

PARISH PRIEST:

Fr Thomas Kuruvila 9758 1029
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DEACON:

Rev. Peter Stringfellow 9758 1029
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FAITH DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATOR:

Mary Makarucha 9758 1029
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PARISH OFFICE:

9758 1029
 Monday 9.45am -3.45pm
 Tuesday to Friday 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
 Secretaries: Charmaine Premaratne, Maree Wilson
 Accountant: Sara Luk
 Email: office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au

SCHOOLS:

St John the Baptist 9758 1013
 Acting Principal: Ursula DeCorrado

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

RECONCILIATION: Saturdays at 5.15 pm

BAPTISMS:

We are now able to have Baptisms again with limited numbers. 6 weeks notice required 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.

CHURCH GROUPS:

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP The Prayer Group will take a break during January 2022 and plan to resume their meeting on Tuesday, 2nd February 2022 at 10.15 am in the Parish Hall, Covid-19 restrictions permitting. To meet for praise and worship, inspiring teaching and prayer ministry. All are warmly welcome. Enquiries: Judy 9752 2986.

FRIENDSHIP GATHERING will resume on Thursday 21st January 2022 subject to Covid-19 restrictions – please sanitise your hands, register your name and phone number, bring your mask, and sit at a social distance. Please come and join us in the Parish Hall at 10am. It will be great to catch up with one another.

Sundays 26th December, 2021 – 30th January, 2022

(inclusive)

PRAYING FOR...

*All those who have died recently
 and those whose anniversaries occur around this time.*



RECENTLY DECEASED:

ANNIVERSARIES: Sat 19th Dec-Sun 26th Dec, 2021
 Frederick Bravington, Peter South

ANNIVERSARIES: Mon 27 Dec to Sun 3 Jan 2022
 Rosy Harris, Roger Berriman, Flora De Cristo, Hans Hauer, Donald Fraser, Maria Fredriks, Brian Maguire, Peter Russo, Catherine Theobald, and Alain Sirmel-Newton.

ANNIVERSARIES: Mon 4 Jan to Sun 10 Jan 2022
 Domenico Nicosia, Francis Breen, Carmel Dow, Margaret James, Andrea Samtoye, Anne Van Prooyen, Linda Hughes, Frances Fenton, Peter Blackham, Rosita Stavropoulos, Pauline Witt, John Lourens, Enuice Bermingham

ANNIVERSARIES: Mon 11 Jan to Sun 17 Jan 2022
 Gary Bailey, Jon Abraham, Gary Bailey, Vito Teofilo, Moya McDonald, Geraldine Fitzpatrick, Elaine Brain, Riccardo Garbuio, Tom McCristal, Maureen Meyer, Therese Mueller, Canion Daraio, Carlo Vitale, Pasquale Picicelli.

ANNIVERSARIES: Mon 18 Jan to Sun 24 Jan 2022
 Margherita Crivellaro Irene Barron, Elizabeth McNeil, Margherita Lizza, Anthony Gannan,

THE SICK: Ray Loel, Kathryn Kircos, Peter Thomas, Wilma Neville, Ruby Samtoy, Fame Pelgrim, Elsie Johnson, Barbara Kenny, Anne Jayawardena, Lea Hartley, 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.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS THROUGHOUT THE CHRISTMAS / JANUARY HOLIDAYS



CLOSED FROM 3PM ON 24TH DECEMBER,

Normal offices hours resume MONDAY 10th JANUARY 2022 AT 9.45AM

Please note that as Wednesday 26th January is the Australia Day public holiday, the office will be closed. Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to all, - from Fr Thomas and all the Parish Staff.

THANK YOU! A thank you to all parishioners for your gifts, cards and good wishes dropped off at the parish office. It has been a pleasure working and serving you all. May God's blessings be upon you always.



- Fr Thomas & all the Parish Staff

MOTHERS' PRAYER GROUP: will take a break in January 2022 and hope to resume their meeting on Tuesday, 1st February, from 9 am to 10 am at the Parish Centre, Covid-19 restrictions permitting. We wish everyone a Happy Christmas and New Year. For enquiries, please contact the Parish Office.

YARRA THEOLOGICAL UNION: Located in Box Hill, we are an inclusive and welcoming community for theological education and ministerial formation, open to those who seek educational and personal transformation in changing contexts. For New students OR Students starting a NEW Course: Please make an appointment via admin (admin@ytu.edu.au) to meet with Ross Fishburn either Face to Face or via Zoom. Telephone: (03) 9890 3771

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM MARY:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all, for your warm welcome and support that I received since my arrival here in February. Even though I did not get the opportunity to spend a lot of face-to-face time with you all, I am hoping that this will improve for us all next year.

Thank you to Fr. Thomas and Peter, Parish administration staff and the Parish Pastoral Group for their spiritual leadership and ongoing support.

Even though we had been in lockdown most of this past year, during that time, I did get to experience what a faith filled community you all have here at St John the Baptist. Your ongoing care and prayers for each other reflect your faith and devotion to Our Saviour, Jesus Christ, His church and His mission.

I pray that God's blessings be upon us all, our families, the church and the world throughout the Christmas Season and New Year 2022. - Mary Makarucha



YOUNG ADULTS RETREAT IN If you have struggled to find meaning and connection due to almost two years of lockdown, you are not alone. **We'd like to warmly invite you to Melbourne Summer School of Evangelisation, Jan 9-16.** Join 100 young adults (18-35yo), fantastic speakers and witnesses in encountering the Holy Spirit in a one-week retreat of sacraments, prayer, praise & worship, fellowship, learning and more! ssemelbourne.org.au **Our Hope is in the Lord!**

Questions? Please contact Dr Gerard William Administrator DOJ Summer School of Evangelisation Melbourne

Email: melbourne.sse@gmail.com or call: 04 3995 9620

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE 2022 Study Options

Now Available! Whether you are interested in learning more about your faith, have a desire to study and research, wish to pursue a career in ministry or pastoral areas or need to gain qualifications to assist your current teaching or ministry position, you will find something at CTC to meet your needs. We are committed to being a community of scholarship, prayer and pastoral care. Located at 278 Victoria Parade East Melbourne 3002. For all enquiries for Catholic Theological College. Phone: 9412 3333.

VOLUNTEER WITH PALMS AUSTRALIA. Ready to

contribute to sustainable development? Palms Australia assists communities abroad with professional skill development by matching Australian professionals with a dedicated local counterpart. Each of our program participants is supported with a living allowance. All applicants will be required to complete a Working with Children and Police Check. All candidates for an assignment abroad must complete Palms Australia's pre-departure training in Sydney. Due to current Australian visa regulations, only candidates with Australian/New Zealand residency or citizenship are eligible to apply. Read more about eligibility and what is covered in our [information booklet](#) in our [FAQ](#). There are many opportunities awaiting you! e: palms@palms.org.au web: www.palms.org.au

Happy New Year – Wave good-bye to the old, and Embrace the New!

ROSTERS with all the Covid-19 changes associated with 2020/2021, some Parishioners may still feeling wary about attending Mass, so we have omitted the helpers' rosters from this Summer Bulletin. We are hoping to re-establish new rosters in the New Year. In the meantime, please, if you are attending Mass over the holiday period, and are able to assist in any way, be sure to let us know prior to the Mass you are attending. **A big thank you to all who assist in this vital ministry, your assistance is greatly appreciated. If you have not been on a roster before, don't be shy! Come and be part of this ministry, please express your interest. Contact the Parish Office and join the team!** We could especially use some Singers and Musicians, and some gardening assistance at Nells Cottage, to trim back some bushes, and mow the back lawn. Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year to all.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES 2022

THINKING OF A CAREER CHANGE IN THE NEW YEAR? CHECK THE POSITIONS VACANT ACROSS THE ARCHDIOCESE Please check out the current vacant roles listed on our Melbourne Catholic website.

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

THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL – “THANK YOU” version 2!

Updated value of donations received up until the 22nd December 2021. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul FTG; is truly thankful for the generosity of parishioners, St. John The Baptist Primary school; St. Joseph's College and Willowbrooke Nursing Home. A very special “thank you” to Knox City Council for their grant of \$2,000.00 to go towards our Christmas Hampers for families. We are pleased to inform everyone, the total value of Christmas 2021 donations of non-perishable food, cash, gift cards and wrapped gifts approximately = \$8,560.00. Your generosity brings joy to many families in need of a “hand up”. We are glad to report that the clients who have received their Christmas hampers have been thankful and some very moved by your generosity. A big thank you to all conference members for supporting the less fortunate through the year. God bless you all, stay safe and well. Merry Christmas and enjoy the family time. - The Society of St. Vincent de Paul.



SAVE THE DATE: WORLD DAY OF PRAYER, 2022

Preparations have begun for the 2022 World Day of Prayer. The tentative date is Friday 4th March, 2022 at 7pm – However this is yet to be confirmed. Pencil it in your diary!

FAITH, FUN, FELLOWSHIP ON PILGRIMAGE

Introducing an inspirational series of **local Catholic Pilgrimage Journeys** in Australia and New Zealand as we take to the road and celebrate the beauty of the places, faces and graces that make up our wonderful backyard. Choose from a selection of iconic touring experiences as we combine faith, fun and fellowship together, while celebrating memorable daily masses with our fellow Catholic communities encountered along the way. Call Harvest on 1800 819 156 **Graces of Victoria:** Departs 20th March 2022, for 8 days, & 7 nights with daily Mass. To find out more, click on the link below [Graces of Victoria – Harvest Journeys Catholic Roadtrips Pilgrimages](#)

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

FEAST DAYS

Sun 26th Dec 2021 to Sun 2nd Jan 2022

Sun 26th Dec The Holy Family
Mon 27th Dec St John, apostle
Tue 28th Dec St The Holy Innocents, martyrs
Sat 1st Jan Mary, the Holy Mother of God.
Sun 2nd Jan The Epiphany of the Lord

Mon 3rd Jan to Sun 9th Jan 2022

Mon 3rd Jan The Most Holy Name of Jesus
Fri 7th Jan St Raymond of Penyafort, priest
Sun 9th Jan The Baptism of the Lord

Mon 10th Jan to Sun 16th Jan 2022

Thur 13th Jan St Hilary, bishop, doctor

Mon 17th Jan to Sun 23rd Jan 2022

Mon 17th Jan St Anthony, abbot
Thur 20th Jan St Fabian, pope & St Sebastian, martyr
Fri 21st Jan St Agnes, virgin, martyr
Sat 22nd Jan St Vincent, deacon, martyr

Mon 24th Jan to Sun 30th Jan 2022

Mon 24th Jan St Francis de Sales, Bishop
Tue 25th Jan The Conversion of St Paul, Apostle
Wed 26th Jan Australia Day
Thur 27th Jan St Angela Merici, virgin
Sts Timothy & Titus.
Fri 28th Jan St Thomas Aquinas, priest, doctor
Sun 30th Jan 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

May we live 2022 with hope in the Lord:

"Don't remember the prior things; don't ponder ancient history. Look! I'm doing a new thing; now it sprouts up; don't you recognize it? I'm making a way in the desert, paths in the wilderness."
– Isaiah 43:18-19

If you can't come to Mass, try participating in a mass online:

<https://stsimonsparish.com.au/mass-videos> or

<https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass> or

<https://holymfamilydoveton.org.au/>

or Mass can also be heard on **The Light FM radio station (89.9 FM)** at 7am each Sunday morning. Or **MASS ON T.V. C31 / 44** shows the 11am Sunday Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral and will continue to be televised free to air.



POST COMMUNION PRAYERS

Sun 26th December, 2021 – Feast of the Holy Family

God, our Father,
You care for us and look out for us
as a parent attends to their child's needs.
Teach us to be kind and patient, honest and gentle,
and, most of all,
at peace with those with whom we live.
We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

2nd / 3rd January, 2022 – The Epiphany of the Lord

Lord God,
you want the world to know
that you have sent Jesus your Son
to save us from our sins.
Give us a share of your power,
so that we will be like bright stars
leading others to discover him,
who lives with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. Amen.

8th / 9th January, 2022 – The Baptism of the Lord

Lord Jesus,
In the waters of the Jordan
You were united forever with the human family.
As we were made one with you in our baptism,
never let us be separated from your love. Amen.

15th / 16th January, 2022 – 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Loving God,
You have given us many gifts and talents.
Help us to use those gifts to pass on the Good News,
and to build up your kingdom.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

22nd / 23rd January, 2022 – 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Loving Father,
through Your power we are anointed
with the Holy Spirit.
Help us to bring new sight to the blind, as we live your
Word in truth, and give us courage to witness to you.
Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

29th / 30th January, 2022 – 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

God of all time,
You knew us before we were formed.
Teach us to value your gifts of life and love,
and give us the strength to live our lives,
as witnesses to your love.
We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

Knox Deanery

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Website: www.stjohnthebaptist.net.au

Weekends Sundays 26th December, 2021 – 31st January, 2022 - inclusive.

2022
happy new year

Readings for this liturgical year are from Year C

Should you wish to view the Scripture Readings for Daily Mass (Australian Liturgical Calendar) please visit:
<https://www.universalis.com/mass.htm> Navigate the texts of the week ahead via the right-hand column index.

26th December, 2021 – The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph.

Readings: - 1 Sam 1:20-22, Ps 83:2-3, 5-6, 9-10, 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

1st January, 2022 - Solemnity of Mary Mother of God (11 am Mass)

Readings - Num 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21.

2nd January, 2022 – The Epiphany of the Lord

Readings: Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12.

8th / 9th January, 2022 – The Baptism of the Lord

Readings: Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

15th / 16th January, 2022 – 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Is 62:1-5; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11

22nd / 23rd January, 2022 – 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: ps 18:8-10, 15; 1 Cor 12:12-30; Lk 1:14-21

29th / 30th January, 2022 – 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Jer 1:4-5, 17-19; 1 Cor 12:31-13:13; Lk 4:21-30

Wise ones seek Him still. Let us all find you, wherever we search.

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

(John 10:10)