



TO BE ON EARTH THE HEART OF GOD

KIT @ KIPPAX



**ST JOHN THE APOSTLE PARISH - KIPPAX ACT
MARCH 2024**

**May the love of the heart of
Jesus be forever blessed,
in time and in eternity for all
the graces that have been
showered upon us.**

**Jules Chevalier, MSC, Founder of the
Missionaries of the Sacred Heart**



KIT @ Kippax

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

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

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

NOT FOR RESALE OR REPRODUCTION

Time for Reflection

Jules Chevalier's Charism of love and kindness

Bishop Cuskelly in his book *Jules Chevalier man with a mission*, describes a charism as "A gift of the Spirit to an individual for the good of others....the individual focus' on some particular aspect of Jesus' life, leading them to follow Jesus and to serve others for his love in a particular way."

We could simply say that a charism is a grace given for others. For Jules this was a life of service through the love generated in the Heart of Jesus.

As a seminarian Jules Chevalier was exposed to devotion to the Sacred Heart. When his professor of theology developed a thesis on the Sacred Heart Jules wrote "with much knowledge and piety....this doctrine went straight to my heart. The more I went into it, the more attractive I found it." This was the spark giving fire to his life, transforming it and giving it unity and purpose. This spark built on Jules previous spiritual experiences transforming what was already there.

The lens through which Jules viewed the Gospels began to change. He was learning that God's nature is love. It was now that "the kindness and love of God our saviour for humankind were revealed to him. He already knew Christ the adorer of the Father; now he met the Christ who had compassion on the crowds; the Christ who is capable of feeling our weaknesses with us. The Christ, who loved with a human heart.

Jules Chevalier had discovered his charism: *A mission of love; manifesting the kindness of God*. This mission is carried out in the work of service, and by the way of serving; in love and kindness.

The first response to our vision of Christ in his love will be a love given to him in return and a sharing in his love for others. This way of serving in love and kindness spoke to the essence of Jules who had a deep concern for the "ills of his day", and a concern for humanity, and society's indifference to Christ.

During a retreat before his ordination Jules had a conversion experience where he realised that in order to do good he had to act in the most attractive and authentic way, the way of kindness accompanied by a holy joy and pleasant conversation.

The charism of the founder of any religious community is this charism as it is lived now. It does not exist in the air.....it is you and me, our community, who at this moment share and live the charism. And so it is us who continue this mission of love through acts of love and kindness.

Jules Chevalier lived his Charism of Kindness for nearly sixty years.

Taken from: Jules Chevalier msc: a man with a mission, by E J Cuskelly msc.

EDITOR'S NOTE

As you delve into this edition of KIT, we find ourselves in the liturgical season of Easter. Our celebration of the Easter Triduum was filled with the Holy Spirit. We thank the Liturgy Team Frs. Tru, and Chung, and all the people who played a role in making this a graced filled celebration.

This month's front cover photo was skilfully captured by Fr. Chung during the Canberra Festival, where Frs. Tru and Chung immersed themselves in the early morning spectacle of the inflating of the balloons. While the allure of a balloon ride may have tempted some, they kept their feet firmly planted on the ground capturing the moment through the lens of their camera.



Whilst there were our regular monthly events in March, our community commemorated two important ones: the Sacrament of Penance on 14 March which is captured in picture on page 11 and the 200th Anniversary of Jules Chevalier's birth on 15 March, which was celebrated at morning mass and evening prayer which were followed with morning tea and supper respectively.

The young members of our parish who received the Sacrament of Penance will shortly begin their preparations for the Sacrament of the Eucharist, scheduled for the weekend of 1-2 June, on the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ. This transition aligns with our tradition of celebrating the Sacrament of Penance within the penitential season of Lent and Eucharist after at the end of the Easter season. We extend our gratitude to Norma Sloan and Maureen Craddock for providing delightful cupcakes that added joy to our post-sacrament celebration.



This month's reflection draws from a contemplation on Jules Chevalier's charism, shared during the evening prayer on 15 March, offering insights into his enduring legacy.

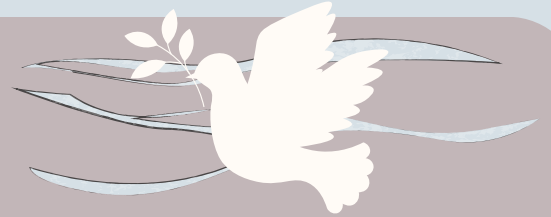
Fr. Tru's mum Lac suffered a stroke on Friday 22 March. After Easter Fr. Tru will spend two weeks at home in Adelaide with his mum. Fr. Chung is currently undertaking a Facilitators Course. Part of the course involves an intensive which is held in Rome. He will leave on 18 April and will be away for 3 weeks.

In preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation, a formative evening for parents was held on 19 March, heralding the commencement of preparation for 35 children from both our parish and primary school. The Vicar General, Fr. Richard Thompson, will confer the sacrament on Thursday 17 May at 5:00 pm. As we embark on this journey, let us unite in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide these young souls, opening their hearts and minds to embrace their roles as followers of Christ and embody the divine love, of being "God's Heart on earth".

Blessings

Marian

Baptisms



It has become a custom at St John's in recent years not to Baptise during the season of Lent. As the whole month of March was Lent there were no Baptisms this month. Whilst there is no Church rule forbidding anyone from being baptized during Lent, generally baptisms run contrary to the narrative of Lent. The Sundays of Lent are really preparing the entire community for the waters of Baptism at Easter because we are walking along with those who are preparing for Baptism for the first time. Lent itself was created in the first place as a final stage of retreat for those who would be baptized at the Easter Vigil.

This Easter we welcome Niki Petrovski who will be Baptised at the Easter Vigil mass and Dana Petrovski who will be Confirmed.

Death Notices

Barbara Gardiner

25 January 1947 - 8 March 2024



Barbara was a vibrant member of our parish and our parish is the better for her having been part of it.

She contributed to many facets of the parish and wider church community. Barbara loved God, her family, and the parish. The parish was her second family where she made many life time friends. She will be deeply missed. She is safe now in God's loving arms.



Carlin Sunday

I was brought up in north east England, just outside Newcastle-on-Tyne. About this time of year, my mother, a good Geordy used to tell us children (she had eight) a rhyme. It went:

Tid Mid Miseray

Carlin, Palm and Paste egg day

Originally this was a memory jogger for the order of Sundays in Lent. The first three names came from the beginning of the Latin readings for the day:

Tid Te Deum

Mid Mi Deus

Miseray Miserere.

Palm was obviously Palm Sunday and paste was a corruption of Pasque the French for Easter, but I have only just found out where Carlin Sunday fitted in, carlins being a northern English name for a variety of small peas, often dried a bit like lentils.

The tradition of eating these peas on the fifth Sunday in Lent, boiled as a vegetable or soup is said to date back to 1644 when Newcastle was besieged by the Scots and food was running out. A French ship, loaded with dry peas foundered at the entry to the Tyne and the peas were "rescued" by the troops in the besieged Newcastle.

Nothing to do with Easter, but a bit of history.

Contributed by Janet Almond

Lentil Soup with Greens

Servings 6

Ingredients

- 1 cup brown lentils, rinsed
- 2 carrots chopped
- 2 celery stalks chopped
- 1 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
- 2 shallots, diced (approx. 1 cup)
- 1 bunch chopped leafy greens such as kale, spinach, or chard
- 1 small tomato diced
- 8 cups broth (vegetable or chicken)
- 1 cup water from sautéed greens pan
- 4 tbsp lemon juice (juice of one lemon)
- salt and pepper to taste

Instructions

1. Heat olive oil over medium heat
2. Add greens, garlic, shallot, tomato and carrots
3. Sprinkle salt on veggies and cook 3 to 4 minutes
4. Add veggies to soup pot with broth and lentils
5. Pour 1 cup water in greens pan and stir
6. Add water to soup pot
7. Bring to a boil
8. Lower heat to medium and cook 30 minutes or until lentils are tender
9. Lower heat to low
10. Add lemon juice and stir
11. Serve and enjoy!



Innocence

This very day I met it
before me on the road;
looking into its eyes I saw
how near I was to God.

Wee Bernie's just a little girl –
just two – but prim and neat;
I met her on an April morn
so innocent, so sweet.

Oh innocence personified!
So near to heavenly bliss!
We grown-ups never dream of you
as happiness like this.

God gave your soul such beauty;
it shines for all to see.
So happy and so innocent
my poor soul yearns to be.

Eamonn Murtagh



Pope Francis has shared a heartfelt prayer intention for the month of March. Let us join in prayer:

**“For the martyrs of our day,
witnesses to Christ.”**

In this prayer, Pope Francis asks us to remember and pray for the new martyrs of our time. These courageous individuals risk their lives for the Gospel, standing firm in their faith even in the face of persecution and danger. Their unwavering commitment to Christ serves as a powerful example for all of us.

She smiles at the magical sight

She's a Sri Lankan Australian,
an eleven-year-old girl
with eyes that shine like sunlight
striking the ocean
and a voice as treble
as a mouse's squeak.
Polite as a princess,
she listens well to instruction,
keen to find her way
through the labyrinth
of written English.

Raising her head over its walls,
she ventures a peak;
there amid the green ink on my page,
she spots my latest correction
and proceeds to reassemble
her assortment of blocks.

Once finished,
she smiles at the magical sight
of a group of words
that interlock.

SHANE MURTAGH



"Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches. To everyone who conquers I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give a white stone, and on the white stone is written a new name that no one knows except the one who receives it."

~ Revelation 2:17



This verse from Revelation encourages believers to listen to the Spirit's guidance, persevere in their faith, and look forward to the spiritual rewards and blessings that God promises to those who remain faithful. It also highlights the profound intimacy and personal nature of the relationship between God and His people, culminating in a new identity and purpose in Christ.

Congratulations



1ST MARCH 2024

THE WEDDING OF JOANNA HOLT
AND MARK SLATER





SACRAMENT OF PENANCE 2024

Kyler A * Archie A * Ivy B * Tess B * Imogen C * Lachlan F * Pia G * Chloe H *
 Martin H * Austin K * Daniel K * Mackenzie K * Daniel K * Austin M * Charlotte
 M * Annika N * Roger Patrzalek * Rubi S * Isabella S * Ellie T * Zoe T * Pham T *



The Lord is kind and
 full of compassion,
 slow to anger,
 abounding in love.
 ~ Psalm 145:8



VESTMENT COLOURS - AN OLD TRADITION, A MODERN SYMBOL

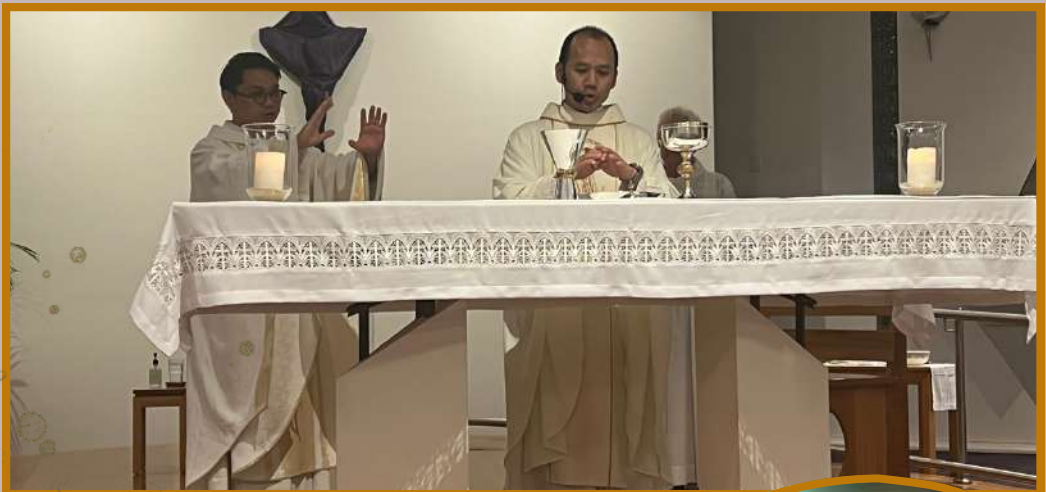
We are all used to the changing colours of the vestments worn at Mass to symbolise the liturgical seasons and recognise the lives of the saints. The colours and their symbols have a long history in the Church. I've noted them often, and when unprepared, asked myself what feast-day we were celebrating when the priest came out in white vestments?

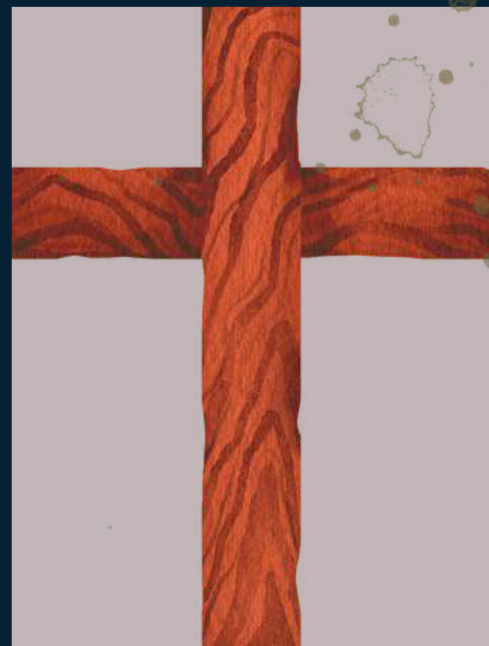
A recent experience caught my breath as I realised how poignant a symbol the colour can be. On the Saturday evening before Palm Sunday, when red vestments are worn at Mass, I watched the Funeral Mass of Fr William Banda SPS at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Tzaneen, South Africa. As the Bishop and chief celebrants processed into the Church, they were wearing red vestments. My mind immediately recalled the story of the Funeral Mass for Benedict Daswa in the same Diocese in 1990. At that time, the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart wore red vestments while celebrating the Funeral Mass. Now recognised by the Church as a martyr, Blessed Daswa was stoned to death by local people for his stand against witchcraft.

The young African priest, Fr William, was shot dead in the back of the Holy Trinity Cathedral when he went to say morning Mass on Wednesday, 13 March. His coffin carried a red stole. At the end of Mass, Bishop Joao Rodrigues explained that he had decided that the vestments should be red, as they had been for Blessed Daswa. He said that the priests decided to use red vestments for Benedict Daswa "to respect that he had shed his blood for Christ". In a similar way, Fr Banda had shed his blood in this house of prayer, the Cathedral where they now prayed.

Contributed by Elizabeth McDonald

Holy Thursday





Good Friday








Easter Vigil.



APRIL 2024



1	Monday	Easter Monday – Public Holiday
2	Tuesday	
3	Wednesday	
4	Thursday	Gethsemane - Prayer
5	Friday	Meditation @ 5:15pm – Parish Library
6	Saturday	
7	Sunday	2nd Sunday of Easter – Year B 
8	Monday	
9	Tuesday	
10	Wednesday	
11	Thursday	Parish Pastoral Council meeting 7:30pm
12	Friday	Meditation @ 5:15pm – Parish Library
13	Saturday	
14	Sunday	3rd Sunday of Easter – Year B
15	Monday	Pins & Needles 7:15pm – Parish Library
16	Tuesday	
17	Wednesday	
18	Thursday	Liturgy Team meeting 7:30pm
19	Friday	Meditation @ 5:15pm – Parish Library Men's Group – parish Centre – 6:30pm – 8:00pm
20	Saturday	
21	Sunday	4th Sunday of Easter – Year B Community Connections – 4:00 – 5:30pm Parish Centre 
22	Monday	
23	Tuesday	Women's Breakfast – 7:30am Bean Origin Café
24	Wednesday	SJA Friendship group 9:30am mass
25	Thursday	Anzac Day – Public Holiday
26	Friday	Arbor day – Tree planting Anointing after 9:30am mass Meditation @ 5:15pm – Parish Library Film Night 
27	Saturday	
28	Sunday	5th Sunday of Easter – Year B
29	Monday	Sacrament of the Eucharist – formation for parents
30	Tuesday	



KIT needs your articles, reflections, photos,
recipes and creative submissions. Please
email contributions to:
marian@stjohnkippax.org.au

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to KIT over the
last four years. We appreciate it so much!