

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

4:32-32

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.

None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R/. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
his love is everlasting.*

SECOND READING

A reading from the First Letter of St John

5:1-6

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets.

We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us; this is what loving God is – keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world – our faith.

Who can overcome the world?

Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God; Jesus Christ, who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness – since the Spirit is the truth.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

*You believe in me, Thomas,
because you have seen me;
happy those who have not seen me,
but still believe!*

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

20:19-31

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,

they are forgiven;

for those whose sins you retain,

they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

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



2nd Sunday of Easter – Year B

10th / 11th April, 2021

Living God,

Thank you for sending Jesus

to live and die for us.

Embolden us in faith, to trust You

Even though we can't always see

or understand.

Forgive us our doubts,

And in Your mercy, Strengthen us

to grow ever closer to You

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



*Divina Mercy
Sunday 11th April*

FOCUS ON THE WORD Doubt no longer, but believe! Thomas has received a pretty bad rap for the last 2000 years, forever labelled as 'Doubting Thomas' because he wasn't prepared to take someone else's word for the fact that Jesus had risen. However, despite his demand for evidence, once Jesus is before him, he abandons all his thoughts about placing his fingers in the wounds and proclaims, 'My Lord and my God!' This is an absolutely extraordinary statement of faith. For the very first time, someone recognises Jesus, not as Messiah, prophet or Lord, but as God. Jesus says to Thomas, 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' That's us! Jesus' words in the gospel are meant for people like us living today. We are not in the position of Thomas and the other disciples who were able to see the risen Lord face to face and so convince themselves of his rising. The gospel recognises that to believe in the resurrection without that physical, personal encounter with Jesus is to be celebrated even more. Happy are we – blessed are we – who have not seen and yet still believe!

Q. In what situations do you most need to hear Jesus' words, 'Peace be with you'?

FEAST DAYS: Tue 13th April

St Martin I

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
Mary Makarucha 9758 1029
Email: marymakarucha@stjohnthebaptist.net.au

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.

2nd Sunday of Easter – Year B

10th / 11th April, 2021
YEAR OF ST JOSEPH

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:



Matteo Parente; Estre Maidre; Priscilla Zamora; Lynda Kelly; Catherine Lizza; Brian Russell; Peter Ward; Giuseppe Feleppa; Frances Thomas; Bartolino Lugnani.

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.

WEEKDAY ROSARY on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, Rosary will be recited 25 minutes prior to the Weekday Mass. All are welcome to join in the recitation.

GROUP ROSARY SESSION FOR PEACE
Date: *first Saturday each month; 10.30a.m.*
Venue: 37 Lane Road, FTG. All are welcome.
Contact: Pauline Barlow on 9758 5106.

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 will resume on Tuesday 13th April, at 10.15am in the Hall. We look forward to seeing everyone again for prayer and praise.

MOTHERS' PRAYERS. Will break for the School Holiday period.

ANZAC DAY REMEMBRANCE SERVICE will be held in the Knox War Memorial, Tim Neville Arboretum on Sunday 25th April 2021. At 10am. The guest speaker will be Hurtle Lupton OAM. All are warmly welcomed to attend this ANZAC service.

PROJECT COMPASSION Thank you for supporting us this year **PLEASE RETURN YOUR PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES AND ENVELOPES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**, or you can give at: www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion #projectcompassion or call: 1800 024 413

A VERY WARM WELCOME, to Fr John Murphy SDB, who has come to say our weekend Masses for us this weekend. Thank you, Fr Murphy!

THE 2021 COMBINED CATHOLIC CHURCHES PARISH RAFFLE IS BACK! Tickets are now on sale. Please buy a ticket or maybe take a book home with you to sell to friends and family. We thank everyone for your support. This year all proceeds from the sale of these tickets will be split between the Social Justice Group and the SVDP Group.

SJB PRIMARY SCHOOL FUNDRAISER: Entertainment Membership is back. – not sure you'll get your money's worth? Many local businesses such as Rapture, Forage, KFC, McDonalds, Subway, Sushi Hub, Pancake Parlour or Activities at - Knox Leisureworks, Zone Bowling, Bayswater Roller City, Goodlife Health Clubs, Curves, Genesis Health Clubs, Kreationz Cheer and Dance, Cameo Cinemas, Tunzafun, Timezone offer discounts., just to name a few. Every membership sold contributes to our School's fundraising. It's a WIN WIN! More info at the back of the church, or click on this link: <http://www.entbook.com.au/188321n> to join.

FLOOD APPEAL Salesian Missions Australia has launched an appeal for victims of this week's devastating floods in **TIMOR LESTE**, Australia's closest neighbour and the poorest country in South East Asia. Intense rain and storms sent surging torrents of rain through towns and villages turning the streets of Dili into canals. Roads and bridges have been destroyed and deaths now exceed 100. Support is urgently needed as the schools are converted to evacuation centres. Dili's population of more than 220,000 is currently in lockdown to tackle the nations rising COVID transmission. Catering for the victims in the aftermath of the floods presents new challenges in addition to the existing health crisis. Don Bosco Training Centre Comoro is a major relief centre providing shelter and food for those who have lost their homes and possessions. The gymnasium and classrooms are being used for emergency accommodation by more than 3000 displaced persons.

Tina Newton (Director of Salesian Missions) said there is an urgent need for food, clean water and medicine. Donations can be sent to:
Salesian Missions Australia
P O Box 264, ASCOT VALE Vic 3032
Or, Made via:
Website : www.salesianmissionsaustralia.org.au
Phone : 03 9377 6060
Email : salmiss@salesians.org.au
Donations are tax deductible.

BAPTISMS congratulations to *Betty Carmichael*, who is baptised this weekend. The Church of God welcomes you with great joy.



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY is on Sunday 11th April. This year, 2021, we are remembering the **90th** Anniversary of the first apparition of the Merciful Lord to St. Faustina in 1931. The Lord expressed His will with regard to this feast in His very first revelation to St. Faustina. The most comprehensive revelation can be found in her Diary entry 699. **Our Lord's Divine Mercy Sunday grants forgiveness of all sins and punishment on the Feast of Divine Mercy, Mercy Sunday, mercy for even the most hardened sinners!** To learn more, or find a service, please go to the website at <https://divinemercysunday.com/> The chaplet will be said at many locations including - **Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, 25 Orange Grove, BAYSWATER.** 2pm Confessions and Adoration and Holy Rosary. 3:15pm Divine Mercy Chaplet followed by Holy Mass. Main Celebrant: Fr. Sebastian Mappilaparambil VC Contact: Anne - 9720 2934 or Parish Office - 9729 2622 Please book.

HEART OF LIFE is offering a Reflection Day entitled: **'Gifts Differing - Understanding Your Personality Type'**, on **Saturday 17 April 2021, 10am-3pm.** This reflection day explores the Myers Briggs personality types, and how these influence our communication, relationships and spiritual life. Participants can complete the Personality Type Indicator form on the day. Facilitated by Peter Malone msc at Heart of Life, Kildara Centre, Rear 41 Stanhope St, Malvern. Cost \$60. Book and pay via the website heartoflife.melbourne, tel 9890 1101 .or email info@heartoflife.melbourne.

ROSTERS: Mon 5th April to Sun 11th April	
Flowers	Ann P & Connie B
Linen	Sue N
Welcomers	6pm: Help needed 9am Help needed 11am Help needed
Lectors	6pm: Raul C 9am: Terry Stephens 11am: Trish McGee
Counters	Tony & Steph ; Connie & Peter
Gardening	Patrick S & Harry R