

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Wisdom 7:7-11

I prayed, and understanding was given me;
I entreated, and the spirit of Wisdom came to me. I esteemed her more than sceptres and thrones; compared with her, I held riches as nothing. I reckoned no priceless stone to be her peer, for compared with her, all gold is a pinch of sand, and beside her silver ranks as mud. I loved her more than health or beauty, preferred her to the light, since her radiance never sleeps. In her company all good things came to me, at her hands riches not to be numbered.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R/. Fill us with your love, O Lord,
and we will sing for joy!*

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews
4:12-13

The word of God is something alive and active; it cuts like any double-edged sword but more finely: it can slip through the place where the soul is divided from the spirit, or joints from the marrow; it can judge the secret emotions and thoughts. No created thing can hide from him; everything is uncovered and open to the eyes of the one to whom we must give account of ourselves.

The Word of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!
Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Mark 10:17-27

Jesus was setting out on a journey when a man ran up, knelt before him and put this question to him, 'Good master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: You must not kill; You must not commit adultery; You must not steal; You must not bring false witness; You must not defraud; Honour your father and mother.' And he said to him, 'Master, I have kept all these from my earliest days.' Jesus looked steadily at him and loved him, and he said, 'There is one thing you lack. Go and sell everything you own and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' But his face fell at these words and he went away sad, for he was a man of great wealth.

Jesus looked round and said to his disciples, 'How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!' The disciples were astounded by these words, but Jesus insisted, 'My children,' he said to them, 'how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.' They were more astonished than ever. 'In that case' they said to one another, 'who can be saved?' Jesus gazed at them. 'For men' he said, 'it is impossible, but not for God: because everything is possible for God.'

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



28th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B

9th /10th October, 2021

Life, Marriage & Family Sunday

*Help us to always realise that it is
You who makes all things possible.
Teach us to rely on You,
and not our own efforts,
so that we may be free to follow Jesus
and to find our treasure in You.*



We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

FOCUS ON THE WORD: Sacrifice is a term that gets used quite a lot in religion and yet it's a term with which modern society is very uncomfortable. We're not really 'into' sacrifice. We're much more into feeling good about ourselves and comfortable in our existence. Jesus called on the rich man to make a sacrifice – to let go of what he really loved and valued. What Jesus really called the man to do was to place his trust in Jesus and not in material wealth – that was the sacrifice he was called to make. Ultimately, the man couldn't do that! He couldn't let go of certainty and security and entrust his life and soul to Jesus. Q. How is Jesus' radical challenge being realised in our world / your community? © 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 Monday 11th St. John XXIII, Pope Thursday 13th St. Callistus I, Pope, martyr
Friday 15th St. Theresa of Jesus Saturday 16th St. Hedwig, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque

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

(John 10:1)

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: 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.

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Yr B
9th / 10th October, 2021
Life, Marriage & Family Sunday

PRAYING FOR...
All who have died recently
Fr Noel Oliver PE, (was administrator of our Parish in 1978), Beryl Turner, Lolita Salonga



Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:
Martin O'Toole, Denis Buckley, & Rosario Tudisca.

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=eHZCb0VDeEZLOFJYbUVSMXdmB3J2UT09>



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.

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.cdfpay.com.au/prayer/) 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](https://www.catholic.org.au/melbourne) Stay Safe everyone

KNOX COUNCIL is now providing Local data on COVID-19 vaccination rates and new infections in our community. Go to : <https://www.knox.vic.gov.au/our-services/safety-and-emergencies/covid-19-information/covid-19-dashboard>

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=RzZjNlVGDnZHVUhxZWR2TE1qaHNOZz09> 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 14th October 21
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/94607350318?pwd=R21LVDA2NWIKMGFZK2JDY3o2RHkzUT09>
Meeting ID: 946 0735 0318 Passcode: SJBChat
Mary Makarucha – Faith Development Co-ordinator.



COLUMBAN CALENDAR "The Society of St. Vincent de Paul; has 2022 Columban Mission calendars for sale at \$8.00 each. If you need a copy please contact Connie on 0413 747 685 and a copy will be organised to be delivered to you."



PLENARY COUNCIL: OVERVIEW If you are still not sure what it's all about, there is a great short explanation video accessible by clicking on this link:


<https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/masses-and-livestreams/> The Plenary Council website will provide daily livestreams Plenary sessions and Masses These are being stored on Youtube, so if you missed them, you can catch up via this link. <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/assembly-1/> Plenary Council Masses and daily morning prayer booklets for full participation are available here: <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/prayer/>

SENIOR PROPERTY MANAGER required:
**INSTITUTE OF SISTERS OF MERCY OF AUSTRALIA & PAPUA NEW GUINEA**
A current two-year full-time position exists for a Property Manager based at Mercy Centre Alphington, VIC. Please [click here](#) for position description and [click here](#) for advertisement. Full details can be found at <https://www.seek.com.au/job/54156825?type=standardout#searchRequestToken=e104754e-4962-43d9-b603-42fa933f41df> Applications close Friday 22 October 2021.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS Term 4 has begun, and there will be a gradual return to school for the students as outlined by the Victorian State Government and Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) – Subject to health advise, - from Wednesday 18th October for the Prep students.

'REIGNITING HOPE' Parents and carers from the St Joseph's College & Mater Christi College communities are invited to attend a **FREE evening webinar with Clinical Psychologist, Andrew Fuller on 11th October 2021, 7.00 - 8.00pm.** Andrew will discuss 'Reigniting Hope' - renewing the wellbeing and learning of young people in the post lockdown world. Bookings essential - visit <https://bit.ly/2YjbMxu>

**CATHOLIC MarriagePrep.com**
A Division of Agapé Catholic Ministries
What can CatholicMarriagePrep.com offer me? CatholicMarriagePrep.com is customized to each couple. This is a high-quality Online Program that will save you the stress and time that may occur with couples in unique situations. Come take a sneak peak on what we can offer you! To register, go to <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4541263816031471117> Join us for a free webinar on **Wed, Oct 13, 2021 at 7:00 AM - 7:30 AM AEDT**
Presented by Ashley Ruybal

LOCKDOWN LIGHT—WEEK 6
**Lockdown Light**
A weekly series bringing 'light' to this time of lockdown...

Week six: The irreplaceable role of parents
The role of parents cannot be underestimated. And while parents have a natural role—to protect and provide—we can sometimes forget the irreplaceable role parents have in the spiritual and emotional lives of their children. Find out more in this [podcast](#) from the Messy Family Project.

Week six: Understanding Mary in the Bible
Getting Started: Why do Catholics call Mary their mother? Isn't that taking away some of the respect due to Jesus and giving it to Mary? On the contrary, in this [video](#), Fr Mike Schmitz discusses how a relationship with Mary can strengthen our faith life.
Going Deeper: How are Mary and the Ark of the Covenant from the Exodus connected? What relevance does that have today? In this [video](#), Dr Brant Pitre explores Mary's role as the new Ark of the Covenant—the dwelling place of the Lord on earth.

LIFE, MARRIAGE & FAMILY SUNDAY

Prayer for Married Couples

God our Father,
we look back today with gratitude
to the time when You first blessed our love.

We thank You for the happiness we have known together
and for sustaining us in the sorrows we have shared.

We ask for forgiveness for any failure on our part;
for any times when we became difficult to live with;
for any lack of sympathy and understanding;
for anything which spoiled even for a moment
the relationship You desire for us.

After these many years of life together,
increase and deepen our love by the power of Your Spirit
so that we, and our family may always be one with You.

Bless our marriage Lord, with peace and happiness,
and make our love fruitful for Your glory and our joy.

Saints Anne & Joachim... Pray for us.

Amen.

Image: "Joachim and Anna" in Sacred Heart University's Chapel of the Holy Spirit
(Mosaic by Father Marko Rupnik) | Produced by the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne



THIS WEEKEND WE CELEBRATE LIFE, MARRIAGE AND FAMILY SUNDAY. One way of commemorating the joy of marriage has been the marking of significant wedding anniversaries through the annual Anniversary Mass celebrated at St Patrick's Cathedral. Unfortunately due to the lockdown, this will not be possible this year. However, Let us prayer for our Families:

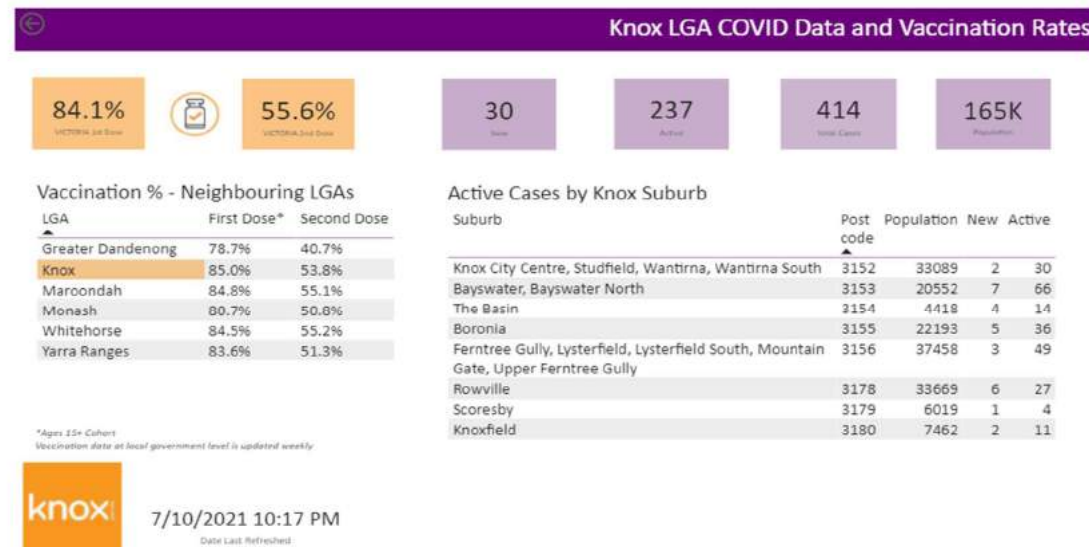
Prayer:

Gracious God, help us to love each other fervently.
Come draw our family together in all its wonder and beauty.
Help us to love and respect each other.
Show us how to support and encourage one another.
Mend the broken relationships within each circle.
Let love never run dry for one another and let all situations be resolved. Allow all the lost ones who have been led astray by the world discover You again and inspire us to work together to become a picture full of your perfect love.
May our family live in you, underneath your promises.
We ask this, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Heart of Life's offering this October are as below. *'Keeping a Journal - A Key Part of Discernment'* via Zoom, **Tuesday 12 October 2021, 9.15am-11am.** *Keeping a journal is deeply transformational. This session provides the opportunity to allow the subtle movement of our hearts and souls to overflow onto the pages of our journal, whose sections accord with the natural contours of human experience. It is just like coming home. 'At the end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started and know the place for the first time (T S Eliot, 'Little Gidding'). The morning is led by Paul Beirne, lecturer in Discernment, spiritual director, and director of Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation. Cost \$30. Book and pay via website www.heartoflife.melbourne, email info@heartoflife.melbourne or tel 9890 1101.*

'Mindfulness & Meditation' via Zoom, **Saturday 23 October 2021, 10am-2pm.** *When we are present to the 'now', centredness and relaxation become a natural part of life, and we know how to act from a heart of love. This is a day of reflection in the practice of Mindfulness & Meditation, and we invite you to come prepared to be still and journey within. This event is led by Paola Cheng, a qualified meditation teacher, spiritual director and social worker, who brings an inclusive and gentle approach to her sessions. Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation. Cost \$40. Book and pay via website www.heartoflife.melbourne, email info@heartoflife.melbourne or tel 9890 1101.*

Here is the local data on COVID-19 vaccination rates and new infections in our community.



Rear 41 Stanhope Street, Malvern, Victoria 3144, Australia
Tel 03 9890 1101 Email info@heartoflife.melbourne