



TO BE ON EARTH THE HEART OF GOD



Windjana Gorge, Kimberley W.A. 2019. The crocodiles were at the waters edge waiting for the arrival of the bats at sunset.
Elizabeth McDonald.

ST JOHN THE APOSTLE PARISH - KIPPAX ACT
2024

MM

Time for Reflection

I was recently at a retreat day where St Patrick's hymn The Deer's Cry was played. There are two lines in the hymn that go like this: *Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me.* Contemplating those lines, I thought what if the lines were reversed to: Christ in my heart whenever I think of someone, Christ in my mouth whenever I speak of someone.

Reflecting on this slight shift in the phrasing of these words opens up a profound, yet subtle, transformation in our understanding of presence and connection. Traditionally, the lines from The Deer's Cry invoke a prayer for Christ to be seen and felt by others when they think or speak of us—a prayer that Christ's image will shine through us, guiding others to encounter His love.

However, when we change it to say, “Christ in my heart whenever I think of someone, Christ in my mouth whenever I speak of someone,” it centres the responsibility within us. It moves from a passive reception—hoping Christ will be perceived by others in us—to an active commitment to embody Christ's love and compassion in every interaction.

This change challenges us to hold a deeper intention in each thought, word, and action. It encourages us to think of others with the heart of Christ—thinking of them with His compassion, forgiveness, and infinite kindness. It asks us to speak of others with His humility, patience, and love. In this way, our very thoughts and words become a place where Christ is alive, expressing Himself through us to those around us.

This reflection invites us into a deliberate way of being, where Christ is not only reflected through others but is consciously cultivated within us. It speaks to the possibility of embodying a prayerful presence in the world, where each interaction becomes an opportunity to channel the light of Christ. This inner orientation can transform our encounters with others into sacred moments of connection and grace, bringing us closer to living a life that continually blesses and uplifts those around us.



The Deer's Cry

~ St Patrick

*I arise today
Through the strength of heaven;
Light of the sun, Splendour of fire,
Speed of lightning, Swiftmess of the wind,
Depth of the sea, Stability of the earth,
Firmness of the rock.*

*I arise today
Through God's strength to pilot me;
God's might to uphold me, God's wisdom to guide me,
God's eye to look before me, God's ear to hear me,
God's word to speak for me, God's hand to guard me,
God's way to lie before me, God's shield to protect me,
God's hosts to save me, Afar and anear,
Alone or in a multitude.*

*Christ shield me today
Against wounding,
Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me,
Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ on my right, Christ on my left,
Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down,
Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me,
Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me,
Christ in the eye that sees me,
Christ in the ear that hears me.*

*I arise today
Through the mighty strength
Of the Lord of creation.*

EDITOR'S NOTE

We began November with our Parish Assembly on Saturday, 2 November, the Feast of All Souls. Mass was celebrated at 9:30 am, followed by the Assembly, which commenced with morning tea. A total of 64 people attended, participating in either part or the entirety of the gathering. The atmosphere was vibrant, with parishioners contributing enthusiastically to group discussions. You can find more about the Assembly on page 8.

On the weekend of 10–11 November, I joined the MSC Mission Formation Team at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish in Randwick. Together, we facilitated a Heart Spirituality retreat for their parishioners. It was a deeply enriching experience, filled with God's blessings. This month's reflection, inspired by that retreat, is featured in this issue. November is traditionally a time to honour and remember our loved ones who have returned to God. Within our parish, it has become a meaningful tradition to remember parishioners whose funerals were held during the year.



On Saturday, 16 November, we extended this remembrance mass to all parishioners, inviting them to this special Mass to honour their loved ones. The service, which was followed by morning tea, is highlighted on page 7.

On 21 November, we hosted our inaugural seminar on Mental Health. Dr. Gordon Donnir presented a very engaging talk and the twenty-four attendees participated in lively discussions. Gordon's presentation has provided a beginning foundation for establishing a mental health ministry within our parish. I thank Gordon for his presentation and for giving us his time so willingly.



As we move into December, we commence the season of Advent. The theme for the first Sunday of Advent is Hope. Hope is also the theme for the 2025 Jubilee Year. Pope Francis has declared 2025 a Jubilee Year of Hope, which will commence on Christmas Eve 2024 when the Holy Door of the Basilica of Saint Peter in the Vatican will be opened.



As we enter this holy season of waiting and preparation, may your hearts be filled with the light of hope, your lives be graced with peace, and your journey be guided by the love of Emmanuel, God with us.

May this Advent be a time of renewal and joy, as we await the coming of Christ in our hearts, homes, and world.

Blessings
Marian

Baptisms



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

Sebastian Kropp son of Daniel and Elisha

Joseph Markcrow son of Tim and Sarah

Farewell Margaret

Margaret Conlon has been a parishioner with St John the Apostle Kippax from the inception of the church in 1972, a span of 52 years. Father Morrissey was the Parish priest at the time. Originally there was not a physical church building and mass was held in a two-level house, still situated on the corner of Starke Street and Southern Cross Drive.

Margaret's faith was integral part of her life, and she followed the traditions of the church in her day-to-day life. She raised five children in the lessons of the faith, but also accepted their individual journeys when that was present.

Margaret over the years attended many of the celebrations and festivals of the faith. Some years ago she enjoyed the spiritual experience of attending a Cursillo. The Covid era was a difficult time for many as much as it was for Margaret; we all experienced a disconnection from people and relationships. Once restrictions passed it was a time to renew those lost connections, including attending mass again.



Remembrance Mass - 16th November



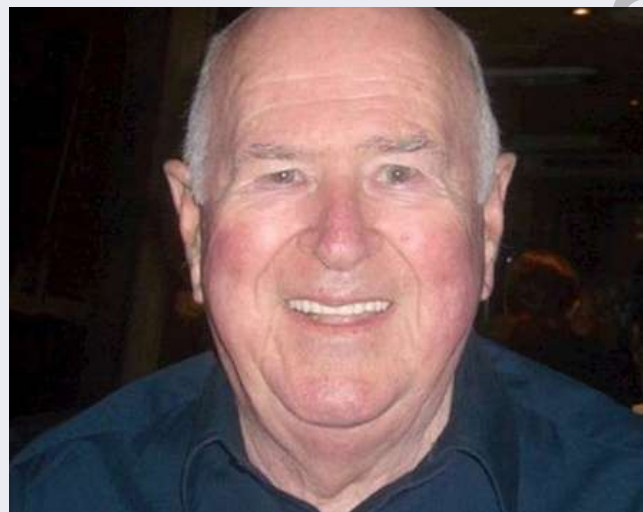
Vince Higgins



Barbara Gardiner



Marion Gerstenberg



Frank Montgomery

*In Loving
Memory*



Eric French

What is a Parish Pastoral Council and what can it do for You?



The workings of St John's PPC is also strongly influenced by the charism of Fr Jules Chevalier, whose vision saw the laity as a distinct and equally important third arm of the Chevalier family, working alongside the various MSC religious communities and priests.

Intro

In case you've ever wondered what your Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) actually does you're not alone. In a recent survey one-third of respondents (33%) said they didn't know much about the activities of their PPC. This is a first of a series of articles for KIT which will explain what the PPC is, it's roles, functions and responsibilities, how to bring issues of concern or innovative ideas you think would be good for the Parish to the attention of the PPC, and the ways it can support the Parishioners it strives to serve.

Simply put, **a PPC is a consultative body made up of a group of local parishioners that the Parish priest seeks advice and guidance from when making decisions about pastoral matters.**

It is important to note that it is not a decision-making or action-oriented body, although sometimes actions might arise from its deliberations. The Parish priest is in charge and makes the final decision on all matters, but usually after a period of joint discernment with the members of the PPC. We are blessed with Fr Tru who has chosen to follow a genuinely collaborative approach when dealing with pastoral matters.

Parish Pastoral Councils rose to prominence following the Second Vatican Council and arose from the desire expressed by Pope John XXIII that priests and laity work together to build the foundations of Parish life. However, there is evidence from Scriptures that leaders of the early Church would consult with selected members of their communities in order to discern what was in the best interests of their faith communities.

Members

As you are aware, there has recently been a call for new members to join St John's PPC and we are truly blessed to now have new members re-invigorate the council. The current lay members are:

Maureen Burgess
Pamela Conner
Carl Maden
Jenny McGee (Chairperson)
Elizabeth McDonald
James Nield
Christian Perera

Ex-officio members include Marian England and representatives of St John the Apostle Primary school (Stephanie Stewart as the Religious Education Coordinator and until the end of 2024 Mathew Garton, Principal of St John's Primary). The group has planned to meet in early February 2025 in order to discern the needs and priorities of the Parish and to discuss the potential direction and focus of our activities for the forthcoming year.

Thanks

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of the PPC for their time and commitment, for Marian, Sharon and Kirsty for all their hard work 'behind the scenes' and to Frs Tru and Chung for their gentle and tender shepherding of us all.

May all Parishioners enjoy the peace and fruits of the spirit over this Christmas season.
Take care,

Jenny McGee (Parish Chair)



Parish Assembly

2nd November 2024

Thank you to everyone who attended the Parish Assembly on Saturday, 2nd November. It was a worthwhile day of sharing, discussion and planning. The group feedback from the day has been collated and the Parish Pastoral Council are working on a response which will be delivered to the Parish in early 2025.



Parish Assembly

2nd November 2024

Reflection on the Parish Assembly

By Brian Mahony

Attending so as to unearth, to reveal
Sensing realities, needs, directions
Surfaced by the attendees' mature wisdom
Experienced during all their personal stages of growth
Mediating the disclosed honesty of each
Bstowing and generating a stillness plus a
Listening that broadens one's outlook
Yielding generative integrity along with workable outcomes.

**"To grow is to change
To be perfect is to have
changed often".**

St. John Henry Newman

The prayer from the final reflection:
Called by a Presence

*Called by a Presence with no name;
called to walk an unknown road;
called to say YES to the Emptiness
and to leave all behind;
called by a Presence with no name.*

Jan Novotka

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M_RlUVFd620



FROM BARBARA TO THE PARISH

Prayer in the community is a gift from God. I have experienced this since my serious car accident some time ago.

As an expression of my gratitude, I asked for Mass to be said on Sunday November 10th at 10am for the members of St John's parish who have prayed for me.

Perhaps this seems a delayed message, but thankfulness stays in my heart as the long recovery remains, with frequent trips to doctors and the hospital. At last now, though, I am able to have more time at home. Thank you, my friends.



Barbara Witrzens

Resilience

Like Sturt's desert pea and the cactus,
we require resilience,
for life can be hard and barren.

In Old Testament times,
Hannah couldn't conceive a child,
leaving her heartbroken.

Meanwhile her husband's other wife
possessed far more fertile soil
from which grew many saplings.

What made Hannah's days even more grey
was the continual storm cloud
of this woman's tauntings.

Nonetheless Hannah never second guessed
what the good Lord could do for her;
kneeling each night, she prayed for grace.

Slowly at first and then surely, a seed
in her womb flowered into Samuel,
a boy who would one day speak in God's place.

Shane Murtagh

LET'S TALK ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH - SOCIAL CONNECTION AND MENTAL HEALTH WHAT DOES GOD SAY?

EXCERPTS FROM THE SEMINAR HELD AT ST JOHN THE APOSTLE KIPPAX ON
21 NOVEMBER 2024

Presenter: Gordon Donnir MD

Senior Lecturer

**Discipline of Psychiatry and Mental Health, Faculty of Medicine and Health UNSW
SIMG/Snr Registrar CHS**

HELP IS AVAILABLE

- Mental Health Line
- Access Mental Health
- Beyond Blue
- Kippax Parish - Parish office, safeguarding officers, priests

MENTAL ILLNESSES

- A disruption of one or more of the components that characterises our "being"
- Disorders of mood/emotions/feelings
- Disorders of perception
- Disorders of thinking
- Disorders of behaviour
- Disturbances of social relations

WHAT IS MENTAL HEALTH?

- That tangible part of man's nature and character -- BEING
- It is our -
- Feelings/emotions/moods
- Perceptions/unique view of both internal and external worlds
- Thinking/cognitions
- Behaviour/expressions
- Relations/social interactions

ILLS AS SOCIAL ISOLATION

- Humans are social beings
- Social isolation can be --
- COVID-19 Pandemic
- Family/Domestic violence - coercive & other forms of control
- Minority groups & cultural isolation
- Vulnerable (special groups)
- Stigmatisation

LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL

"...I am come that they might have life,
and that they might have it more
abundantly."
John 10:10b

**MORE MENTAL
HEALTH MINISTRY
DEVELOPMENTS TO
COME IN 2025!**





Vinnies Christmas Appeal



St Vincent de Paul Society
CANBERRA/GOULBURN
good works

This year's Christmas Appeal focuses on the devastating and unrelenting impacts of the ongoing cost-of-living crisis and the immediate, practical and emotional support the St Vincent de Paul Society can provide to help people get back on their feet.

The following case study reflects the lives of a number of young mum's that have sought help from Vinnies at Kippax over the past year.

Tania's story

Tania has faced more challenges in a few years than most people face in a lifetime. Relationship breakdowns. Mental health diagnoses. Poverty. Through the toughest of days, she has persevered because of a constant source of hope.

"I just look at my kids and that's why I keep going."

Raising a teenage son and younger twin daughters on her own, the continued cost-of-living crisis has had devastating and unrelenting impacts for families like Tania's, who try to stretch their finances further as costs keep going up.

Thankfully, Vinnies has been able to ease the load for Tania with food for her family.

First coming into contact with the St Vincent de Paul Society when she received a notice to vacate her rental property, Vinnies members provided immediate support with food and clothing.



Vinnies also assisted with referrals to support services and covering the costs of essential prescriptions for her twin daughters who live with chronic asthma. The ongoing support culminated in a transformative moment when Tania was offered a place through community housing that she now calls her forever home. Vinnies helped her with essential furniture and whitegoods.



Tania regards the support she has received from Vinnies as a community, "it's not just one person that deals with you, it's everyone coming in to help."

"Vinnies go above and beyond; they've gotten to know me and I'm so grateful."

This community is far-reaching with St Vincent de Paul Society Canberra/ Goulburn members providing over 36,000 instances of support this financial year.

People in Tania's circumstances – sole parents with dependents – made up close to a third of the people seeking assistance.



Vinnies Christmas Appeal



St Vincent de Paul Society
CANBERRA/GOULBURN
good works

The rising cost-of-living remains an ever-present issue for Tania, as she works to manage competing expenses that result in having to make choices that no one should have to weigh up. These choices are heartbreaking and reflect the demand for support at all times of year, but especially at Christmas.

With the support of Vinnies in place, Tania is looking towards the Christmas season with renewed hope. "It's not just a one-day event, it's the lead up to it – I love the anticipation – I know what they're getting, but I'm so excited to see them get it!

"Watching their faces light up while we're making Christmas breakfast, whether it's pancakes or bacon and eggs, and then getting to go and open up presents... they're so excited and watching them playing with them.

"My present is seeing my kids happy and seeing their faces light up."

How you can help

The launch Vinnies 2024 Christmas Appeal at St John the Apostle Parish Kippax coincides with the beginning of Advent on the weekend of 30th November and 1st December.

There are many ways that you give the gift of hope and help make Christmas a joyful celebration for families in our community that are struggling financially and emotionally at this time of the year.

You can help in one or more of the following ways:

- **Donate non-perishable food items for Christmas hampers by taking a Food Gift Card**
- **Buy a gift for a child by taking a gift card from the Christmas tree**
- **Help deliver hampers on Saturday morning 21 December**
- **Make a financial donation - cash or card.**

Food Gift Cards

Five different food gift cards will be available after each Mass on 30 November and 1 December and 7 and 8 December. Each card has four non-perishable food items for you to buy. Feel free to take as many different cards as you like. We will gladly accept other non-perishable food items as well. Donations of food can be left near the Christmas tree in the church foyer or at the Parish Office by Sunday 15 December.





Vinnies Christmas Appeal



St Vincent de Paul Society
CANBERRA/GOULBURN
good works

Hamper delivery

Hampers will be delivered on Saturday morning 21 December between 9 and 11. If you would like to help, please add your name, contact details and preferred delivery time and suburb, to the delivery sign-on sheet. Alternatively, contact Mike Blyth on 0419 818 410 and give him your contact details and delivery time and suburb preferences.

Financial donations

You can help needy families at Christmas by making a financial donation as you leave the Church on Saturday 30 November and Sunday 1 December. Your donations help us to pay for supermarket gift cards which will be included in the hampers so that families can buy perishable items for their Christmas meals. EFTPOS facilities will be available for credit card donations on 30 November and 1 December, 7 and 8 December and 14 and 15 December. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. Receipts can be provided for cash donations. Donations will be gratefully received by Vinnies members after all Masses up until Sunday 15 December.

Gifts of hope and joy

This year we expect to pack and deliver **at least 50 hampers to families and individuals in the suburbs of Holt, Higgins, Latham, Macgregor and Strathnairn**. More than half of these are families with children. We expect to provide gifts to between 70 and 80 children.

We will receive 10 Christmas hampers from Belconnen Rotary for delivery to local families. The Gungahlin Lions Club has donated a box of Lions Christmas cakes which will be distributed among the hampers. We are grateful to the generous support of Rotary and Lions.

We also receive donations of food, gifts and money from the families and staff of St John the Apostle Primary School and St Francis Xavier College. Each year, our local school communities provide generous support to the Vinnies Christmas Appeal, for which we are thankful.

Your generosity brings joy and peace at Christmas for those families in our community that are struggling with cost-of-living pressures on fixed and low incomes. Your gifts provide love and hope to these families, for which they are most grateful. On their behalf, we wish you a joyful and peaceful Christmas.

Contact Mike on 0419 818 410 or other Vinnies members for more information.

Thank you and Merry Christmas





Christmas 2024

CHRISTMAS EVE

Tuesday 24th December

5:00pm

8:00pm

11:00pm

Carols start at 10:30pm

CHRISTMAS DAY

Wednesday 25th December

9:00am

No evening mass

Feast of St John the Apostle

Friday 27th December

9:30am

Mass followed by Morning Tea

Five Days Old (For Christopher John)

Francis Webb

*Christmas is in the air.
You are given into my hands
Out of quietest, loneliest lands.
My trembling is all my prayer.
To blown straw was given
All the fullness of Heaven.*

*The tiny, not the immense,
Will teach our groping eyes.
So the absorbed skies
Bleed stars of innocence.
So cloud-voice in war and trouble
Is at last Christ in the stable.*

*Now wonderingly engrossed
In your fearless delicacies,
I am launched upon sacred seas,
Humbly and utterly lost
In the mystery of creation,
Bells, bells of ocean.*



This is an excerpt from a poem written by Francis Webb for his newborn son.

Webb (1925-1973) grew up in North Sydney with his paternal grandparents, who encouraged his love of music, books and the sea. In 1942, during his final year of secondary school, his writing first appeared in *The Bulletin*. In 1943 he joined the RAAF, completing his training as a wireless air gunner in Canada in late 1944. A keen sportsman, swimmer, hiker and runner, Webb won one-mile races for the Air Force and the University of Sydney. After a sea voyage from Canada to England in 1949, Webb suffered the first of a series of breakdowns that increasingly restricted his life, but not the prodigious poetic gifts he dedicated to our higher humanity.

(From notes by Toby Davidson, a lecturer and Australian poetry researcher at Macquarie University, Sydney).

Submitted by Pam Connor

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention December 2024

FOR PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Let us pray that this Jubilee strengthen us in our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in the midst of our lives, transforming us into pilgrims of Christian hope.



<https://www.popesprayer.va/the-challenges-facing-humanity-and-assists-the-mission-of-the-church/>

God's love

To make a mourner laugh
away life's cares and see
the brighter side of things is

not an easy task – but done,
it turns the world to pink
and, ousting lurking shadows,

creates a blaze of colour
lighting our path to happiness
and the freedom of God's love.

Eamonn Murtagh

A YEAR OF HOPE -

“Above all trust in the slow work of God”.

As the **Jubilee Year of Hope** opens on Christmas Eve 2024, I have been thinking about how to find hope in the world in a time of such confusion and conflict.

For me one of the great figures of hope is **Pierre Teilhard de Chardin S.J.**

I first read some of his writings when I was about 17. His extraordinary vision has stayed with me, though not in any way I can explain. A couple of years ago when I was looking for a prayer for two dying friends, I came across his writings once again. His prayer for ageing and dying captures such depths.

Despite the rejection of his work in the Church during his life, it pervaded some Vatican II documents. Esteemed scientists and theologians are building on his work today. PBS aired a documentary on Teilhard's life this year in May. It is still available on-line (<https://www.pbs.org/video/teilhard-visionary-scientist-pt9dc1/>).

Rev. Michael Curry says in the documentary: “This man has given us a vision of hope, that really is hope, and not pipe dreams. And that is the stuff of prophets, of people who change the world”.

What a vision of hope is found in Teilhard's words: ***“The day will come when, after harnessing the winds, the tides, and gravitation, we shall harness for God the energies of love. And on that day, for the second time in the history of the world, humankind will have discovered fire.”***

Submitted by Elizabeth McDonald

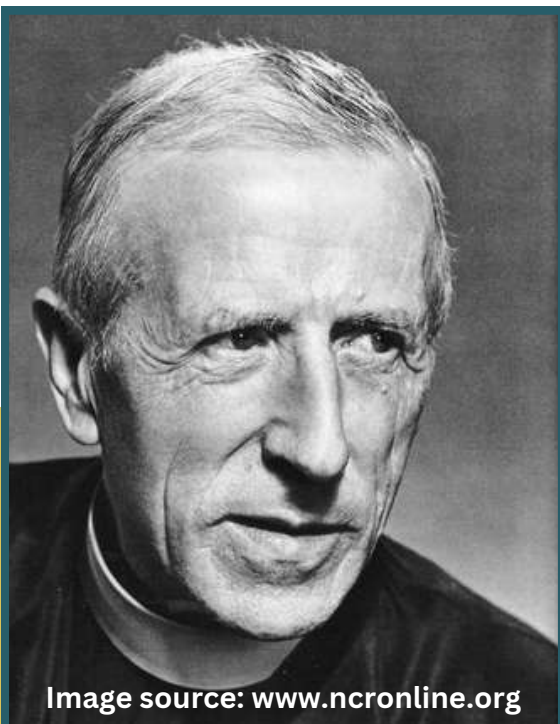


Image source: www.ncronline.org

If you are interested in the writings of Pierre Teilhard de Chardin the following titles are in the Parish Library (with call numbers)

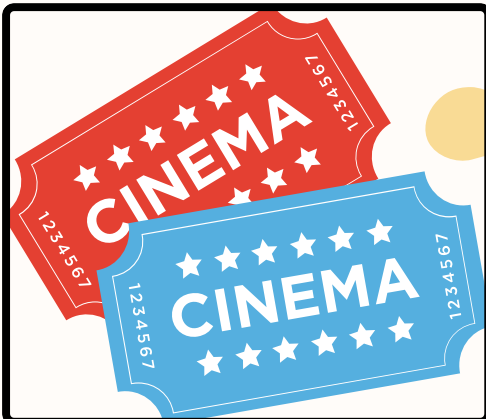
- *Letters from a Traveller* - 231.7 TEI
- *The Phenomenon of Man* - 231.7 TEI
- *Le Milieu Divin* - 248 TEI
- *Dialogue with Teilhard de Chardin* - 230 RAB
- *15 Days of Prayer with Pierre Teilhard de Chardin* - 242.2 DUP

JOIN US AT ST JOHN'S IN 2025!

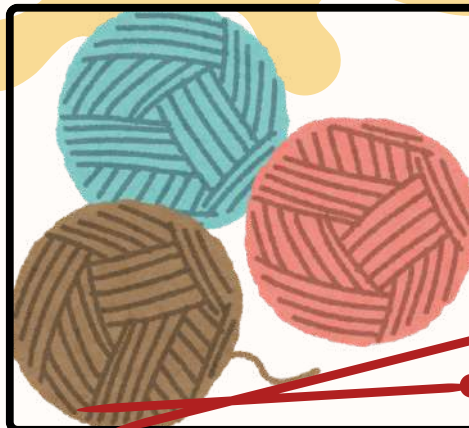


Women's Breakfast
4th Tuesday of the month

Friendship Group
Last Wednesday of the
month



Movie Night
4th Friday of the month



Pins & Needles
3rd Monday of the month



Community Connections
3rd Sunday of the month



Men's Group
3rd Friday of the month

NOTES FROM THE ST JOHN THE APOSTLE KIPPAX & ST THOMAS ACQUINAS CHARNWOOD JOINT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 17 OCTOBER AT ST JOHN THE APOSTLE PARISH.

In attendance from St John the Apostle (Kippax): Fr Tru, Carl Madsen, Marian England, Di Bruce, John Drury, Jenny McGee.

In attendance from St Thoman Aquinas (Charnwood): Fr Gerard, Megan Winter, Michael Carberry, Gerri Bleeser, Felix Bleeser.

Following a reflection and time for prayer the members focused on how the two groups could work together to provide pastoral care to members of both Parish communities whilst still maintaining the independent identities of those two groups. The following areas of potential co-operation were discussed:

1. Youth Group. This is held at Kippax. The group meets on approximately a monthly basis, depending on the availability of the YCS facilitator. It was aimed at High School students, though the apparent lack of involvement from the SFX community was noted. It had always been open to young people from Charnwood should they wish to attend. Charnwood felt that they would need to actively approach parents to encourage their children to come. The possibility of Kippax Youth Group members coming to Charnwood to talk about the group was raised as a potential communication strategy.

2. Children's Liturgy. Charnwood parish hold children's liturgy on a weekly basis and is going well. It had been running at Kippax until COVID but hasn't recommenced. Kippax families with young children who wished their children to take part in a Children's Liturgy program were welcome to take part in Charnwood's program.



3. Other social groups. (eg Men's monthly dinner, women's breakfast etc). Both groups felt it was a good idea to share each other's social activities and opportunities within their own respective Church Bulletins. This way parishioners would have access to a wider range of opportunities to meet each other and could choose which activities they would or wouldn't like to attend.

4. Sacramental Programs. Fr Gerard and Marian have already met to discuss this. The advice was that having two entirely different programs operating at both Parishes was not viable. Children received their First Communion while in Year 3 at Kippax, but in Year 4 at Charnwood. Moreover, the parish-based sacramental program at Kippax differed in the timing and the order in which children received the sacraments from the RE sacramental curriculum being run at their affiliated primary school (which had been developed interstate). While the catholic primary schools in both Parishes ran special retreat days to prepare children for the Sacraments, it was difficult for children attending Government schools to partake in these activities.

Work had commenced on developing a policy for a Parish-based sacramental program that would work for both Parishes – further discussions with School Principals, RE coordinators of both schools and the school of religion coordinators at both Parishes were required.

6. Finances. It was noted that this was an area of concern and some gossip within both Parishes. Both Parishes would have its own Finance Committee and would manage its own finances completely independently. However, members from each Finance Committee might find it useful to communicate with each other from time to time in order to discuss matters and gain fresh insight or ideas.

7. Priest Appointments to both Parishes.

The length of time any MSC priest stays in a Parish is determined by the MSC Provincial. At present Fr Gerard is appointed to his position in Charnwood on a year-to-year basis. It is unclear whether (and possibly unlikely) his stay will be extended beyond the end of next year. Fr Chung has been appointed to Kippax until 2026. Fr Tru has been appointed to Kippax, and as administrator to Charnwood for a total of 6 years. So, it is very likely that there will soon only be two priests between the two Parishes. At the end of Fr Tru's appointment there will be a new Provincial who will then decide what happens. In the interim period, the current 3 MSCs will begin rotating Masses between the two Parishes.

8. Potential joint Lenten program 2025.

Fr Tru was considering holding a joint Lenten program in 2025. More details to come in due course.

9. Joint PPC meetings. There was some discussion of the benefits of the two Parish Pastoral Councils holding group meetings at the beginning and end of each year to identify additional opportunities for working together and review what has been gained / what lessons have been learned in doing so. In the interim period, each PPC would operate independently of each other.

10. Other issues. The benefit of having other Parish Committees (eg Liturgy Committee etc) from each Parish meet and discuss how they could work together was raised. This will be followed up in future meetings. The benefit of various joint social activities designed to help members of both Parishes get to know each other was discussed and will be considered in more detail at the next meeting.

Next meeting to be held on 27th November. Parishioners should be notified ahead of schedule and offered the opportunity to bring any questions or concerns to the notice of any member of the group for further discussion at the combined meeting.

Minutes compiled by Jenny McGee.



ST JOHN THE APOSTLE PARISH SAFEGUARDING COMMITMENT

St John the Apostle Parish is committed to safeguarding and upholding the dignity and rights of all our children and vulnerable people.

We seek to empower children, their families and carers, and vulnerable people, to have a say, to be listened to, and to be protected. This approach is at the centre of all of our thinking and action.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING VOLUNTEERS

The role of the Parish Safeguarding Volunteer is to be an additional point of contact in the Parish on matters relating to the safeguarding of children, young and vulnerable people, complementing the roles of the Parish Priest and Parish Secretary. They can provide advice on how complaints can be made, and forward concerns, relating to the protection safeguarding of children, young and vulnerable people within the Parish to the Institute for Professional Standards and Safeguarding Manager.

Jenny McGee and Carl Madsen – safeguarding.kippax@cg.org.au

We love to celebrate mass with the children and vulnerable people of our parish.

Safeguarding and care is everyone's responsibility.



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

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

DECEMBER 2024



1	Sunday	First Sunday of Advent - Hope
2	Monday	
3	Tuesday	
4	Wednesday	
5	Thursday	Gethsemane – Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament
6	Friday	1st Friday of the Month – Mass of the Sacred Heart Meditation – 5:30pm – Parish Library
7	Saturday	
8	Sunday	Second Sunday of Advent - Peace
9	Monday	
10	Tuesday	Community Connections – Coffee Ichi café Kippax 2:00pm
11	Wednesday	
12	Thursday	Fr. Tru's birthday Adoration in Advent with Reconciliation
13	Friday	Meditation – 5:30pm – Parish Library Men's group – Parish Centre 6:30pm
14	Saturday	
15	Sunday	Third Sunday of Advent – Joy Community Connections – Parish Centre 4:00pm – 5:30pm
16	Monday	Pins & Needles – parish Library 7:15pm SVdP Christmas Hampers – packing Parish Centre
17	Tuesday	Women's breakfast – Bean Origin café 7:30am
18	Wednesday	
19	Thursday	Adoration in Advent
20	Friday	Meditation – 5:30pm – Parish Library - Christmas Carols 7:30pm
21	Saturday	
22	Sunday	Fourth Sunday of Advent – Love Cuppa after mass
23	Monday	
24	Tuesday	Christmas Eve 5:00pm Vigil Family mass 8:00pm Youth mass 11:00pm
25	Wednesday	Christmas Day – Today to us a Saviour is born Mass 9:00am [one mass only]
26	Thursday	Boxing Day
27	Friday	Feast of St John the Apostle – Morning tea after mass Anointing of the sick after 9:30am mass Meditation – 5:30pm – Parish Library
28	Saturday	
29	Sunday	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph - Year C
30	Monday	
31	Tuesday	

