

## FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah 31:7-9

The Lord says this:  
Shout with joy for Jacob!  
Hail the chief of nations!  
Proclaim! Praise! Shout:  
The Lord has saved his people,  
the remnant of Israel!  
See, I will bring them back  
from the land of the North  
and gather them from the far ends of earth;  
all of them: the blind and the lame,  
women with child, women in labour:  
a great company returning here.  
They had left in tears,  
I will comfort them as I lead them back;  
I will guide them to streams of water,  
by a smooth path where they will not stumble.  
For I am a father to Israel,  
and Ephraim is my first-born son.

**The Word of the Lord.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R/. The Lord has done great things for us;  
we are filled with joy.*

## SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews  
**5:1-6**

Every high priest has been taken out of mankind and is appointed to act for men in their relations with God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins; and so he can sympathise with those who are ignorant or uncertain because he too lives in the limitations of weakness. That is why he has to make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people. No one takes this honour on himself, but each one is called by God, as Aaron was. Nor did Christ give himself the glory of becoming high priest, but he had it from the one who said to him: You are my son, today I have become your father, and in another text: You are a priest of the order of Melchizedek, and for ever.

**The Word of the Lord**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
Our Saviour Jesus Christ  
has done away with death,  
and brought us life through his gospel.  
Alleluia!*

## GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to  
Mark **10:46-52**

As Jesus left Jericho with his disciples and a large crowd, Bartimaeus (that is, the son of Timaeus), a blind beggar, was sitting at the side of the road. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout and to say, 'Son of David, Jesus, have pity on me.' And many of them scolded him and told him to keep quiet, but he only shouted all the louder, 'Son of David, have pity on me.' Jesus stopped and said, 'Call him here.' So they called the blind man. 'Courage,' they said 'get up; he is calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he jumped up and went to Jesus. Then Jesus spoke, 'What do you want me to do for you?' 'Rabbuni,' the blind man said to him 'Master, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has saved you.' And immediately his sight returned and he followed him along the road.

**The Gospel of the Lord**



*What do you want me to do for you?  
'Rabbuni,' the blind man said to him  
'Master, let me see again.' Jesus said to  
him, 'Go; your faith has saved you.'*



**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**



**30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B**

**23<sup>th</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> October, 2021**

**WORLD MISSION SUNDAY**

*Heavenly Father,  
You have entrusted to us, the mission  
to announce your Son, Jesus, to the nations.  
Instill in us the fire of His Holy Spirit  
that we may, with joy, tenderness and compassion,  
live out our baptismal responsibility.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen*



*let me see again.*

**FOCUS ON THE WORD:** Blindness is a powerful metaphor that is used repeatedly throughout scripture. It is almost always a metaphor for blindness of heart or blindness of mind rather than a purely physical affliction. There are multiple accounts of healing blindness in the gospel. Saul/Paul is blinded on the road to Damascus and only has his sight restored when he is baptised. The Pharisees are described as being 'blind fools' and there the prophets make numerous references to blind seeing as a sign of the Messiah's arrival. It is a very powerful image of being 'blind' to truth and 'blind' to the teaching of Jesus. When Jesus encounters Bartimaeus he is sitting by the side of the road – a reject of society sitting off to the side as the world passes him by. There are times in all of our lives when we feel like this: hurt; ashamed; unloved; rejected; cast aside. It is at these moments in our lives that Jesus really wants to 'break through' into our experience. If we allow ourselves to hear his voice calling us to him, then we too can 'throw off our cloak' – our old life – and join him on the road. © 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](http://www.catholic.org.au/responseandprevention)

**FEAST DAYS** Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> Oct Sts Simon and Jude

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

*(John 10:10)*

**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: Resume, with Covid Limits**  
**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.

**30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Yr B**  
**23<sup>rd</sup> / 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2021**  
**WORLD MISSION SUNDAY**

**PRAYING FOR...**

*All who have died recently*

Margaret Corrin

**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:**

Brian Walker, Anna Loan Nguen, Teresa Starrs, Danny Rossi, Mary Kift.

**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=eHZCb0VDeEZLOFJYbUVMXdmB3J2UT09>

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** we hope to meet again soon, pending covid-19 update.

**MOTHERS' PRAYER GROUP** Hope to meet again soon from **9 am–10 am each Tuesday subject to Covid restrictions.**

**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.

**ST JOHN THE BAPTIST COFFEE AND CHAT**

**ZOOM** will finish for the time being as everyone makes their way back to some kind of “new normal” Thanks to everyone who joined the fun, we hope that it brought some interest to your lockdown days!



**A WARM WELCOME BACK!** It is with great joy that we are once again able to open that church doors to gather in person for Mass, albeit in limited numbers! We will revert to [Eventbrite Bookings](#) to be fair to all, on a first in best dressed booking system. **Weekend Masses will resume Sat 23rd October at 6pm for 20 Fully Vaccinated Parishioners and Sunday 24th October 9am for 20 Fully Vaccinated Parishioners. The 11am Mass for Unknown Vaccination Status Parishioners, for 10 parishioners.** For all masses, **Mask wearing and QR code Check-in remain Mandatory.** Fr Thomas will broadcast these



Masses on Zoom, using the same

Mass Zoomlink,

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/95544717317?pwd=RzZjNlVGdnZHVUhxZWR2TE1gaHNlZz09>

Meeting ID: 955 4471 7317

Passcode: SJBMass

PLEASE NOTE, if you are watching on Zoom, the **Mass time will now coincide with the live Masses.** We hope that it's just the beginning of new freedoms, as the Covid-19 rules change with higher vaccination rates.

Today we mark World Mission Sunday with the theme: 'We cannot but speak about what we have seen and heard'. **CATHOLIC WORLD MISSION APPEAL** This week Catholic Mission will share the story of Kusa\* and how, through the Kindergarten Centre run by Sister Chalaad and the Good Shepherd Sisters, he and many other children living in poverty are able to access education that they would otherwise be unable to afford. This program gives children a head start on their education, giving them opportunity to break free from the cycle of poverty – but it cannot continue without support of people like you. Please give generously today to help continue this incredible program by using the appeal envelope, going online at [catholicmission.org.au/education](http://catholicmission.org.au/education) or by scanning the QR code below. Your gift will also help many other similar Church-run mission programs around the world. Watch the video here: <https://youtu.be/pbZkDejKzHY> \*Name and image altered to protect identity Freecall: 1800 257 296 [catholicmission.org.au/education](http://catholicmission.org.au/education) **Thank you all for your generous time, prayers and generous gifts**

**FUNERAL MASS** –The Funeral Mass for the late Margaret Corrin will be celebrated here at St John's Church on Thursday, 4th November – at 11.30am.



**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](http://helping-our-children-to-connect-safely)

The CCD Wollongong team are excited to invite you to **PRAYER SEMINARS**, which will run weekly, 7pm – 8:30pm each Tuesday. From 5<sup>th</sup> Oct – 30<sup>th</sup> 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.

**ALL SOULS – NOVEMBER** We remember all departed souls in November, this year we invite you to send a picture of your departed loved one to the parish office, which will be displayed in the church.



**LOCKDOWN LIGHT—WEEK 8**

**Resources for Christian living- Parenting for purity**

In this [podcast](#), well known Catholic speaker Jason Evert discusses how to keep an open and ongoing dialogue with your children around topics related to love, dating and sexuality as well as tips for internet and phone safety.

**Getting to know your Bible: Week eight: The Acts of the Apostles—The Church begins**

**Getting Started:** In this interesting [video introduction](#) to the Book of Acts, The Bible Project provides an overview of Pentecost and the beginning of the early Church.

**Going Deeper:** In this [video](#), Bishop Barron speaks about the spread of the Gospel during the early Church, challenging us to share in the same work as St Paul and the early Apostles in proclaiming the message of Jesus to the world.



# LIFT KUSA FROM POVERTY THROUGH EDUCATION

This week Catholic Mission will share the story of Kusa\* and how, through the Kindergarten Centre run by Sister Chalaad and the Good Shepherd Sisters, he and many other children living in poverty are able to access education that they would otherwise be unable to afford.

This program gives children a head start on their education, giving them opportunity to break free from the cycle of poverty – but it cannot continue without support of people like you.

Please give generously today to help continue this incredible program by using the appeal envelope, going online at [catholicmission.org.au/education](https://catholicmission.org.au/education) or by scanning the QR code below. Your gift will also help many other similar Church-run mission programs around the world.

\*Name and image altered to protect identity



Freecall: 1800 257 296  
[catholicmission.org.au/education](https://catholicmission.org.au/education)



*POPE FRANCIS MESSAGE: Dear Brothers and Sisters,*

Once we experience the power of God's love, and recognize his fatherly presence in our personal and community life, we cannot help but proclaim and share *what we have seen and heard*. Jesus' relationship with his disciples and his humanity, as revealed to us in the mystery of his Incarnation, Gospel and Paschal Mystery, shows us the extent to which God loves our humanity and makes his own our joys and sufferings, our hopes and our concerns (cf. *Gaudium et Spes*, 22). Everything about Christ reminds us that he knows well our world and its need for redemption, and calls us to become actively engaged in this mission: "Go therefore to the highways and byways, and invite everyone you find" (*Mt 22:9*). No one is excluded, no one need feel distant or removed from this compassionate love.

**POSITIONS VACANT:** Current vacant roles listed on our Melbourne Catholic website. Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced people for the positions of:

- Parish Secretary, Catholic Parish of Castlemaine, Castlemaine
- Coordinator-Before and After School Hours Care Program (SLOSH), Wantirna
- Social and Digital Media Communications Officer, The Australian Jesuit Province, Hawthorn and Richmond
- Service Delivery Manager, Emerging Futures Collaborative Limited, Melbourne
- Campus Discipleship Officer, Melbourne University & Monash University
- Business Manager – Keysborough / Noble Park Parish Communities
- Spiritual/Pastoral Care Worker, Sacred Heart Mission
- Parish Secretary, Westernport Parish, Hastings

Further details of the above positions can be found on the Archdiocese website at: <https://melboursecatholic.org/job-vacancies>

**MASS BOOKINGS VIA EVENTBRITE:** Please click on the below link for mass bookings:

**Eventbrite** GET TICKETS NOW

**11am Friday - For Fully Vaccinated:**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/friday-weekday-holy-mass-11am-st-john-the-baptist-parish-ftg-tickets-194872257167>

**6 pm Saturday Vigil- For Fully Vaccinated:**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/saturday-vigil-mass-6pm-st-john-the-baptist-parish-ftg-tickets-194878034447>

**9am Sunday- For Fully Vaccinated :**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sunday-9am-holy-mass-st-john-the-baptist-tickets-194879428617>

**11am Sunday- For Unknown Vaccination status:**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sunday-11am-holy-mass-tickets-194881193897>