

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Genesis 18:20-32

The Lord said, 'How great an outcry there is against Sodom and Gomorrah! How grievous is their sin! I propose to go down and see whether or not they have done all that is alleged in the outcry against them that has come up to me. I am determined to know.'

The men left there and went to Sodom while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Approaching him he said, 'Are you really going to destroy the just man with the sinner? Perhaps there are fifty just men in the town. Will you really overwhelm them, will you not spare the place for the fifty just men in it? Do not think of doing such a thing: to kill the just man with the sinner, treating just and sinner alike! Do not think of it! Will the judge of the whole earth not administer justice?' The Lord replied, 'If at Sodom I find fifty just men in the town, I will spare the whole place because of them.'

Abraham replied, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this to my Lord, I who am dust and ashes. But perhaps the fifty just men lack five: will you destroy the whole city for five?' 'No', he replied 'I will not destroy it if I find forty-five just men there.' Again Abraham said to him, 'Perhaps there will only be forty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'for the sake of the forty.'

Abraham said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry, but give me leave to speak: perhaps there will only be thirty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'if I find thirty there.' He said, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this, but perhaps there will only be twenty there.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the twenty.' He said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry if I speak once more: perhaps there will only be ten.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the ten.'

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/. Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians 2:12-14

You have been buried with Christ, when you were baptised; and by baptism, too, you have been raised up with him through your belief in the power of God who raised him from the dead. You were dead, because you were sinners and had not

been circumcised: he has brought you to life with him, he has forgiven us all our sins.

He has overridden the Law, and cancelled every record of the debt that we had to pay; he has done away with it by nailing it to the cross.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

*You have received the Spirit
which makes us God's children,
and in that Spirit we call God our Father.
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 11:1-13

Once Jesus was in a certain place praying, and when he had finished, one of his disciples said, 'Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.'

He said to them, 'Say this when you pray:

"Father, may your name be held holy,
your kingdom come;
give us each day our daily bread,
and forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves forgive each one who is in debt to us. And do not put us to the test."

He also said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend and goes to him in the middle of the night to say, "My friend, lend me three loaves, because a friend of mine on his travels has just arrived at my house and I have nothing to offer him"; and the man answers from inside the house, "Do not bother me. The door is bolted now, and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up to give it to you." I tell you, if the man does not get up and give it him for friendship's sake, persistence will be enough to make him get up and give his friend all he wants.

'So I say to you: Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For the one who asks always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door opened to him. What father among you would hand his son a stone when he asked for bread? Or hand him a snake instead of a fish? Or hand him a scorpion if he asked for an egg? If you then, who are evil, know how to give your children what is good, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'

The Gospel of the Lord.



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

Knox Deanery

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17th Sunday in Ordinary Time– Year C

23rd / 24th July, 2022

O Jesus,
Your Father
stands at the door
waiting for us to knock,
never sleeping, always seeking ways to dote on us,
and fill us with good things.
Help us to persist in our prayers.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



FOCUS ON THE WORD Jesus says in the gospel, 'Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you.' The actions of asking, searching and knocking are means by which we initiate the encounter with God. If we don't ask, search and knock, how is anyone (including God) to know our needs or know what it is that we are searching for. Particularly in our spiritual lives, it is only through the search and the knocking on the doors of different experiences that we ever come closer to finding answers. A crucial aspect of prayer is the attitude with which we view God. We trust in God's character that it is not a pointless exercise to ask for something. We trust that God is even more loving than a parent who tries to give their child what they need. If we did not make these basic assumptions about God, there would be little point in prayer. When our prayer lives falter at times, perhaps we need to first check out our relationship with God and our attitude towards God before trying to 'fix' the ways we pray. © 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 Mon 25th July – St James

Tue 26th July Sts Joachim and Anne

Fri 29th July Sts Martha, Mary and Lazarus

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 7.00pm
Wed & Thurs 9.15 am
Friday 11.00 am

RECONCILIATION: Saturdays 5.15 pm

GLENGOLLAN VILLAGE MASS 1st Friday 2pm
WILLOWBROOK MASS 3rd Thursday 2pm

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.

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C
23rd / 24th July, 2022

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently:

Those who we remember at this time:

Primo Scapin Ronald William Herbert, Eleanor Phillips, Margaret Haines, John Bekkers, Jim Feeney, Adriana Bekkers Martin Pelgrim, John Addicott, Greg Hilder.

The sick: Jennifer Silva, Maureen Wilson, Lucy Denzin, Gabby Sundstrom, Ray Loel, Kathryn Kircos, Ruby Samtoy, Fame Pelgrim, Elsie Johnson, Barbara Kenny, Anne Jayawardena, Lea Hatley, 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 is recited prior to Morning Weekday Mass on Wed, Thurs, Friday, in the Church. All welcome to join in the recitation. **Pope Francis has invited everyone to pray the Rosary with him for peace around the world.**

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. We in the Parish Hall 10.15am on Tuesday Mornings. All welcome. Enquiries: Judy on 9752 2986.

MOTHERS' PRAYER GROUP. Come and join with other mothers of any age to pray together. 9am–10am each Tuesday in the Parish Centre.

CDFPAY FOR PARISHES – ONLINE PAYMENT PORTAL for those who would like to contribute to our Parish electronically, please click on: [CDFpay](#). Many thanks to all contributors for your support.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL OP SHOP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED The SVDP shop, located at: Unit 7/1821 Ferntree Gully Rd, FTG, is in desperate need of more helpers. **Please contact Diane on 9758 8501** if you could help out.



PARISH DINNER IN JULY LAST CHANCE!! the Parish Dinner, to be held at: **FEAST**, 1130 Burwood Highway Ferntree Gully. **From 7pm, Sat 23rd July**, a great choice of food. Please, come and join us.. **BYO Christmas Hat !! COST:** \$35 Adults, \$22 Seniors, \$15 for Children 4yrs – 12yrs.: Children U4 FREE

FUNERAL MASS The Funeral Mass for the late **Beryl Mary Holsinger** will be celebrated here at St John's Church on Tuesday 26th July at 1pm. The Funeral Mass for **Giulio Rech** will be celebrated on Wednesday 27th July 11am Viewing 11.30am Rosary, followed by 12noon Mass

LECTOR'S ROSTER We are about to update the Lector's roster for September, October, November, and December. Please contact the administration if there are any dates that you will not be available to Lector during this time. office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au or 9758 1029. Thank you for your participation in this ministry.

FRIENDSHIP GATHERING a BIG THANK YOU, to those kind people who knit and crochet items for those in need – **blessed shawls, knee rugs, holding crosses are always available from the Parish Office**, and can be given to a loved one in hospital. **Also available from the Parish Office is a supply of donated wool and easy patterns** for small children's knits, adult scarves, beanies, gloves, if you would like to knit something – so please, make use of these goods.



INNER HEALING THROUGH MEDITATION ON JESUS Prayer & Meditation through gentle postures and breathing in the Holy Spirit, heals body, mind and soul. **Retreat begins at 6pm on Friday 5th of August and concludes at 4.00pm on Sunday 7th of August.** Guided by Fr. Gilbert Carlo SVD **Contact:** Janssen Spirituality Centre, 22 Woodvale Road, Boronia, Victoria 3155. **RSVP Tel: 03 9762 6625** or Email: gilbertcarlo@gmail.com

REFLECTING ON THE 2ND PLENARY COUNCIL Following the Second Assembly of the Fifth Plenary Council of the Catholic Church in Australia, Archbishop Peter A Comensoli has written a letter to the Church in Melbourne reflecting on the events and fruits of the Council. Read the letter below. Copies of this letter have been sent to parishes and you can download [a print-friendly version here](#).

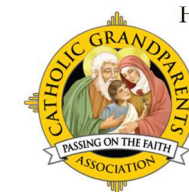
BAPTISMS – We offer our congratulations to **Cian Padraig O Cathasaigh** son of Liam & Linda, who is to be baptised this weekend: The Church of God welcomes you with great joy.



EMMAUS INFORMATION EVENING for Parents of Children in Year 3-5, on Mon 25th July, at 7pm, in the Tony Frizza Stadium, 503 Springvale Rd, Vermont South. Limited places, so **book now** enrol.emmaus.vic.edu.au/college-tour

ST VINCENT DE PAUL NSW FLOOD RELIEF APPEAL Your donation enables us to be there for the long haul Go to the SVDP website [Flood relief appeal](#) or call: 13 18 12

THE WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY will take place this Sunday, 24 July 2022. Pope Francis encourages grandparents and the elderly to become part of the 'revolution of tenderness' he wishes to see in the world. 'Many of us have come to a sage and humble realization,' he says, 'that we are not saved alone, and that happiness is a bread we break together.'



He observes that the elderly have the opportunity to be 'teachers of a way of life that is peaceful and attentive of those in greatest need'. Sometimes this attitude is 'mistaken for weakness or resignation, yet it will be the meek, not the aggressive and the abusive, who will inherit the earth.' Pope Francis offers an invitation to everyone walking through old age:

"Dear grandparents, dear elderly persons, we are called to be artisans of the *revolution of tenderness* in our world! Let us do so by learning to make ever more frequent and better use of the most valuable instrument at our disposal and, indeed, the one best suited to our age: prayer"

ROSTERS: Mon 25th July to Sun 31st July, 2022

Flowers	Sue N & Lynne K
Linen	Jean B
Welcomers	6pm Kathryn C & Myra N 9am: Terry S, Joanna C & Thelma B 11am: Patrick S & Anna M
Lectors	6pm: Jan R 9am: Gordon V 11am: Eduardo M
Counters	George & Genevieve W, Bindu M
Gardening	Carlos Escobar