

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



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
12 April 2026

YEAR A
#15.26

Gospel Reflection

Because the focus of this week's gospel passage is usually placed on poor old doubting Thomas, we sometimes overlook the way the passage begins. The disciples are huddled in a room, 'for fear of the Jews'. Just a couple of weeks earlier they had been on top of the world. Jesus was enormously popular with the people, and the disciples, by association, were caught up in that affection. Their man, the one they had chosen to follow, was making waves and stirring the authorities – thumbing his nose at the rules. This, of course, made the disciples feel good to be around Jesus. However, in the space of just a few short days, their world had turned upside down. They'd gone from riding the crest of a wave to being utterly dumped! They were cowering in a closed up room, afraid for their lives in case those who handed Jesus over for death came for them as well. They'd already had an experience of the resurrected Jesus yet they were still hiding and afraid. Into this fear and uncertainty steps Jesus who says, 'Peace be with you'. It is a reminder of Jesus calming the storm out on the lake – in the midst of turmoil and anxiety he brings peace and calm.

Thomas has received a pretty bad rap for the last 2000 years, forever labelled as 'Doubting Thomas' because he wasn't prepared to take someone else's word for the fact that Jesus had risen. However, despite his demand for evidence, once Jesus is before him, he abandons all his thoughts about placing his fingers in the wounds and proclaims, 'My Lord and my God!' This is an absolutely extraordinary statement of faith. For the very first time, someone recognises Jesus, not as Messiah, prophet or Lord, but as God.

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	Parish Officers Br. Daniel Magadia msc daniel.magadia@cg.org.au	Parish Officers Sharon Greaves Kirsty Vera Belconnenwest@cg.org.au	St John the Apostle Primary School Florey ACT- 62583592 Principal - Jo Reed 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	St Thomas Aquinas Primay School Charnwood ACT - 6258 4077 Principal - Matthew Garton www.staquinas.act.edu.au
Pastoral Council Chair James Nield	6254 3236	Safeguarding Officers Carl Madsen Marg Hourigan belconnenwest.safeguarding@cg.org.au	

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.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURES

The parish office will be closed
Monday 27 April - ANZAC Day

FAREWELL TO SR. COLLEEN

You are invited to a morning tea after 9am Mass on Sunday 26th April, to farewell Sr Colleen after 40 years connected with St Thomas Aquinas Parish Charnwood.



National ANZAC Day Mass,
St Christopher's Cathedral,
Manuka, ACT. Parishioners
are requested to be at the

Cathedral by 7.45am for 8.00am Mass

SCHOOLS ENROLLING NOW 2027

St John the Apostle School Florey

Early Learning Centre

Years Kinder – 6

6258 3592 www.sjaps.act.ed.au

St Thomas Aquinas School Charnwood

Early Learning Centre

Years Kinder – 6

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

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

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

We Welcome

Fr. Vince Carroll msc who will be in our parish for four weeks and will be celebrating weekend masses.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Connecting with people living alone

2nd Tuesday of the month Coffee Group
14 April – 2:00pm Ichi Café at Kippax

MOVIE NIGHT

7:00pm – 17 April

St John the Apostle Catholic Church
Parish Library

We are watching

“The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie”

Pins & Needles

7:15pm – 20 April

St John the Apostle Catholic Church
Parish Library

Community Connections

Connecting with people living alone

Monthly Gathering

19 April 3:30pm - 5:00pm

St John the Apostle Catholic Church
Parish Library

MENS GROUP

6:00pm Friday 24 April Parish Centre
beer, wine, soft drink, snack food and pizza

Women's Breakfast

Tuesday 28 April – 7:30am

Bean Origin Café

Nettlefold Street Belconnen



Friendship Group Morning Tea

next meeting on **Wednesday 29 April**

10:15am – SJA parish centre

Please come and join us, you are all most welcome. Please bring a plate to share.

Archival display as part of the **2026 ACT**

Heritage Festival, the Archdiocesan

Archive is hosting an exhibition of items relating to our Cathedral. In Haydon Hall, for 1 week commencing Sunday 12 April 12.30.

Open week of 13th-17th April 12-2PM.

St Christopher's Cathedral

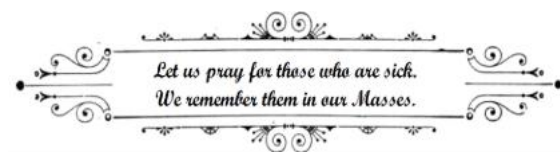
**St Clare's College Enrolling for 2027:
Discover St Clare's and see her thrive.**

**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

Supported Independent Living - Watson

Our Supported Independent Living home in
Watson currently has a vacancy to share
with two mature-aged women. The home is
conveniently located close to public
transport, local shops, parklands and is
only a short drive to the Dickson Shopping
Centre. Contact our CHOICES and Aged
Care team on 6163 7647 Or email Richard
Turner on richard.turner@mccg.org.au



**Recently Deceased: Lesly Gorbach,
Jenny Fisher,
Julie Abbey [mother of Megan Smith**

Anniversary:

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, Leslie Barry,
Daryl Smeaton, Mary Moran, Daniel Dewar,
Claudio Orifice, Sheldon Doyle,
Yolanda Melikian, Brenda Hudson,
John Bizjak, Basil Adkins, Ricaredo Jabagat,
Michael Fallon msc, Monique Adamik,
Hannah Kennett

**VACANCIES AT SUPPORTED
INDEPENDENT HOMES**

At Marymead CatholicCare, there are
currently vacancies in two of our residential
Supported Independent Living homes within
the NDIS CHOICES Program, supporting
and empowering people with disabilities,
including: a modern home in Kambah for
supported independent living, sharing with
two friendly, mature individuals; and
Dorothy Sales Cottages in Hughes
specifically designed for individuals with
acquired brain injury. Contact our CHOICES
and Aged Care number at 6163 7647.

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 Applications
addressing the above criteria along with a
current CV may be sent to Leanne Boyd,
Parish Support Manager
leanne.boyd@cg.org.au by CoB Friday
17 April 2026.

**The CANBERRA BACH ENSEMBLE –
presents the** Easter Oratorio and 'Heaven
laughs, Earth exults', for choir, orchestra,
and soloists, directed by Andrew Koll.
Joyous and festive Bach works celebrating
the Resurrection of Jesus, on Saturday 18
April at 7.30pm, and Sunday 19 April at
2.00pm at St Christopher's Cathedral,
Franklin Street, Manuka. For more info and
to purchase tickets, please visit
www.canberrabachensemble.com

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	Contact Parish Office
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

19 April Acolyte Roster

5:00pm	Helen Kennedy, John Drury
8:30am	Maria Scarr, Bede Foundling
10:00am	Anthony Noakes, Bede Foundling
6:00pm	Luan Nguyen

19 April Lector Roster

5:00pm	Joe Catanzariti, Margaret Luck
8:30am	Jordan Forka, John O'Heir
10:00am	Libby Kain, Kate Lawrence
6:00pm	Busi Nkomo, Karna O'Dea

19 April Ministers of Communion

5:00pm	Anthony Jayawardena, Marie McKie
8:30am	Theresia Suh, Sigrid Kropp
10:00am	Sugi Mohanadas, John Blackwell
6:00pm	Charlotte D'Cruze, Lionel D'Cruze

19 April Hospitality Roster

5:00pm	Carol Moore, Barbara Mawson
8:30am	
10:00am	James and Jessica Nguyen, Pav Perera
6:00pm	

19 April SJAShop

5:00pm	
8:30am	Sabina Van Rooy
10:00am	
6:00pm	

Weekly Rosters

Altar Society	12 April	Pat Gilchrist
Church Cleaning:	13 April	Christine Lacaster, Pam Connor, Shovin Weerawarnakula
Grounds	18 April	David Momi

Readings 19 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

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SACRAMENTAL LIFE

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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

19 April Acolyte Roster

6:00pm	Gavin Howard
9:00am	Margie Hourigan

19 April Lector Roster

6:00pm	Brian Daly, Irene Daly
9:00am	Megan Winter, Jancye Winter

19 April Ministers of Communion

6:00pm	Fran Handoko, Cathy Howard
9:00am	Leo Walsh, Helene Axelby

19 April Music Ministry / Slides

6:00pm	Recorded, Janette O'Sullivan
9:00am	Recorded, Peter Jean

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
 his love is everlasting.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
 You believe in me, Thomas,
 because you have seen me;
 happy those who have not seen me,
 but still believe!
 Alleluia!