

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

10:25-26,34-35,44-48

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. 'Stand up,' he said, 'I am only a man after all!'

Then Peter addressed them: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said, 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.'

While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

SECOND READING

A reading from the First Letter of St John 1Jn 4:7-9

My dear people,
let us love one another
since love comes from God
and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God.
Anyone who fails to love can never have known God,
because God is love.
God's love for us was revealed
when God sent into the world his only Son
so that we could have life through him;
this is the love I mean:
not our love for God,
but God's love for us when he sent his Son
to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 15: 9-17

Jesus said to his disciples:
'As the Father has loved me,
so I have loved you.
Remain in my love.
If you keep my commandments
you will remain in my love,
just as I have kept my Father's commandments
and remain in his love.
I have told you this
so that my own joy may be in you
and your joy be complete.
This is my commandment:
love one another,
as I have loved you.
A man can have no greater love
than to lay down his life for his friends.
You are my friends,
if you do what I command you,
I shall not call you servants any more,
because a servant does not know
his master's business;
I call you friends,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my Father.
You did not choose me,
no, I chose you;
and I commissioned you
to go out and to bear fruit,
fruit that will last;
and then the Father will give you
anything you ask him in my name.
What I command you
is to love one another.'

The Gospel of the Lord

*Love one another
as I have loved you.*



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

Knox Deanery

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Website: www.stjohnthebaptist.net.au



6th Sunday of Easter – Year B

8th / 9th May, 2021

*O God, to whom every heart is open,
every desire known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden;
purify the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love You,
and worthily praise your Holy name. Amen.*



FOCUS ON THE WORD As a young person, there is nothing better than being in love! Sure, loving your family and being loved by them is pretty important, but to 'fall in love' with someone and have that love returned is something quite extraordinary. Love sets us on fire! To be loved by someone else makes all the tough times endurable; it makes us believe in ourselves because someone else sees something worthwhile within us. It's exciting and it's incredibly life-giving! Have you ever thought what it really means when Jesus commands us to love one another? At first, it seems like a simple commandment: I can love my family; my friends; I can even feel love for some people I've never met. But there was a condition that Jesus placed on the command: love one another as I have loved you. How did Jesus love? Without restriction and without seeking something in return. He loved those that no one loved and he even loved those who hated him and sought his downfall. Can I love those who hate me? Those that others ridicule and despise? Can I love without counting the cost?

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN: The Parish of St John the Baptist, and the Archdiocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community. May our message be that child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of every adult. You can find out more about the church's work in this area at: www.catholic.org.au/responseandprevention

FEAST DAYS: Wed 12th May

Sts Nereus & Achilleus, and St Pancras

Thur 13th May

Our Lady of Fatima Fri 14th May St Matthias

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

(John 10:10)

PARISH PRIEST:
Fr Thomas Kuruwila 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

GLENGOLLAN VILLAGE MASS 1st Friday 2pm

WILLOWBROOK MASS: 3rd Thursday 2pm

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.

6th Sunday of Easter – Year B
8th / 9th May, 2021
YEAR OF ST JOSEPH

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently



Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Fr Jim Carroll, Henry Brohier, Annie McCann, Elena Francesca, Luigi De Cristo, Joseph Knur, Ernest Royle.

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 calling all those who like to knit or crochet. Would you like to make a shawl or knee rug to be blessed and given to someone in ill health? And / or make you choice of a beanie, scarf, gloves, small children's wear or rug squares to be given to **KOGO- Knit one Give One-**, a charity that donates to the most vulnerable. Come on **Thursdays between 10am and 12.00pm** in the Parish Hall, Wool available at no cost. Ladies and Gentlemen welcome anytime to have a chat, play cards or knit. New members welcome.



CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP meets on Tuesdays at 10.15am in the Hall for prayer and praise. All welcome.

MOTHERS' PRAYERS Tuesday Mornings at 9am-10am in the Parish office. Enquiries: 9758 1029.

PROJECT COMPASSION ANNUAL SPECIAL APPEAL A Big thank you for your generous donations to this appeal. For anyone who was away over the Easter Break, and would still like to contribute, this will be the last week we can accept your donation. There is always the option of donating directly to Caritas, via <https://lent.caritas.org.au/>

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN INFORMATION Across the Archdiocese, parish leadership and safeguarding teams have been working hard to implement safeguarding practices and policies that reinforce the Church's commitment to protecting children and those most vulnerable in the community. Please read the enclosed flyer containing important information about our committee, who have been working hard to be able to meet the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards. Creating a culture of safety involves us all.



QR CODE REGISTRATION AT MASS IS NOW MANDATORY. We ask all parishioners to please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to Mass and **Remember to Bring your Mobile Phone** to allow time for registration using the QR Code. If you do not have a smart phone, you will receive assistance.

HELP NEEDED we are looking for volunteer welcome to welcome our Parishioners and assist with QR code logging in at the door, as well as making sure that all people attending our church are checked in with the QR code. Helpers will need to arrive about 25 minutes prior to Mass starting. If you could help, please contact the Parish office, so we can arrange a roster asap.

THE 2021 COMBINED CATHOLIC CHURCHES PARISH RAFFLE We thank everyone for your support in the Combined Catholic Parish Raffle ticket sales. Now it is time that all raffle books **sold/unsold MUST BE RETURNED THIS WEEKEND AT THE LATEST**, to the parish representative selling tickets at the mass you attend. Your help would ease our follow up phone calls. Thank you for your assistance.

PONDERING GRIEF, on **Saturday 22nd May 2021, at 10am-3.30pm**. There will be a reflection day which offers an invitation to reflect on and honour our inner life of change and transition. Facilitated by Linda Espie at Heart of Life, Kildara Centre, Rear 41 Stanhope St, Malvern. Cost \$80 (Materials provided, BYO lunch). Book for this day, and pay via website heartoflife.melbourne. For more information please email info@heartoflife.melbourne or tel 9890 1101.

BAPTISMS – We offer our congratulations to *Violet, Matilda and Levi Donovan, and Sidney Fairbrother, Kodie Lawson and Sam Oswald*, who are baptised this weekend: The Church of God welcomes you with great joy

CHAPLAINCY SUNDAY NEXT WEEKEND There will be a collection at all masses to help support the work done by our chaplains serving those in need across healthcare, HIV/Aids, Seafarers, Prisons and Youth justice. Please give generously. You can donate online at www.ccam.org.au

COMING TOGETHER AGAIN – SAVE THE DATE on Sunday 22nd May, we wish to invite Parishioners new and old, to gather after the 11am Mass in the school hall to celebrate our gifts and talents

FIRST EUCHARIST GIFTS With First Eucharist ceremonies approaching in June, please note that we have a supply of First Eucharist gifts, and cards as well as baptism keepsakes available to buy in our piety stall (located in the foyer of the church). You may browse before or after each of our Masses.

Are you considering becoming Catholic?
Would you like to know more of the Catholic Faith?
OUR RCIA PROGRAM HAS BEGUN
Please contact the Parish Office giving your name and contact details if you would like to join. on 9758 1029 or email marymakarucha@stjohnthebaptist.net.au



MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND An opportunity to spend a weekend improving your communication. Come and learn how to keep/rekindle the passion in your relationship and how to keep your love growing! The weekend we offer is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome. The next residential weekend is on 21 -23 May 2021 in Wantirna South (Book early to avoid disappointment) Information/Bookings: Please Phone Mercy & James 0409 183 676 or Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au

ROSTERS: Mon 10th May to Sun 16th May

Flowers	Marg H & Judy G
Linen	Laurel S
Welcomers	6pm: Help needed 9am: Help needed 11am: Help needed
Lectors	6pm: Jenny K 9am: Pamela E 11am: Peggy S
Counters	Peter & Dawn, Peter C
Gardening	Tom Noonan & Help Needed Please