

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
Acts 13:14, 43-52

Paul and Barnabas carried on from Perga till they reached Antioch in Pisidia. Here they went to synagogue on the sabbath and took their seats.

When the meeting broke up, many Jews and devout converts joined Paul and Barnabas, and in their talks with them Paul and Barnabas urged them to remain faithful to the grace God had given them.

The next sabbath almost the whole town assembled to hear the word of God. When they saw the crowds, the Jews, prompted by jealousy, used blasphemies and contradicted everything Paul said. Then Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, 'We had to proclaim the word of God to you first, but since you have rejected it, since you do not think yourselves worthy of eternal life, we must turn to the pagans. For this is what the Lord commanded us to do when he said:

I have made you a light for the nations,
so that my salvation may reach the
ends of the earth.'

It made the pagans very happy to hear this and they thanked the Lord for his message; all who were destined for eternal life became believers. Thus the word of the Lord spread through the whole countryside.

But the Jews worked upon some of the devout women of the upper classes and the leading men of the city and persuaded them to turn against Paul and Barnabas and expel them from their territory. So they shook the dust from their feet in defiance and went off to Iconium; but the disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/ We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

SECOND READING

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse
7:9, 14-17

I, John, saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. One of the elders said to me, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and because they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb, they now stand in front of God's throne and serve him day and night in his sanctuary; and the One who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. They will never hunger or thirst again; neither the sun nor scorching wind will ever plague them, because the Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.'

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
Jn 10:27-30

Jesus said:
'The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice;
I know them and they follow me.
I give them eternal life; they will never be lost
and no one will ever steal them from me.
The Father who gave them to me is greater than
anyone,
and no one can steal from the Father.
The Father and I are one.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

my sheep
LISTEN
to my voice;
I know them
and they
FOLLOW me.
JOHN 10:27



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

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4th Sunday of Easter – Year C

7th / 8th May, 2022

Good Shepherd Sunday – World Day of Prayer for Vocations

***Loving God,
You have put us in the care of
Jesus, the Good Shepherd.
With your help, may we remain faithful to
him who promises us his loving care
and protection.
We ask this through the same
Christ our Lord. Amen***



FOCUS ON THE WORD: Shepherds in the first century did not have a particularly good reputation. Whilst the task itself was a responsible one, it was usually undertaken by hired help – usually young men or even boys. Being hired help, they had little allegiance to the flock and were generally regarded as basically untrustworthy and often accused of illicitly selling off the sheep's milk and even the occasional lamb. They lived for months at a time out in the hills with the sheep; often risking their lives in defence of their flock, yet still regarded with suspicion. Shepherds were held in such low regard that they could not appear in court as a witness. Yet, despite this grim picture of shepherds, Jesus described himself as the Good Shepherd. With that one word, he acknowledged the reputation of shepherds but utterly dismissed it by describing himself as a shepherd – but a good shepherd. He chose to describe himself as the worst of all occupations but raised the status to unimpeachable heights.

In describing himself as the good shepherd, Jesus joined a distinguished list of biblical shepherds. Today's gospel passage follows the famous 'good shepherd' passage in the gospel of John and continues on the image. The passage portrays Jesus as 'claiming' his flock; guaranteeing them not only safety but also eternal life. This oath of loyalty and commitment is all the stronger and more remarkable in light of Jesus' rehabilitation of the status of shepherds. © 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: Thurs 12th May Sts Nereus & Achilleus, St Pancras
Fri 13th May Our Lady of Fatima Sat 14th May St Matthias

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 **No Mass**
Wed & Thurs - Communion Service 9.15 am
Friday 11.00 am
RECONCILIATION: Saturdays 5.15 pm

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.

4th Sunday of Easter - Year C
7th /8th May, 2022
GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently:



Leo Ladds
Those who we remember at this time:

Anna Bogner, Ernest Royle, Henry Brohier, Luigi De Cristo, Josef Knur, Annie McCann.

The sick: George & Genevieve White, Michael Jones, Maureen Wilson, 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

SICK LIST – If you are aware that any names on the sick list need to be removed, please contact the Parish Office on 9758 1029.



ROSARY – MONTH OF MAY. 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
When: First Saturday of the Month at 10.30 am.
Where: 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 Come and join us for Praise, Prayer and fellowship. We in the Parish Hall 10.15am on Tuesday Mornings. Speaker this week is Paster Peter Stevens, to update us on the latest election information. Enquiries: Judy on 9752 2986.

MOTHERS' PRAYER GROUP. Come and join with other mothers of any age to pray together. 9am–10am each Tuesday (during school term) in the Parish Centre. For enquiries, please contact the Parish Office.



2022 CONFIRMATION PROGRAM – REGISTER NOW, AND SAVE THE DATE. Confirmation Information Family Night on **Thursday 2nd June, at 7pm.** The program will run every Wednesday night from the 8th June, except school holidays, until the **Sacrament, planned to be at 6pm on Thursday 14th July, 2022.**

HAPPY MOTHERS DAY Today, we remember all mothers, with gratitude and affection, we thank them for their loving care, attention and support. As we celebrate Mother's Day, we express our thanks and offer a prayer that each Mother will be helped and sustained



GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY /WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS Today is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Pope Francis tells us: There can be no greater joy than to risk one's life for the Lord! I would like to say this especially to you, the young. **Do not be deaf to the Lord's call. If he calls you to follow this path,** do not pull your oars into the boat, but trust him. **Let us pray for the young people in our community, and in our families and circle of friends.** May our prayers help them to be open to the Lord's call to consecrated life or priesthood Enquiries: to the **Vocations Office.** Fr Jerome Santamaria, the Vocations Director, is always happy to meet. Phone: 9926 5733 or Email: vocations@cam.org.au

FATHER THOMAS IS GOING ON HOLIDAY.

We wish Father Thomas a wonderful holiday as he travels to visit his family overseas. Father will be away **FROM MAY 9th AND RETURNS ON JUNE 16th** During this time **there will be a change to the WEEKDAY MASS.** There will be **NO MASS on Wednesdays/Thursdays – this will be temporarily replaced with COMMUNION SERVICE,** lead by Deacon Peter Stringfellow. **We are also blessed to be able to offer Mass on Friday, Saturday and Sundays as per our normal Mass times, due to the generosity of the Salesian Priests,** who have kindly agreed to Supply Masses during Fr Thomas' leave. **Have a Happy Holiday Fr Thomas!!**



MASS TO COMMEMORATE THOSE WHO HAVE DIED DURING THE COVID PANDEMIC

Sunday 22 May, 11am · St Patrick's Cathedral Melbourne In recognition of the significant impact of COVID in our families and communities, Archbishop Comensoli will celebrate a memorial Mass for all those who have died during the COVID pandemic and could not be mourned properly due to pandemic restrictions. **Parishes and individuals are invited to submit the name(s)** of those you would like remembered during the Mass by visiting the Holy Souls Chapel (inside St Patrick's Cathedral) during May or online <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GZKP7QF> . **The names will be placed in a book on the Sanctuary, to be prayed for during all Masses over the weekend of 21–22 May.**

ALIVE IN THE SPIRIT Reconnect, Renew and Reimagine Catholic Community and Mission at the **Alive in the Spirit Online Conference 26th – 28th May 2022**
Inspiration and Formation for everyone engaged in the life of our Church. See keynote speakers, workshop information and register at : www.aliveinthespirit.com.au

PARENT WORKSHOP – GAMING IN COVID TIMES Popularity of gaming has exploded during covid times. How do we make sure young people keep a healthy balance between gaming and real-life responsibilities? Knox City Council is offering a Parent workshop on **Thursday 19th May, 2022 at 7pm-8.30pm** to address this issue. Guest Speaker – Steven Dupon from the Institute of Games. Bookings are essential. For more information contact Michelle Pascoe, on PH: 9298 8311 or email: Michelle.pascoe@knox.vic.gov.au

CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE AND CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE Good Shepherd Sunday Appeal. Your (tax deductible) donation will support the living arrangements and education for the Corpus Christi College for Seminarians. Please donate via: <https://ctc.edu.au/community/good-shepherd-sunday-appeal/> Thank you for your support.

PLEDGE TO PRAY The Vocations Office in Melbourne has partnered with some others in a project, 'Pledge to Pray' - an on-line platform for individuals to pledge prayers for vocations. It is based upon the idea of the 'Invisible Monastery'. I invite you to 'pledge a prayer' for vocations at www.pledgetoprayer.com.au this is a site dedicated to encouraging prayer for vocations in Australia. On this World Day of Prayer for Vocations, **pray for yourself. Pray to know if God is calling YOU** to be a Priest, Sister or Brother. Pray!



AUDITIONS NOW OPEN for the 'Call of Guadalupe'- an Australian-grown Catholic Musical! For more info: <http://www.cogtheatre.org> For audition details: contact cogtheatre@gmail.com or Von 0423 886 984 or **Geraldine 0413398528** Includes Free acting classes!

ROSTERS: Mon 9th May to Sun 15th May	
Flowers	Marg H & Ange C
Linen	Jean B
Welcomers	6pm Peter G, Wilma H 9am: Johanna C, Thelma B 11 am: Anna M, Priya H
Lectors	6pm: Help needed 9am: Help needed 11 am: Help needed
Counters	Byron M, Ruby S & Guil W
Gardening	Tom Noonan