

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah
33:14-16

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah: ‘In those days and at that time, I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land. In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence. And this is the name the city will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.’

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/. To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

SECOND READING

A reading from first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians
1 Thess 3: 12-4:2

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.

Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

The Word of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.*

Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
21:25-28, 34-36

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.

‘Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.’

The Gospel of the Lord



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

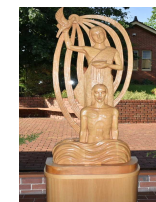
Knox Deanery

19 Forest Road, Ferntree Gully, 3156

Phone: 9758 1029

Email: office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au

Website: www.stjohnthebaptist.net.au



1st Sunday of Advent – Year C

27th/28th November, 2021

*God of light and life,
You love us so much that you want to be
among us and share your life with us.
Make us ready to welcome you
To recognize Your signs, and
Send us out to gather the harvest,
bringing hope to the lost.
We ask this through Christ, Our Lord, Amen.*



FOCUS ON THE WORD: this week's readings, and the readings of the next few weeks, remind us that the notion of preparation extends well beyond the celebration of the birth of Jesus. We are reminded that we are, in fact, living in an 'in-between time'. From this week's first reading we are reminded that the expectation of a Messiah was a very long-standing hope for Israel.

WAITING, Waiting waiting: I'm not a big fan of waiting! Anticipation is pretty good; getting prepared and getting ready are OK, too. But when it comes down to being all dressed up and ready to go, I'm just hopeless at waiting. If Advent is a time of pointless waiting for Christmas then we've somehow missed the message. Rather than just waiting, Advent is a time of preparation and anticipation. But it's not just about anticipating Christmas. That's part of it, sure. However, Advent is about reminding ourselves that we have a job to do: preparing for the reign of God – in our lives and in our world. The traditional Advent wreath with its four candles is an excellent reminder of the passing of the four weeks as one additional candle is lit in each of the four weeks. Identify four actions that you can undertake during Advent that are focused on living out the message of Jesus and helping to realise the reign of God. You could write your actions on an illustration of an Advent wreath or wrap each action around a votive candle and create your own Advent wreath.. © 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 Tues 30th Nov St Andrew the Apostle Fri 3rd Dec St Francis Xavier
Sat 4th Dec St John Damascene

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
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.

1st Sunday of Advent – Yr C
27th / 28th November, 2021

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently
Immacolata Maio



Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

James Moloney, John Dillon, May Ferguson, Giuseppina Di Donato, Laura Fabrizio, Noreen Hilet.

The sick: Alan Bailey, Jack Spencer, 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

Please note that the link has been changed. Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 796 0389 1036

Passcode: Rosary

This is a reoccurring meeting on Mondays at 7:30 on Zoom from 8th November to 20th December 2021.



GROUP ROSARY SESSION FOR PEACE

Date: *first Saturday each month at 10.30am.*

Venue: 37 Lane Road, FTG. All are welcome.

Contact: Pauline Barlow on 9758 5106.

FRIENDSHIP GATHERING: Everyone who is Fully Vaccinated is welcome on **Thursdays between 10am to 1pm** for a chat over a cuppa, join a card game, knit or just sit for a while. Please bring your Vaccine Certificate.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP meet every **Tuesday at 10.15am** in the Parish Hall. Join us for a cuppa prior to the meeting. Praise and worship begins at 10.30am, followed by inspiring teaching and prayer ministry Please bring your Vaccine Certificate

MOTHERS' PRAYER GROUP meet at 9am in the Parish Office, for those Fully Vaccinated.

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.

ADVENT BEGINS This weekend we celebrate the First Week of Advent, a time of waiting and anticipation. Week one focuses on **HOPE**. Light the first candle on your advent wreath, and think about how you can be hopeful in the week ahead. Perhaps you could bring hope to someone, by bringing some food for the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Hampers?

REVISITED PRIEST RETIREMENT FUND ANNUAL APPEAL. This weekend we are taking up a special collection for the Retired Priests of the Archdiocese. This is usually taken up on Father's Day, but owing to the lockdown, it was postponed. **Please give generously to help support this collection** which will be taken up to help support our Retired priests, caring for those who cared.

A HUGE CONGRATULATIONS to all the Children who have received the sacrament of First Eucharist this week

We also thank all the teachers and parents for their time and talents in preparing all the children, and for bringing them to church. Please, keep these children in your prayers, that they will return many times to receive this precious gift.



NOVEMBER MEMORIAL MASS All families who have experienced a bereavement in the last twelve months are invited to attend a special Memorial Mass to be held on the 30th November, 2021, at 7.00pm, wherein we'll remember all our departed loved ones. To indicate your attendance please contact the Parish Office

FOOTHILLS COMMUNITY CHURCH CHRISTMAS LUNCH.

You are invited to a free lunch to be held on **Friday 24th December, 2021** in our Parish Hall. There are 2 sessions, the first is already fully booked, the second is from 1.30pm -4pm. All guests must be fully Vaccinated or hold a medical exemption according to the Government Mandate in place. To book go to : [Foothills Community Care.org.au](#) and complete the Guest Inquiry form, or contact the Parish Office. Hurry, Places are filling fast!



FUNERAL MASS for the late **Immacolata Maio** will be celebrated here at St John's Church on Tuesday 7th December at **11.00am – Rosary will be recited prior to Mass at 10.30am.**

FIRST FRIDAY MASS will be celebrated on Friday 3rd December, 2021. 10am, Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament and Mass at 11am.

BAPTISMS – We offer our congratulations to **Luna Fraczak, daughter of Shane & Linda** who is to be baptised this weekend: The Church of God welcomes you with great joy.



ST VINCENT DE PAUL ANGEL TREE



Each year we provide needy families that we have visited throughout the year with a Christmas food hamper and gift cards for each of their children. We invite you to contribute to either of these:

- Under the Angel Tree we will provide basket/bags for your **Christmas food items** or those who might like to donate a complete hamper. Please feel free to supply your own bags if you wish.
- The **gift cards** we will provide allows the parents to purchase a suitable gift themselves according to the age and needs of their child or children.

You may like to take an "Angel" from the tree and purchase a gift card to the amount of either \$10, \$20, or \$30. Please place your donation in the box near the tree. The Gift cards can be purchased from **Kmart, Target, Coles, Myer** or any other store of your choice.

Should you wish to make a **cash donation** to the SVDP Christmas Appeal, envelopes are available on the trollies. These can be placed on the collection baskets during mass. On behalf of our SVDP local conference, we would like to sincerely thank you for your ongoing generosity this year in supporting our work with the disadvantaged. encouragement on behalf of our parish .- SVDP :- Ferntree Gully Conference.



HELP NEEDED Calling all Singers / Musicians, you are warmly invited to join in the Choir for the up-coming Christmas Masses. Please contact Maree Wilson on BH 9758 1029 Wednesday – Friday or AH 9758 6585 if you are interested in joining us.



ROSTERS: Mon 29th Nov to Sun 5th December

Flowers	Sue N & Lynne K
Linen	Carole D
Welcomers	6pm: Kathryn C & Help needed 9am: Rosa L & Florence J 11am: Shamindri & Chamal A
Lectors	6pm: Rosina L 9am: Terry S 11am: Carolyn S
Counters	George & Genevieve, & Bindu
Gardening	Patrick S & Harry R