
MAKE CHURCH MATTER

St John the Apostle Parish Kippax is made up geographically from the suburbs of Holt, Higgins, Latham, Macgregor, West Macgregor and a small section of Florey. The total population of this area is over 15 thousand. The catholic population is just under 4 thousand. Attendance at Sunday mass each weekend averages 800 people. This means that there are approximately 3200 people who do not come. They may be de-churched people, who no longer go to church, or unchurched people who never did. Perhaps they are lost trying to find a life outside of a relationship with God. They may not even know where St John the Apostle Church is.

Jesus did not just call the regulars at the local synagogue. He insisted on teaching those who did not know God. All his preaching and teaching, his miracles, his gathering and sending of the disciples, even his cross and resurrection, are part of this basic ministry that is called evangelisation. For Jesus, evangelisation was his commitment to bring good news of God's kingdom to everyone, including some unlikely people – "for the Son of Man came to seek and save what was lost" [Luke 19:10]. For St John the Apostle Parish that may mean reaching the 3200 who do not come. It is the responsibility of each parishioner to reach out to the lost. What would attract lost people to come to St John's?

Resources used: Rebuilt, by Fr. Michael White and Tom Corcoran & Parish Social Profile by ACBC. Statistics based on 2011 Aus Census.