

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 53:10-11

The Lord has been pleased to crush his servant with suffering. If he offers his life in atonement, he shall see his heirs, he shall have a long life and through him what the Lord wishes will be done.

His soul's anguish over

he shall see the light and be content.

By his sufferings shall my servant justify many, taking their faults on himself.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R/. Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.*

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews 4:14-16

Since in Jesus, the Son of God, we have the supreme high priest who has gone through to the highest heaven, we must never let go of the faith that we have professed. For it is not as if we had a high priest who was incapable of feeling our weaknesses with us; but we have one who has been tempted in every way that we are, though he is without sin. Let us be confident, then, in approaching the throne of grace, that we shall have mercy from him and find grace when we are in need of help.

The Word of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

*The Son of Man came to serve
and to give his life as a ransom for all.*

Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 10:35-45

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, approached Jesus. 'Master,' they said to him, 'we want you to do us a favour.' He said to them, 'What is it you want me to do for you?' They said to him, 'Allow us to sit one at your right hand and the other at your left in your glory.' 'You do not know what you are asking' Jesus said to them. 'Can you drink the cup that I must drink, or be baptised with the baptism with which I must be baptised?' They replied, 'We can.' Jesus said to them, 'The cup that I must drink you shall drink, and with the baptism with which I must be baptised you shall be baptised, but as for seats at my right hand or my left, these are not mine to grant; they belong to those to whom they have been allotted.'

When the other ten heard this they began to feel indignant with James and John, so Jesus called them to him and said to them: 'You know that among the pagans their so-called rulers lord it over them, and their great men make their authority felt. This is not to happen among you. No; anyone who wants to become great among you must be your servant, and anyone who wants to be first among you must be slave to all. For the Son of Man himself did not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.'

The Gospel of the Lord



*"For even the Son of man came not
to be ministered unto, but to minister,
and to give his life a ransom for many."*

Mark 10:45 (KJV)



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

Knox Deanery

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Website: www.stjohnthebaptist.net.au



29th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B

16th /17th October, 2021

Loving Father,

You guide us as we try to do your will.

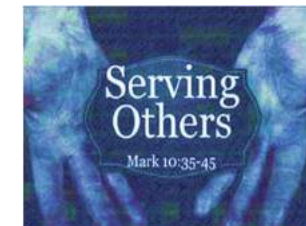
Help us to love and serve one another.

May we be attentive to the needs of all

and so be more like Jesus, Your Son

who lives and reigns with You and the Holy

Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen.



FOCUS ON THE WORD: James and John are effectively calling 'shotgun' on the best seats at the table! When they ask to sit at the left and right hand of Jesus, they are asking Jesus to name them as his deputies. They're looking to secure for themselves positions of power and authority. The only problem is that they have a completely messed up idea of what it means for Jesus to enter into his glory. Throughout this journey, Jesus has been trying to prepare the disciples for what is to come and educate them about what it really means to be a disciple of his. Three times Jesus tells the disciples explicitly what lies ahead. Each time the disciples fail to grasp what Jesus tells them. What does it really mean to practise servant leadership? It means placing the needs of others before your own desires for prestige or authority. We've all known people who have been given a position of leadership and they really only wanted the job as recognition of their popularity; a thank you for previous work done; an opportunity to demonstrate their strength of will or cleverness with words. **Servant leadership** is about collaborating; it's about empowering people to do their best; it's about trusting others and about rolling up your sleeves and getting on with the job. © 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 18th Oct St. Luke

Tues 19th Oct Sts John de brébeuf and Isaac Jogues, priests, and companions, martyrs, St Paul of the Cross

Friday 22nd St John Paul II (Pope) Sat 23rd Oct John of Capistrano

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.

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Yr B
16th / 17th October, 2021

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently

Maurice De'Rozario

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Ted Judit, Joseph Phong Tran, Arthur Corrin, Norma Platt, Renato Felcetti,

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](#) Many thanks to all our contributors for your generous support.

TOPIC: SIGNS OF HOPE in Melbourne (featuring Melbourne parish leaders) **Hosted by Ron Huntley**, this series of live online talks and interviews explores signs of hope in our Church—globally, nationally and locally. From the 'imposed-lockdown' comfort of your home, be inspired by a hope-filled vision for your parish and discuss practical ideas with fellow leaders. Join us for the final session in this series on **Thursday 21 October, 7.30–8.45pm.**

Share this event with others by downloading the flyer [here](#). Registration via www.trybooking.com/BUCSW



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=RzZjNVlGdnZHVUhxZWR2TE1qaHNOZz09>
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 21st October 21

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/94607350318?pwd=R2lLYDA2NWIKMGFZK2JDY3o2RHkzUT09>

Meeting ID: 946 0735 0318 Passcode: SJBChat

Mary Makarucha – Faith Development Co-ordinator.



PLENARY COUNCIL: OVERVIEW

Please see the attached document. Also, if you missed it you can catch up via this link.

<https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/assembly-1/> there is also an interesting discussion from Garrett Publishing – called **Plenary Council TRACKER**: What Happened today?? Episode 1- Expectations:

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/cdZhC0vRGIY>

Or join prominent Australian broadcaster and catholic Geraldine Doogue as she speaks to other Catholics who are interested in shaping a new, modern church. Click on the link below to hear this:

<https://open.spotify.com/show/4AGuEdWx7UHPjwIjQsoWWS>

The CCD Wollongong team are excited to invite you to **PRAYER SEMINARS, which will run weekly, 7pm – 8:30pm each Tuesday. From 5th Oct – 30th Nov 2021**
<https://www.dow.org.au/events/prayer-seminars/>
Time: 7:00 pm - 8:30pm This week, Sr Magdalen Mather OSB will present A Benedictine path to prayer
For more information, check the website.



CHILDREN'S WEEK, running from Sat 23 Oct to Sun 31 Oct 2021, is a national celebration recognising the talents, skills, achievements and rights of children, and offering an opportunity to consider the social conditions that affect the lives and future of our children. The theme this year is *'Children have the right to choose their friends and safely connect with others'*, drawn from Article 15 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Learn more at: helping-our-children-to-connect-safely

MEDITATION WITH FR. GILBERT CARLO.

Meditation on the name Jesus has helped many to ease the distress caused by Pandemic. Those who wish to join this zoom meditation, may contact Fr. Gilbert via **Email: gilbertcarlo@gmail.com** to obtain all the relevant details. Kindly, -Fr. Gilbert Carlo SVD.

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."

HEART OF LIFE'S OFFERING THIS OCTOBER

'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 the website www.heartoflife.melbourne, email info@heartoflife.melbourne or tel 9890 1101.



LOCKDOWN LIGHT—WEEK 7

Podcasts for Christian living: Theology of the Body and Healing In this podcast, Catholic therapists, Dr Bob Schuchts & Jake Khym discuss how we can glorify God in and through our bodies. Using St John Paul II's Theology of the Body, they look at ways we can receive healing and peace. Listen here www.bit.ly/ChristianLiving7

Getting to know your Bible: How do Scripture and Tradition work together?

Getting Started: Why do we believe in things like the Trinity, purgatory or even what books make up the Bible? They all form part of Sacred Tradition. In this 3-minute video, hear how Scripture and Tradition work together in the life of the Church. Watch at www.bit.ly/BibleGettingStarted7

Going Deeper: Written for Catholic teachers, this short article 'Catholic Teaching on Sacred Scripture' explains the role and importance of both Sacred Scripture and Tradition in our understanding of the revelation of God. View here: www.bit.ly/BibleGoingDeeper7

PLENARY MEMBERS PRESENT FINAL REPORTS OF FIRST ASSEMBLY

An impassioned call for 'a prayer for the future of our common home, a Gospel for the home of our future generations' was made during the final reporting back on small group discernment by Plenary Council members today. The presenters' comprehensive reports on the [16 agenda questions](#) included proposals and requests for further investigation and research to create a more missionary, Christ-centred Church in Australia. In presenting her group's proposals, Catherine McAleer was emotional as she concluded her summary of the question on responding to the call to ecological conversion. She said the group sought acknowledgement of the 'primacy of ecological conversion; personal and communal' and asked for the 'explicit adoption' of Pope Francis' [Laudato Si' Action Plan](#) as the vehicle for that conversion to **a Church openly committed to God's creation**.

Shaun De Zylva said his group discussed ways of creating a culture of conversion **for renewal and mission through truth-telling, story-telling and proclaiming the Gospel** for renewal through personal and communal conversion. Specific proposals included parishes establishing small groups that meet for an annual synod and that each diocese should have a synod at least once every three years; studying and learning from the synodal journey that resulted in the [Uluru Statement of the Heart](#); encouraging small ecclesial communities (home/family groups) with learnings from the early Church; and establishing forums for open dialogue and discernment especially with those groups who feel excluded in the Church.

Sabrina-Ann Stevens reiterated the need to determine an appropriate process to support the *Uluru Statement from the Heart* and said her group believed a First Nations Voice enshrined in the Constitution was 'important for our nation'. Her group also recommended that the gifts of First Nations Catholics be fully embraced through the inclusion of Indigenous leaders as partners in decision-making at every level of Church - parishes, dioceses, Catholic education, organisations and agencies. **'There is a need to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities** – and the parishes, schools and agencies that engage with them - with appropriate resources to enable their full participation in Church and society,' she added.

Fr Trevor Trotter told the assembly there was some discussion in his group about the **full understanding and appreciation of the Eucharist as the Real Presence of Christ** – Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity – being in a state of decline in Australia. 'We acknowledge that one of the challenges that we face is how we might better welcome God's people to the Eucharist and assist them to understand what this sacrament offers, entails and asks of those who receive it,' he said. 'Recognising that fewer people today participate in the sacramental life of the Church than in previous times, the question of how best to provide formation on the sacraments arises. Such formation will need to focus on both deepening people's faith and increasing their knowledge.

Considering **how to better embrace the diverse liturgical traditions of the Churches which make up the Catholic Church and the cultural gifts of immigrant communities**, Theresa Simon stressed that her group did not support the use of the term 'immigrant communities' because it did not capture the 'fullness of what we are trying to describe'.

The group also recognised the need for a more organised and coordinated approach, at a national level, to the inclusion of the Eastern Churches, rites of the Latin Church and culturally and linguistically diverse communities in the Catholic Church in Australia. 'We must not do this simply for the satisfaction of those Churches and communities, but rather for the richness and gifts that diversity brings to the entire Church,' she said. 'We must do more than acknowledge diversity. Rather, **we must enshrine diversity in all we do**, in particular when it comes to breathing with an Eastern and Western lung.' Br Peter Carroll gave a detailed report on his group's discernment on formation for mission leadership, with several specific ideas to achieve this.

It started from an understanding that 'the mission of the Church is the mission of Jesus, which is **to make the Reign of God a reality**; to incarnate it in our place and time'.

On ordained ministry, Brigid Cooney said her group suggested **identifying elements in the current formation of seminarians that are positive and valuable**, but also elements that are problematic and can produce ordained ministers that are not living in ways that draw people to Christ.

One proposal was for a research project into international models of seminary pre-ordination formation programs and lifelong formation that have had proven and demonstrated successful outcomes that could be adapted for the Church in Australia. 'Of particular interest are formation programs that are **grounded in the community**, provide meaningful extended exposure to parish life, programs that support solid intellectual, human, pastoral and spiritual formation,' she said. Her group believed **promoting vocations was a task for all members of the Church** and that a renewed focus on vocations could be assisted by a Year of Prayer for Vocations. Members also recognised a need for **opportunities in ministry for single, lay Catholics**, 'a genuine lay apostolate that fosters community, which is different from young adult or family ministry'.

Dr Mark Copland spoke about his group's discussion on governance leading to more effective proclamation of the Gospel, which led to two specific proposals. The first related to canons 127 and 129 in the *Code of Canon Law*, particularly regarding the inclusion of the concept of consensus in legislation. The second recommended that councils, for example finance and pastoral councils, particularly at the parish level, be given a deliberative vote rather than a consultative vote on all matters. The group recognised that lay people already exercise this power in some contexts, but suggested this could be improved through legislation.

While civil society thinks of governance in terms of power, **the root of governance, in the Catholic understanding, is service rather than power**, he said. 'Christ washes the feet of his apostles before he gives us the ultimate gift of love. If we work in the spirit of synodality, love must come before power.'

Virginia Bourke said her group proposed using the governance report *The Light from the Southern Cross* and responses to this report from various groups to develop a governance framework that would be adopted by the Plenary Council in the second assembly. Danielle Fairthorne said her group engaged in rich discussion about the convergences appearing throughout the week on the topic of Catholic education. The three themes emerging were mission, witness and encounter. 'It is clear that the team believes a working group needs to be established to respond to the themes above through a clear roadmap,' she said. Similarly, Claire Victory said members of her group looking at Catholic agencies expressed an interest in continuing the process of developing concrete proposals over the next nine months. Recommendations to date included ensuring leaders of key agencies connect more frequently with leaders within the dioceses, allowing for shared leadership for a shared mission, and listening to different voices, **including those who feel excluded**.

She said welfare agencies, underpinned by Catholic Social Teaching, are often the public face of the Church.

Archbishop Mark Coleridge celebrated the closing Mass for the First Assembly of Australia's fifth Plenary Council on Sunday 10 October at 11am AEDT. The Mass was livestreamed via the [Plenary Council website](#).