FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles Acts 15: 1-2,22-29

Some men came down from Judaea and taught the brothers, 'Unless you have yourselves circumcised in the tradition of Moses you cannot be saved.' This led to disagreement, and after Paul and Barnabas had had a long argument with these men it was arranged that Paul and Barnabas and others of the church should go up to Jerusalem and discuss the problem with the apostles and elders.

Then the apostles and elders decided to choose delegates to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; the whole church concurred with this. They chose Judas known as Barsabbas and Silas, both leading men in the brotherhood, and gave them this letter to take with them:

'The apostles and elders, your brothers, send greetings to the brothers of pagan birth in Antioch. Syria and Cilicia. We hear that some of our members have disturbed you with their demands and have unsettled your minds. They acted without any authority from us, and so we have decided unanimously to elect delegates and to send them to you with Barnabas and Paul, men we highly respect who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accordingly we are sending you Judas and Silas, who will confirm by word of mouth what we have written in this letter. It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials: you are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from fornication. Avoid these, and you will do what is right. Farewell.'

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/ O God, let all the nations praise you!

SECOND READING

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse Rev: 21:10-14,22-23

In the spirit, the angel took me to the top of an enormous high mountain and showed me Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down from God out of heaven. It had all the radiant glory of God and glittered like some precious jewel of crystal-clear diamond. The walls of it were of a

great height, and had twelve gates; at each of the twelve gates there was an angel, and over the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel; on the east there were three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. The city walls stood on twelve foundation stones, each one of which bore the name of one of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

I saw that there was no temple in the city since the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were themselves the temple, and the city did not need the sun or the moon for light, since it was lit by the radiant glory of God and the Lamb was a lighted torch for it.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 14:23-29

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our home with him. Those who do not love me do not keep my words. And my word is not my own: it is the word of the one who sent me. I have said these things to you while still with you; but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you. Peace I bequeath to you, my own peace I give you, a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. You heard me say:

I am going away, and shall return.

If you loved me you would have been glad to know that I am going to the Father,

for the Father is greater than I.

I have told you this now before it happens, so that when it does happen you may believe.'

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 of Easter – Year C 21st / 22nd May, 2022

O Holy Spirit, teacher of all good, remind us of what Jesus said and did, and who he is. Let our hearts be untroubled and fearless as we take your compassion everywhere it's needed in our world today: the unhoused, the climate crisis, Ukraine, and to everyone suffering. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



FOCUS ON THE WORD: *God's home is where the heart is:* Some people have the idea that God is awfully remote, dwelling beyond the edge of the cosmos. We make contact by sending a prayer like a long-range rocket, hoping it will find its target. This is far distant from Our Lord's teaching in today's Gospel.

'If anyone loves me and keeps my word, my Father and I will make our home with that person.' It is not in outer space, but in inner space that Divine Love will make a home.

What turns a house into a home? It is in sitting around a table sharing a meal. So, Jesus created a sacred meal for us and invites us to share in the Heavenly Bread and Spiritual Drink.

When we do so, we find, in the words of St John Paul II, that we 'digest, as it were, the secret of the Resurrection'. We take into ourselves the Real Presence of the Risen Lord who makes his home with us. Coming to Communion, even after a long time away, satisfies the yearning of the human heart because it is made to be the habitation of Divine Love. We could pause for a moment to reflect on the gracious fact that God chooses to dwell in our hearts. Let us respond wholeheartedly. © Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com

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: Tuesday 24th May – Our Lady Help of Christians

Wednesday 25th May – St Bede the Venerable, St Gregory VII, St Mary Magdalene de'Pazzi Thurs 26th May St Philip Neri Friday 27th May St Augustine of Canterbury.

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
Acting Principal:

St. Joseph's College
Principal:

Mater Christi College
Principal:

Principal:

St. Joseph's College
Principal:

Mater Christi College
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

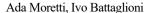
WEDDINGS:

By appointment, 6 months' notice required. Saturdays or weekdays (not Sundays). Contact the Parish Office: on 9758 1029.

6th Sunday of Easter - Year C 21st / 22nd May, 2022

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently:



Those who we remember at this time:

Ljuba Pek, Barbara Loidl, Ada Parente, Elaine Hayes, Antonio Franchi, Karen Stephens, John Bognar, Mollie Dennis.

The sick: Cyriac Cherumanathu, 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. <u>ROSARY</u> 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. This week we focus on healing ministry. 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.

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.

CONFIRMATION 2022, LAST CHANCE TO

REGISTER Confirmation Information Family Night on Thursday 2nd June, at 7pm. The Sacrament, planned to be at 6pm on Thursday 14th July, 2022. Please complete the online registration form now, available on our website at https://stjohnthebaptist.net.au/ or phone the Parish Office on 9758 1029.

FUNERAL MASS – The Funeral Mass for the late *Ada Moretti* will be celebrated here at St John's Church on Thursday, 26th May, 2022 at 1.30pm.

FUNERAL MASS – The Funeral Mass for the late *Ivo Battaglioni* will be celebrated here at St John's Church on Tuesday, 31st May, 2022 at 10.30am.

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. The previously submitted names will be placed in a book on the Sanctuary, to be prayed for during all Masses over this weekend.

YOUNG VOICES AWARDS Australian Catholics, in conjunction with Australian Catholic University, is offering students in Catholic primary and secondary schools the chance to have their voices heard. The theme for this year's Young Voices Awards is 'Media for good'. We all know that media can be a powerful influence on society. We want students to use that power to make a positive difference in the world. The Young Voices Awards have three sections:

• Junior (Years 5 and 6) Intermediate (Years 7 to 9) Senior (Years 10 to 12).

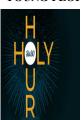
Each section has three entry categories: Articles, Photographs and Digital (Video or Podcast).

This year, prizes will be awarded for each category. Closing date for entries is 5pm Friday 27 May 2022. Entries arriving after this date will not be accepted. For more information please search: www.australiancatholics.com.au/yva

LAUDATO SI' WEEK (16-24 May) is a celebration of Pope Francis' encyclical Laudato Si' and a call to action for Catholics around the world to care for our common home. You can participate through prayer, action and reflection with the new resources for parishes, schools, organisations and individuals created by the ACBC Office for Justice, Ecology and Peace. Go to www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au

POSITIONS VACANT ACROSS THE ARCHDIOCESE Details can be found on the Archdiocese of Melbourne website https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies

YOUNG PEOPLES HOLY HOUR For more than 20



years, young people from all over Melbourne have gathered at St Patrick's Cathedral on Thursday evenings for an hour of Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. We invite all young adults to join us for this weekly evening of prayer. Thursday, May 19, 2022, 6:30pm – 7:30pm, and consecutive dates: Thursday, May 26.

2022 6:30pm, Thursday, June 2, 2022 6:30pm, etc..

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

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK—27 May to

3 June—is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. Find out more about National Reconciliation Week #NRW2022 #BeBraveMakeChange. You are invited to join the Blackburn Lake Sanctuary Friends & community to celebrate Reconciliation Week, learn more about the Uluru Statement from the Heart and help us 'plant' a Lake of 400 Hands. An event for all ages, the event will run from 1pm to 4pm—Sunday 22 May, with a Welcome to Country at 2 pm.

A message from Aid to the Church in Need Australia:

Aid to the ACN has launched its "Helping form Church in Need the Priests of Tomorrow " global acn AUSTRALIA campaign. For 75 years, the benefactors of Aid to the Church in Need have generously supported the formation of seminarians. In fact, some of these men now serve as priests in Australia today! At the current time, ACN is supporting some 15,000 seminarians on the path to the priesthood. Please help us, spiritually and financially, to form the priests of tomorrow. These young men never cease to pray for the benefactors who assisted them on their journey. Thank you in advance for whatever you can do. Visit www.aidtochurch.org/seminariansglobal

| ROSTERS: Mon 23rd May to Sun 29th May | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Flowers | Carole D'S, Lia U |
| Linen | Carole D's |
| Welcomers | 6pm Kathryn C, Myra N |
| | 9am: Terry S, Joanna C, Thelma B |
| | 11am: Patrick S, Anna M |
| Lectors | 6pm: Tess DeL |
| | 9am: Pamela E |
| | 11am:Eduardo M |
| Counters | Peter & Dawn, Peter C, Florence J |
| Gardening | Tom Noonan |