

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

TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
18 October 2026

YEAR A
#42.26



Gospel Reflection

The gospel writer presents this episode as a deliberate attempt by the Pharisees to trap Jesus and turn the people against him. Their plan was a good one, with no apparent 'safe' answer: is it permissible (within Jewish tradition) to pay taxes to Caesar or not? If Jesus were to answer that it is not permissible to pay taxes then he would be identified as a rebel and a threat to Roman authority – leaving himself open to severe punishment. If he were to answer that it was permissible to pay the taxes he would have alienated a lot of his audience who resented the taxes imposed by Rome.

Instead of falling into the trap set by the Pharisees, Jesus approaches the question in a completely different way. He asks them to show him the money with which they pay the tax. Immediately, he has turned the tables on them. He doesn't appear to carry any of the coin in question and yet the Pharisees' disciples carry them as a matter of habit. They are asking if it is permissible to pay the tax and yet freely carry the coin with which the tax is paid. Jesus shows up the hypocrisy of their question by forcing them to reveal their own position in the simple action of producing one of the Roman coins. Jesus then closes the dispute by instructing them to render (give) to Caesar what belongs to Caesar but, more importantly, render to God what belongs to God. In a very simple way Jesus has shown up the Pharisees' disciples as being collaborators with the Roman authority and placing that authority above the authority of God. He reminds the listeners that regardless of earthly authority, the first duty is owed to 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

Assistant Priest

Fr. Thanh Le msc

Parish Staff

Br. Daniel Magadia msc

daniel.magadia@cg.org.au

Br. Hoa Tran msc

quochoa.tran@cg.org.au

Sharon Greaves

Ana Sofia Brunicardi

Belconnenwest@cg.org.au

Parish Office

25 Blackham Street

HOLT ACT

6254 3236

Office Hours

9:00am - 3:00pm

Monday

Wednesday - Friday

Website

olsh.org.au

St John the Apostle Primary School Safeguarding Officers

Florey ACT- 62583592

Acting Principal - Andrew Casey

www.sjaps.act.edu.au

Carl Madsen

Marg Hourigan

belconnenwest.safeguarding@cg.org.au

St Thomas Aquinas Primay School Pastoral Council Chair

Charnwood ACT - 6258 4077

Principal - Matthew Garton

www.staquinas.act.edu.au

James Nield

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.

Week Three: Final summary from OLSH Parish Assembly and responses.

Promote a United and Missionary Parish: greet at the beginning of Mass; pray together; recognise parishioners and acknowledge them outside; participate in surveys; share experiences; ensure new parishioners are welcomed in practical ways; take the initiative to get involved; hold conversations with people; Alpha; outreach, such as, St Vincent de Paul & tiny homes project; become a Synodal Church; keep addressing the ongoing conundrum of how to keep parishioners informed about what we are doing and how they can engage and contribute.

Challenge: two parishes into one – make it work - while being part of the wider community, sensitive to the call to reach out to those in need.

Free Public Forum

Marist College Canberra in partnership with Concerned Catholics Canberra Goulburn

7.30pm Wed 18 November, Marr St, Pearce ACT

Exploring the Horizons of a Pope Leo Church

Fr Tony Banks OSA (Augustinian Provincial, Australasia, knows Pope Leo well)

Dr Anne Benjamin (Co-author of *Leadership after the Synod*) will explore directions of Leo's pontificate, that will build the church for the next generation.

What skills, strategies and attributes will be needed by both ordained and non-ordained, in a church where leadership, decision-making and accountability are shared?

Pins & Needles

7:15pm – Monday 19 October
St John the Apostle Catholic Church
Parish Library

MOVIE NIGHT

Friday 23 October - 7:00pm
St John the Apostle Parish Library
We are watching: "Churchill"

Anointing of the Sick within Mass

11:00am – Friday 30 October, followed by a light lunch in the foyer.

Community Connections

Connecting with people living alone
Monthly Gathering
18 October 3:30pm - 3:00pm
St John the Apostle Catholic Church
Parish Library

Book Club

3:00pm – Sunday 25 October
St John the Apostle Parish Library
We are reading: *The Dry*
by Jane Harper

WOMENS BREAKFAST

Tuesday 27 October ~ 7:30am
Neutral Grounds Café
Nettfold Street Belconnen

Is Your Child Interested in Becoming Catholic? The RCIC is for you!

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Children (RCIC) is a program tailored for children ages 9–12 who have not yet been baptised, or who were baptised in another Christian tradition. Through engaging age-appropriate sessions, we support the children on their faith journeys as they prepare to receive the Sacraments of Initiation. For inquiries, please contact the parish office or Br Daniel Magadia MSC (daniel.magadia@cg.org.au).



Women in Leadership – Are We in a Change of Era?

All welcome! The 2026 Archdiocesan Women's Taskforce Annual event is

Friday 30 October 2026

Commencing 6.00 pm

Canberra Southern Cross Club Woden

Guest speaker, Ms Philomena ('Phil') Billington, an experienced educator, leader, and facilitator will share her
To register for this event please go to
<https://events.humanitix.com/2026-annual-dinner>.

More information contact 0405 440 463.



In Loving memory

Recently Deceased: Monika Bugar,
Josephine Antioch

Anniversary:

Malcolm Waterton, Edward Van Audenaerde, Jeffrey Ashauer, Hernando Paz, Peter Naughton, Justin Fisher, Eric French, George Heath, Matthew Nelson, Ferdor Sonnenberg, Angelo Bajramia, Chee Keng Loh, Janet Druett, Donald Cocks, Sebastian Licciarrello, Bruce Davis, Patricia Hall, Cheryl Tramantini, Ursula Gormely, Constance Goodall, Richard Koch, Carmel Johnston, Jeffries Dallinger, Johannes Blengst, Michael McKenzie-McHarg, Robert Imber, Ross Webber, Lorrel Newton, Marion Boland, Barry Parsons, Maryann Marsh, Anselma Carey, Patricia Harman, Dorothy Sutton, William Lilley, Patrick Menzies, Anne Jones, Helen Gorrell, Nicholas Moore, Frank Montgomery, Martin Moloney, Malcolm Lovelock, Francis Fulton, Peter Geraghty, Alejandra Bai, Jack McMahan, Kerry Hogden, Angelo Fallace, Christopher McIntyre, Elsie Screen, Silva Santos

Journey with St Paul – Türkiye & Greece (16 Sept – 5/8 Oct 2027)

**Led by Dr Rosemary Canavan and
Fr Chris McPhee MSC.**

Encounter Paul's world by standing in the very places where the Gospel first took root. Visit Cappadocia, Iconium, Perge, Antioch, Colossae, Ephesus, Pergamon, Philippi, Thessaloniki, Athens, Corinth and more. Celebrate Eucharist on-site, explore museums and archaeological wonders, walk sections of the Via Egnatia, and let Scripture come alive in the landscapes where it was first heard. A fully escorted 19- or 22-day study-tour with excellent local guides, daily breakfast and dinner, domestic flights, and comfortable accommodation. A journey of learning, prayer, and culture.

Information Session: Sunday 8

November 2026 at 2pm (online).

Register with Dr Rosemary Canavan:

rosemary.canavan@ctc.edu.au

or (03) 9412 3312



Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish
West Belconnen
"To be on Earth the Heart of God"

Family Game Day



Join us for an afternoon of fun, laughter, and fellowship

Activities • Board Games
• Card Games

When? • Every last Saturday of the month
• First event: **31st Oct**
• 2:00 PM — 4:30 PM

BYO Games, Snacks and Softdrinks

St John the Apostle Parish Centre | 25 Blackham St Holt

For inquiries, contact the parish office
or email Br Daniel daniel.magadia@cg.org.au

OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART PARISH
St John the Apostle Church
25 Blackham Street, HOLT 2615

St Thomas Aquinas Church
23 Lhotsky Street, CHARNWOOD 2615

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Vigil Saturday	SJA Holt	5:00pm
Sunday	STA Charnwood	8:30am
Sunday	SJA Holt	10:00am
Sunday	SJA Holt	6:00pm

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Rosary before Mass

Weekdays in both churches at 9:05am

Liturgy of the Word with Communion:

In both churches Tues 9:30am

St John the Apostle Church

Monday and Friday 9:30am

St Thomas Aquinas Church

Wednesday and Thursday 9:30am

ROSTERS

25 October

Acolyte Roster

5:00pm	Di Bruce, Murray Bruce
8:30am	Maria Walker, Sigrid Kropp
10:00am	Anthony Noakes, Dennis Punaird
6:00pm	Sabina Van Rooy, Nunga Umaru

25 October

Lector Roster

5:00pm	Elaine Laycock, James Nield
8:30am	Tanya Patel, Terry Johnson
10:00am	Edgar Nnajide, Belen Lamond
6:00pm	Pam Connor, Margaret Luck

25 October

Ministers of Communion

5:00pm	Darren Maharaj, Laurine Smeaton
8:30am	Kathleen Beattie, Leo Walsh
10:00am	Boni Bendictos, Rosa Benedictos, Carmel Screen
6:00pm	Marian Crowley, Priscilla Momi

25 October

Hospitality Roster

5:00pm	Joan Galpin, Marie McKie
8:30am	
10:00am	Carmel Screen, Rob Breen
6:00pm	Jessica and Kelly Candy

Weekly Rosters

Altar Society	18 Oct	Mary Cruickshank
Church Cleaning: SJA	19 Oct	Carol Blyth, Dushyanthi Upasena, Nishan Upasena
Grounds SJA	24 Oct	Max Kpudeka

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

Baptisms	Contact Parish Office
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 SJA Library
Eucharistic Adoration	Thursday Weekly 5:30pm – 6:30pm STA Church
Gethsemane Eucharistic Adoration	Thursday before First Friday Mass 7:30pm – 8:30pm SJA Church
Sacred Heart Devotion Mass	First Friday of the Month 9:30am SJA Church
Men's Scripture Discussion	Wednesday after 9:30am Mass STA Parish Centre
Open Scripture Discussion	Thursday after 9:30am Mass STA Parish Centre
Latte with Our Lady	First Saturday of the month 10:15am Rosary outside the Charcoal Chicken

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

Give the Lord glory and honour.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.

Alleluia!

Readings

First Reading
Psalm
Second Reading
Gospel

25 October 2026

Exodus 22:20-26
Ps 17:2-4, 47, 51
1 Thess 1:5-10
Matthew 22:34-40