

# COMPACT



## St John the Apostle Parish

*A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish*

**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**

**YEAR C**

**23 March 2025**

**#17.25**

### How will we respond?

Today's Gospel passage from Luke invites us to wrestle with a question as old as human suffering: Why do bad things happen to good people?

The question implies that God is punishing good people. Often when there is a tragedy we hear someone ask, 'How could God let this happen?' The very question suggests a belief in a God who interferes in our lives and manipulates events. Jesus suggests that tragic events are not punishment from God, but the accidental, deliberate or natural event does provide a reminder to turn our lives around and live lives that matter.

The people who approached Jesus were troubled by the brutal execution of Galileans by Pilate and a tragic accident where a tower collapsed, killing eighteen people. They wanted answers—was this suffering a punishment for sin? Had these victims done something to deserve their fate?

Jesus' response is striking. He does not explain away suffering or offer easy answers. Instead, He rejects the idea that these people were worse sinners than anyone else. Their suffering was not divine retribution. Rather than dwelling on why tragedies happen, Jesus shifts the focus: What will you do with the time you have?

The parable of the barren fig tree follows, reinforcing His point. The tree is given another chance, not because of what it has done, but because of the patience and mercy of the gardener. It is not about earning God's favour or avoiding divine punishment. It is about responding to God's invitation to bear fruit—to live with purpose, love, and repentance.

Bad things do happen, often without reason. But Jesus calls us to see in these moments an opportunity for conversion, for renewed commitment to lives that reflect God's love and justice. The call is urgent, but God's mercy is great. The question is not Why does God allow this? but How will we respond?

Like the fig tree, we are given time. What will we do with it?

Based on: *Living the Gospel – Bad Things/Good People*, by Greg Sunter

**“Be on earth the Heart of God”**

## Parish Administration

Parish Priest

Fr. Tru Nguyen msc

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Assistant Priest

Fr. Chung Tran msc

Email: [chung@stjohnkippax.org.au](mailto:chung@stjohnkippax.org.au)

Pastoral Associate/Parish Manager  
Marian England

Email: [marian@stjohnkippax.org.au](mailto:marian@stjohnkippax.org.au)

Parish Secretary Sharon Greaves

Email: [kippax@cg.org.au](mailto:kippax@cg.org.au)

Finance Officer Kirsty Vera

Email: [kirsty@stjohnkippax.org.au](mailto:kirsty@stjohnkippax.org.au)

### Parish Office:

25 Blackham Street HOLT ACT

Office Hours: Mon-Fri

9.00am-3.00pm

Telephone: 6254 3236

Email: [kippax@cg.org.au](mailto:kippax@cg.org.au)

Web: [www.stjohnkippax.org.au](http://www.stjohnkippax.org.au)

### MASS TIMES

Vigil Saturday 5:00pm

Sunday 8:30am, 10:00am, 6:00pm

Monday and Friday 9:30am

Liturgy of the Word with Communion:

Tues 9:30am

### St Thomas Aquinas Charnwood Mass

Wednesday and Thursday 9:30am

### Ministry

Sacristan: Maryanne Ferguson

[Kippax@cg.org.au](mailto:kippax@cg.org.au)

### Pastoral Council Chair

James Nield

Email: [ppc.kippax@cg.org.au](mailto:ppc.kippax@cg.org.au)

### Safeguarding Officers:

Carl Madsen and Jenny McGee

[safeguarding.kippax@cg.org.au](mailto:safeguarding.kippax@cg.org.au)

### ST JOHN THE APOSTLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal: Jo Reed

Pawsey Circuit Florey

Phone: 6258 3592

Email: [office.sjaps@cg.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office.sjaps@cg.catholic.edu.au)

[www.sjaps.act.edu.au](http://www.sjaps.act.edu.au)



**St John the Apostle Parish Kippax**

*is committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and people at risk in our community*

## QUARTERLY APPEAL

There will be a leaving collection on the weekend of 29/30 March. To assist the quarterly:

- insurance
- levy
- winter electricity expenses.

Donations can be made in cash or EFT

St John the Apostle Parish

BSB: 062 786

Account: 0001 3630

Reference: Your Name

*We thank you and appreciate your support*

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### VINNIES BLUE TUBS

Many thanks to all those wonderful parishioners who really make a difference by purchasing 'One more thing' when doing their weekly shopping and putting it in the Vinnies' blue tubs in the front foyer. Your kindness means a lot to the people we serve. Perhaps during Lent some others might like to try a very practical way of almsgiving and helping the less fortunate in our local community. We are in special need of pasta and pasta sauces (available at ALDI for around \$1 each), rice, canned goods, breakfast cereals & other non-perishable goods. Thank You.

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**Community morning tea** will be held on Sunday March 30 after 10:00am mass in the Church Foyer. All welcome.

Please bring a plate to share. If you want to help please contact Jenny McGee via the parish office.



*Relax, Review, Reflect*  
*"Imitation Game*  
*Friday 28 March at 7:00pm*  
*in the parish library.*

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**St Thomas More Forum**  
**Interacting with the Global Church**  
**at the Synod**

Wednesday 26 March 2025

7.30PM - 9PM

St Thomas More Catholic Church  
Keynote Speaker: Dr Trudy Dantis

Register Now: <https://bit.ly/stmf-260325>

## SJA & STA

### STEERING COMMITTEE

There will be an announcement at the end of each Mass this weekend from members of the SJA & STA Steering Committee with regards to the future of the two parishes.

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### PARISH OFFICE HAPPENINGS

The parish office will be closed from Tuesday 25 – Friday 28 March as the staff attend a Retreat

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**Rosemary and Arie deBear**  
**have moved**

The Pines, 272 Beasley Street FARRAR  
*Visitors Welcome*

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### ADORATION DURING LENT

**Thursdays 27 March and 3 & 10 April**

Contemplative Prayer with the Blessed Sacrament  
7:30pm – 8:30pm

Come for 15 or 30 minutes – whatever time you can spare – there is no requirement to stay for the whole hour

### Lent Reconciliation

The 1<sup>st</sup> Rite of reconciliation  
will be available during Adoration  
7:30 – 8:30pm  
Thursday 3 April

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### RECONCILIATION DURING LENT

Fr. Chung will be available on Mondays and Friday during Lent after morning Mass

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**St John's Friendship Group**  
**Morning Tea**

next meeting on  
**Wednesday 26 March**  
**10:00am** - parish centre.

Please come and join us, you are all most welcome. Please bring a plate to share.  
Contact: Barbara Mawson in you have any quesitons on 6254 7989

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### WOMEN'S BREAKFAST



**TUESDAY 25 MARCH – 7:30AM**

**BEAN ORIGIN CAFÉ**

**NETTLEFOLD STREET BELCONNEN**

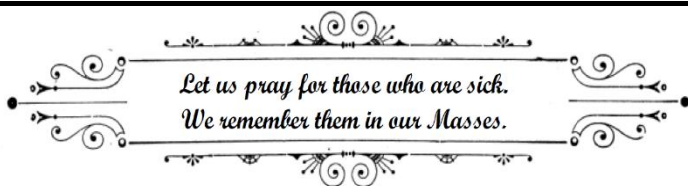
# Heart Spirituality

## Mary, Mother of us all

One of the first duties of a mother is to provide for all the needs of her children, to nourish, maintain and develop the life she has given them. Since Mary has given us birth in the spiritual life, she also has to provide the means needed to maintain and develop it in us. Since it is through her that we have Redemption it is also through her that we shall make its fruits our own. She has given us Jesus Christ and with him the Church and the and the Sacraments., and so we are indebted to her for all these treasures that make us holy. But the Fathers of the Church go much further and make bold to assert that it is at the prayer of the Virgin that Jesus causes to well up the springs of grace of which the miracle of Cana is but a figure.

Jules Chevalier msc  
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart p. 168.

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be everywhere loved.....forever!



### Recently Deceased:

### Anniversary:

Marijan Cavlovic, Generoso D'Ambrosio, Brian Weston, Jack Ranson, Judith Davidson, Michael Lowe, Veronica Brennan, Ludvik Koren, James Broderick, Ella Greig, Clement King, Alexander Van Audenaerde, Andrew McEvoy, Stanislaw Bitner, Victoria Huntley, Moira Leader, Mark Markham Jennifer Adamik, John O'Brien, Jack Lenihan, Catherine Wheelaghan, Bill Corby, Sybil Lazaro, Robyn Klatt, Francesca Fernando, Kay Haworth, Katherine Jones, John Henshaw, Helena McGee, Harold Allester, Una Luff, Joseph Pisciotta

# Pilgrims of Hope

## Return to the Heart

Taking the heart seriously, has consequences for society as a whole. The Second Vatican Council teaches that, "every one of us needs a change of heart; we must set our gaze on the whole world and look to those tasks we can all perform together in order to bring about the betterment of our race". For the imbalances affecting the world today are in fact a symptom of a deeper imbalance rooted in the human heart". In pondering the tragedies afflicting our world, the Council urges us to return to the heart. It explains that human beings "by their interior life, transcend the entire material universe: they experience this deep interiority when they enter into their own heart, where God, who probes the heart, awaits them, and where they decide their own destiny in the sight of God".

Pope Francis, *Dilexit Nos: He Loved Us*, #29  
*On the Human and Divine love of the Heart of Jesus Christ*

## Mass Intentions the week of 24 - 30 March

Mon 24/03	Augustino Wijetunga
Wed 26/03	Margaret Goyne
Thur 27/03	
Fri 28/03	
<b>Sat 29/03</b>	
5:00pm	John O'Brien
<b>Sun 30/03</b>	
8:30am	Dominic and Maria Pham
10:00am	The O'Brien Family
6:00pm	Special Intentions

To ensure that a mass time is available please telephone the parish office to make a booking.

## THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD TUESDAY 25 MARCH

Mass will be celebrated at 9:30am at  
St John the Apostle Parish Kippax

## SACRAMENTAL LIFE

Baptisms	1st & 2nd Sun during Mass
Reconciliation	Sat 4:00pm – 4:30pm
Sacramental Program	Contact Parish Office
School of Religion (Parish Centre)	Sunday 9.15am during school term

## PRAYER LIFE

Meditation	Friday 5:15-6.30 pm
Rosary	Monday – Friday 9:05am
Eucharistic Adoration	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of the Month 7:30pm – 8:30pm
Adult Choir	Wednesday 7:30pm

## SOCIAL LIFE

SJAFriendship Group	<i>Last Wednesday of the Month 10:15am shared morning tea</i>
Pins & Needles	<i>3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the Month 7:15pm Parish Library</i>
Women's Breakfast	<i>4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the Month 7:30am Bean Origin Belconnen</i>
Men's Group	<i>3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the Month 6:00pm Parish Centre</i>
Movie Night	<i>4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the Month 7:00pm Parish Library</i>
Community Connections	<i>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Month 3:30pm – 5:00pm Parish Centre</i>

### **RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:**

The Lord is kind and merciful.

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

Glory to you, Word of God,  
Lord Jesus Christ!  
Repent, says the Lord;  
the kingdom of heaven is at hand.  
Glory to you, Word of God,  
Lord Jesus Christ!

### **Readings 30 March 2025**

First Reading	Joshua 5:9-12
Psalm	Ps 33:2-7
Second Reading	2 Cor 5:17-21
Gospel	Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

### **Bequest: Have you ever thought of leaving a Bequest to your parish?**

By remembering your faith community in your Will, you contribute to the spiritual legacy that has enriched your life. Your bequest ensures the continuation of the traditions, teachings, and support that have shaped your journey.

## ROSTERS

### 30 March **Acolyte Roster**

5:00pm	Anthony & Chitra Jayawardena
8:30am	Sigrid Korpp, Peter Polkinghorne
10:00am	Maxime Kpudzeka
6:00pm	Sabina Van Rooy, Nunga Umaru

### 30 March **Lector Roster**

5:00pm	Joe Ots, Therese Kercher
8:30am	Shane Murtagh, Carmel Screen
10:00am	Colleen Reed, Frank Colley
6:00pm	Margaret Luck, Marian Crowley

### 30 March **Ministers of Communion**

5:00pm	Helen Kennedy, Joe Catanzariti
8:30am	Maria Scarr, Theresia Suh
10:00am	Francesca Deklin, Robin Williams
6:00pm	Priscilla Momi, Bernadette Murnane

### 30 March **Hospitality Roster**

5:00pm	Helen Murphy
8:30am	Agnes Pham
10:00am	Manel Seneviratna, Judy Kenny
6:00pm	

### 30 March **SJAShop**

5:00pm	
8:30am	
10:00am	
6:00pm	

### Weekly Rosters

Altar Society	23 Mar	Margaret Stanford
Church Cleaning:	24 March	

### On a Lighter note

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"I need something to make me feel better.  
Can you prescribe a Porsche?"