

## FIRST READING

### **A reading from the first book of Kings**

**1Kg 17:8-16**

And then the word of the Lord came to Elijah, 'Up and go to Zarephath, a Sidonian town, and stay there. I have ordered a widow there to give you food.' So he went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks. Addressing her he said, 'Please bring a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please,' he said 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives,' she replied 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel:

"Jar of meal shall not be spent, jug of oil shall not be emptied, before the day when the Lord sends rain on the face of the earth."

The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah.

### **The Word of the Lord.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R/. My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.*

## SECOND READING

### **A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians**

**Col 3:12-17**

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you, and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful.

Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your

hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

### **The Word of the Lord.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Many women were there by the cross,  
watching from a distance,  
the same women who had followed Jesus and  
looked after him.*

*Alleluia!*

## GOSPEL READING

### **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

**6:25-34**

Jesus said to his disciples:  
I am telling you not to worry about your life and what you are to eat,  
nor about your body and what you are to wear.  
Surely life is more than food, and the body more than clothing!

Look at the birds in the sky. They do not sow or reap or gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them.

Are you not worth much more than they are?  
Can any of you, however much you worry,  
add one single cubit to your span of life?  
And why worry about clothing?

Think of the flowers growing in the fields;  
they never have to work or spin: yet I assure you that not even Solomon in all his royal robes was clothed like one of these.

Now if that is how God clothes the wild flowers growing in the field which are there today and thrown into the furnace tomorrow, will he not much more look after you, you have so little faith? So do not worry; do not say, "What are we to eat? What are we to drink? What are we to wear?"

It is the gentiles who set their hearts on all these things. Your heavenly Father knows you need them all. Set your hearts on his kingdom first, and on God's saving justice, and all these other things will be given you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow: tomorrow will take care of itself.

Each day has enough trouble of its own.

### **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**



## **St Mary of the Cross— Year B**

**7<sup>th</sup> /8<sup>th</sup> August, 2021**

*Provident God, with grateful hearts  
we remember the power for goodness  
that Mary MacKillop is in our world.  
On this her feast day, may we be touched  
anew with her spirit of prophetic charity and  
generous participation in mission.  
We ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.*



**FOCUS ON THE WORD:** The Gospel reading for today is, at first glance, an odd choice to pair with the feast of St Mary of the Cross. Mary MacKillop faced more than a few financial challenges, after all, especially in her youth. The burden of supporting her poor family fell to Mary in her teenage years, and surely no one held it against her for worrying about money, food, or clothing. But the pairing of saint and gospel makes sense in the context of Mary's vocation. Rather than worrying about herself, she cared for others. In this, Mary MacKillop lived the gospel very effectively. First caring for her immediate family, then for wider relations, soon enough Mary was focused on meeting the many needs of the communities in which she and her fellow Sisters of St Joseph lived. Through aid, education, and example Mary offered her contemporaries and us an example of faith through works. From quietly and unobtrusively teaching in a stable in 1866, to founding a religious order that spread throughout and beyond a continent, Mary's spiritual journey was truly focused on "God's saving justice". Tending to Australia's Aboriginal peoples, prisoners facing execution, children requiring education, the homeless, the orphaned, the sick, indeed anybody she saw in need, Mary shows us how God seeks to answer the day's troubles: through us. © Nick Brodie Nick Brodie is an Australian historian and writer.

**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](http://www.catholic.org.au/responseandprevention)

**FEAST DAYS** Mon 9<sup>th</sup> Aug St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross Tues 10<sup>th</sup> Aug St Lawrence  
Wed 11<sup>th</sup> Aug St Clare Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> Aug St Jane Frances de Chantal Fri 13<sup>th</sup> Sts Pontian & Hippolytus  
Sat 14<sup>th</sup> Aug St Maximilian Mary Kolbe

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

*(John 10:10)*

**PARISH PRIEST:**  
Fr Thomas Kuruvi 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: SUSPENDED FOR LOCKDOWN**  
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** 1<sup>st</sup> Friday 2pm  
**WILLOWBROOK MASS:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 2pm

**RECONCILIATION:** Saturdays 5.15 pm

**BAPTISMS:** Either during a weekend Mass or at 12.30pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**St Mary of the Cross- Year B**  
7<sup>th</sup> / 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2021  
Year of St Joseph

**PRAYING FOR...**

*All who have died recently*



*Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:*

Patrocínio Sason, Janice Motteram, Brian Hayman and Joan Lineen.

**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.

**CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP** 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](#) Many thanks to all our contributors for your generous support.

**The Journey** is a weekly radio program developed by the Catholic Diocese of Wollongong aired on general Christian radio. On the Journey this week: Fr Tony Alex MGL says life is about today, it's not about tomorrow that hasn't arrived yet or the past that holds us back. Pray and be happy, using prayer to put our anxieties in context. [Click here](#) to hear his message. Or, Listen to St Hilda's message on a Broken Heart: [click here](#). May these short messages bless you.

**FEAST OF ST MARY OF THE CROSS** on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> August, we celebrate the Feast of St Mary (MacKillop) of the Cross. **Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre Open Day, Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> August, 10am-4pm** You are invited to be inspired by the spirit and charisma of Australia's first saint, Mary MacKillop. Mary MacKillop is a child of Melbourne. She was born in Brunswick Street in Fitzroy



and spent the first 18 years of her life living in this amazing city. She was formed by Melbourne in all its hustle and bustle of the gold rush era.

The Mary MacKillop Museum, 362 Albert St East Melbourne, tells the story of St Mary MacKillop, her life and work and the work of the Sisters of St Joseph.

Fr Peter Malone will be celebrating eucharist at 12.30pm in the Chapel, where Mary prayed. **The mass will be live streamed in the Heritage Centre seminar rooms and you can watch this live** via [this link](#). "Live Looks" half hour virtual tours will be broadcast at 11.00am and 1.30pm, using [this link](#).

<https://www.mmhc.org.au/mary-mackillop-heritage-centre-open-day-saturday-7-august/>

**SNAP COVID LOCKDOWN** As I am sure you have all heard by now, as of 8.00pm, Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2021, we are back in a covid 'snap lockdown' and measures will be applied across Victoria and will extend for seven days or until otherwise notified. As such, there will be no Masses at St John's until the Lockdowns are lifted.

**TRY PARTICIPATING IN A MASS ONLINE:** <https://stsimonsparish.com.au/mass-videos> or <https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass>

**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](#) Stay Safe everyone!

**CATHOLICCARE VICTORIA SUNDAY APPEAL** is to be held this 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](http://www.catholiccarevic.org.au) or call 03 9287 5513. Thank you for your consideration.

**BAPTISMS** – for *Marcellus Alexander Peters*, son of Luke & Corinne, and *Chelesa Rose & Joshua David Barrand*, daughter and son of Glenn & Melissa, will unfortunately be postponed, due to the latest Covid-19 snap lockdown.

**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!** Due to Covid restrictions the information session date has been moved into September. No longer on Saturday 14 August, the Information Session about the Permanent Diaconate **will be held on Saturday 4 September, 10:00 -11.45 am** at the Catholic Theological College (CTC), East Melbourne. For further information contact Deacon Kevin Pattison: [Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au](mailto:Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au) For more information: **Watch:** Melbourne's Deacons <https://youtu.be/q2RhNDbtS0> **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](mailto:diaconate@cam.org.au)

**Catholic Vocations Cardinal Knox Centre,**  
383 Albert Street, East Melbourne VIC 3002  
Australia Telephone: (03) 9926 5733  
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**POSITION VACANT - PART-TIME GENERAL OFFICE ASSISTANT**, Mondays 9am-3pm, with potential for Tuesdays also, at Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation, located at Rear 41 Stanhope St, Malvern. To assist with social media, Zoom support, administrative and general duties. Job description and applications (by 28 August 2021): contact the Secretary tel 9890 1101 or email [secretary@heartoflife.melbourne](mailto:secretary@heartoflife.melbourne),

ROSTERS: Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> Aug to Sun 15 <sup>th</sup> Aug, 2021	
Flowers	Genevieve W & Gina P
Linen	Sue N
Welcomers	6pm Wilma H & Myra N 9am Terry S, Neil & Lorraine & Peter 11am Priya H & Patrick S
Lectors	6pm Trish M 9am Pamela E 11am Phuong B
Counters	Tony B, Steph H, Connie B, Peter F
Gardening	Patrick S & Harry R