

FIRST READING

A reading from book of Isaiah 50:5-9

The Lord has opened my ear.
For my part, I made no resistance,
neither did I turn away.
I offered my back to those who struck me,
my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;
I did not cover my face
against insult and spittle.
The Lord comes to my help,
so that I am untouched by the insults.
So, too, I set my face like flint;
I know I shall not be shamed.
My vindicator is here at hand.
Does anyone start proceedings against me?
Then let us go to court together.
Who thinks he has a case against me?
Let him approach me.
The Lord is coming to my help,
who dare condemn me?

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R/. I will walk in the presence of the Lord,
in the land of the living.*

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St James
2:14-18

Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty,' without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead.
This is the way to talk to people of that kind: 'You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds – now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.'

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!
My only glory is the cross
of our Lord Jesus Christ,
which crucifies the world to me
and me to the world.
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Mark 8:27-35

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said, 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked, 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

He called the people and his disciples to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'

The Gospel of the Lord



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

Knox Deanery

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Phone: 9758 1029

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Website: www.stjohnthebaptist.net.au



24th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B

11th / 12th September, 2021

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

**Look upon us, O God,
Creator and ruler of all things.
May we feel the working
of your mercy,
grant that we may serve you
with all our heart.**

**We ask this
through Jesus Christ, your Son, Amen.**



FOCUS ON THE WORD 'But you, who do you say I am?' This would have to be one of the most powerful questions of the gospels. It echoes down the centuries and is just as relevant today as it ever was. 'Who do you say I am?' Our answer to that question is perhaps the most revealing statement of our faith. When Peter answers Jesus' question he demonstrates the disciples' dawning awareness of Jesus' true identity. It is the first occasion that the disciples are called to own what they think about Jesus. However, when Jesus begins to spell out what being the Messiah reality means – persecution and death – Peter tries to convince Jesus that he doesn't need to go down that path. Jesus turns on Peter and snaps, 'Get behind me, Satan!' It is a reminder of the desert temptation Jesus had to face at the start of his ministry when he wrestled with what sort of messiah he was called to be.. © 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 13th Sept: *St John Chrysostom*, Tues 14th Sept *The Exaltation of the Holy Cross*
Wed 15th Sept: *Our Lady of Sorrows*, Thurs 16th Sept *Sts Cornelius and Cyprian*

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: 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 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.

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Yr B

11th / 12th September 2021

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently



Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Carmine Mazzone, Maureen Addicott, Teresa Johnson, Patricia Gallus, Valentina Parente, Frank Power, Maria Scardillo, Thelma Crocker.

The sick: Ray Loel, 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 some of us are meeting on Zoom. Please contact Maree at the Parish office if you would like to join the Zoom.

MOTHERS' PRAYERS postponed due to covid.

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.

IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND OUR OWN ZOOM 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!

WISDOM FROM THE ABBEY Mother Hilda speaks this week on “the little things”. Click on this link to listen: [wisdom-from-the-abbey-mother-hilda-the-little-things](#)

Fr Thomas will be offering **ZOOM MASS DAILY (Except Mondays) AT 10AM**. So you can be a part of our own congregation's Mass Celebration, from the comfort of your own home, using the link below.



Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/95544717317?pwd=RzZjNlVGNhZHVUhxZWZWR2TElqaHNOZz09>

Meeting ID: 955 4471 7317

Passcode: SJBMass

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST COFFEE AND CHAT ZOOM MEET It was a lovely catch up with our fellow parishioners last Thursday at the RUOK session.

We have decided to continue a similar session every week - hope to see you!

St John the Baptist Coffee and Chat Zoom meet Tuesday: 11:00am - 12 midday.

Drop in anytime to have a chat and catch up with your parish colleagues.

Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86762221098?pwd=Z3BKZlVhVjVXQXQnFjVWkxFSnJmMkFXUT09>

- Mary Makarucha – Faith Development Co-ordinator.

SEASON OF CREATION WEEK 2

Pope Francis is calling for action. It's time to respond.

Pope Francis urges the world's 1.3 billion Catholics and all people of good will to take urgent action against the injustice of the climate emergency and the ecological crisis, to protect the poor and future generations. His encyclical letter Laudato Si' is a compelling call to care for our common home, Earth, and builds on a long history of Catholic teaching. We are building a vibrant movement to respond to Pope Francis' call. Link: Homepage Original - Laudato Si Movement. Please see the attachment for more information on how you can make a difference.

Let us pray...

We pray for communities already affected by the changing climate and for those at risk of natural disasters. May we do what we can to support communities to stay safe and have what they need. Lord, hear us,

All: Lord hear our prayer.

AN ONLINE LECTURE WITH SR KATHLEEN DUFFY, SSJ, PhD Tuesday, **12 OCTOBER 2021**.

6.30PM Aust Eastern Daylight Time. The universe we live in is dynamic, creative, and beautiful. During this lecture, we will consider what the universe reveals about our creator God and how we can become continually more conscious of our part in its ongoing evolution. To register, by 8th Oct, go to the Jesuit website: <https://jisa.org.au/retreat/emerging-spirituality-in-a-chaotic-world/> This is a free event.

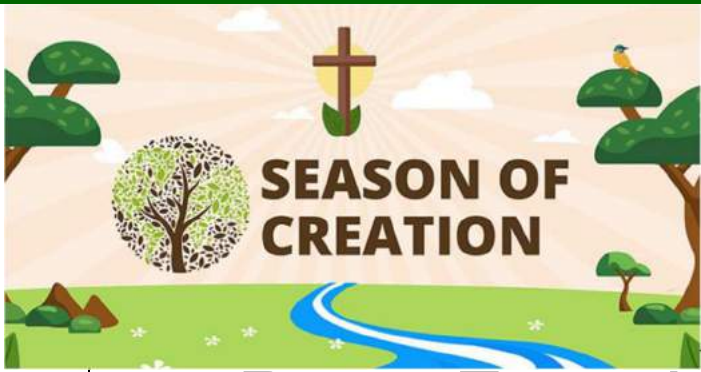
SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY 2021 on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. The Church takes a zero-tolerance approach to child abuse. We recommit to practices that support survivors and make the Catholic Church and its ministries the safest possible place for children and people at risk. Please see the attached flyer about Safeguarding for more information.



LOCKDOWN LIGHT—WEEK TWO A weekly series bringing 'light' to this time of lockdown To help fill the void during lockdown, each week we'll suggest some inspiring content to bring 'light' to this difficult time. Pop on the kettle and check out the recommendations below. Podcasts for Christian living: Unity in marriage (part 1) In this podcast, Catholic counsellors, Dr Bob Schuchts and Jake Khym discuss how marriage is a union of two broken people, and yet when the love of God is invited in, unity is made possible. Listen at www.bit.ly/ChristianLiving2

Getting to know your Bible: Exploring the Gospels: As Christians, we have four accounts of the life of Jesus, called Gospels. How should we read them? Getting started: This video by a Franciscan priest looks at how it's possible to understand different Gospel accounts and stories about Jesus. Watch at www.bit.ly/BibleGettingStarted2
Going deeper: This year, we are reading Mark's Gospel at Mass. This video provides an introduction into the crafting and structure of the Gospel and the portrait of Jesus presented. View here www.bit.ly/BibleGoingDeeper2

POSITIONS VACANT ACROSS THE ARCHDIOCESE. Details can be found on the Archdiocese of Melbourne website for various administrative and liturgical positions. For more information visit <https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies>



Pope Francis is calling for action. It's time to respond.

Pope Francis urges the world's 1.3 billion Catholics and all people of good will to take urgent action against the injustice of the climate emergency and the ecological crisis, to protect the poor and future generations. His encyclical letter *Laudato Si'* is a compelling call to care for our common home, Earth, and builds on a long history of Catholic teaching. We are building a vibrant movement to respond to Pope Francis' call. Link: [Homepage Original - Laudato Si Movement](#)

[Healthy Planet Healthy People - Petition](#)

Catholics are urged to sign the "[Healthy Planet Healthy People](#)" petition as a key action for this year's Season of Creation. This petition has been endorsed by the Vatican Dicastery for Integral Human Development in the hope that millions of Catholics will raise their voices in the public sphere to help Restore Our Common Home. Further information and to sign the petition: "[Healthy Planet Healthy People](#)"

