career as having encouraged a growing awareness of, and compassion for, the needs of others.

Married in Sale Catholic church in 1963, Joan and Air Force husband Robert and children Tim and Amanda were to spend several years in Australian and overseas postings in places such as Point Cook, Canberra, Darwin and Butterworth Malaysia. Music? Maybe. Joan recalls being on Penang Island and pedalling a 'wheezing harmonium' in Our Lady's RAAF chapel. When Robert received a hardship posting to Darwin following Cyclone Tracy she managed one day to find a surviving, very dusty but mostly undamaged pianola in the destroyed sergeants' mess. Robert purchased it for \$70. She quietly skims over the intense difficulties of the time in Darwin for spouses and families as the military tried desperately to alleviate the cyclone's disastrous effects on the population and the city.

When the family returned to a relatively stable life in Canberra in 1979 it was the embryonic parish of St John the Apostle at Kippax that became a beckoning ministry. Music lovers such as Mary Moran, Pauline Greig and Joan were to contribute their talents and dedication here for over two decades.

Joan admits that parish participation is all she has ever wanted to do to celebrate her music. True, she has been, and still is, involved with music and song beyond the parish and is currently training a choir's sopranos, but St John's has been her true calling.

At the parish, who among us has not been moved by her generous and sensitive playing at funerals; or have not gone home after Sunday Mass singing 'Shine, Jesus, Shine" or others of our favourite hymns? Or who has not felt urged to raise the rafters in the joy of the resurrection as we sing the Gloria at the Easter vigil? Like me, I guess many even felt inspired to dance down the aisle along with Father John Rate at his parish farewell singing, "Dance then, wherever you may be..."! In addition, it is Joan who has embedded the parish blessing in our hearts.

We wish her and Robert (master of the post-Mass applause) God's richest blessings as we celebrate their contribution to the parish. **From all of us:** 

### Thank you… And, Joan, dance then, wherever you may be.

Judy Kenny

Laudato Si' week of 16-24 May 2021 concludes the 5th Anniversary of the Popes Encyclical: On Care for our Common Home

### For we know that things can change

The urgent challenge to protect our common home includes a concern to bring the whole human family together to seek a sustainable and integral development, for we know that things can change. The Creator does not abandon us; he never forsakes his loving plan or repents of having created us. Humanity still has the ability to work together in building our common home.

Here I want to recognize, encourage and thank all those striving in countless ways to guarantee the protection of the home which we share. Particular appreciation is owed to those who tirelessly seek to resolve the tragic effects of environmental degradation on the lives of the world's poorest. Young people demand change. They wonder how anyone can claim to be building a better future without thinking of the environmental crisis and the sufferings of the excluded.



#### Laudato Si' #13

### CARE OF CREATION

O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, who are so precious in your eyes...

God of love, show us our place in this world as channels of your love for all the creatures of this earth.

God of mercy, may we receive your forgiveness and convey your mercy throughout our common home. Praise be to you!

### Amen

Pope Francis, 2016



## Colour my World

#### UNJUMBLE THESE SHADES OF RED

1 smnicor 2 tlcsrae 3 nvmliiroe 4 eecsri
 5 encmrai 6 nraadcil 7 tralce 8 yruts
 9 hneiccaol 10 iittna 11 uubanr 12 yurb

### IN WHICH STATE WOULD ONE FIND?

Green Cape
 Blue Cow
 Yellowdine
 Pinks Beach
 Purple Downs
 Orange Hill
 Red Hills
 Browns Mountain
 Grey
 Black Duck Creek
 Lavender Bay
 Whitelaw

#### ANIMAL, VEGETABLE OR MINERAL?

Madder 2 Sepia 3 Indigo 4 Mauve
 Ultra marine 6 Cochineal 7 Litmus
 Sienna 9 Jet 10 Lac 11 Wode
 Saffron 13 Indian Yellow
 Mummy Brown 15 Scheele's Green
 Lincoln Green

ANSWERS 1 vegetable 2 animal 3 vegetable 4 mineral 5 mineral 6 animal 7 vegetable 8 mineral 9 mineral 10 animal 11 vegetable 12 vegetable 13 animal 16 vegetable

 8 NSM
 6 MA
 10 Qlq
 11 NSM
 12 Vic

ANSWERS 1 crimson 2 scarlet 3 vermilion 4 cerise 5 carmine 6 cardinal 7 claret 8 rusty 9 cochineal 10 titian 11 auburn 12 ruby



## The fulfilment

To prove he was risen flesh and bone, Jesus ate broiled fish and honeycomb. Sitting among his disciples, he took and opened the scriptures. 'Oh ye of little faith, believe; here is my glorified body, fit for earth and eternity. Behold your Saviour, Christ Jesus – the Word made flesh, the fulfilment of all that is written in the Prophets, the Psalms, and the Law of Moses.

Suffering and death I embraced so that, as it is inscribed, on the third day I would rise and your sins erase. No greater love hath one than this; and no greater can be your bliss. You are witnesses of these things, you whom I ask to proclaim repentance and forgiveness in my name.'

**Shane Murtagh** 

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## St John the Apostle YEAR 6

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GRAPES!

FLGS!

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We welcome into the SJA Community of the Body of Christ the following children baptised during the month of April.

Mabel Clarke	Daughter of Colin and Rose
Jordan Garland	Son of Andrew and Danielle
Mina Van Dartel	Daughter of Steven and Rebecca
Caitlin Bird	Daughter of Joshua and Karina
Eli Sciberras	Son of David and Rachel
Fletcher Cockburn	Son of Adam and Holly
Jack, Evie and Scarl	ette Blewitt Children of Scott and Christie
Jay Calvert	Son of Geoffrey and Emma





### MICHAEL VORN WILSON 24 January 1943 – 13 May 2021

Michael Wilson, known as Mike to many, was born in Goulburn, one of five children. The family moved to Canberra, settling in Braddon. Mike completed his secondary education at Daramalan College.

As a young man he joined the Marian Club, a spiritual and social club for single Catholics. It was there that he met Jill who was to become his wife.

After their marriage they purchased a house in Higgins where they raised a family of a daughter and two sons. Mike was to remain in that home for fifty years.

Mike is remembered as being devoted to his family, a wonderful husband and loving father.

A friend recalls great holidays spent together at the South Coast, several families together. She remembers Mike's cheerful disposition and how generous he was with his time in taking all the children out on his boat.

Jill's death in 2007 was devastating for Mike. Jill's family continued their contact with him, giving him support through the years, as did his own family, his children and close friends.

Mike's preferred Mass in recent years was 8.30am Sunday. Many have memories of him transporting an elderly parishioner over a number of years. She was not the only recipient of his care and kindness.

Mike was a gentle person, friendly and always happy to have a chat. The reaction of parishioners to his sudden death is an indication of the affection they felt for him.

The large number of family and friends gathered at St John's to celebrate the life of Mike Wilson is testimony of the high regard in which he was held.

Many here will have a lasting memory of Mike walking down the hill after Mass on his way home. He will be missed.

May he rest in peace.

**Clyde & Norma Sloan** 



Mike was a member of the parish's St Joseph the Worker group. There were many projects that Mike participated in. He was one of the quiet achievers in our parish.



Refugee Week

20–26 JUNE

SJ@SJA.....social justice news

World Refugee Day is coming up on 20th June, and it is the start of World Refugee Week. The theme for 2021 is Unity. Stories about refugees are constantly in the media: there are more people displaced in the world now than at any time since the end of World War II. More than 70 million people are refugees.

There have always been refugees in human history, including Jesus who was born into life as a refugee. The Old Testament makes many references to the "outsiders" in our midst, and exhorted God's people to provide hospitality and protection for them. Our Church's social teaching, which has emerged from what God has taught us about Himself, has emphasised the importance of welcoming the outsider, especially the ones who are poor and marginalised.



Some of the most common challenges faced by people from refugee backgrounds in Australia are:

- finding affordable housing
- finding employment
- language and communication barriers
- racism and discrimination
- community attitudes.

Other difficulties which may be experienced include:

- issues with identity and belonging
- physical and psychological effects of trauma, including survivor guilt
- separation from family members.

There are a number of ways we can help to welcome refugees and help them to settle in: St John's has a Refugee Resettlement Group which helps refugees settle into the community. Members provide practical assistance and also advocate on refugees' behalf. Other local groups include Canberra Refugee Support, Red Cross, and the Multicultural Youth Service, all of which welcome volunteers.

We may have opportunities in our neighbourhoods to get to know newly-arrived migrants and hear their stories. We can also be a positive voice in our community by countering negative community attitudes when we have the occasion.

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ATES

Do you recognise any of these families? And how wonderful that they are still members of our parish!





W. W

CAN YOU MATCH THE FAMILIES? French Biggs Breen Flint Bruce Gardiner Kain





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Down Memory Lane





Screen Netting Pisciotta Reed O'Gorman





This event is an initiative of the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn Women's Taskforce and will be the first in a series of such events, all aimed at enhancing and celebrating the contributions that women make to our Church.

In 2016 Pope Francis decreed (through the Congregation of Divine Worship) that Mary Magdalene's liturgical memorial be elevated to a 'feast', like that of the other apostles, and that she should be referred to as "Apostle to the apostles".

**Our speaker is Sr Margaret Beirne RSC**, a scripture scholar who is a senior lecturer in biblical studies at St Andrew's Greek Orthodox Theological College. After 30 years of teaching and leadership in secondary education, including principalship at St Vincent's in Potts Point, Sr Margaret went to the École Biblique in Jerusalem. Her PhD dissertation was on the Gospel of John which features a chapter on Mary Magdalene.

Those with dietary needs, requiring special access or group bookings are asked to please email the organisers on **womenstaskforceACG@gmail.com** 

For enquiries, please phone Beth Doherty 0432 608 310 or email elisabeth\_doherty@hotmail.com. Bookings are now open at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/mary-magdalene-dinner-16-july-2021tickets-153913775245