

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

3:13-15, 17-19

Peter said to the people: 'You are Israelites, and it is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our ancestors, who has glorified his servant Jesus, the same Jesus you handed over and then disowned in the presence of Pilate, after Pilate had decided to release him. It was you who accused the Holy One, the Just One, you who demanded the reprieve of a murderer while you killed the prince of life. God, however, raised him from the dead, and to that fact we are the witnesses.

'Now I know, brothers, that neither you nor your leaders had any idea what you were really doing; this was the way God carried out what he had foretold, when he said through all his prophets that his Christ would suffer. Now you must repent and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out.'

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/. Lord, let your face shine on us.

SECOND READING

A reading from the First Letter of St John

2:1-5

I am writing this, my children,
to stop you sinning;

but if anyone should sin,

we have our advocate with the Father,

Jesus Christ, who is just;

he is the sacrifice that takes our sins away,

and not only ours,

but the whole world's.

We can be sure that we know God
only by keeping his commandments.

Anyone who says, 'I know him',

and does not keep his commandments,
is a liar,

refusing to admit the truth.

But when anyone does obey what he has said,

God's love comes to perfection in him.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us:
make our hearts burn with love when you
speak.*

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Luke

24:35-48

The disciples told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread.

They were still talking about all this when Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you!' In a state of alarm and fright, they thought they were seeing a ghost. But he said, 'Why are you so agitated, and why are these doubts rising in your hearts? Look at my hands and feet; yes, it is I indeed. Touch me and see for yourselves; a ghost has no flesh and bones as you can see I have.' And as he said this he showed them his hands and feet. Their joy was so great that they could not believe it, and they stood dumbfounded; so he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' And they offered him a piece of grilled fish, which he took and ate before their eyes.

Then he told them, 'This is what I meant when I said, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets and in the Psalms, has to be fulfilled.' He then opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

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3rd Sunday of Easter – Year B

17th / 18th April, 2021

Heavenly Father,

Your perfect love

drives away all fear.

Continue to assure us

of Your love and protection,

and Your desire to guide us

to fullness of life with You.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



FOCUS ON THE WORD The first sentence of the gospel reading sets the context for the themes of today: 'Jesus was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.' Who is the Jesus that they recognised? And what does this recognition require?

Jesus is the servant of the God of the early ancestors, the long awaited messiah, and the innocent sufferer portrayed in the prophetic tradition. He is the fulfilment of our deepest aspirations. When we gather around the table for the sacramental meal, we encounter the Risen Lord. There the sacred traditions of our religious heritage are opened for us and we are enabled to recognise him in the traditions and in the breaking of the bread.

In order to encounter the Risen Lord in the breaking of the bread and in the breaking open of the word, we need docile hearts ready to embrace the deepest meaning of our religious heritage. We need hearts that have been purified in the love of God; hearts that have been totally transformed. The commandment of love requires nothing less.

Having recognised the Risen Lord, we, like the people described in the first reading, must live reformed lives. Having recognised the Risen Lord, we, like the people addressed in the second reading, must be obedient to God's commandment of love. Having recognised the Risen Lord, we, like the disciples portrayed in the gospel, must preach the good news of God's forgiveness to all nations. Easter faith assures us that all of this is possible.

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FEAST DAYS: Wed 21st April *St Anselm* Fri 23rd April *St George and St Adalbert*
Sat 24th April *St Fidelis of Sigmaringen*

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

(John 10:10)

PARISH PRIEST:
Fr Thomas Kuruvila 9758 1029
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DEACON:
Rev. Peter Stringfellow 9758 1029
Email: Peter.Stringfellow@cam.org.au

FAITH DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATOR
Mary Makarucha 9758 1029
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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 Easter – Year B
17th / 18th April, 2021
YEAR OF ST JOSEPH

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently



Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Debra Fowles, Sinforoso Oracion, Patricia Bathgate, Leo Williamson, Geertruda Bal, Linda Lawson

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 take a break for the School Holiday period.

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

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 **Jacob Roemer and Rory Jones**, who are baptised this weekend. The Church of God welcomes you with great joy.



ANZAC DAY REMEMBRANCE SERVICE 2021 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.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS 25th April You might know of a young person in the parish, in your family or an acquaintance whom you think would make a good priest or religious. Why not pray for them by name on a regular basis? Carry them with you 'spiritually' to Mass on Sunday and place them on the alter at the offertory. Sometimes the Lord uses us as his instruments to encourage vocations.

Palms Australia Reach Beyond Share your skills to help develop the capacity of overseas organisations and the abilities of their people. Low-income communities seek sustainable solutions to poverty, not through money or gifts, but by building self-reliance. All trades and professions are called to assist this mission. **Enquire now** to properly prepare for a placement in 2022. **Join online InfoZoom on 2 May, visit palms.org.au , or call Palms now on 02 9560 5333**

MEDITATION ON JESUS for Healing and Wellbeing of Body and Soul One Day Retreat - 15th May 2021:10am– 4pm. Registration by Tel: 97626625 or Email: enquiries@janssencentre.org or gilbertcarlo@gmail.com

ROSTERS: Mon 19th April to Sun 25th April	
Flowers	Ann P & Connie B
Linen	Sue N
Welcomers	6pm: Help needed 9am Help needed 11am Help needed
Lectors	6pm: Trish Magee 9am: Pamela Edmunds 11am: Phuong Breisch
Counters	Tony & Steph ; Connie & Peter
Gardening	Patrick S & Harry R