Jeremiah said:

‘I hear so many disparaging me,
“Terror from every side! Denounce him!
Let us denounce him!” All those who used
to be my friends watched for my downfall,
“Perhaps he will be seduced into error.
Then we will master him and take our revenge!” But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero; my opponents will stumble, mastered, confounded by their failure; everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be theirs. But you, Lord of Hosts, you who probe with justice, who scrutinise the loins and heart, let me see the vengeance you will take on them, for I have committed my cause to you. Sing to the Lord, praise the Lord, for he has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of evil men.’

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM
R/. Lord, in your great love, answer me.

SECOND READING
A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans 5:12-15

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of ‘law-breaking’, yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man’s fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

The Word of the Lord.

FOCUS ON THE READINGS

‘Do not be afraid’ is one of the most commonly repeated sentences in the Bible. In one form or another, the command to ‘be not afraid’ or ‘fear not’ appears several hundred times throughout the Old and New Testaments. Today’s gospel passage is part of the ‘sending out of the Twelve,’ that occupies all of Chapter 10 in the gospel. It follows a little later in the chapter from last week’s reading in which Jesus called the Twelve and sent them out as Apostles. The remainder of the chapter provides an extended teaching on what it means and what it costs to take the message of Jesus out into the world. Jesus teaches the Twelve that the message they bear will not always be well received and there will be those who will seek to silence the Apostles through violent means. But then, the teaching comes to the section of today’s passage in which Jesus commands the Twelve, ‘Do not be afraid’. The message to not be afraid is as much for the original intended audience of the gospel as it was for the apostles. The community for whom this gospel was written were on the verge of being ‘squeezed out’ and forced into secret. The passage reminds them to have courage and to have the courage of their convictions; to shout from the house-tops their message, not whisper it in darkness. It is a reminder of the abundant love of God who cares for them and sees all their efforts to continue to live out the message and ministry of Jesus. It is equally a message for us, today. We are called to continue the spread of the gospel message; continuing the work of those early Christian communities, the Twelve and Jesus himself. © Greg Sunter

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK
22nd June  Sts John Fisher and Thomas More  23rd June  St Paulinus of Nola
24th June  The NATIVITY OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST  27th June  St Cyril of Alexandria

I have come that you may have life and have it to the full (John 10:10)
PARISH ADMINISTRATOR:
Fr Thomas Kuruvila
9758 1029
Email: Thomas.Kuruvila@cam.org.au
thomas@stjohnthebaptist.net.au

DEACON:
Rev. Peter Stringfellow
9758 1029
Email: Peter.Stringfellow@cam.org.au

FAITH DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATOR
Carolyn Sombekke
9758 1029
Email: csombekkesj@gmail.com

PARISH OFFICE:
9758 1029
Monday
9.45am – 3.45pm
Tuesday to Friday
9.00am -3.00pm
Secretaries:
Charmaine Premaratne
&Maree Wilson
Accountant:
Sara Luk
Email: office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au

SCHOOLS:
St John the Baptist
9758 1013
 Principal: Catherine Mason
St. Joseph’s College
9758 2000
Principal: Catherine Livingston
Mater Christi College
9754 6611
Principal: Mary Fitz-Gerald

MSS TIMES: LIMITED NUMBERS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
Saturday
6:00 pm
Sunday
9:00 am, 11:00 am
Tuesday
7.00 pm
Wednesday & Thursday
9.15 am
Friday
11.00 am

RECONCILIATION: People who identify within themselves the need for Confession should contact Fr Thomas directly 9758 1029

BAPTISMS:
Baptisms are to be postponed unless there is an urgent and pastoral need. Contact the Parish Office on: 9758 1029 or via email at: office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au

WEDDINGS:
By appointment, 6 months’ notice required. Saturdays or weekdays (not Sundays). Contact the Parish Office: on 9758 1029.

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
20th / 21st June, 2020

PRAYING FOR...
All who have died recently:

Those who we remember at this time:
Salvatore Lo Giudice, Luigi Brotto, Noreen Royle, William Rodgers, Eileen Strong.

The sick:
Wilma Neville, Ruby Samtoy, Fame Pelgrim, Elsie Johnson, Barbara Kenny, Anne Jayawardena, Lea Hartley, Cosimo Petracca, Giuseppina Zarro, Catherine Turner, Patricia Quinn, David Merton, Michael Byrne, Mary Edmunds, Bev McNamara, Anthony McNamara, Victoria Lewis, Nicole Moore, Peter Fairhurst, Hans Whittaker, Edward Osborne, Alidia Serafin, Clive Beach.

SICK LIST GUIDELINES – names will remain on the sick list for 6 weeks, then removed, unless notification to continue is received. If you are aware that any names on the sick list that need to be removed, please contact the Parish Office on 9758 1029.

KEEP IN TOUCH: We love to being able to keep in contact with you, especially during these unprecedented times of isolation. Please let us know your current email address or/ and phone number. We are happy to email the bulletin to you! Or check it on our new website!

You are dispensed from your Sunday obligation at this time. At present, Mass is available but in limited places

Try participating in a Mass online:
https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass
or
https://holymasslive.de/votonau.com

or if you don’t have a computer: Mass can also be heard on The Light FM radio station (89.9 FM) at 7am each Sunday morning. Or MASS ON TV
C31 / 44 shows the 11am Sunday Mass at St Patrick’s Cathedral and will continue to be televised free to air. Or Mass for You at Home on Channel 10 Sunday at 6am.

CDDPAY FOR PARISHES – ONLINE PAYMENT
PORTAL AVAILABLE NOW: This site enables you to make quick and easy online thanksgiving for The Ferntree Gully Parish site is now live and can be found via this link

CDDPay for St John the Baptist Parish, Ferntree Gully: We thank all of you who have already used this wonderful tool, and hope many more will try it!

ST VINCENT DE PAUL ANNUAL WINTER APPEAL
This weekend 20th /21st June 2020 is the date set aside for the annual St Vincent de Paul Society Winter Appeal. Our Ferntree Gully Conference has worked throughout the year, each day responding selflessly to many instances of disadvantaged in our area. “We have supported many clients who have suffered Unemployment, Homelessness, Drug Abuse, Mental/Physical/Emotional Abuse. We invite you, to support our Winter Appeal by;

1. Donating a wonderful variety of Non- Perishable Food for our weekly hampers
2. Making generous Financial Donations through our appeal to support our food store.
3. Contributing to the Knox Vincentian Scholarship Scheme.”

If you are registered to attend a Mass, you can bring your gift to the Mass, there will be baskets in the foyer, or, if you are not able to attend the Mass, you can still be a part of this wonderful work by dropping off food bags or your donation to the Parish Office. You can also donate via the website.

Please go to: VINNIES.ORG.AU or PH: 131812

DON BOSCO Virtual Winter Camps 2020 Given the present situation with COVID-19 and the uncertainty around what the future holds, the camp has made the prudent decision to keep its grounds closed for the July Winter camps. However, this does not mean that our campers will be left without a camp experience during these school holidays! Our leaders have always prided themselves on being adaptable, running the best possible camp whether it be in scorching heat, freezing hail, or slippery mud – and we know the current global situation will be no exception. That is why we are introducing the first ever Don Bosco Virtual Camp!

AGES 9 – 13YEARS
Mon 29th June 10am to Thurs 2nd July 3pm, cost $20 Cut off date for bookings 26th June.
AGES 13-16YEARS
Monday 6th July 10am to Thurs 9th July 3pm, Cost $20. Cut off date for bookings is the 3rd July. See the Website at: https://www.donboscocamp.org.au/holiday/winter-camp-bookings or Email: dbc@donboscocamp.org.au
PH: 03 5987 2692

A SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR THE INTENTIONS OF THE HOLY FATHER will be held next week. Your donation is greatly appreciated.

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE is currently offering a range of fully online units of study in theology, scripture, liturgy and sacraments, history, pastoral and spiritual studies. To view a Virtual Open Tour of Catholic Theological College, located in East Melbourne. Go to our website, Facebook page (catholictheologicalcollege) and YouTube - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P3O2tuS1r tg.
This video will introduce you to many features of the College’s life and study. CTC studies invite all participants to grow as critical, creative and caring thinkers, at the service of their faith community and society. Those who are not ready to undertake assessed study can participate as audit students.For more information call (03) 9412 3366.

LATEST COVID 19 DIRECTIVES announced by Government (Sunday 14 June 2020, directly affect churches, places of worship and liturgical celebrations and ceremonies held within. From 22 June 2020. Restrictions on gatherings at places of worship and ceremonies will be further eased: and 50 PEOPLE MAY NOW ATTEND MASS. THERE WILL BE A CHANGE TO OUR MASS REGISTRATION PROCESS. Owing to the onerous task involved in receiving phone bookings. PLEASE DO NOT RING the Parish Office to BOOK for the MASS. From now on ATTENDANCE WILL BE ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASIS. YOU WILL NEED TO ARRIVE at the Church 10 MINUTES PRIOR TO MASS, AND THE FIRST 50 PEOPLE WILL BE ELIGIBLE to ATTEND the MASS. AFTER THIS NUMBER is REACHED, THE DOORS will BE LOCKED to ensure that we abide by the Government regulations. We still need to record attendance details and keep these for 28 days. Thank you for your understanding.
To see a list of the new regulations, please go to the Archdiocese Website at https://cam.org.au/wp-content/uploads/05/14June2020-UPDATE-COVID_19-GENERAL-GUIDELINES.pdf

ROSTERS: Mon 22nd June to Sun 28th June
Flowers
Sue N & Lynne K
Linen
Sue O’H
Welcome 6pm
Myra & Lia
9am
Marg, Adrian, Anastasia
11am
Patrick Sawyer
Lectors 6pm
Help Needed
9am
Pamela Edmunds
11am
Peggy Spencer
Counters
Tony B & Steph H
Gardening
Barry B