



TO BE ON EARTH THE HEART OF GOD



ST JOHN THE APOSTLE PARISH - KIPPAX ACT 2024

Time for Reflection

what's the
opposite of
greedy?



generous, liberal, benevolent,
charitable, abstemious,
unselfish, munificent,
altruistic, moderate, temperate



I am not Greedy, am I?

Why did Jesus call greed the sin of the eye?

Timothy Keller, an American Pastor was giving a series of lectures on the seven deadly sins – pride, lust, anger, envy, gluttony, greed, and sloth. His wife asked him if he had advertised the lectures. When he responded in the affirmative she replied, "Watch, the attendance is going to drop. They're not going to come out to hear about greed." And she was right. It was the least attended of all the lectures. It led Pastor Keller to the realisation that it wasn't that people did not want to hear about greed. It was just that they were so sure that it didn't apply to them. Greed isn't an easy sin to identify in ourselves. What follows is an excerpt on Pastor Keller's reflection on Greed.

Greed is different than other sins. This is why Jesus says this is an eye sin. This darkens your eye spiritually. Jesus did not say to anybody, "Watch out, you might be committing adultery." If you're committing adultery; you know you're committing adultery.

But Jesus has to say, watch out, you might be greedy. And he [Jesus] said to them, "take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions" (Luke 12:15). Greed hides itself. It blinds you in a way that adultery doesn't. Very rarely does anyone identify that they are committing the sin of greed.

Jesus is saying: You don't ask. You don't consider the possibility that you're greedy. You don't think you are. You say, "Me? Greedy?" You think of rich people. You think of people that spend tons. Most of you even have a relative who's more extravagant with money than you are. That's all it takes. All you have to do is know somebody who's really greedy, and you won't think you're greedy. You wouldn't even consider the possibility that you're materialistic.

Jesus is saying watch out. This is a sin of the eye. It darkens your eye. Materialism has the power to get you to choose a job, not one that you love, not one that you're good at, not one that helps people, but one that makes you money. You do it because it will get you to a certain status in life. You choose the job on the basis of that. For five to ten years the adrenaline can keep you going, but after a while you find yourself empty inside. Why did you choose the job? Your eye was dark.

Not only can materialism blind you as you choose your job, but it can blind you in the conduct of your job. For example, many companies are making money, but they're hurting neighbourhoods. They're hurting towns. They're hurting people. Materialism also keeps you from asking hard questions about your lifestyle. You don't ask these questions: Do I really need to spend as much money on this? Do I need to be putting this much money into my apartment? Do I need to be spending this much money on clothes?

Who are you accountable to? What Christians have you gotten together with and said, "Let's talk about how we're spending our money ... how much we are giving away, how much we are keeping, what we are doing"?

Watch out, you might be greedy!

Source: Timothy Keller, Watch Out, you might be greedy.

<https://www.plough.com/en/topics/faith/discipleship/watch-out-you-might-be-greedy>



EDITOR'S NOTE

This month's front cover features Fr. Chung and his family celebrating Luna New Year in Vietnam. It was the first time their family had all been together for some time.

St John the Apostle Parish celebrated its 52nd anniversary on 26th February. The day came and went without any fanfare, but this 52nd year is an important year for our parish. There is change on the horizon and at this moment, we do not know what this looks like or what it means for our parish. However, we know that this is God's church and we trust that the Holy Spirit is guiding us to where we need to be.



We commenced lent on the 14 February with Ash Wednesday. Later that day I was out and forgot that the ashes were still visible on my forehead and someone asked me how I got the bruise on my forehead. I then went into an explanation of Ash Wednesday which I think the listener did not have a clue of what I was talking about. I love the season of lent and the focus of drawing closer to God in the messiness of everyday life.



We celebrated the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick on Friday 23 February. The mass was followed by lunch which is featured on page 10.

Along with Fr. Dominic Gleeson msc, Deacon Michael Hangan from St Therese of Lisieux parish in Hobart and Narita Perrotta from Adelaide, I am a member of the MSC Parish Formation Team. We spent the weekend of 24-25 February in Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, Kensington NSW, undertaking the pastoral review of Fr. Terry Bowman's ministry. We were made to feel very welcomed by the OLR parishioners. Heart Spirituality is very much alive in that parish.



Speaking of Heart Spirituality on Friday 15 March 2024 we will celebrate the 200th anniversary of Fr. Jules Chevalier's birth. This is advertised on page 5.

The children of the parish and primary school will receive the Sacrament of Penance on 14 March, please keep them in your prayers as they embark on the next phase of their sacramental journey.

By the end of March we will be celebrating the Easter Triduum I wish you every blessing for the final weeks of lent and for your Easter celebrations

*Blessings,
Marian*

FEBRUARY BAPTISMS

Archie Amsteins
Son of Victor and Shannon

Elena Bailie
Daughter of Scott and Ana

Archer and Lachlan Frankcom
Sons of Peter and Kathryn

Ilarija Jadric
Daughter of Tony and Vivian

Mathias Petrovski
Son of Niki and Dana



DEATH NOTICE

VINCE HIGGINS
22 June 1935 – 16 February 2024



*And if I go and prepare a place for you,
I will come again and will take you to
myself, so that where I am, there you
may be also.*

John 14:3

KIT @ Kippax

KIT is produced for the St John the Apostle Catholic Community from contributions submitted by parishioners. Send submissions to kippax@cg.org.au

Editor: Marian England * **Graphic Design:** Kirsty Vera

St John the Apostle Parish Kippax ACT * 25 Blackham Street, HOLT ACT 2615


You are warmly invited to join the Chevalier Family
to

Evening prayer

On the occasion of the 200th anniversary
Of the birth of

Fr Jules Chevalier msc

Founder of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart,
Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart and,
Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart.



FRIDAY 15th MARCH 2024, at 6.00PM
St John the Apostle Catholic Church Kippax
Evening Prayer will be followed by Supper

The love of the
heart of Jesus will
be our light our
strength, our guide
and our support.

*St John's is celebrating the 200th Anniversary of the
birth of Fr. Jules Chevalier msc*



The 200th Anniversary of the birth of
Fr. Jules Chevalier msc
Friday 15 March 2024
9:30am Mass
Followed by morning tea
St John the Apostle Parish ● Kippax ACT

As I have done for you.

Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. John 13:14-15

The spiritual meaning of washing feet is a symbol of humility, service, cleansing, and love. It represents the act of serving others and purifying oneself from sin.

The ritual of washing feet has its origins in the Christian faith, where Jesus washed the feet of his disciples. This was not just an act of physical cleanliness but a deeper spiritual message. Jesus demonstrated humility and service, teaching his followers that no one is too important to serve others.

Simultaneously, washing feet is seen as a spiritual cleansing, washing away sin and symbolizing a new start.

- **Humility:** By washing someone's feet, we put ourselves in a subservient position, expressing that we are no higher than them and willing to serve their needs.
- **Service to Others:** Foot washing acts as a gesture of our willingness to help others, highlighting the importance of selflessness and kindness in our spiritual journey.
- **Cleansing of the Soul:** This ritual symbolizes the act of purifying one's soul from sin and negative effects, fostering a closer relationship with the divine.

Expression of Love and Care: Washing the feet of another person signifies our genuine love, care, and concern for their well-being, reinforcing connections and fostering unity.

Feet as Humbleness Symbol: In Christian tradition, feet are often seen as a symbol of humbleness and service, deeply rooted in the act of Jesus washing the feet of his disciples. By doing this, Jesus set an example of humility and love, emphasizing the importance of serving others with a selfless attitude. This act challenges individuals to set aside their pride and ego, embracing a mindset of humility and servanthood.



Act of Servanthood

Feet symbolize servanthood and humility in Christian tradition, exemplifying the call for believers to embody selfless service.

The act of washing feet, as demonstrated by Jesus in the Bible, signifies the ultimate act of servanthood, a powerful symbol of love, compassion, and willingness to serve others. The act of washing feet holds deep spiritual significance across various cultures and religions, symbolizing humility, service, and purification, and is a powerful gesture of care and respect.

Whether in Christianity, Hinduism, Buddhism, or other traditions, washing feet is a visual representation of the values of compassion, kindness, and spiritual cleansing.

This ancient practice continues to hold meaning and importance in modern times, reminding us of the power of selfless service and humility.

Reference: www.spiritualdesk.com

Submitted by Sabina Van Rooy



Pope Francis washes the feet of asylum seekers in 2016.

Source: Time Magazine

A Letter from Prison

With our spiritual focus currently on Lent I would like to invite us all to deeply ponder this reading from a Christmas in prison. The two seasons are closely linked.

A reading from a letter by Father Alfons Maria Wachsmann to his sister, written from Tegel Prison on 23 December 1943.

For me the frame of the festival is clearly defined - the walls of my prison cell. Never have I knelt at the manger in such poverty as I do this year; everything has been taken away - my home, my honour, my life. So I want to kneel at the manger of him who had no place to lay his head, who as a friend of his people was condemned to death, who poured out his blood like a libation, in sacrifice for the salvation of his people and the entire world.

As gifts I bear to the manger hunger and cold, loneliness and forlornness. Shining chains are my only ornament. So, I want to give my life, previously placed in the service of the King of Christmas, to him who saved me with his precious blood. With copious tears of penitence, I want to wash away everything that has turned to guilt and remorse in me. It is in this spirit that I am going to make my pilgrimage to the manger. I hope through grace to celebrate Christmas deep within my heart and mind as I never have before in my life. No gift, no fir tree will emit its fragrance; not even a holy Mass is granted me. But the Infant Jesus in the Eucharist will, as a glorious reality of Christmas, irradiate me with eternal light and fill me with the warmth of compassionate love. I wish you the grace of Christ, so that you may with strength and love drink with me the myrrh that God's love offers us.

Submitted by Pam Connor

The sun reached its zenith

Often in life
we become enmeshed
in our own nets,
caught like fish
in the all-encompassing web
of our business.

So it was for four fishermen:
Simon, Andrew, James and John.
That is, until the sun
reached its zenith,
until the good news
appeared by the Sea of Galilee
in the form of Jesus.

Shane Murtagh



The Fruits of Spiritual Reading

I am presently enjoying the enduring fruits of scriptural study which are emerging in a myriad of profound insights, like precious jewels. Within these contents, encapsulated in my own reflections, lies a profound appreciation that elucidates my wanderings and probes the very foundations I hold dear. Despite these revelations, unanswered questions still outnumber those resolved.

Among the plethora of literary works authored by Michael Fallon, two recent publications stand out:

"Jesus as Portrayed in the New Testament" (2020)

"Jesus' God," slated for imminent release.

Regarding **"Jesus' God,"** Michael graciously entrusted me with a preview of his manuscript, an honour that deeply touched me. It's remarkable to consider our shared history, having attended primary school together in the mid-1940s, albeit in different classes, with Michael always excelling beyond my reach. Both of Michael's works transcend mere reading; they beckon to be absorbed and contemplated deeply.

This brings to mind a profound reflection by Cardinal John Henry Newman: **"To live is to change, and to be perfect is to have changed often."** The term 'perfect,' derived from the Greek 'telios,' denotes a journey towards a defined goal or potential.

Another luminary in the field of scriptural studies and spiritual exploration is Kevin Treston of Brisbane. Despite our shared high school experience in the mid-1950s, the brush of brilliance seemed to have bypassed me entirely.

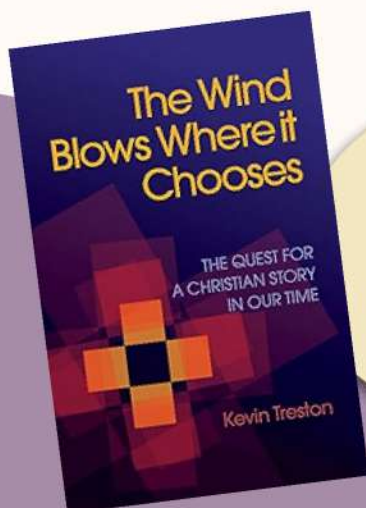
Kevin's recent works include:

"Telling Our Faith Stories" (2022)

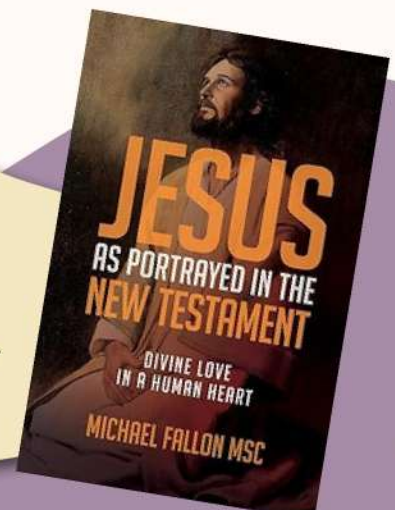
"The Wind Blows Where It Chooses" (2018)

Like Michael's writings, Kevin's books serve as beacons, inspiring and offering a revitalizing perspective on life that transcends conventional narratives.

Submitted by Brian A. Mahony



The Wind Blows Where It Chooses
and
Jesus as Portrayed in the New Testament
are available in the Parish Library for borrowing.



Anointing Mass Lunch

~ 23 February 2024 ~



Jesus came to heal the whole person, body and soul.

MARCH 2024

1	Friday	Meditation - Parish Library 5:15pm
2	Saturday	
3	Sunday	Third Sunday of Lent - Year B
4	Monday	
5	Tuesday	
6	Wednesday	
7	Thursday	Gethsemane - Prayer with the Blessed Sacrament
8	Friday	Meditation - Parish Library 5:15pm
9	Saturday	
10	Sunday	Fourth Sunday of Lent - Year B
11	Monday	Public Holiday - Canberra Day
12	Tuesday	
13	Wednesday	
14	Thursday	Gethsemane - Prayer with the Blessed Sacrament
15	Friday	200th Anniversary of Jules Chevalier msc birth - See page 5 Meditation - Parish Library 5:15pm
16	Saturday	Time and Talent Commitment Weekend
17	Sunday	5th Sunday of Lent Community Connection - 4:00 - 5:30pm Parish Centre
18	Monday	Sacrament of Confirmation Formation for Parents Pins & Needles - Parish Library 7:15pm
19	Tuesday	
20	Wednesday	
21	Thursday	Gethsemane - Prayer with the Blessed Sacrament
22	Friday	Meditation - Parish Library 5:15pm Men's Group Parish Centre 6:00pm
23	Saturday	
24	Sunday	Passion Sunday of the Lord Presentation masses for Confirmation
25	Monday	Chrism Mass - St Christopher's Cathedral
26	Tuesday	Women's Breakfast - Bean Origin Cafe
27	Wednesday	Friendship Group 9:30am mass
28	Thursday	Holy Thursday
29	Friday	Good Friday
30	Saturday	Holy Saturday
31	Sunday	Easter Sunday - Christ is Risen Alleluia! Alleluia!!

Easter 2024

St John the Apostle
Catholic Community Kippax
25 Blackham St HOLT ACT
 Ph 6254 3236
kippax@cg.org.au
www.stjohnkippax.org.au

Holy Thursday 28 March
Mass of the Last Supper
7:00pm

Good Friday: 29 March
10:00am Stations of the Cross
3pm The Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday: 30 March
No confessions Saturday
7:00pm Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday: 31 March
Mass of the Resurrection
8:30am, 10:00am
NO 6:00pm Mass Sunday night