

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah 23:1-6

‘Doom for the shepherds who allow the flock of my pasture to be destroyed and scattered – it is the Lord who speaks! This, therefore, is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says about the shepherds in charge of my people: You have let my flock be scattered and go wandering and have not taken care of them. Right, I will take care of you for your misdeeds – it is the Lord who speaks! But the remnant of my flock I myself will gather from all the countries where I have dispersed them, and will bring them back to their pastures: they shall be fruitful and increase in numbers. I will raise up shepherds to look after them and pasture them; no fear, no terror for them any more; not one shall be lost – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will raise a virtuous Branch for David, who will reign as true king and be wise, practising honesty and integrity in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel dwell in confidence. And this is the name he will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.’

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians 2:13-18

In Christ Jesus, you that used to be so far from us have been brought very close, by the blood of Christ. For he is the peace between us, and has made the two into one and broken down the barrier which used to keep them apart, actually destroying in his own person the hostility caused by the rules and decrees of the Law. This was to create one single New Man in himself out of the two of them and by restoring peace through the cross, to unite them both in a single Body and

reconcile them with God. In his own person he killed the hostility. Later he came to bring the good news of peace, peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near at hand. Through him, both of us have in the one Spirit our way to come to the Father.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!
My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;
I know them, and they follow me.
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 6:30-34

The apostles re-joined Jesus and told him all they had done and taught. Then he said to them, ‘You must come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while’; for there were so many coming and going that the apostles had no time even to eat. So they went off in a boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But people saw them going, and many could guess where; and from every town they all hurried to the place on foot and reached it before them. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he set himself to teach them at some length.

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**



16th Sunday in Ordinary Time– Year B 17th /18th July, 2021

*Lord Jesus, keep your flock safe;
protect us from harm
Never let us go astray, like sheep.
Guide us along the road
to our spiritual home
with You and with the Holy Spirit,
forever and ever. Amen.*



*They were like
Sheep without a
Shepherd*

FOCUS ON THE WORD Fifty years ago the word ‘stress’ was only ever applied to materials like steel and the wings of planes. But since then, along with ‘pressure’, it has first crept into our language and more lately become an everyday term. Everyone experiences stress now. You can even hear Grade One students talk about the stress they’re under at school! Perhaps it’s the ever-growing pace of life or an innate competitiveness but pressure and stress have become part of daily life for most people in the so-called civilised world. Although he may never have used the words ‘stress’ or ‘pressure’, Jesus knew all about the demands of ministry with other people. When the disciples returned from their first efforts away from Jesus, he knew that they needed some time out to debrief, to pray and to re-energise themselves. He ordered them all into a boat and they headed for a lonely place where they could be by themselves and rejuvenate. Jesus recognised the importance of taking time out. If you are engaged in a vocation or ministry that sees you meeting the needs of others, you need some time out to reflect on your experiences; time to hold those people up to God in prayer; time to make sense of your work and the interactions you’ve shared; time to simply recharge your batteries so that you can once again give fully of yourself. © 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 Tue 20th July St Apollinaris Wed 21st July St Lawrence of Brindisi
Thurs 22nd July St Mary Magdalene Fri 23rd July St Bridget

*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.

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time– Year B

17th / 18th July, 2021
Year of St Joseph

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently
Amy M. Judit



Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Palma Kaali-Nagy, Eleanor Phillips, Terry Whelan, Adriana Bekkers, Jim Feeney, Margaret Haines, John Bekkers, Robert Whittle, Martin Pelgrim, Jack Turner.

The sick: Kathryn Kircos, 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 *Everyone is welcome on Thursdays between 10 am to 12 pm for a chat over a cuppa, join a card game, knit or just sit for a while.*
New members are welcome. Subject to covid restrictions

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP meets at 10.15am – 12.30pm in the Parish Hall, for Prayer and Praise. You can find out more about us at <https://www.ccr.org.au/> all welcome. Subject to Covid restrictions.

MOTHERS' PRAYERS will resume at 9am on 13th July, 2021. Enquiries: 9758 1029

CDFPAY FOR PARISHES – ONLINE PAYMENT PORTAL For those who would like to contribute electronically, this site enables you to make quick and easy online thanks-giving. payments [CDFpay for St John the Baptist Parish, Ferntree Gully](https://www.cdfpayforstjohnthebaptistparish.com.au/) Many thanks to all our contributors for your generous support.

POSITIONS VACANT ACROSS THE ARCHDIOCESE Multiple jobs available. More information regarding these positions can be found on the Archdiocese website at: <https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies>

FIRST EUCHARIST MASSES that were previously postponed due to coronavirus restrictions, are now rescheduled, subject to any further restrictions for the weekend of 24th / 25th July, 2021.



WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY In January this year, Pope Francis announced the institution of a World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, to be celebrated on **Sunday 25th July**, with the theme 'I am with you always' (Matthew 28:20). The World Day will take place each year on the fourth Sunday in July, close to the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne. This day encourages the Church to reflect on the value, gifts and dignity of grandparents and the elderly, whose love, wisdom and living memory are invaluable resources to be treasured and celebrated.

PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH APPEAL 2021 – 25TH/26TH JULY Next weekend, our parish will be holding the annual Catholic Mission Church Appeal. This year, we invite you to partner with the essential



work of the Good Shepherd Sisters in Bangkok, Thailand, as they reach out to vulnerable mothers and their babies. These mothers find hope and a new start at the Mother and Babies Home at the Good Shepherd Centre.

However, the Home can only continue this work through the generosity of others. Through this appeal, we are given the opportunity to come alongside the Sisters to ensure more mothers in need are given an opportunity at a brighter future. Please come prepared and give generously.

'REFRAMING RETIREMENT', Saturday 24 July 2021, 10am-3pm. Does our sense of vocation or calling end with Retirement? Does the final 'third' of life signal a decline, or an opportunity to encounter an unexplored terrain of life and of oneself? And what can our faith journey become at this time of transition? Retirement can be a wake-up call, summoning us to reframe our vision and our purpose. This reflection day is led by Simon Jenkinson, qualified clinical psychologist and spiritual director. Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation, Rear 41 Stanhope St, Malvern VIC. Cost \$60 (morning tea provided, BYO lunch). Book and pay via website www.heartoflife.melbourne, email info@heartoflife.melbourne or tel 9890 1101.

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](https://www.catholicarchdioceseofmelbourne.org.au/) - Daily Mass live streamed from St Pat's.

SNAP COVID LOCKDOWN The Premier has confirmed that Victoria has entered a five-day lockdown from 11.59pm Thursday 15th July, ending at 11.59pm next Tuesday 20th July. Whilst the announcement was well sign-posted in the lead up, I know it will come as disappointing news to most of us. It means that our Archdiocesan and Parish Offices will be closed for the duration of the lockdown, and there will be no Masses here at St John's, until the lockdown is lifted. **You are dispensed from your Sunday obligation at this time.** At present, live Mass is not available but **-TRY PARTICIPATING IN A MASS ONLINE:** <https://stsimonsparish.com.au/mass-videos> or <https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass>

DO YOU FEEL LIKE BEING CALLED TO SERVE? The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. **COME & SEE! An Information Session** about the Permanent Diaconate will be held on **14 August, Saturday 10:00-11.45am** at the Catholic Theological College (CTC), East Melbourne. For more information: **Watch:** Melbourne's Deacons <https://youtu.be/q2RhNDbtTS0> **Watch:** Pope Francis' 2020 Prayer Intention for Deacons <https://youtu.be/NuG99HD1LaY> **Read More: [Brochure]** <https://www.cam1.org.au/permanent-diaconate> Contact: Office of the Permanent Diaconate (Phone) 03 9412 335 (Email) diaconate@cam.org.au



MEDITATION ON JESUS FOR HEALING AND WELLBEING Of Body & Soul (Through gentle postures and breathing exercises) **August 7th** from 1pm – 4pm. (Cost: \$20, Concession \$15). Registration is necessary by phone or email. Guided by Fr. Gilbert Carlo SVD, At: Janssen Spirituality Centre, 22 Woodvale Road, Boronia, Victoria 3155. RSVP Email: enquiries@janssencentre.org Or gilbertcarlo@gmail.com or Tel: 03-97626625.

ROSTERS: Mon 19th July to Sun 25th July, 21

Flowers	Marg H & Ange C
Linen	Sue O'H
Welcomers	6pm Lia U & Kathryn C 9am Rosa L & Florence J 11am Shamindri & Chamal A
Lectors	6pm Jenny K 9am Terry S 11am Phuong B
Counters	George & Genevieve W & Bindu M
Gardening	Carlos E