FIRST READING

A reading from book of Wisdom2:12, 17-20 The godless say to themselves.

'Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man, since he annoys us and opposes our way of life, reproaches us for our breaches of the law and accuses us of playing false to our upbringing. Let us see if what he says is true, let us observe what kind of end he himself will have.

If the virtuous man is God's son, God will take his part and rescue him from the clutches of his enemies. Let us test him with cruelty and with torture, and thus explore this gentleness of his and put his endurance to the proof. Let us condemn him to a shameful death since he will be looked after – we have his word for it.'

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/. The Lord upholds my life.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St James

3:16-4:3

Wherever you find jealousy and ambition, you find disharmony, and wicked things of every kind being done; whereas the wisdom that comes down from above is essentially something pure; it also makes for peace, and is kindly and considerate; it is full of compassion and shows itself by doing good; nor is there any trace of partiality or hypocrisy in it. Peacemakers, when they work for peace, sow the seeds which will bear fruit in holiness.

Where do these wars and battles between yourselves first start? Isn't it precisely in the desires fighting inside your own selves? You want something and you haven't got it; so you are prepared to kill. You have an ambition that you cannot satisfy; so you fight to get your way by force. Why you don't have what you want is because you don't pray for it; when you do pray and don't get it, it is because you have not prayed properly, you have prayed for something to indulge your own desires.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! God has called us with the gospel to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia!

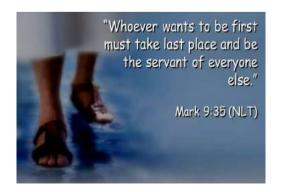
GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 9:30-37

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his disciples made their way through Galilee; and he did not want anyone to know, because he was instructing his disciples; he was telling them, 'The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of men; they will put him to death; and three days after he has been put to death he will rise again.' But they did not understand what he said and were afraid to ask him.

They came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the road?' They said nothing because they had been arguing which of them was the greatest. So he sat down, called the Twelve to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself last of all and servant of all.' He then took a little child, set him in front of them, put his arms round him, and said to them, 'Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name, welcomes me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

The Gospel of the Lord



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

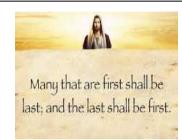
Knox Deanery 19 Forest Road, Ferntree Gully, 3156 Phone: 9758 1029

Email: office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au Website: www.stjohnthebaptist.net.au



25th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B 18th /19th September, 2021 Social Services Sunday

God our Saviour,
You call us to serve one another.
Make us wise and resourceful:
children of the light
who continue Your work in this world
with untiring concern for integrity
and justice.



We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

FOCUS ON THE WORD Away from the crowds, Jesus identifies himself as the mysterious Son of Man and predicts his passion, death and resurrection. The disciples did not grasp the meaning of Jesus' words, and they engaged in a heated discussion about status within the community. Jesus had just admitted his ultimate vulnerability, and they were quarrelling about rank. © Dianne Bergant CSA Jesus seized the moment to teach an important lesson Jesus tells his disciples that if anyone wants to be first, they must make themself last of all and servant of all. This is as challenging to us today as it was to the disciples and early Christians. Our world seems to revolve around position, status and power – whoever has the most toys wins! -But what Jesus advocated was a leadership based on being of service to others. Being powerful simply means you are in a position to help even more people. Putting yourself last, instead of first, gives respect, dignity and power to others rather than to 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 Mon 20th Sept: Sts Andrew Kim Tae-Gon, Paul Chong Ha-Sang & Companions Tues 21st Sept: St Matthew, Thurs 23rd Sept St Pius of Pietrelcina

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@stiohnthebaptist.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

 $\textbf{WILLOWBROOK MASS:} \ 3^{rd} \ Thursday \ 2pm$

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

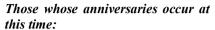
WEDDINGS:

By appointment, 6 months' notice required. Saturdays or weekdays (not Sundays). Contact the Parish Office: on 9758 1029.

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Yr B 18th / 19th September 2021 Social Services Sunday

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently



Grace Gamley, George Mah, Angelo Crivellaro, Pasquale Lotrionte.

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.

MONDAY ROSARY St John's Parish Monday Rosary will be held on Zoom.

Time: 7:30 pm Every Monday

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/98360074118?pwd=eHZ Cb0VDeEZLOFJYbUVSMXdmb3J2UT09

Meeting ID: 983 6007 4118

Passcode: Rosary

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!

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=RzjNlVGdnZHVUhxZWR2TE1qaHNOZz09

Meeting ID: 955 4471 7317 Passcode: SJBMass

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST COFFEE AND CHAT ZOOM MEET You are invited to a

scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Parish Chat at 11am.

Time: Thursday, 23 September 2021

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/94607350318?pwd=R21LV DA2NW1KMGFZK2JDY3o2RHkzUT09

Meeting ID: 946 0735 0318 Passcode: SJBChat

- Mary Makarucha – Faith Development Co-ordinator.

PRAYING FOR ALL VCE STUDENTS End of year exams are coming up for many secondary school students. Please remember them in your prayers over the coming weeks.

SEASON OF CREATION - WEEK 3

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.

Prayer: Loving God, You created us to live with the birds of the air, animals of the land and sea, trees, flowers, plants and our brothers and sisters around the world. Open our minds, touch our hearts and guide us in ways of care and concern for all you have gifted us. We ask this in Your name. Amen.



SOCIAL SERVICES SUNDAY On 19th September 2021, we mark Social Services Sunday within the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne. On this day we invite all to give thanks and pray for all who stand with and provide support to those who are marginalised and vulnerable within our communities. We recognise with deep gratitude, those working within Catholic Social Services Victoria's 43 member organisations, the 7,000 staff and 17,000 volunteers, who together, serve more than 200,000 people in need each year. We also give thanks for all in our parishes, who are so often at the forefront of providing practical support and care to those in need within their local communities, and beyond. Find out more at: ttps://css.org.au/world-day-of-migrants-and-refugees/



LOCKDOWN LIGHT - WEEK 3 A weekly series bringing 'light' to this time of lockdown. Pop on the kettle and check out the recommendations at www.bit.ly/LockdownLight Resources for Christian living: Making the most of lockdown In this blog post, local Melbourne mum of six. Kate Moriarty, shares some fun and creative ideas to help families make the most of their time together in lockdown. Find out more at www.bit.ly/ChristianLiving3 Getting to know your Bible: Opening up the Old Testament. Getting Started: This video by Bible Snap brings you the Old Testament in 8 minutes, with a comprehensive overview of where the books and people fit in the timeline of history. Watch at www.bit.ly/BibleGettingStarted3 Going Deeper: Exodus is one of the key books of the Old Testament. Hear about the pivotal events in Exodus from a range of other Christian Biblical scholars and theological experts in this 10-minute video. View here www.bit.ly/BibleGoingDeeper3

A PRAYER FOR COVID-19

God of all life...

May your love and light shine in and through me today In a way that no mask can hide. May my eyes dance with the laughter and joy Replacing my hidden smile. May my actions of care and concern Speak louder than my muffled voice ever could. And may the generosity of my heart Radiate out through who I am And how I respond to the world around me So that others may not see my mask But your image shining out Moving in and through me today. Amen

Br Michael Herry fms

Acts of Love for the Season of Creation

"Rivers do not drink their own water; trees do not eat their own fruit; the Sun does not shine on itself and flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves.

Living for others is a rule of nature.

We are all born to help each other.

No matter how difficult it is....

Life is good when you are happy; but much better when others are happy because of you."

Pope Francis.



Mercy International Association SUPPORTS THE

SEASON OF CREATION CALENDAR 1 SEPTEMBER - 4 OCTOBER



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The entire material universe speaks of God's love, his boundless affection for us. Soil, water,

relationships, shows forth the inexhaustible riches of God." Laudato Si' #84, #86

mountains: everything is, as it were, a caress of Cod...The universe as a whole, in all its manifold

'We need to take up an ancient lesson... the conviction that "less is more"... a return to that simplicity which allows us to stop and appreciate the small things, to be grateful for the opportunities which life affords us, to be spiritually detached from what we possess, and not to succumb to sadness for what we lack.... Loudato SF #222

Text: Anne Walsh, Design: Clare Locke