

## FIRST READING

A reading from the first book of Samuel  
26:2,7-9, 12-13, 22-23

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph.

So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him.

Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice. David answered Abishai, Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them.

David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

**The Word of the Lord.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R/. The Lord is kind and merciful.*

## SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians  
1Cor 15:45-49

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we,

who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

**The Word of the Lord**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*I give you a new commandment;  
love one another as I have loved you.*

*Alleluia!*

## GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke  
6:27-38

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.'

'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

**The Gospel of the Lord**



**Love  
YOUR  
enemies**  
LUKE 6:35



**ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH**

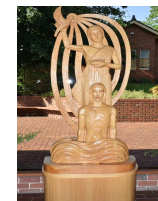
**Knox Deanery**

**19 Forest Road, Ferntree Gully, 3156**

**Phone: 9758 1029**

**Email: office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au**

**Website: www.stjohnthebaptist.net.au**



**7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time– Year C**

**19<sup>th</sup> / 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2022**

**God our protector,  
It is so much easier to love  
only those who love us in return.  
Teach us to be like Your Son,  
who loved and forgave  
those who rejected Him.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.**



**FOCUS ON THE WORD:** What a powerful message Jesus delivered to people who were subjugated and oppressed by an invading army. It would have been easy, and somehow 'natural', for the people of Palestine to hate the Roman occupiers and to seek revenge upon them. How confronting then for Jesus to say, 'love your enemies'! He tells the people that the way to live God's way in this situation was to be compassionate towards the oppressors; that when they rob you of your cloak to present them with your shirt as well. To do otherwise is to become like the oppressors themselves. Meeting hatred with hatred never ended hatred. The compassion of God is a very strong theme that runs through the Gospel of Luke. Throughout the gospel, the compassion and mercy of God is emphasised and a defining feature of the gospel is the number of healings and parables that relate to people who were regarded as the outcasts of society. In this gospel, Jesus is the embodiment of God's compassion. Jesus wants all people to experience first hand the abundant love God holds for them. Today's gospel passage is a reminder that when we experience God's compassion we are also called to show it to others. © 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** Mon 21<sup>st</sup> Feb St Peter Damian, Tues 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb The Chair of St Peter, apostle.  
Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb St Polycarp

***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  
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** 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.

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Yr C  
19<sup>th</sup> / 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2022

### PRAYING FOR...

*All who have died recently*



### Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Giuseppina, Angelo, Federico, & Silvia Zarro, Margherita, Damiano, Luigi, Cosimo & Gilda Coviello, Benito Disenza, Frank Johnson, Eileen Johnson, Rafaelle Ozella, Terry McCluskey, Stan Hilder, Palmerino Capozzi.

**The sick:** Lucy Denzin 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 friends 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!

**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.

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



**THANK YOU!** Last weekend, we conducted the **annual Chaplaincy Appeal** in our parish. The presence of Catholic chaplains is a crucial witness to our faith, a crucial dimension of our service of love, and a vital testimony to the value of life in all its stages. Thank you to those who have supported this Appeal. **The Amount Raised was: \$1,022.85.**

If you still wish to donate or if you would like to have more information about the Chaplaincy Services, please visit [www.catholiccarevic.org.au](http://www.catholiccarevic.org.au) or call (03) 9287 5513.

**LECTORS TRAINING MEETING.** There will be a lector's Training Meeting on **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> 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: THE BOOKS HAVE ARRIVED!** 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.

**A MESSAGE FROM AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED Australia:** In many places throughout the world there is a shortage of priests and therefore religious sisters are the custodians of the faith. These sisters however often struggle to live and support the faithful, so across the course of a year ACN supports more than 18,000 religious' sisters in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe and Latin America. Could you help support a religious sister? Visit [www.aidtochurch.org/sisters](http://www.aidtochurch.org/sisters)



**EMMAUS COLLEGE**

**OPEN DAY** will be on **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2022**, from **3.45pm – 6.30pm** at the Vermont South Campus, 503 Springvale Rd, Vermont South. Enquiries: 98453211

**BAPTISM** – We offer our congratulations to **Henry Dougherty son of Joshuan & Louree, and Martin Krajnc son of Martin & Melissa** who are to be baptised this weekend: The Church of God welcomes you with great joy

**SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BLITZ** a HUGE Thankyou to Gordon, for his presentation on Safeguarding Principles for our Parish. Once again, the **CODE OF CONDUCT** forms have been distributed to a number of leaders and members of parish groups. **If you are a member / leader of a parish and have not signed a form, please collect one after Mass, sign and return to the parish office. SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.**



For More information, please visit our Parish Website at:

<https://stjohnthebaptist.net.au/events-and-news/safeguarding-children/> or The Archdiocese Professional Standards Unit (PSU) website at: <https://melbournecatholic.org/safeguarding/professional-standards-unit-psu>

**COVID UPDATE:** Recently, some of our Parishes have received unannounced visits by Victorian Government Safety Officials checking through compliance with Parish safety management under COVID regulations. This has included: Parish COVIDsafe Plans; COVID safety signage; QR check-in processes; and adherence to vaccination requirements for staff and volunteers including those within Offices and those undertaking ministering in liturgical capacities. It is imperative, **that all Parish Volunteers submit their current vaccination certificate to the Parish Office, and also, those who have an exemption for wearing a mask must please provide a copy to the Parish Office.** In this way we will be prepared for such an event. Thank you for your understanding.

### ROSTERS: Mon 21<sup>st</sup> Feb to Sun 27<sup>th</sup> Feb 2022

Flowers	Sue H & Lynne K
Linen	Carole D'S
Welcomers	6pm: Lia U, Kathryn C 9am: Rosa L & Florence J 11am: Shamindri & Chamal A
Lectors	6pm: Rosina L 9am: Pamela E 11am: Peggy S
Counters	Tony B, Steph H, Connie B & Peter F
Gardening	Barry Blake and Roger K.