

# OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART PARISH, WEST BELCONNEN

St John the Apostle Church Kippax St Thomas Aquinas Church Charnwood

To be on Earth the Heart of God



## PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD YEAR A

29 March 2026

#13.26

### Gospel Reflection

The Passion narrative, as described in the gospel of Matthew, is keen to drive home two particular points. Firstly, throughout this gospel, the gospel writer is at pains to demonstrate Jesus as fulfilling the prophecy of scripture. At the time of the arrest and the use of the thirty pieces of silver, we are reminded that these things took place to fulfil scripture. Secondly, this particular gospel emphasises the innocence of Jesus throughout the passion narrative: he is 'sold out' by one of his followers; his trial before the Sanhedrin is a farce; his most loyal follower denies association with him; Pilate declares himself innocent of Jesus' blood and the crowd accepts the consequences of their actions. At no point is any hint of guilt cast over Jesus. He is an innocent whose fate has been manipulated by others. In this gospel there is no conversation between Jesus and the criminals between whom he is crucified. There is no suggestion that Jesus too is a criminal who is deserving of his fate. His innocence is manifest.

These two themes merge together in this gospel. The manner of Jesus' arrest, trial and death are all in accordance with the prophecy of scripture (i.e. in accordance with God's will), and yet it is emphasised throughout that Jesus is innocent. There can be no accusation that Jesus is in any way deserving of his treatment and yet what befalls him is in keeping with God's plan. It emphasises the sacrificial act made by Jesus: a proven innocent giving his life for the good of others. The actions of those who plot against Jesus to seek his downfall actually serve to bring about his purpose. No other outcome was possible. The writer assures the audience that the death of Jesus was no accident; it was intended from the very beginning.

Gospel Reflection by Greg Sunter

### Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish West Belconnen

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

#### Parish Administration

##### Parish Priest

Fr. Tru Nguyen msc

[TruDuc.Nguyen@cg.org.au](mailto:TruDuc.Nguyen@cg.org.au)

Br. Daniel Magadia msc

[daniel.magadia@cg.org.au](mailto:daniel.magadia@cg.org.au)

##### Parish Officers

Sharon Greaves

Kirsty Vera

[Belconnenwest@cg.org.au](mailto:Belconnenwest@cg.org.au)

##### St John the Apostle Primary School

Florey ACT- 62583592

Principal - Jo Reed

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

##### Parish Office

25 Blackham Street

HOLT ACT

##### Office Hours

9:00am - 3:00pm

Monday

Wednesday - Friday

##### Website

[olsh.org.au](http://olsh.org.au)

##### Safeguarding Officers

Carl Madsen

Marg Hourigan

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

##### St Thomas Aquinas Primay School

Charnwood ACT - 6258 4077

Principal - Matthew Garton

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

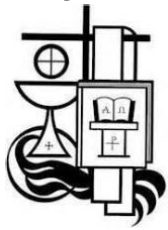
##### Pastoral Council Chair

James Nield

6254 3236

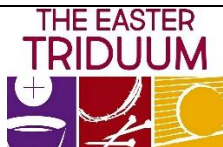
We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

## Prayer for Our RCIA Candidates



As a parish community, we continue to pray for our **RCIA candidates**, especially as we are drawing closer to Easter.

May they grow in openness to God's grace and deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ and his Church. We also pray that the Holy Spirit continues to guide and strengthen them in every step of their faith journey.



### Holy Thursday

2 April 2026 - 7:00pm

St John the Apostle Catholic Church

### Altar of Repose

Evening Prayer will conclude at 9:30pm

### Good Friday

3 April 2026 - 10:00am

Stations of the Cross

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church

### The Passion of the Lord

St John the Apostle Catholic Church

3:00pm

### Easter Vigil

4 April 2026 – 7:00pm

St John the Apostle Catholic Church

**There will be no evening Mass at St Thomas Aquinas Charnwood**

### Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

5 April 2026

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church

9:00am

St John the Apostle Catholic Church

8:30am and 10:00am

**There will be no evening Mass**

### PARISH OFFICE CLOSURES

The parish office will be closed Friday 3 April and reopen on Wednesday 8 April

**We Welcome** Fr. Partha Paniyadimai msc and Fr. Jim Monaghan to our parish this weekend.

### BLESSING OF ALL OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART PARISH VOLUNTEERS

Mass of the Lord's Supper

Thursday April at 7:00pm,

St John the Apostle Church

All parishioners who have volunteered for the 2026-2027 roster period are invited to attend this special liturgy, during which Fr. Tru will thank and bless you all.

### THE EASTER TRIDUUM – PARKING

#### ST John the Apostle Church

Due to the increased number of people attending The Triduum and Easter Sunday Masses, we ask for your patience, and consideration when parking.

Allow plenty of time before the service to get a car park, consider carpooling and be aware of the carpark spaces at the far end of the church.

We are also seeking volunteers to help in the carpark as the driveway across the front doors of the church will be blocked off. If you are able to volunteer for this on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil please contact the parish office.

Drop off closest to the front door for those with needs will be allocated to the foyer side driveway of the church

### COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

#### *Connecting with people living alone*

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month Coffee Group

14 April – 2:00pm Ichi Café at Kippax

### SCHOOLS ENROLLING NOW 2027

#### St John the Apostle School Florey

Early Learning Centre

Years Kinder – 6

6258 3592 [www.sjaps.act.ed.au](http://www.sjaps.act.ed.au)

#### St Thomas Aquinas School Charnwood

Early Learning Centre

Years Kinder – 6

6258 4077 <https://staquinas.act.edu.au/>

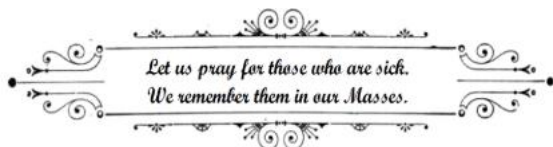
## **ALPHA – series of conversations**

Do you have questions about life and meaning? West Belconnen Parish is hosting a series of conversations called Alpha, beginning Wednesday the 13th of May for 8 weeks. Come to share some food, watch a video and discuss together. We will meet at St John the Apostle Church from 6 - 7:30pm. Register here: [bit.ly/olsh-alpha](http://bit.ly/olsh-alpha)

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## **St Clare's College Enrolling for 2027: Discover St Clare's and see her thrive.**

**Open Evening (April 29) and Step Into St Clare's Day (April 28 and May 14).** We are also pleased to announce that **Year 7 and 8 Scholarship applications** for the 2027 intake are now officially open. Visit the website for information and registration. [stcc.act.edu.au](http://stcc.act.edu.au)



## **Recently Deceased:** Andrija Martinovic

**Anniversary:** Helen McGee, Harold Allester, Una Luff, Joseph Pisciotta, Jordan Matthews, Vivienne Montgomery, John Napier, Caitlin Brice, Alyssa Brice, Betty Kerekes, Janelle Brice, Beryl Daly, Angela Hillis, Wilhelm Chlap, Leonard Smith, Trevor Agnew, Elena Guindas, Kenneth Marlor, Jim Curran, Noel Smith, Denis Hally-Burton, Leo Wyche, Leon Fernando, Kees Van Rooy, Marnie Dunn, Daniel Cassar, Leslie Thomson, Paul Rogers, Edward Yewdall, Ian Stephenson, Wanda Parkitny, Joan Aikins, John Margetts, Adrian Krook, Keith Aikins, Bryan Cowman, Patrick Ward, Mary Murphy, Frank Tighe, Sharon Hannah, Mihaly Baruta, Augusta Colquhoun, Sharron Diamond, Johanne Elliott, Veroncia Hughes, Mel Rowbotham, Jim Fallon msc, Alan Hodge, Leslie Savage, Joan Sculthorpe, Julio Vinales, Otto Trenka, Leonard Franks, Drago Polak, Barbara Normann, Delilah Wilson, Hermon Sanders, David Holt

## **PROJECT COMPASSION**

Please return your Project Compassion boxes and envelopes to the Mass of the Lord's Supper, Thursday 2 April at 7:00pm at St John the Apostle Catholic Church.

If you are unable to attend, please return them to the parish office during office hours of Monday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday 9:00am – 3:00pm

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## **Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land**

There will be a leaving collection for the Good Friday Appeal. There will be red buckets in the foyer of the church for your donations.

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## **Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish YCS Youth Group**

### **Students in Years 7 -12**

Sunday - 26 April 2026

After 6pm Mass, from 7pm – 9pm

St John the Apostle Parish Centre

Join us for food, games and fun, as we talk about social justice and what we can do to help our community.

We are looking for open-minded teens to join us and expand our group.

For more information contact the parish office on 6254 3236 or

[belconnenwest@cg.org.au](mailto:belconnenwest@cg.org.au)

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## **POSITION VACANT**

### **Parish Administrative Support Assistant**

People are invited to apply for the position of Parish Administrative Support Assistant. This is a full-time permanent position supporting parishes across the Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn with the inputting of financial data and reporting requirements.

For a copy of the Duty Statement email [leanne.boyd@cg.org.au](mailto:leanne.boyd@cg.org.au) Applications addressing the above criteria along with a current CV may be sent to Leanne Boyd, Parish Support Manager [leanne.boyd@cg.org.au](mailto:leanne.boyd@cg.org.au) by CoB Friday 17 April 2026.

**St John the Apostle Church Kippax**  
**25 Blackham Street, HOLT**  
**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

**Rosary before Mass**  
 Weekdays in both parishes at 9:05am

**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
Gethsemane Eucharistic Adoration	Thursday before First Friday Mass 7:30pm – 8:30pm
Sacred Heart Devotion Mass	First Friday of the Month 9:30am

**ROSTERS**

**5 April Acolyte Roster**

5:00pm	EASTER VIGIL
8:30am	Lourdes Asoy, Victoria Gonzales
10:00am	Maxime Kpudzeka, Vy Pham
6:00pm	NO MASS

**5 April Lector Roster**

5:00pm	EASTER VIGIL
8:30am	Carmel Screen, Darren Maharaj
10:00am	Frank Colley, Gabriel Sequeira
6:00pm	NO MASS

**5 April Ministers of Communion**

5:00pm	EASTER VIGIL
8:30am	Maureen Burgess, Angela Boreham
10:00am	Anthony Noakes, Shovin Weerawarnakula
6:00pm	NO MASS

**5 April Hospitality Roster**

5:00pm	EASTER VIGIL
8:30am	Carmel Screen, Rob Breen
10:00am	Libby Kain
6:00pm	NO MASS

**5 April SJAShop**

5:00pm	EASTER VIGIL
8:30am	
10:00am	
6:00pm	NO MASS

**Weekly Rosters**

Altar Society	5 April	Maryanne Ferguson
Church Cleaning:	30 March	Parish Office
Grounds	11 April	Carl Madsen, Bede Foundling

**Readings 5 April 2026**

First Reading Acts 10:34, 37-43  
 Psalm Ps 117:1-2, 16-17, 22-23  
 Second Reading Col 3:1-4  
 Gospel John 20:1-9

**St Thomas Aquinas Church Charnwood**  
**23 Lhotsky Street, CHARNWOOD**  
**MASS TIMES**

Vigil Saturday 6:00pm  
 Sunday 9:00am  
 Wednesday and Thursday 9:30am  
 Liturgy of the Word with Communion:  
 Tues 9:30am

**Rosary before Mass**  
 Weekdays in both parishes at 9:05am

**SACRAMENTAL LIFE**

Baptisms	2nd Sun during Mass
Reconciliation	Sat 5:00pm – 5:30pm
Sacramental Program	Contact Parish Office

**PRAYER LIFE**

Eucharistic Adoration	Thursday Weekly 5:30pm – 6:30pm
Men's Scripture Discussion	Wednesday after 9:30am Mass
Open Scripture Discussion	Thursday after 9:30am Mass
Latte with Our Lady. Rosary outside the Charcoal Chicken	First Saturday of the month 10:15am

**ROSTERS**

**5 April Acolyte Roster**

6:00pm	EASTER VIGIL AT ST JOHN THE APOSTLE
9:00am	Peter Osborne

**5 April Lector Roster**

6:00pm	EASTER VIGIL AT ST JOHN THE APOSTLE
9:00am	Leo Walsh

**5 April Ministers of Communion**

6:00pm	EASTER VIGIL AT ST JOHN THE APOSTLE
9:00am	Terry Johnson, Trish Blacker

**5 April Music Ministry / Slides**

6:00pm	EASTER VIGIL AT ST JOHN THE APOSTLE
9:00am	Recorded / Joshua Osborne-Goldsbrough

**RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:**

My God, my God,  
 why have you abandoned me?

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,  
 king of endless glory!  
 Christ became obedient for us  
 even to death dying on the cross.  
 Therefore God raised him on high  
 and gave him a name  
 above all other names.  
 Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,  
 king of endless glory!