

Revelation

The reading opens with a twofold summons: 'Arise!' 'Shine!' Called out of darkness, the illumination into which Jerusalem emerges is not merely the light of a new day, a new era of peace and prosperity. It is the very light of God; it is the glory of the Lord. Other nations will witness the glory of the Lord as it is revealed through the salvation of this people. The light they provide for others is really the radiance of God's glory. That glory is in fact the manifestation of Jerusalem's deliverance. Thus, Jerusalem's redemption enables others to behold and to walk in God's light. This is why it is told to 'Arise and shine forth!'

The second reading insists that in Christ the Gentiles are co-heirs, co-members and co-partners with the Jews. What qualifies one as an heir is life in the Spirit of Christ and not natural generation into a particular national group. All belong to the body of Christ, not the bloodline of Abraham. The promise at the heart of the gospel is the promise of universal salvation through Christ, not that of descendants and prosperity in a particular land. The Gentiles are co-heirs precisely as Gentiles and not as initiates who have come to Christ through the faith of Israel. The one thing necessary is to be 'in Christ'. This is a radical insight for a church with Jewish roots and traditions.

The Three Kings or Wise Men were astrologers who studied the heavens in search of the meaning of human life. The gospel account is a *haggadah*, a Jewish story fashioned from diverse biblical material intended to make a theological point. The author of this account probably provided theological explanation of an actual astral phenomenon. Lest the astrological details lead us to believe that the birth was a myth, he then situates it squarely in time and place: the reign of Herod, Bethlehem and Jerusalem. The anonymous men come out of obscurity and return to obscurity. All we know is that they were not Israelite, and this is the whole point of the story. The child draws Jew and Gentile alike.

Resource used: *Reflection*, by Dianne Bergant CSA

Parish Administration

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

Parish Office	Office Hourse	Website	St Thomas Aquinas Primay 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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 18 January

Community Connections
For People Living Alone
3:30pm – Parish Centre

Monday 19 January

Pins and Needles
7:00pm – Parish Library

Friday 23 January

Movie Night
7:00pm - Parish Library

Monday 26 January

Australia Day Public Holiday
Parish Office Closed

Tuesday 27 January

Women's Breakfast
7:30am – Bean Origin Café Belconnen

Friday 30 January

Anointing of the Sick after Mass

OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART PARISH

As we transition to the new parish,
please be aware of administrative
changes taking place.

There will be changes in email
addresses and Websites. These changes
will be advised once the parish office
is reopen.

We thank you for your patience,
support and understanding during this
time.



SUNDAY AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB

Returning
Sunday 25 January 2026
3:00pm
SJA Parish Library

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

“Be on earth the Heart of God”

We Welcome
Fr Dominic Gleeson and
Fr Krish Mathavan
who will be celebrating Masses
in our Parish this weekend.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURES

The Parish Office is closed and
will reopen on
Monday 12 January 2026

WEEKDAY MASS UPDATE 2026

There will be a Liturgy of
The Word with Holy Communion at
9:30am on Friday 2 January at
St John the Apostle Kippax

And

Monday 5th, Tuesday 6th and
Friday 9th

at St John the Apostle Kippax

And

Tuesday 6th, Wednesday 7th and
Thursday 8th

at St Thomas Aquinas Charnwood



Sapientia

Single adults, 18-35 years of age,
are invited to join the Dominican
Friars and Sisters for this
weekend retreat of prayer,
formation, and fellowship.

13-15 February 2026
St Mary's Towers Retreat Centre
Douglas Park

For more information or to register:
www.trybooking.com/DHJB1
or email the Sisters at
sydney@op-tn.org



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

Funeral Notice – Daryl Murphy

Requiem Mass for Daryl will be celebrated on Friday 9 January at 11:00am at St Thomas Aquinas Church Charnwood

OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART PARISH

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

14 February 2026

5:00pm St John the Apostle, Kippax

15 February 2026

9:00am St Thomas Aquinas, Charnwood



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

Mass Intentions the week of 5 - 11 Jan

Mon 05/01	Doris and Joe Galea
Wed 07/01	
Thur 08/01	
Fri 09/01	
Sat 10/01	
5:00pm	
6:00pm	
Sun 11/01	
8:30am	Mary Costeloe
9:00am	
10:00am	
6:00pm	

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

2026 SACRAMENTAL DATES

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Penance Formation Session for parents

17 February 2026

Presentation Masses

21/22 February 2026

All Masses both Churches

1st Rite for Children

18 March [St John the Apostle]

19 March [St Thomas Aquinas]

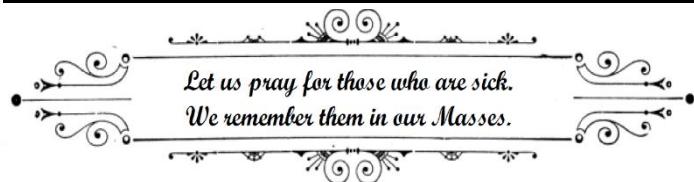
URGENT

OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART PARISH

Finance Update

All parishioners on Planned Giving using Direct Debit and Credit Card will need to complete new forms. These forms will be emailed out to all parishioners and also available in both Churches from 12 January 2026. Please return all forms to the parish office.

Parishioners using Electronic Funds Transfer will need to contact the parish office to get the new bank details



Recently Deceased:

Anniversary:

Joseph Davis, Clarice O'Callaghan, Kevin McMahon, Nita Smith, Helen Duncan, Hugh Barber, Gregory Hore, Geoffrey Bogg, Bill Raadts, Florence Anthony, Kathryn Jones, Charles Taylor, Terry O'Gorman, Therese Markham, Richard Stalker, Barry Dwyer, Ken Lorraway, Pauline Burt, Cooper McDonald, Jamie Bourke, Mary Gorey, John Machin, John Burt, Mary Costello, Edna Lydon, Virginia Policarpio, Margaret Richardson, Eamonn Kennedy, Terence Martin, Caterina Fallace, Ann Grannall

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

Praying the Rosary before Mass

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

ROSTERS

11 Jan Acolyte Roster

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

11 Jan Lector Roster

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

11 Jan 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

11 Jan 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

11 Jan SJAShop

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

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

Praying the Rosary before Mass

Weekdays in both parishes 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

11 Jan Acolyte Roster

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

11 Jan Lector Roster

5:00pm	Annaliese Smith-Platts, Peter Osborne
9:00am	Josh Osborne-Goldsbrough, Charles Wood

11 Jan Ministers of Communion

5:00pm	Geoff Barker, Helene Axelby
9:00am	Lian Kiley, Stephen Kiley

11 Jan Music Ministry / Slides

5:00pm	Recorded / Patrick Smith-Platts
9:00am	Choir / Eden DeCastro

Children's Liturgy

9:00am	
9:00am	

11 Jan Morning Tea after Mass

9:00am	Nathalie Lang, Tam le, Sylvie Osborne
9:00am	