

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Exodus 20:1-17

God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

'You shall have no gods except me.

'You shall not make yourself a carved image or any likeness of anything in heaven or on earth beneath or in the waters under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God and I punish the father's fault in the sons, the grandsons, and the great-grandsons of those who hate me; but I show kindness to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments. 'You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it. 'Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath for the Lord your God. You shall do no work on that day, neither you nor your son nor your daughter nor your servants, men or women, nor your animals nor the stranger who lives with you. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth and the sea and all that these hold, but on the seventh day he rested; that is why the Lord has blessed the sabbath day and made it sacred. 'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you.

'You shall not kill.

'You shall not commit adultery.

'You shall not steal.

'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. 'You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/. Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 1Cor 22-25

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an

obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 2:13-25

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

Knox Deanery

19 Forest Road, Ferntree Gully, 3156

Phone: 9758 1029

Email: office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au

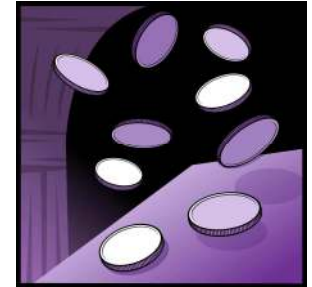
Website: www.stjohnthebaptist.net.au



3rd Sunday of Lent – Year B

6th / 7th March, 2021

*Holy God,
Banish from our hearts
any selfishness or conceit,
that by the power
flowing from Christ's resurrection
your people may be raised up from the
death of sin
and fashioned into a living temple of Your glory.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*



FOCUS ON THE WORD In Jewish tradition, the Temple marked the point of physical connection between God and humankind and between the past and the present. It was where God's story and humanity's story met. However, in the year 70 C.E. – some 40 years after Jesus – the Temple was destroyed by the Romans. The gospel of John is written another 20+ years later and so the reality of the Temple's destruction is still trying to be absorbed by the people. It was a very powerful image for the gospel writer to suggest that Jesus was the new Temple – the new point of connection. . © Greg Sunter

PROJECT COMPASSION PRAYER:

God of all peoples and nations, As you accompany us on our Lenten journey, May our fasting strengthen our commitment to live in solidarity, Our almsgiving be an act of justice, and Our prayers anchor us in love and compassion. Through living simply and loving generously, May we care for our global family and our common home, as we "Aspire not to have more, but to be more." We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen. :-*Saint Oscar Romero*



I have come that you may have life and have it to the full

(John 10:10)

PARISH PRIEST:
Fr Thomas Kuruvila 9758 1029
Email: 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: csombekkesjb@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: Maria Haggett

MASS TIMES:
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: Saturdays 5.15 pm

BAPTISMS:
Either during a weekend Mass or at 12.30pm on the 2nd Sunday of the month. 6 weeks' notice required. Please refer to our Guidelines for Infant Baptism on our Parish Website.
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.

3rd SUNDAY OF LENT – Year B

6th / 7th March, 2021
YEAR OF ST JOSEPH

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently

Robert Winspear

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Mary Maguire, Jack Winters, Pauline Bowden, Molly Brewin, Anna Ashton, Barbara Smith, & Mary Hilder.

The sick: Peter Thomas, Wilma Neville, Ruby Samtoy, Fame Pelgrim, Elsie Johnson, Barbara Kenny, Anne Jayawardena, Lea Hartley, Cosimo Petracca, Catherine Turner, Patricia Quinn, David Merton, Michael Byrne, Bev McNamara, Anthony McNamara, Victoria Lewis, Nicole Moore, Peter Fairhurst, Hans Whitaker, Edward Osborne, Allida Serafin, Clive Geach.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS The Stations of the Cross will be recited at 10.30am in the Church every Friday during Lent. All welcome.



WEEKDAY ROSARY is held on Wednesdays, Thursdays at 8.45am and Fridays during lent, prior to the Stations of the Cross at 10am in the church. All are welcome to join in the recitation.

FRIENDSHIP GATHERING: is on Thursdays between 10am and 12.00pm in the Parish Hall. Ladies and Gentlemen welcome anytime to have a chat, play cards or knit. New members welcome.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP meet on Tuesday Mornings at **10.15 am** in the Parish Hall. Join us for prayer, praise and worship. With the current Covid-safe directives, we cannot have a shared lunch at this time. All welcome.

MOTHERS' PRAYERS. Meets in the Parish Office Meeting Room on Tuesday morning at **9am**. If you would like to join us, please contact the Parish Office on 9758 1029



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST SCHOOL OPEN DAY. will take place on Wednesday **10th March** from 9.00am-5.00pm. **Please invite**

any friends, family or neighbours who have a child eligible to start school in 2022. Please make contact with the School office to complete an enrolment form as soon as possible, on PH: 9758 1013



THE 2021 COMBINED CATHOLIC CHURCHES PARISH RAFFLE IS BACK!!

Tickets will go on sale on 14th March. This year all proceeds from the sale of these tickets will be split between the Social Justice Group and the SVDP Group. We thank all parishioners for your support. Volunteers are needed to help cover the sale of tickets at different masses. If you are able to help at any of the masses, kindly please email Connie Bala on c.silva2@bigpond.com your date/s and mass time that you are able to help so that a roster can be drawn up. Your help can be just one weekend, or more!



PROJECT COMPASSION Each year Project

Compassion brings together thousands of Australians in solidarity with the world's most vulnerable communities, to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. Caritas Australia's role is empowering our neighbours across the world to build a brighter future. This week we encounter **Oliva:** 22-year-old Oliva lives in Tanzania and didn't have the opportunity to go to school growing up. As a mother trying to run a business to provide for her family, she struggled to succeed without knowing how to count and read. Thanks to supporters, Caritas Australia was able to help Oliva learn the skills she needed – and she's already doing incredible things with her newfound knowledge! If you would like to support Caritas, please collect a **project compassion box, available in the Church Foyer.**



VIRTUAL IMMERSIONS FOR PARISHES

This year, Caritas is offering an exciting new component to Project Compassion: the chance to interact online with our program staff, partners and beneficiaries! Virtual Immersions are Caritas-hosted Q&A sessions where schools and parishes can engage directly with Caritas Australia's program operatives in Australia and overseas. The sessions offer a unique opportunity for students and parish groups to connect with the people positively affected through Caritas-supported programs and to learn more about the impact of their generous donations. Join us via Zoom to learn about our overseas development work as featured in Project Compassion. Each session will be 30 mins long. <https://lent.caritas.org.au/virtualimmersions>

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY is on the **8th March, 2021**. This year, the theme for International Women's Day is, "Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world," celebrates the tremendous efforts by women and girls around the world in shaping a more equal future and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and highlights the gaps that remain. Women's full and effective participation and leadership in of all areas of life drives progress for everyone. Yet, women are still underrepresented in public life and decision-making, as revealed in the UN Secretary-General's recent report. Women are Heads of State or Government in 22 countries, and only 24.9 per cent of national parliamentarians are women. At the current rate of progress, gender equality among Heads of Government will take another 130 years.

2021 PATRICK ORATION. Two years ago, when he delivered the first Patrick Oration, Archbishop Peter A Comensoli put forward a guiding framework to help set directions for the Church in Melbourne. Since then our community, indeed the world, has moved through unprecedented times and faced many unexpected challenges. On the feast day of St Patrick (**17th March**), Archbishop Comensoli will present the 2021 Patrick Oration and warmly invites the community to reconnect and rediscover our hope for the future. **The 2021 Patrick Oration will be held on Wednesday 17th March. The broadcast begins at 7.30pm and can be viewed on community channel C31 (channel 44 on digital TV) and via YouTube at 7.30pm.**

SLAMS MUSICAL: ISLAND SONG.

Performance Dates:
12th – 20th March 2021 8pm-10.30pm
To book tickets phone: 0412 605 182
Or www.trybooking.com/BOTMF

ROSTERS: Mon 8th Mar to Sun 14th Mar 2021	
Flowers	No Flowers in Lent
Linen	Jean Bailey
Welcomers	6pm: Help Needed please 9am: Help Needed please 11am: Help Needed please
Lectors	6pm: Jenny K 9am: Peter F 11am: Peter G
Counters	Bryon M, Ruby S & Guil W
Gardening	Carlos E & Help Needed please