

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Exodus 24:3-8

Moses went and told the people all the commands of the Lord and all the ordinances. In answer, all the people said with one voice, 'We will observe all the commands that the Lord has decreed.' Moses put all the commands of the Lord into writing, and early next morning he built an altar at the foot of the mountain, with twelve standing-stones for the twelve tribes of Israel. Then he directed certain young Israelites to offer holocausts and to immolate bullocks to the Lord as communion sacrifices. Half of the blood Moses took up and put into basins, the other half he cast on the altar. And taking the Book of the Covenant he read it to the listening people, and they said, 'We will observe all that the Lord has decreed; we will obey.' Then Moses took the blood and cast it towards the people. 'This' he said 'is the blood of the Covenant that the Lord has made with you, containing all these rules.'

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R/. I will take the cup of salvation,
and call on the name of the Lord.*

SECOND READING

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews. 9:11-15

Now Christ has come, as the high priest of all the blessings which were to come. He has passed through the greater, the more perfect tent, which is better than one made by men's hands because it is not of this created order; and he has entered the sanctuary once and for all, taking with him not the blood of goats and bull calves, but his own blood, having won an eternal redemption for us. The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer are sprinkled on those who have incurred defilement and they restore the holiness of their outward lives; how much more effectively the blood of Christ, who offered himself as the perfect sacrifice to God through the eternal Spirit, can purify our inner self from dead actions so that we do our service to the living God.

He brings a new covenant, as the mediator, only so that the people who were called to an eternal inheritance may actually receive what was promised: his death took place to cancel the sins that infringed the earlier covenant.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the living bread from heaven,
says the Lord;
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 14:12-16, 22-26

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb was sacrificed, his disciples said to Jesus, 'Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the passover?' So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the city and you will meet a man carrying a pitcher of water. Follow him, and say to the owner of the house which he enters, "The Master says: Where is my dining room in which I can eat the passover with my disciples?" He will show you a large upper room furnished with couches, all prepared. Make the preparations for us there.' The disciples set out and went to the city and found everything as he had told them, and prepared the Passover.

And as they were eating he took some bread, and when he had said the blessing he broke it and gave it to them. 'Take it,' he said 'this is my body.' Then he took a cup, and when he had returned thanks he gave it to them, and all drank from it, and he said to them, 'This is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many. I tell you solemnly, I shall not drink any more wine until the day I drink the new wine in the kingdom of God.'

After psalms had been sung they left for the Mount of Olives.

The Gospel of the Lord.



Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You
are in the Blessed Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I long for You in my soul.
Since I cannot now receive You
sacramentally, come at least
spiritually into my heart.
As though You have already
come, I embrace You and unite
myself entirely to You;
never permit me to be
separated from You. Amen.



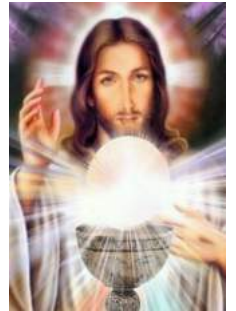
ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH
Knox Deanery
19 Forest Road, Ferntree Gully, 3156
Phone: 9758 1029
Email: office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au
Website: www.stjohnthebaptist.net.au



The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ – Year B

5th/6th June, 2021

*You have made a covenant with your people
in the gift of Your Son,
who offered His body and blood for us.
As we celebrate this Eucharist,
build up Your Church by deepening within us
the life of Your covenant,
and by opening our hearts to all those in need.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*



FOCUS ON THE WORD: In the Jewish tradition, blood plays a very interesting double role – being both sacred and impure. As we see from this week's first reading, blood was used as a sign of sealing a covenant and so took on a very sacred significance. Blood was held to be sacred due to its relationship with life and thus God. However, in other circumstances, blood was regarded as forbidden and impure. The Torah forbids the eating of blood and so for meat to be regarded as kosher (ritually proper) it must be drained of all blood at the time of slaughter. This prohibition has to do with an ancient pagan practice of eating blood and was designed to distinguish the Jews from such pagan practices. Jews would have been very familiar with the notion that a covenant with God was sealed with blood and so for Jesus to describe his blood as being 'the blood of the covenant' would have been immediately significant to his disciples and the first audience of the Gospel. **Jesus is marking a new covenant** between God and God's people – a covenant in blood like the covenants of old. He is making it clear that God is prepared to start over again with the people – a new covenant for a new phase of the ever developing relationship. © Greg Sunter

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 9th June : St Ephrem

Fri 11th June: The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

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.

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ– Year B
5th / 6th June, 2021
YEAR OF ST JOSEPH

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently

Bev Phillips

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Tom Clynnos, Cossimo Coviello, Amparo Judit, Ray Daniels, Ernest Williams, Concetta Cavarra, Justin Walker, Shar Aherne, Ernest Williams, Benny Lizza.

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 at 10.30a.m.*
Venue: 37 Lane Road, FTG. All are welcome.
Contact: Pauline Barlow on 9758 5106.

FRIENDSHIP GATHERING is currently postponed in line with the Covid Restrictions. If you would like to keep busy in the lockdown, perhaps you would like to

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP is postponed during lockdown. You can find out more about us at <https://www.ccr.org.au/>

MOTHERS' PRAYERS temporarily postponed due to the Covid Lockdown restrictions.

CDFPAY FOR PARISHES – ONLINE PAYMENT PORTAL For those who would like to keep contributing during lockdown, this site enables you to make quick and easy online thanks-giving payments [CDFpay for St John the Baptist Parish, Ferntree Gully](#) Many thanks to all our contributors for your generous support.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FIRST EUCHARIST CANDIDATES O Jesus, You have loved us with such exceedingly great love as to give the precious gift of the Holy Eucharist, inflame us with a burning zeal to promote Your glory by praying for (your child's name) to prepare worthily to approach Your holy table for the first time. Protect, O Sacred Heart of Jesus, this young soul from all evil, strengthen his/her faith, increase his/her love and endow him/her with all the virtues that will make him/her worthy to receive You. Amen.



THE ST VINCENT DE PAUL ANNUAL WINTER APPEAL "With the COVID19 restriction this weekend, the SVDP Winter Appeal has been postponed until further notice. We thank you for your ongoing support." –

MARY MACKILLOP HERITAGE CENTRE is Located at 362 Albert Street, East Melbourne In 200 years of Catholic Education, Mary MacKillop, Julian Tenison-Woods and the Sisters of St Joseph have contributed significantly to the establishment and operations of schools, children's homes and providence centres. In this significant year of St Joseph, we are reminded of the important role that the Heritage Centre can play in faith formation and how the lives of St Mary, Julian and the Sisters, in the name of Joseph, can inspire people of all ages to respond to the needs of the time. The Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre, **subject to Covid Restrictions**, has reopened for pilgrims, parishioners, and community groups on Monday to Friday from 9 am – 5 pm. **The Centre offers retreats and programs with a specific design for parish groups and invites you to view one or more of the following:**

- A dedicated **Museum** to Mary, Julian and the SOSJ's with emphasis on Victoria.
- The Mary MacKillop **Heritage trail**, which includes Mary's place of birth.
- A **chapel**, set in a very spiritual and sacred space where Mary walked, lived and prayed.
- A **dedicated gift shop** with a wide range of gifts, books, cards, and souvenirs, including products from the Peruvian Women's Project.
- **Accommodation** that consists of competitively priced self-contained apartments that parishioners may like to access for a night out in Melbourne, for the theatre, football or dinner! Off street parking and lift access is available.

For Parishes requiring special group bookings, please contact us on 9926 9300
We are also seeking people interested in volunteering at the Centre.

TENDING OUR WINTER HEART: LIVE-IN WEEKEND RETREAT', Friday 4pm, 11th June - Sunday 4pm, 13th June 2021. We invite you to join this contemplative retreat, which is an opportunity to spend some personal, quality time with yourself in the quiet and beautiful surroundings of The Holy Name Retreat & Spirituality Centre in Cheltenham. Facilitated by Carole Carmody rsm and Marlene McGrath of Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation. Cost \$295 including accommodation and catering. Book and pay via website www.heartoflife.melbourne, or telephone 9890 1101.

40th BIRTHDAY & REUNION LUNCH an Invitation



to all Lady Tennis Players past & present who have participated in the **Mountain Area Ladies Tuesday Tennis Association**. This event will take place on Tuesday 22nd June 2021 at 12 Midday, at the Dorset Gardens Hotel Bistro. Please **RSVP by 15th June** to: glenda_jean@hotmail.com

OUR 2021 COMBINED CATHOLIC PARISHES RAFFLE will be drawn this Saturday, 5 June 2021 at 7.15 pm and results will be published on the internet at www.stsimonsparish.com.au. Winners will be notified by telephone. All participating parishes will be notified of winners by email. Good luck everyone!

Dear Friends,
will continue our lockdown in order to contain the current spread of COVID-19. Unfortunately, this means our Parishes and offices will be closed during this time and all staff (including parish office staff) must work from home until the lockdown is lifted, unless otherwise notified. Parish facilities, such as community halls, cannot be opened during the lockdown period. Consistent with the last lockdown, restrictions apply for Ceremonies and Religious gatherings:

- **Prayer and Religious Ceremonies:** No in-person gatherings permitted. Livestreaming and Broadcast is permitted with a total of 5 people present including technicians.
- **Funerals:** (indoor and outdoor): Permitted with no more than 10 people (and those necessary to conduct the funeral). Children under 12 months old are not counted towards this cap.
- **Weddings:** (indoor and outdoor): Not permitted unless end of life or for deportation reasons. Involves only 5 persons (including the two persons being married, celebrant, two witnesses)

I understand this will be a challenging time for many people. Hopefully we can draw further on our stores of resilience and continue to show our care and support for those around us. If you are experiencing any difficulty or need support, please reach out to Fr Thomas.

You can view Mass on the TV from St Patrick's Cathedral, Sundays at 11am, **live on C31 (channel 44 on digital TV)** as well as live-streamed on the Archdiocese website and YouTube Channel. [Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne - YouTube](#) - Daily Mass live streamed from: [St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne](#). Or try participating in a **MASS ONLINE** - go to: <https://stsimonsparish.com.au/mass-videos> or <https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass> or <https://hollyfamilydoveton.org.au/>

Stay Safe, until we can gather again. 😊