

Reflection

The gospel of Matthew is keen to cast Jesus in the role of the 'new Moses'. Moses was revered in Jewish history not only as the one who led the people out of Egypt, but even more importantly as the one who received the Ten Commandments from God. The first five books of the Bible, known to Jews as the Torah, or the Law, were accredited to Moses for a very long time. So Moses was seen as the one who received the Commandments from God and who also wrote down the Law of the people, the Torah. He was the Law-Giver for the Jewish people. When the gospel of Matthew portrays Jesus as the new Moses it emphasises the way in which Jesus sought to bring the Law of Moses to fulfilment and bring about a new understanding and appreciation of both the Law and God. Jesus introduced a new way of perceiving God; as a God of compassion and mercy, rather than the jealous, vengeful God that is often expressed in the Old Testament.

The Sermon on the Mount that begins with the Beatitudes comes out of this historical context. Jesus is trying to present a new interpretation of the right way to be in relationship with God; one that is not dominated by rules and regulations. The text is so familiar to us today that it is almost bland. However, at the time it must have been incredibly confronting. The attitudes and states of being that Jesus blesses were not the characteristics that were valued in the society of his time. Poverty, gentleness and mourning were not considered strong, desirable qualities. So, the picture Jesus paints of how to be in right relationship with God and others was confronting the standards and expectations of the time.

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	Assistant Priest	Parish Officers	St John the Apostle Primary School
Fr. Tru Nguyen msc		Sharon Greaves	Florey ACT- 62583592
TruDuc.Nguyen@cg.org.au		Kirsty Vera	Principal - Jo Reed

Parish Office	Office Hours	Website	St Thomas Aquinas Primary School
25 Blackham Street HOLT ACT	9:00am - 3:00pm Monday Wednesday - Friday	olsh.org.au	Charnwood ACT - 6258 4077 Principal - Matthew Garton www.staquinas.act.edu.au

Safeguarding Officers	Pastoral Council Chair
Jenny McGee	
Carl Madsen	
Marg Hourigan	James Nield

OLSH PARISH MINISTRY DAY

All volunteers in parish ministries are invited to the OLSH Parish formation day Sunday 1 February St John the Apostle Parish Centre 2:00pm – 5:30pm Facilitated by Fr. Chris McPhee msc

OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART PARISH - Key Register

As part of our administrative requirements for the new parish, we require an updated Key Register for both Mass Centres. Any parishioner who has a key to access either Church, parish centre or parish office are required to contact the parish office for updated registration.

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish 2026 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM Registration is now open via the QKR APP:

Discover: St John the Apostle Catholic Parish Sacramental Programs
Contact the parish office if you have any questions: belconnenwest@cg.org.au

Penance Formation Session for parents
17 February 2026

OLSH Choir

In preparation for the Easter ceremonies, we are looking for choir members who would be available to sing. Please contact the parish office at:

belconnenwest@cg.org.au

PARISH LADIES LUNCH

will be held on TUESDAY 17 FEBRUARY 12 noon at Southern Cross Club Jamison. Text or email Pauline HallyBurton or Gerri Bleeser by no later than SUNDAY 15 FEB if you are able to attend.

Pauline HallyBurton - 0429 064 168,

paulinehb@bigpond.com

Gerri Bleeser - 0418407565,

gbleeser@gmail.com

Bookings essential

Lenten Retreat:

Meeting Christ in Our Deepest Need

You are invited to a 3-session Lenten retreat, *Meeting Christ in Our Deepest Need: A Lenten Journey*, facilitated by Greg Sunter. Greg is an experienced facilitator with a strong background in small-group ministry. Holding Master's degrees in Theology and Education, he helps people engage deeply with Scripture, grow in prayer, and connect faith with daily life. He is well known for his parish newsletter gospel reflections, which explain Scripture in its historical and cultural context and relate it to contemporary lived experience. More about Greg:

<https://www.wholehearted.com.au/about/>

Greg will reflect on this year's Lenten Gospels and there are time for personal reflection and optional sharing. Everyone is welcome no prior study needed and no pressure to speak.

Time:

- Friday 27th February 6.30 pm - 7.30 pm;
- Saturday 28th February 10 am -11 am;
- Sunday 1st March 4.30 pm - 5.30 pm

Place: 25 Blackham St, HOLT ACT 2615

Cost: \$20 for all 3 sessions

Register: belconnenwest@cg.org.au

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION

Enrolling: 1st and 8th February

Before and after the 10:00am in the foyer also available in the parish centre.

Classes will commence on Sunday 15 February at 9:15am

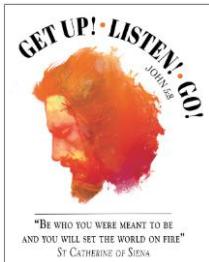
Archbishop Prowse along with MSC Provincial Fr. Stephen Hackett, will be celebrating Masses for our new parish.

14 February 2026

5:00pm St John the Apostle, Kippax

15 February 2026

9:00am St Thomas Aquinas, Charnwood



In 2026, the Archbishop has named “**GET UP!...LISTEN!...GO!**” to be the pastoral intent for the Archdiocese.

• **GET UP!** — to rise with

renewed faith, leaving behind discouragement and spiritual weariness.

• **LISTEN!** — to listen again to the voice of Christ, the promptings of the Holy Spirit, and the needs of our communities.

• **GO!** — to step out in mission, ready to serve, invite, witness, and respond.

Mass Intentions the week of 2 – 8 February

Mon 02/02	Christian & Queenie Solomonz
Wed 04/02	
Thur 05/02	Doris & Joe Galea
Fri 06/02	Riley Carberry, Jordan Blanchfield

Sat 07/02

5:00pm	
6:00pm	

Sun 08/02

8:30am	
9:00am	
10:00am	
6:00pm	

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

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Rejoice and be glad;
Your reward will be great in heaven.
Alleluia!

The Presentation of the Lord

Blessing of the Candles

Bring your candles to be blessed

Monday 2 February

St John the Apostle Church

9:30am Mass



Ash Wednesday

18 February

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church

Mass 9:30am

St John the Apostle Catholic Church

Mass 6:00pm

Wollongong Lenten Program

Available at the Catholic Bookshop Manuka
or online at

<https://www.dow.org.au/shop/>

Weekend Retreat at St Mary's Towers, Douglas Park, NSW - 13-15 February 2026

Facilitated by Dominican Friars and Sisters
Single adults, ages 18-35, are invited to join
the for a from. Registration closes
6 February. Fee: \$300 per person.

<https://www.trybooking.com/DHJBL>



Recently Deceased: Rosemary deBear

Anniversary: Margaret Hill, Declan Morris, Riley Carberry, Alice Tonna, Rupert Waterford, Joy Danaher, Jehanne Thelland, Nola Newton, Alexander Powell, Fr. Neville Drinkwater, Cesare DeFranceschi, Robert Thomas, Nicholas Roots, Doreen Kennedy, Salvatore Nasca, John Stefek, Julian Oakley, Violet Duve, Mario Benassi, Suzanne Scardoni, Mark Paten, Annie McCreath, Clements Cox, Bruce Walker, Carmelita Godfrey, Stella Bell, Terence Southwell, Manuel Fontan, Elias Kiki, Maria Carrusca, Victoria Wilkinson, Kenneth Vella, Faye Menegazzo, Margaret Ephgrave, Margaret Davis, John Maher, Peter Moore, Leendert Burggraaff, Roberto Millucci, Robert Haverfield, Robert Galliano, Rene Stubbs, George Griffiths, Trent Foster, Glenn Foster, Nellie Bannon

2026 Columban Calendars
SJA Bookshop \$5.00



St John the Apostle Kippax

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

ROSTERS

8 Feb Acolyte Roster

5:00pm	Anthony Jayawardena, Chitra Jayawardena
8:30am	Maria Scarr, Frank Craddock
10:00am	Peter Kain, Vy Pham
6:00pm	Nunga Umaru

8 Feb Lector Roster

5:00pm	Colleen Reed, Therese Kercher
8:30am	Sigrid Kropp, Mariana Rollgeiser
10:00am	Pam Connor, Dennis Puniard
6:00pm	Marian Crowley, Andrew Luck

8 Feb Ministers of Communion

5:00pm	Maria Catanzariti, Marian England
8:30am	Shane Murtagh, Carmel Screen
10:00am	Frank Colley, Margarete Gill
6:00pm	John McGee

8 Feb Hospitality Roster

5:00pm	Jenny Maher, Mercia Needham
8:30am	Mandy Lalor, Wendy Wade
10:00am	Shovin Weerawarnakula, Francesca Deklin
6:00pm	Sabina Van Rooy, Peter Igoe-Taylor

8 Feb SJAShop

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

Weekly Rosters

Altar Society	1 Feb	Maryanne Ferguson
Church Cleaning:	2 Feb	John O'Heir, Pat Keenan, Debbie & Ted Milne
Grounds	31 Jan	All Groups

St Thomas Aquinas 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 churches 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

8 Feb Acolyte Roster

6:00pm	Adam Smith-Platts
9:00am	Skye McPadden

8 Feb Lector Roster

6:00pm	Annaliese Smith-Platts, Peter Osborne
9:00am	Josh Osborne-Goldsbrough, Charles Wood

8 Feb Ministers of Communion

6:00pm	Geoff Barker, Helene Axelby
9:00am	Lian Kiley, Stephen Kiley

8 Feb Music Ministry / Slides

6:00pm	Recorded, Patrick Smith-Platts
9:00am	Recorded, Eden

8 Feb Morning Tea after Mass

9:00am	Kaye Radovanovic, Trish Blacker, Gerri Bleeser
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Readings 8 February 2026

First Reading	Is 58:7-10
Psalm	Ps 111:4-9
Second Reading	1 Cor 2:1-5
Gospel	Matthew 5:13-16

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