



To be on earth the Heart of God

KIT @ Kippax



Meet Fr Chung on page 4

Time out for reflection

Retreat

Come into yourself a while,
Be deaf to outer cries;
Ask not who wins, who falls, who rages,
Or what each doubtful sign presages,
Or what face treachery wears.

Soon you must return to tasks
That sicken and appal:
The calumnies will never cease,
Look only to the sign of peace,
The Cross upon the wall.

This is that sole instrument
That measures every chart;
This square and level overrules
The subtle calculus of fools
By a celestial art.

It is not said we shall succeed,
Save as His Cross prevails:
The good we choose and mean to do
Prosper if He wills it too,
And if not, then it fails.

Nor is failure our disgrace:
By ways we cannot know
He keeps the merit in His hand,
And suddenly as no one planned,
Behold the kingdom grow!



Editor's Note

Easter, Missionaries of the Sacred Heart Chapter, ANZAC day, and the arrival of Fr. Chung Tran msc, filled the month of April.

I found the Easter Liturgies wonderful experiences of prayer that allowed me to enter more deeply into the Paschal Mystery, and awareness of how the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus manifests in everyday life.

On the cover we feature Fr. Chung Tran msc who has been appointed assistant priest for the next three years. Go to page 4 for a small introductory bio and photos from the Potluck lunch that was held on Sunday 30 April. It was a fun lunch which Fr. Chung enjoyed and appreciated greatly.

Working in the Secretariat at the 2023 MSC Chapter was a busy time, but on a couple of nights I partnered up with Fr. John Bosman and we played table tennis against some of the young MSC Confreres. John and I learnt that winning isn't everything, and that the fun of the game has its own compensations. There is a photo of MSC's who attended that Chapter and who have been at St John's on page 10.

In his homily at the Chapter's closing mass, the Provincial elect Fr. Stephen Hackett msc, quoted the last two verses of the poem *Retreat* which

James McAuley wrote for Bob Santamaria. I have used this poem for the reflection this month as I feel it is apt for the Easter Season and beyond.

ANZAC day is always a poignant day for me. Not only reflecting on the thousands of people who have died as a result of war but also the men and woman who continue to live and suffer with physical and mental injuries sustained in conflicts. I am reminded that everything is connected, when something happens to one person it happens to everyone. Knowing that peace begins in our own hearts, I am called to be a peaceful, peacemaker, turning every conflict into resurrection.

May is shaping up to be a busy month. The calendar on the back page lists all the happenings for the coming month. One notable event is – *Ethics with Fr. Philip Malone msc* on Wednesday 10 May. This event is advertised on page 15.

Reconciliation Day will be recognised with a Public Holiday on Monday 29 May. Our parish Reconciliation Group is planning activities for Reconciliation Week 27 May–3 June, with a morning tea after the 10:00am mass on Sunday 4 June. Look out up updates on these events in COMPACT.

May is traditionally the month of Mary. During this month we ask Mary to show us Jesus, lead us to him and teach us to know and love him.

Blessings

Marian



LEST WE FORGET
**ANZAC
 DAY**
 25th APRIL



Hello! I am Chung Tran, msc

On 26 October 26 this year I will turn 36. I come from a family of 5 which includes my parents and 2 other siblings. I am from Bao Loc City. It is a serene place dotted with coffee and tea plants in the Central Highlands to the south of Viet Nam.

I first joined the MSC as a pre-novice in 2010. After that, I was sent to the Philippines for my Novitiate. At the end of the Novitiate in 2012, I took first vows and started my philosophy and theological studies in the Dominican Institute in Ho Chi Minh/Saigon. I took perpetual vows in 2017. This was my greatest commitment, to devote my whole life to be an authentic MSC. Being an MSC enables me to dream and promote Jesus' Redemptive Love from his heart in our vulnerable world.

On 27 June 2019 I was ordained as a deacon. I then spent my deaconate year ministering in a parish for the indigenous peoples of Viet Nam. In July 2020 I returned to our MSC community where I was appointed as formator for our Pre-Novitiate. Due to the COVID lockdown of 2020, I realised that the date and circumstances of my priestly ordination were beyond anyone's control, and as a result, my ordination was postponed. This delay was not lost time, for any time spent with Christ in prayer and service is only counted as gain.

Gratefully, there are unexpected gifts that come with circumstances that are out of our control. On 3 June 2022, I was ordained to the priesthood in the Philippines. A few days later, on 10 June 2022, I arrived in Melbourne to undertake the Siloam program for Spiritual Directors at the Heart of Life Centre. This spiritual director's training program has helped me deeply value and embrace my inner freedom. I felt consoled and confident that I could live our MSC charism of being on earth the Heart of God.

With my new appointment as an assistant priest, I am very much hoping that this awareness will only deepen with my ministries, particularly in Kippax parish.

I am looking forward to seeing you all personally!

Chung's welcome lunch



Palm Sunday



Holy Thursday



Good Friday

If only they could

It's a lamentable truth
that many still live
by that bloodstained belief:
'An eye for an eye
and a tooth for a tooth.'

If only they'd turn
the other cheek
to look at the One
blackened and blue,
the man stripped and torn
with feet, hands, and side
pierced right through.

If only they'd learn
that the Father's rain
and His only Son
fall and shine
on the evil and good;
if only they'd respond
to their enemies
with forgiveness and love . . .

if only they could.



Easter Vigil



Easter Sunday



Lord we stand
through the darkness of night,
Lead us, now, O Lord, we follow;
bring us home to you.

MSC's who have been at St John's who attended the Chapter



BACK ROW Kimi Vunivesilevu msc, Gerard McCormick msc, Peter Hendriks msc, Michael Fallon msc, Paul Browne msc, John Bosman msc, Frank Dineen msc

FRONT ROW Mark Hanns msc, Dominic Gleeson msc, Marian England, Chung Tran msc, Chris McPhee msc, Michael Stephan msc



The church mice (rats) have been eating Fr. Kimi's vegie patch. They have been obviously feasting on the pumpkins along with other vegies.

And some large (human) rat stole the watermelon out of the garden just the day before Fr. Kimi intended to eat it.



Easter in the Orthodox Church

The Eastern Orthodox Church, also called the Orthodox Church, is the second-largest Christian church, with approximately 220 million baptised members. It operates as a communion of autocephalous churches, each governed by its bishops via local synods. The church has no central doctrinal or governmental authority analogous to the head of the Catholic Church—the pope—but the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople is recognised by them as *primus inter pares* (“first among equals”). As one of the oldest surviving religious institutions in the world, the Eastern Orthodox Church has played a prominent role in the history and culture of Eastern and South-eastern. The Eastern Orthodox Church officially calls itself the Orthodox Catholic Church.

The most important part of the Orthodox church’s calendar is Easter, which is celebrated in the form of movable feasts and celebrations to commemorate the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The spiritual preparations for Easter begin with Great Lent, a forty-day period of fasting and self-examination. The Lenten fast culminates on Lazarus Saturday. These days are known as Paschal Hours.

Some of the practices of the Orthodox Church during the Easter Season are:

PASCHA The Orthodox Church, follows the Julian Calendar which was in use at the time of the First Ecumenical Council. As a result, the date of Pascha in the Orthodox Church is thirteen days earlier than the Western Church’s. The celebration of Easter at the Orthodox Church is a joyful one. At the Pascha Liturgy, the congregation hears the traditional hymn “Christ is risen”. After the service, red-dyed eggs are distributed to children. They are coloured red to represent the blood of Christ. In early civilizations, the Easter egg was a symbol connected with spring fertility rituals.

THE TRADITIONAL EGGS While it may be strange to have a feast that celebrates eggs during Lent, the eggs themselves are a great symbol of the resurrection. The egg’s shell resembles the tomb and the gates of hell, and the yolk holds new life inside. The egg was used as a symbol of Christ rising from the dead and defeating death. As such, the egg is symbolic of the Resurrection of Christ, and the empty tomb.



THE DIVINE LITURGY The Divine Liturgy is celebrated in two parts: the Liturgy of the Faithful and the Liturgy of the Catechumens. The prayers of these liturgies differ. Saints did not write the liturgy, but they may have contributed prayers. The prayers and actions of the Liturgy reveal the main meaning of this holy celebration. It is a highly reverent ritual.

ODES The orthodox church uses several hymns to commemorate the resurrection of Christ. The hymn “The Paschal Lamb” is an important part of the litany and is chanted during Vespers on Wednesday afternoon. This service is preceded by anticipation of the morning service.

THE PASCHAL HOURS The Paschal Hours services are held daily and reflect on the events that took place after the triumphant entry of Jesus Christ into Jerusalem. Following these services, the church celebrates the Resurrection ceremony. It is also a time of fellowship, with church services and communion being held in various locations throughout the world. On Holy Saturday, the Midnight Office is held in a darkened church. The shroud is removed from the tomb and placed on the altar, where it will remain for forty days. The faithful sing the troparion (resurrection) of the Resurrection. The church is then completely dark. During the Paschal Hours, people should be aware of their surroundings, and keep candles lit upright.

Sabina Van Rooy LITURGY TEAM

References *Orthodox Lent, Holy Week and Easter* Liturgical Texts with Commentary by Hugh Wybrew 1995. The book is in the Parish Library <https://www.saintjohnchurch.org/date-orthodox-pascha>

27 March



5 April



6 April



19 April



The 18 students who participated in the Job Trainer Program organised through Spark Ginninderry and CIT Canberra graduated on Thursday 27 April.

The project in St John the Apostle grounds included raised garden beds, a path connecting the garden beds to the composting bays and tap.

The practical skills the students achieved certificates in are concreting, paving, brick laying, and woodwork.



They also acquired certificates in Work, Health and Safety, and Asbestos handling.

Unplanned project was the addition of the plinth and sundial. This project has improved the look of our grounds and made life a little easier for the gardeners and grounds volunteers.

Thank you to Spark Ginninderry and CIT Canberra.

Spark
Ginninderry



April Baptisms

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

Rafael Hilly son of Edward & Elizabeth

Therdee Gonzales son of Giesther & Haydee

Vincent Webster son of Ben & Tara

Ethics with Fr. Philip Malone msc

The God I believe in is the God I respond to.

Wednesday – 10 May 2023

7:00 – 8:30pm

St John the Apostle Catholic Church

*An opportunity to reflect on the choices
we make in life as followers of Jesus*

Philip Malone MSC has had a Professional life working in the field of education and this, in two distinct phases, High School (teaching and administration) over eighteen years, followed by thirty-five years in adult education (again, teaching and administration).

As an MSC Priest he has worked in four of the five Colleges administered by the MSC congregation in mainland Australia, teaching RE, Indonesian Asian Social Studies, English and History. Professional qualifications for this are BA(AS) Arts/Asian Studies, DipEd and MACE. He held senior administrative roles in three of the four Colleges.

The involvement in adult education began after study in Rome at the Academia Alfonsiana, specialising in Moral Theology. Qualifications here are BRelStud (Seminary studies) and STL (with a thesis exploring Euthanasia and Moral Methodology).

The primary focus here has been formation for ministry (ordained and lay) and the teaching of moral theology, liturgy, Church and Sacramental Theology with emphasis not simply on learning but on the integration of this in experience. This period of teaching has been supplemented by presenting a wide range of papers, leading seminars and similar educative opportunities with a variety of professional and non-professional groups.

Current memberships of professional Associations include The Catholic Moral Theology Association of Australia and New Zealand and the Australian Catholic Theological Association, and he has also been a member of a number of Medical Ethics Committees. Publications include articles in Compass and Encounter with chapter contributions to a number of books.

APRIL Death notice

Joan Marie Aikins

17 JUNE 1936–5 APRIL 2023


Eternal rest grant
unto her, O Lord,

and let perpetual
light shine upon her.

May she rest in peace.

Amen

MAY 2023

1	Monday	Visit from Vietnamese Priest and Deacons	
2	Tuesday		
3	Wednesday		
4	Thursday		Finance Council meeting @11am ■ PPC Meeting @7:30pm Contemplative Prayer with the Blessed Sacrament @7:30-8:30pm
5	Friday		SJACare meeting @10:00am
6 & 7	Saturday Sunday		5th Sunday of Lent – Baptism @8:30am & 10:00am masses Ministers of Communion formation 3:30pm
8	Monday		Year 8 SFX students attending 9:30am mass RAP meeting @7:00pm
9	Tuesday		
10	Wednesday		Ethics with Fr. Philip Malone msc. 7:00pm – 8:30pm <i>The God I believe in is the God I respond to</i>
11	Thursday		
12	Friday	 Fr. Kimi Away – MSC Initial Formation Accompaniment	Meditation @5:15pm – Parish Library
13 & 14	Saturday Sunday		6th Sunday of Easter <i>Mother's Day</i>
15	Monday		Pins & Needles @7:15pm Parish Library
17	Tuesday		
17	Wednesday		
18	Thursday		
19	Friday		Meditation @5:15pm – Parish Library Men's Group @6:30pm – Parish Centre
20 & 21	Saturday Sunday		The Ascension of the Lord Baptisms – 10:00am mass
22	Monday		
23	Tuesday		Women's Breakfast @7:30am – Bean Origin Belconnen Archdiocese – Parish Secretary's Day
24	Wednesday		
25	Thursday		Liturgy Team Meeting @7:30pm
26	Friday		Anointing of the sick after 9:30 am mass Meditation @5:15pm – Parish Library Film Night @7:00pm – <i>The Way</i>
27 & 28	Saturday Sunday		Pentecost Sunday ALL MASSES – Commissioning of Parishioners on 2023–24 roster
29	Monday		PUBLIC HOLIDAY –Reconciliation Day
30	Tuesday		
31	Wednesday		SJA Friendship Group – Morning tea after 9:30am mas