

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah
17:5-8

The Lord says this:

'A curse on the man who puts his trust in man,
who relies on things of flesh,
whose heart turns from the Lord.
He is like dry scrub in the wastelands:
if good comes, he has no eyes for it, he settles in the parched places of the wilderness,
a salt land, uninhabited.
'A blessing on the man who puts his trust in the Lord,
with the Lord for his hope.
He is like a tree by the waterside
that thrusts its roots to the stream: when the heat comes it feels no alarm, its foliage stays green; it has no worries in a year of drought, and never ceases to bear fruit.'

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/. Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians
1Cor 15:12, 16-20

If Christ raised from the dead is what has been preached, how can some of you be saying that there is no resurrection of the dead? For if the dead are not raised, Christ has not been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, you are still in your sins. And what is more serious, all who have died in Christ have perished. If our hope in Christ has been for this life only, we are the most unfortunate of all people.

But Christ has in fact been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep.

The Word of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!
Rejoice and be glad;
your reward is great in heaven.
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
6:17, 20-26

Jesus came down with the Twelve and stopped at a piece of level ground where there was a large gathering of his disciples with a great crowd of people from all parts of Judaea and from Jerusalem and from the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon who had come to hear him and to be cured of their diseases.

Then fixing his eyes on his disciples he said:
'How happy are you who are poor: yours is the kingdom of God.
Happy you who are hungry now: you shall be satisfied.
Happy you who weep now: you shall laugh.
'Happy are you when people hate you, drive you out, abuse you, denounce your name as criminal, on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice when that day comes and dance for joy, for then your reward will be great in heaven. This was the way their ancestors treated the prophets.

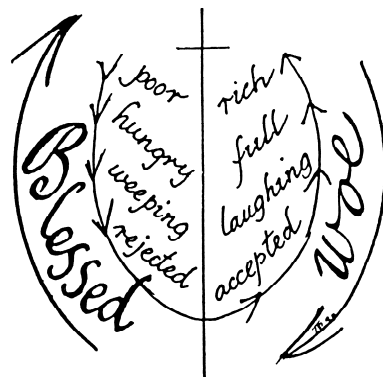
'But alas for you who are rich: you are having your consolation now.

Alas for you who have your fill now: you shall go hungry.

Alas for you who laugh now: you shall mourn and weep.

'Alas for you when the world speaks well of you! This was the way their ancestors treated the false prophets.'

The Gospel of the Lord



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

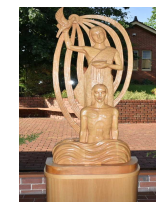
Knox Deanery

19 Forest Road, Ferntree Gully, 3156

Phone: 9758 1029

Email: office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au

Website: www.stjohnthebaptist.net.au



6th Sunday in Ordinary Time– Year C

12th / 13th February, 2022

Chaplaincy Sunday.

Almighty God,

Give us the grace to trust, that you will pour grace into our hearts

so we can always hear the cry of the poor.

Help us listen, and love.

We ask this, through Christ our Lord, Amen.



FOCUS ON THE WORD: "What is "blessed" about being poor? Why would Jesus say this?"

What poor person would believe it? At the very beginning of this reflection, it is important to remember that the word "poor" in biblical culture describes a social reality rather than an economic one. In this cultural context, the labels "rich" and "poor" take on a meaning quite different than in our culture. In antiquity a person became rich because that individual had power to take wealth from those who were weaker and unable to defend themselves. While in the modern Western world wealth itself bestows power, in the ancient Mediterranean world power was the means for acquiring wealth. By the same token, a poor person in the ancient world was powerless, that is, unable to defend inherited status and wealth. Notice the kinds of people with which the word "poor" is most often associated. As a rule, we read in the Bible about "the poor, the orphans, and the widows." What these categories share in common is a certain deficiency in social relationships and consequent powerlessness. The culturally more appropriate translation of "rich" and "poor" in the Bible, therefore, would be "greedy" and "socially unfortunate." Jesus' Beatitudes therefore were primarily words of consolation to people who desperately needed to hear this good news. They also pointed to moral qualities that God-fearing folk should strive to achieve: to know one's place and keep it (poor); to protest social injustice (hungry and weeping, which are ritualized elements of protest activities). People who behave in such honor-deserving ways will indeed be honored by God, which is the only honor that counts. Who can argue with that? © John J. Pilch

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 14th Feb St Cyril & Methodius,

Thurs 17th Feb The Seven Holy founders of the Servite order,

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
Tuesdays and Wednesdays. 10.00am -2.00pm
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
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

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.

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Yr C
12th / 13th Febuary, 2022
Chaplaincy Sunday.

PRAYING FOR...
All who have died recently



Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:
Joesph Edmunds, CJ Mathew, Aniceto C Judit, Chanake Aponso, Joyce Howell, Juanita Morillo (1 month).

The sick:, Gabby Sundstrom, 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

ROSARY is recited prior to Morning Weekday Mass on Wed, Thurs, Friday, in the Church. All welcome to join in the recitation



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 Meet in the Parish Hall on Thursdays between 10am to 1pm for a chat over a cuppa, join a card game, knit or just sit for a while. **New members welcomed.**

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP is meeting each Tues Morning (covid restrictions permitting) at 10.15am for prayer, praise and worship in the Parish Hall. All Welcome.

MOTHERS' PRAYER GROUP meet at 9am in the Parish Office, for 1 hour on Tuesday Morning. God has used this group for healing in families and the Church across the world. Come and join us!

St. Josephs College

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p 031 9754 3112 e enrolment@stjosephs.com.au

LECTORS TRAINING MEETING. There will be a lector's Training Meeting on **Wednesday 9th March at 7 pm.** This meeting will help both current readers, and new readers alike! If you have thought about reading at Mass, but lack the confidence, or perhaps you are not sure what it is all about, **please contact the Parish Office to register.**

LENT DISCUSSION GROUP: WE HAVE HAD A GREAT RESPONSE TO THIS INITIATIVE Three Groups are running: **Monday Evening 6.15pm for a 6.30pm start – 7.45pm; Tuesday Mornings from 10.30am** with the Charismatic Prayer Group, and **Wednesday Mornings, at 10am, with Mary.** All will be using the Book called **THE SPIRIT AND THE CROSS**, a resource from Evangelisation Brisbane. Written for busy individuals but easily adapted for groups, each day includes a scripture reading and a reflection upon it, some questions to aid prayer and discussion, and relevant quotes from Pope Francis. **Books cost only \$5 each plus postage.** If you haven't ordered a book already, but would like to participate, please contact the Parish Office.

LENT BEGINS ON WEDNESDAY 2ND MARCH WITH ASH WEDNESDAY Masses at 9.15 am and 7 pm
Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. The law of fasting binds those who have completed their 18th year until the beginning of their 60th year; the law of abstinence binds those who have completed their 14th year. Lent is a penitential season of prayer, self-denial and of helping others. In this way, the whole Church prepares for Easter with those who are to be baptised. *A description of the Lenten guidelines from the Vicar General Fr Joe Caddy AM is now available A few paper copies can be found on the trolleys in the Church along with the Lenten Regulations for those who want a copy.*



BAPTISM – We offer our congratulations to **Lachlan Anderson son of Mark & Jessica, and Zac McKenna, son of Allan & Justyna** who are to be baptised this weekend: The Church of God welcomes you with great joy

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2022 World Day of Prayer (WDP) is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice. **This year the focus is on ENGLAND, WALES & NORTHERN IRELAND (ewni) with the theme I Know the Plans I Have for You (Jeremiah 29:1-14)** **ALL ARE INVITED** to the WDP ceremony which will be held on **Friday 4 MARCH** at Knox Lutheran Church, 646 Burwood Highway, corner of Scoresby Road. Please consider to take the opportunity to meet your fellow Christian neighbours at this yearly event.

CHAPLAINCY APPEAL 2022 This weekend is the Chaplaincy Appeal in the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Each year a special collection is conducted in all parishes for the purpose of supporting the vital work of our Catholic chaplains. The Chaplains support thousands of Victorians every year in hospitals, prisons and youth justice centres, and those living with HIV/AIDS. Your gift can help people find comfort and hope as they go through some of their darkest hours and times of need. **Please give generously.** You can donate using the envelopes available or online at www.catholiccarevic.org.au or call (03) 9287 5513.

PREP FAMILY MASS There will be a special Mass for all our Prep Families on **Sunday, 27th Feb, 2022** at the 11am Mass. A great opportunity to meet your fellow parishioners.

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 CDF Pay Femtree Gully Many thanks to all our contributors for your generous support.

ROSTERS: Mon 14th Feb to Sun 20th Feb 2022

Flowers	Marg H & Ange C
Linen	Sue O'H
Welcomers	6pm: Myra N & Wilma H 9am: Terry S, Neil & Lorraine, Peter C 11am: Priya H & Patrick S
Lectors	6pm: Jan R 9am: Caroline Q 11am: Eduardo M
Counters	George & Genevieve W & Bindu M
Gardening	Barry Blake and Roger K.

MaterChristi
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9754 6611 - materchristi.edu.au
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