

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



EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD YEAR A

5 April 2026

#14.26

Gospel Reflection

On this, the most important celebration in the Christian calendar, it is a shame that the reading chosen for the Lectionary is something of a let down. Certainly, within the gospel reading we have the discovery of the empty tomb by Mary of Magdala; the disbelieving disciples running to find things exactly as Mary had described; and the dawning realisation of what Jesus had meant when he so frequently spoke about rising from the dead. However, if the editors of the Lectionary had chosen to also include the next nine verses of the gospel we would have also heard the magnificent encounter between Mary and the risen Lord, confirming that it was a woman, Mary Magdala, who was the first witness to Christ's resurrection. As it is, we never hear this account as part of the cycle of Sunday readings.

The discovery of the empty tomb – although so simply told – is an astounding event that completes the Paschal Mystery: the passion, death AND resurrection of Jesus. Whilst Christ's willingness to go to his death on the cross was an extraordinary statement of God's love for humankind, it is his rising again from death that offers all Christian people hope. It is the second disciple – the one whom Jesus loved – who is the first to grasp the meaning of what has happened inside the tomb. The gospel tells us that upon entering the tomb and seeing Jesus' burial cloths lying there, 'he saw and he believed'. Unlike the later encounters with the risen Lord, this disciple recognised the truth and significance of what he saw in the empty tomb. He didn't need to see the risen Lord to believe. Perhaps it is he that we today can best identify with. Not in a position to physically encounter the risen Christ, we are capable of seeing the signs of his resurrection and continuing presence in the world and choose to believe.

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

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

Safeguarding Officers

Carl Madsen

Marg Hourigan

belconnenwest.safeguarding@cg.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

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.



*Congratulations to our RCIA candidates:
Alistair, Erica, Jacob, Roberto, Nicole, and Guirlyn.
We share in your joy on this wonderful day of
celebration. We rejoice in knowing, that your entry
into the Catholic faith, will lead you along a path filled
with many of God's blessings.*

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURES

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

PROJECT COMPASSION

Please return your Project Compassion
boxes and envelopes
the parish office during office hours of
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday
9:00am – 3:00pm

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

SCHOOLS ENROLLING NOW 2027

St John the Apostle School Florey

Early Learning Centre

Years Kinder – 6

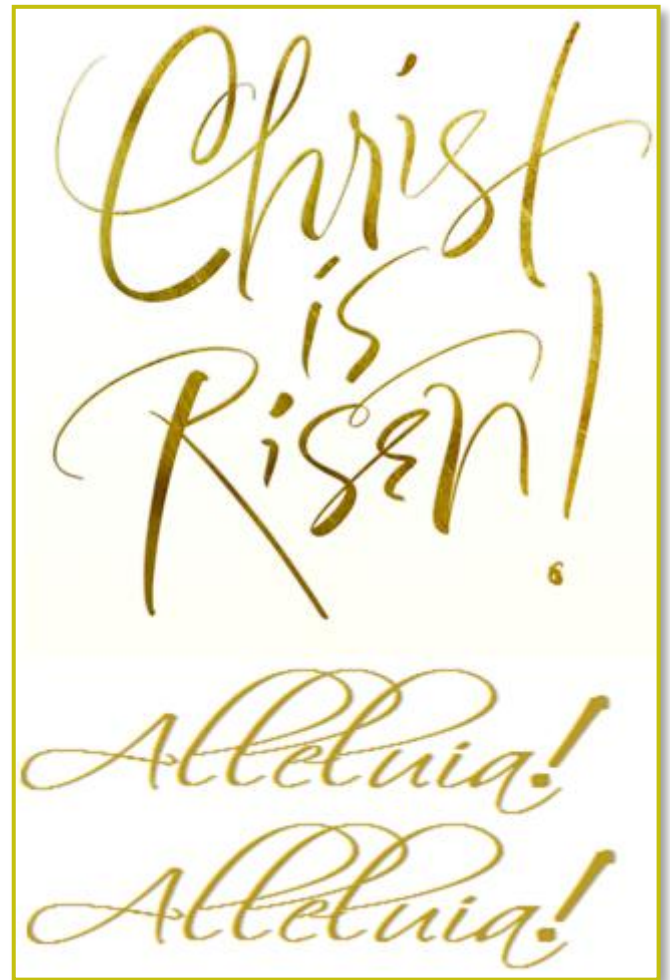
6258 3592 www.sjaps.act.edu.au

St Thomas Aquinas School Charnwood

Early Learning Centre

Years Kinder – 6

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



Easter Prayer

*Lord, the resurrection of
Your Son has given us new
life and renewed hope.*

*Help us to live as new people
in pursuit of the Christian ideal.*

*Grant us wisdom to know
what we must do, the will to want to do it,
the courage to undertake it,
the perseverance to continue to do it,
and the strength to complete it*

Archbishop Christopher Prowse

2026 Easter Message

Can be read online at:

[Wider Church News - olsh.org.au](http://WiderChurchNews-olsh.org.au)

Archbishop Prowse's Chrism Mass homily,
and Pope Leo's Apostolic Letter A Fidelity
that Generates the Future can be found on
our website at:

<https://olsh.org.au/wider-church-news/>

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Connecting with people living alone

2nd Tuesday of the month Coffee Group

14 April – 2:00pm Ichi Café at Kippax

MENS GROUP

6:00pm Friday 17 April Parish Centre

beer, wine, soft drink, snack food and pizza

Pins & Needles

7:15pm – 20 April

St John the Apostle Catholic Church

Parish Library

Community Connections

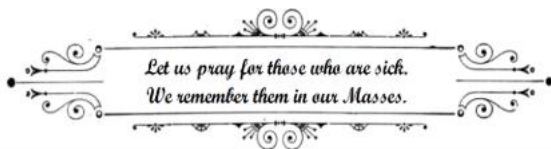
Connecting with people living alone

Monthly Gathering

19 April 3:30pm - 5:00pm

St John the Apostle Catholic Church

Parish Library



Recently Deceased:

Anniversary: John Henshaw,
Helen McGee, Harold Allester, Una Luff,
Joseph Pisciotta, Vivienne Montgomery,
Jordan Matthews, 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, Leon Fernando,
Kees Van Rooy, Marnie Dunn, Leo Wyche,
Daniel Cassar, Leslie Thomson,
Edward Yewdall, Ian Stephenson,
Wanda Parkitny, Paul Rogers, 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

Time and Talent Forms

1 June 2026 – 31 May 2027 Roster Period

Currently the rosters are being compiled and will be distributed by the end of April. There are vacancies in the following ministries:

Hospitality

Flowers

Grounds

Music

If you would like to engage in parish life through ministry, please contact the parish office.

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

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



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.

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

12 April Acolyte Roster

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

12 April Lector Roster

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

12 April Ministers of Communion

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

12 April 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

12 April SJAShop

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

Weekly Rosters

Altar Society	5 April	Maryanne Ferguson
Church Cleaning:	6 April	Debbie Milne, Ted Milne, John O'Heir, Pat Keenan
Grounds	11 April	Carl Madsen, Bede Foundling

Readings 12 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	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

12 April Acolyte Roster

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

12 April Lector Roster

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

12 April Ministers of Communion

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

12 April Music Ministry / Slides

6:00pm	Recorded / Patrick Smith-Platts
9:00am	Beverly & Choir / Eden De Castro

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

This is the day the Lord has made;
 let us rejoice and be glad.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
 Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;
 let us feast with
 Alleluia