

# 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*



## THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

17 May 2026

YEAR A

#20.26

### Change of Weekend Mass

Since the beginning of this year, there has been only one priest responsible for six weekend Masses across our two churches, St John the Apostle Kippax and St Thomas Aquinas Charnwood. To maintain the current schedule, we have relied on visiting priests from other dioceses and from the local area. While we are grateful for their assistance, this arrangement is not sustainable in the long term.

The Parish Pastoral Council, Parish Liturgy Committee and Parish Finance Council members are currently being consulted to consider draft timetable from 6 masses on the weekend to 4 masses across two churches.

We are identifying key priorities and concerns, and advise on how any changes can best support the pastoral, liturgical, and financial life of the parish.

It is hoped that any changes will take effect from the first weekend of July (4-5 July 2026).

Please keep this process in your prayers as we seek the best way forward for our parish community.

Fr Tru Nguyen msc

#### 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.

## PARISH OFFICE HAPPENINGS

Fr. Tru and Br. Daniel will be attending the Archdiocesan Clergy Assembly in May. There will be a Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion on Wednesday 20 and Thursday 21 May.

We Welcome Br. Hoa Tran msc to our Parish. Br. Hoa has been appointed as Transitional Deacon to prepare for full time chaplaincy at Daramalan College in 2027.

## PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

On Wednesday 20 and Thursday 21 May the parish office will be closed. This period of time will allow input of important data into our new parish system. Emails will be monitored.

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION

Our candidates (and their families) this week are exploring the Liturgy of the Eucharist (We Give Thanks). We read of the Last Supper in scripture, when Jesus instituted the Eucharist. We read in these accounts: "Do this in remembrance of me". The Eucharist is more than a mere recall; it is a re-enactment. Just as Jesus changed bread and wine into the Body and Blood, the Church believes that he empowered the disciples to do the same.



Let us continue to pray for our candidates and their families during this time of learning.

## 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.



## MAY HEADCOUNT CONDUCTED BY THE NATIONAL CENTRE FOR PASTORAL RESEARCH

During the month of May, we have been conducting a headcount at all of our masses. **This Weekend** all who are attending Mass are required to complete a survey form obtaining information on age and gender of our parishioners. Each person attending Mass are to complete this form [we ask parents/carers to complete forms for their children] and return to the box in the foyer.

## Celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Saturday 30 May 2026.

The Feast of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart this year is the first time we will celebrate this special day for our parish.



It is also an important feast day for the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart. To mark this special occasion, there will be an opportunity to learn more about Our Lady of the Sacred Heart on the Friday evening before the feast day, and to come together to celebrate the Eucharist on the Saturday.

Join us at St John's Parish Centre, Kippax, on Friday evening 29 May at 6.30 pm. After a short liturgy, Sr Dain Inglis, a Daughter of Our Lady of the Sacred, will give a 30-minute presentation, "Our Lady of the Sacred Heart – to know her is to love her". You are invited to stay for a cuppa/ coffee following the presentation.

On Saturday 30 May at 10.00 am we will celebrate Mass for the Feast of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart at St Thomas Aquinas, Charnwood. We hope as many as possible will stay for an early lunch as part of our parish celebration.

**The Novena to Our Lady of the Sacred Heart will start on Thursday 22 May 2026 at 9:20am.** This Novena will be prayed every morning and will conclude on Saturday 30 May for our Feast Day celebrations.

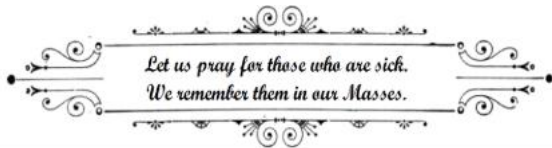
## Spirituality of the Heart:

If you are interested in deepening your understanding of Spirituality of the Heart, the Chevalier family invites you to join a series of Zoom presentations. Sr. Merle Salazar, a Daughter of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, is presenting Four Movements of the Heart over a series of four Saturdays beginning on 16 May. The time for Australia is 3.30-4.30 pm. More information along with the Zoom links, Meeting IDs and Passcode is on the brochure that can be found on the <https://olsh.org.au/prayer-life/>

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## Community Connections

For People Living Alone  
Monthly Gathering  
17 May 3:30pm - 5:00pm  
St John the Apostle Catholic Church  
Parish Library



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## Recently Deceased: Carolyn Holloway, Dragica Jagodic

### Anniversary:

Edna Hamilton, Robert Donovan, Elena D'Ambrosio, Hemult Wanda, Bryan McGurgan, Marie Millucci, Emma Caskie, Denis Hogan, Nora Tighe, Robert Egan, Daphne Parnell, Ella Dimitres, Sandra Miniotas, Anne Ots, Michael Wilson, Neil McFarlane, John Loadsman, Bernard Gibson, Caleb Shaw, Peter Clubb, Gloria Flemming, Tom Stewart, Edward McGregor, Michael Logan, Magdalen Pistor, Diane Philip, Aldo Giurgola, Ada Tendli, Malcolm Digby, James Ohlin, June McCall, Hermine Raeuscher, Brian Boylan, David Pinner, Christopher Boyldew, Stan Niemiec, Gloria Harris, James Maher, Virginia Agostinis, Peter Fogarty, Suzana Katavic, Giuseppe Miceli, Thomas Flynn, Sofie Aver, Adena Hugo, Agnes Fisher, Mary Harrison, Ruby Molloy

## We Welcome

Fr. Michael Stephan msc and Fr. Stephen Hackett msc to our parish this weekend.

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## Vinnies membership

Over the past four months there has been a significant increase in requests for assistance from Vinnies' Kippax Conference. While members have been coping with the increased demand, they would gratefully welcome new members to help share the load. If you would like more information about Vinnies Conference work, contact Mike Blyth 0419818410. Thank you.

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## The Mary French Library Dedication and naming of the OLSH parish library

Friday 29 May 2026 after the 9:30am Mass  
Following the dedication and naming of the library there will be morning tea in the church foyer

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## Pins & Needles

7:15pm – Monday 18 May  
St John the Apostle Catholic Church  
Parish Library

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## Women's Breakfast



Tuesday 26 May – 7:30am  
Bean Origin Café  
Nettlefold Street Belconnen

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## Friendship Group Morning Tea

next meeting on **Wednesday 27 May**  
**10:15am – SJA parish centre**

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

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## Cenacle: Institute for Synodal Evangelisation Formation Forum, Who Am I? Who does God say I am? How can understanding my identity help me live with purpose and hope?

The evening will feature interviews and personal stories exploring our identity in Christ, the gifts we are called to share, and the dignity we each hold.

Date: Friday, 22 May 2026 5 - 7 pm

Place: Veritas Building, Australian Catholic University

Cost is free but registration is required:

[bit.ly/institute-forum-1](https://bit.ly/institute-forum-1)

Livestream will be available, with the link provided upon registration. For more information: [institute@cg.org.au](mailto:institute@cg.org.au).

**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**

**24 May Acolyte Roster**

5:00pm	Di Bruce, Murray Bruce
8:30am	Sigrid Kropp, Lourdes Asoy
10:00am	Anthony Noakes, Dennis Puniard
6:00pm	Sabina Van Rooy, Carl Madsen

**24 May Lector Roster**

5:00pm	Elaine Laycock, James Nield
8:30am	Shane Murtagh, Victoria Gonzales
10:00am	Edgar Nnajide, Kerry Yard
6:00pm	Meg Millband, Peter Igoe-Taylor

**24 May Ministers of Communion**

5:00pm	John Drury, Laurine Smeaton
8:30am	Darren Maharaj, Karen Bower
10:00am	Boni Benedictos, Rosa Benedictos
6:00pm	Priscilla Momi, Marian Crolwey

**24 May Hospitality Roster**

5:00pm	Joan Galpin, Marie McKie
8:30am	Joan Beswick, Pamela Blackwell
10:00am	John Blackwell and Family
6:00pm	Francesca Deklin

**24 May SJAShop**

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

**Weekly Rosters**

Altar Society	17 May	Angela Boreham
Church Cleaning:	18 May	
Grounds	23 May	John Blackwell and Family

**Readings**

**24 May 2026**  
 First Reading Acts 2:1-11  
 Psalm Ps 103:1, 24, 29-321, 34  
 Second Reading 1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13  
 Gospel John 20:19-23

**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	1st Sun during Mass
Reconciliation	Contact Parish Office
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**

**24 May Acolyte Roster**

6:00pm	Stephen Kiley
9:00am	Maria Walker

**24 May Lector Roster**

6:00pm	Lian Kiley
9:00am	Terry Johnson, Eden Ybas

**24 May Ministers of Communion**

6:00pm	Lian Kiley, Geoff Barker
9:00am	Trish Blacker, Michael Carberry

**24 May Music Ministry / Slides**

6:00pm	Double J, PC Lim
9:00am	Recorded, Skye McPadden

**RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:**

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:  
 a blare of trumpets for the Lord

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
 Go and teach all people my gospel.  
 I am with you always,  
 until the end of the world.  
 Alleluia!