

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Genesis

15.5-12,17-18

Taking Abram outside the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

'I am the Lord' he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldaeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord, the Lord' Abram replied, 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off.

Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms:

'To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.'

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

3:17-4:1

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things. For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from

heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe.

So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown and Greek all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask for his help, for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

The Word of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
king of endless glory!*

*From the shining cloud the Father's voice
is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.*

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
king of endless glory!*

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

9:28-36

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' – He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

The Gospel of the Lord



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

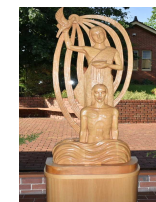
Knox Deanery

19 Forest Road, Ferntree Gully, 3156

Phone: 9758 1029

Email: office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au

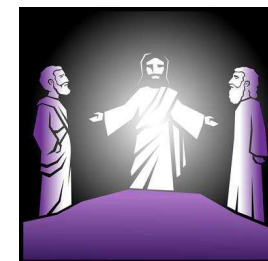
Website: www.stjohnthebaptist.net.au



Second Sunday of Lent– Year C

12th / 13th March, 2022

*O God,
You have commanded us to listen
to Your beloved Son;
Nourish us inwardly with Your word,
that, with spiritual sight made pure,
we may rejoice to behold your glory.
We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.*



FOCUS ON THE WORD: Apparently, there is an old Syrian saying 'inside the people you know, there is a person you don't know.' One of God's gifts is the grace to keep discovering beautiful things about the people close to us. If you talk to people who have been married for a long time, they will often mention the way their partner surprises them, even after twenty years of sharing the same kitchen sink. Likewise, our children and our friends. If we put them in a box with a label, we can become blind to some unexpected wonders God wants us to see. Perhaps it was like this for Peter, James and John on the occasion of the transfiguration which we hear about in the Gospel today. By this stage, they have been on the road with Jesus for quite some time. They have seen the storm calmed, the demoniac brought to peace, the woman healed of her hemorrhage, the daughter of Jairus raised to life. They have heard outrageous things. You'd think they'd be getting the picture by now. The experience on the mountain allows them to understand that they have hardly begun to understand the depth of the mystery of Jesus. A voice from the cloud says 'this is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' Luke's Gospel reminds us that the disciples still face a challenging road. Life will teach them more and more about Jesus. Let us all be open the lessons of a real relationship with the God of justice and love.

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 *Thurs 17th Mar:* **St Patrick** (10 year Anniversary of Friendship gathering.)
Sat 19th Mar: **St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

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 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.

2nd Sunday of Lent – Yr C
12th / 13th March, 2022

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently

Judith Atkinson



Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Ayden Tellis, Pauline Bowden, Audrey Homan, Mary Brimelow, Silvana Parolin, Peter Trevena, Molly Brewin, Basil Lorimer, Peter Kelly, Ellen Wallace, Patricia Alexander.

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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS The Stations of the Cross will be recited at 10.30am in the Church every Friday during Lent. All welcome.

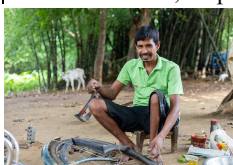
FRIENDSHIP GATHERING Meet in the Parish Hall on Thursdays between 10am to 1pm for a chat over a cuppa, join a card game, knit or just sit for a while. New friends welcomed.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP is meeting each Tues Morning at 10.15am for prayer, praise and worship, followed by the **Lenten Discussion Group** 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 Ferntree Gully](#). Many thanks to all our contributors for your generous support.

PROJECT COMPASSION Week 2: Biru's Story – India. This week, as part of Project Compassion, we



hear the story of Biru, a young man from the Ho ethnic minority in India. He lives with a disability. But there is so much more to him that needs to be seen. Our support

of Caritas Australia has empowered him to become an entrepreneur, to meet his future with pride, confidence and hope. Project Compassion challenges us to see beyond the immediate situation of people such as Biru and discover the person we don't yet know, to celebrate the possibilities of life For All Future Generations. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting lent.caritas.org.au, or by calling 1800 024 413

PARISH OFFICE news: please note that the office will be closed on Monday 14th March for the Labour day public holiday.

PARISH SURVEY The results of the Expressions of Interest forms, kindly submitted by you the parishioners have now been tabled at the recent Parish Pastoral Group meeting. A meeting has been planned and all those who responded to the EOI form and any other parishioners who would like to attend to plan the way forward are invited - to meet on: **Sunday, 3 April at 2:30pm**, In the Parish Hall.

FRIENDSHIP GATHERING 10th BIRTHDAY on **Thursday 17th March** (St Patrick's Day) our Friendship Gathering will be celebrating their **10th Birthday!** Friends – old and new-are invited to celebrate in the Parish Hall. **Mass 9.15am, Morning Tea 10.30am. All Welcome! !**



10 years

Welcome to St John the Baptist School Open Day

Date: **Wednesday March 16th, 2022**
from 9:00am to 5:00pm.

Venue: **St John the Baptist Parish Primary School**

17 Forest Road Ferntree Gully

We are currently enrolling in our Prep 2023 class. If you have a child who is eligible to start Prep in 2023 please make contact with the school office to complete an enrolment form. Come along and see the school in action. All Welcome. For more information, please contact: **Ursula DeCorrado** udecorrado@sjferntreegully.catholic.edu.au

HARMONY WEEK runs from 21st-27th March. it is about coming together to celebrate the cultural diversity in your area and spread the message of *'everyone belongs'*.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FR THOMAS, every blessing from all the Parishioners for the 13th March!

A MESSAGE FROM AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED AUSTRALIA: Aid to the Church in Need has launched a national emergency appeal for Ukraine. ACN is committed to strengthening and **supporting the Catholic Church in Ukraine**, as we have done for the past 70 years. The immediate emergency help will support the work of the Church in Ukraine by assisting priests, brothers, and religious sisters to continue their pastoral and outreach programs. We will continue to stand by our brothers and sisters in faith as they undergo trying times and seek to bring peace to a country that is surrounded by turmoil and unrest. Can you provide aid to the Catholic people in Ukraine? **They need your help!** Visit www.aidtochurch.org/ukraine

PARISH LENTEN RETREAT Fr Gilbert Carlo SVD will be hosting a Retreat here at St John the Baptist Parish. Fr Gilbert will give the homily at the Masses on Sunday 2nd & 3rd of April, 2022, the retreat will run: **Mon 4th April, 7pm Mass, 7.30pm Talk and Adoration, Tues 5th April: 7pm Mass, 7.30pm Talk and Adoration.** This is a wonderful opportunity to prepare our hearts and minds for Easter.

LECTORS THANK YOU a huge thank you to all who attended our Lectors training meeting on Wednesday. Your service will be rewarded and is much appreciated.

HOT CROSS BUN FUNDRAISER St John the Baptist Parents & Friends invite you to order some Hot Cross Buns, to support their fundraiser, for our Primary School. These delicious buns are from the **Glenfern Bakery**. Either Traditional Fruit Buns, or Chocolate Chip. **Cost: \$9 per half dozen – \$2.50 from each packet goes to the school.** Order forms have been placed on the table at the rear of the church. You can drop your completed form into the Parish Office or the letterbox on the driveway. Payment details are on the form. Thanks for your support.

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

Flowers	Lent – no flowers
Linen	Alvi M
Welcomers	6pm: Myra N, Wilma H 9am: Terry S, Neil & Lorraine, Peter C 11am Priya H, Patrick Sawyer
Lectors	6pm: Trish M 9am: Terry S 11am: Peter J
Counters	Genevieve & George
Gardening	Carlos E & Help needed.