

FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of Exodus

16:2-4, 12-15

The whole community of the sons of Israel began to complain against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness and said to them, 'Why did we not die at the Lord's hand in the land of Egypt, when we were able to sit down to pans of meat and could eat bread to our hearts content! As it is, you have brought us to this wilderness to starve this whole company to death!'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Now I will rain down bread for you from the heavens. Each day the people are to go out and gather the day's portion; I propose to test them this way to see whether they will follow my law or not.' 'I have heard the complaints of the sons of Israel. Say this to them, "Between the two evenings you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have bread to your hearts content. Then you will learn that I, the Lord, am your God.'" And so it came about: quails flew up in the evening, and they covered the camp; in the morning there was a coating of dew all round the camp. When the coating of dew lifted, there on the surface of the desert was a thing delicate, powdery, as fine as hoarfrost on the ground. When they saw this, the sons of Israel said to one another, 'What is that?' not knowing what it was. 'That' said Moses to them 'is the bread the Lord gives you to eat.'

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/. The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

4:17, 20-24

I want to urge you in the name of the Lord, not to go on living the aimless kind of life that pagans live. Now that is hardly the way you have learnt from Christ, unless you failed to hear him properly when you were taught what the truth is in Jesus. You must give up your old way of life; you must put aside your old self, which gets

corrupted by following illusory desires. Your mind must be renewed by a spiritual revolution so that you can put on the new self that has been created in God's way, in the goodness and holiness of the truth.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

*No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes
from the mouth of God.*

Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

6:24-35

When the people saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into boats and crossed to Capernaum to look for Jesus. When they found him on the other side, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' Jesus answered:

'I tell you most solemnly, you are not looking for me because you have seen the signs but because you had all the bread you wanted to eat. Do not work for food that cannot last, but work for food that endures to eternal life, the kind of food the Son of Man is offering you, for on him the Father, God himself, has set his seal.' Then they said to him, 'What must we do if we are to do the works that God wants?' Jesus gave them this answer, 'This is working for God: you must believe in the one he has sent.' So they said, 'What sign will you give to show us that we should believe in you? What work will you do? Our fathers had manna to eat in the desert; as scripture says: He gave them bread from heaven to eat.' Jesus answered:

'I tell you most solemnly, it was not Moses who gave you bread from heaven, it is my Father who gives you the bread from heaven, the true bread; for the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.'

'Sir,' they said 'give us that bread always.' Jesus answered:

'I am the bread of life.

He who comes to me will never be hungry; he who believes in me will never thirst.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

Knox Deanery

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18th Sunday in Ordinary Time— Year B

31st July / 1st August, 2021

*Lord Jesus,
you are the Bread of Heaven for eternal life.
Through the gift of Eucharist
may we find sustenance and strength,
and by the leading of the Holy Spirit
help us to be conscious of your direction and mission.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*



FOCUS ON THE WORD: This week's gospel reading continues the exploration of John Ch 6 that began last week and will continue for another few weeks. Today's passage begins the extended discourse on the 'Bread of Life' image that runs throughout this chapter. At the start of today's reading, the crowd has caught up with him again and appears to be looking for a repeat performance of the miraculous feeding. Jesus accuses them of simply wanting more food and not being alert to the truth of the sign they had witnessed. The crowd asks what they must do to accomplish the works of God and Jesus answers fairly bluntly, Believe in me! Christ is present in the Eucharist in many forms: in the people gathered; in the celebrating priest; in the Word proclaimed; and in the consecrated bread and wine – the Body and Blood of Christ. In relation to receiving Christ through the reception of communion, St Augustine wrote, 'Be what you see, and receive what you are.' We not only receive the Body of Christ through Eucharist, we are called to be the Body of Christ because of what we have received; and we receive the Body of Christ because we are already part of the Body of Christ.. © 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 Mon 2nd Aug St Eusebius of Vercelli, St Peter Julian Eymard
Tue 3rd Aug St Dominic Wed 4th Aug St John Vianney Fri 6th Aug The Transfiguration

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

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.

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time– Year B
31st July / 1st August, 2021
Year of St Joseph

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently

Ray Russo



Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Patricia Dillon, Francis Cassar, Elena Russo, Nora Ryan, Johanna Roelofs, Mary Ryan, Amparo M Judit, Margherita Capozzi.

The sick., Lyle Hoefler, 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 is currently postponed. We await the next Covid-19 update in 2 weeks.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP You can find out more about us at <https://www.ccr.org.au/>. Our meeting is currently on hold, until covid restrictions allow.

MOTHERS' PRAYERS will not meet in person this week owing to the covid-19 restrictions. We hope to resume as soon as limits allow. 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 unfortunately, remain postponed. A new date will be published in due course when a covid-safe environment allows. Let us continue to pray for our First Communicants.

THE EPISCOPAL ORDINATION

of Most Reverend and Most Reverend
Martin Ashe, and **Anthony Ireland**



will take place on **Saturday 31 July** at St Patrick's Cathedral from 10.30am. The Mass will be broadcast on free-to-air community channel C31 (channel 44 on digital TV) and streamed live on the [Archdiocesan YouTube channel](#).

FIRST FRIDAY MASS will be celebrated on Friday **6th August at 11am**, with Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament from 10am. All welcome.

OPENING THE DOORS FOUNDATION 20th Anniversary Online Celebration at 9.30am, Wednesday 4th August, 2021. The Foundation is inviting the wider community to join the celebration of its 20th birthday online. It will be an opportunity to hear the stories, see the outcomes and celebrate the accomplishments of participants. For more Information Ph.: 0401 487 414 or Click on this link:

[OPENING THE DOORS Invitation FINAL \(melbournecatholic.org\)](#)

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 Tel: 03-97626625 or Email: enquiries@janssencentre.org

PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH APPEAL 2021

If you still have Catholic Mission Donations that you were unable to make because of the snap lockdown, it's not too late. Please drop them in the basket. A huge thank you if you have already made your donation on-line or by phone.

NATIONAL TREE DAY PUBLIC EVENT will be held along the Ferry Creek Trail. on Sunday **1st of August 2021**, between 10am - 12:00 pm. **Suitable for Children and Accessible for Disabled.** The cost is Free! If you would like to be a part of it, Bookings are Essential: Please **RSVP Contact Ph: 9298 8590** Biodiversity Team - Knox City Council Phone: or visit <https://treeday.planetark.org/site/10024476>

WELCOME BACK EVERYONE: We are happy to open the church doors again, and welcome back parishioners to Masses. At present, we can have 100 participants at each Mass. We will operate on a First come First Serve basis, please come 15 minutes prior to allow Covid Check-in, and hand sanitizing. Masks must be worn. Thank you everyone for your patience.

CATHOLICCARE VICTORIA, SUNDAY APPEAL is to be held next weekend As our parish's social service agency, CatholicCare Victoria delivers counselling and mental health services, specialised support for children and teens, refugee and asylum seeker help, support for separating families, homelessness support and pastoral care. Donations from our parish community will help to support the most vulnerable individuals and families in our community. Please donate to this appeal, your support and generosity will help the vulnerable and marginalised in our community and empower everyone to reach their full potential. You can donate using the envelope or online at www.catholiccarevic.org.au or call 03 9287 5513. Thank you for your consideration.

NATIONAL VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK

– Vocations come from families, communities and parishes. Strong families and communities are the place where vocations are first nurtured. In this National Vocations Awareness Week, let us pray for all families in our parish, and for those preparing for marriage. Let us also pray that our parish community may always be welcoming and encouraging of vocations to marriage, priesthood and consecrated life.

Catholic Vocations Cardinal Knox Centre,
383 Albert Street, East Melbourne VIC 3002
Australia Telephone: (03) 9926 5733
Email: vocations@cam.org.au
www.melbournepriest.com www.cam.org.au/vocation



ROSTERS: Mon 2nd Aug to Sun 8th Aug, 2021

Flowers	Carole D & Lia U
Linen	Laurel S
Welcomers	6pm Rosina L & Myra N 9am Lia U, Marg & Adrian D 11am Shamindri & Chamal A
Lectors	6pm Louise D 9am Peter F 11am Peggy S
Counters	Tony B, Steph H, Connie B, Peter F
Gardening	Patrick S & Harry R