

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Wisdom 11:22-12:2

In your sight, Lord, the whole world is like a grain of dust that tips the scales, like a drop of morning dew falling on the ground. Yet you are merciful to all, because you can do all things and overlook men's sins so that they can repent. Yes, you love all that exists, you hold nothing of what you have made in abhorrence, for had you hated anything, you would not have formed it. And how, had you not willed it, could a thing persist, how be conserved if not called forth by you? You spare all things because all things are yours, Lord, lover of life, you whose imperishable spirit is in all. Little by little, therefore, you correct those who offend, you admonish and remind them of how they have sinned, so that they may abstain from evil and trust in you, Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R/. I will praise your name for ever,
my king and my God*

SECOND READING

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians 2 Thess 1:11-2:2

We pray continually that our God will make you worthy of his call, and by his power fulfil all your desires for goodness and complete all that you have been doing through faith; because in this way the name of our Lord Jesus Christ will be glorified in you and you in him, by the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

To turn now, brothers, to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and how we shall all be gathered round him: please do not get excited too soon or alarmed by any prediction or rumour or any letter claiming to come from us, implying that the Day of the Lord has already arrived.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

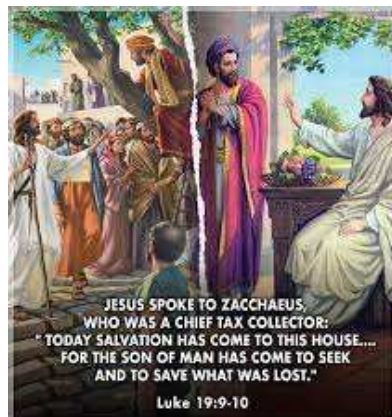
*Alleluia, alleluia!
God loved the world so much,
he gave his only Son, that all who believe in
him might have eternal life
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Luke 19:1-10*

Jesus entered Jericho and was going through the town when a man whose name was Zacchaeus made his appearance; he was one of the senior tax collectors and a wealthy man. He was anxious to see what kind of man Jesus was, but he was too short and could not see him for the crowd; so he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to catch a glimpse of Jesus who was to pass that way. When Jesus reached the spot he looked up and spoke to him: 'Zacchaeus, come down. Hurry, because I must stay at your house today.' And he hurried down and welcomed him joyfully. They all complained when they saw what was happening. 'He has gone to stay at a sinner's house' they said. But Zacchaeus stood his ground and said to the Lord, 'Look, sir, I am going to give half my property to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody I will pay him back four times the amount.' And Jesus said to him, 'Today salvation has come to this house, because this man too is a son of Abraham; for the Son of Man has come to seek out and save what was lost.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH
Knox Deanery
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31st Sunday in Ordinary Time– Year C
29th / 30th October, 2022

*Oh Jesus,
Stay at our house!
Call us by name, take time with us!
Let our hearts run over
with the joy You bring,
and help us to spread that joy to everyone,
everywhere.*



We ask this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

FOCUS ON THE WORD: Judging from the harsh things that Jesus said about wealth and privilege, we might reasonably think it well-nigh impossible for a rich person not only to enter the gates of heaven, but also to come into the good graces of Jesus himself. Zacchaeus was rich. A prominent tax collector, he even seemed to have suspicions about fraud in his own practices. He may have been small in stature, but he was definitely into big-time operations. It also happened that he wanted to see what Jesus was like. So, running ahead of a big crowd's rush, he climbed a sycamore to see what he could see. It's an interesting scene—unlike my own imagined scenario. I would have the master, eyes aflame, look at the conniver and warn him of his impending doom. Jesus would then launch into a rousing condemnation of exploitation and injustice. Zacchaeus would serve as prime example. But the Christ of Luke's Gospel (a Gospel, mind you, that is one of the harshest in denouncing riches and the oppression of the poor) once again confounds expectations. "Zacchaeus, hurry down. I want to stay at your house." Clearly, Jesus is interested in the energy and desire of the little man. He seems impressed by the fact that Zacchaeus would go to such lengths to see him and would eventually stand his ground before the daunting crowd. It is Zacchaeus's heart, his hope, that draws Jesus. Jesus announces salvation to the whole house of Zacchaeus and calls him, believe it or not, a "true son of Abraham." That's that. "The Son of Man has come to search out and save what was lost." Such is the manner of infinite mercy. © John Kavanaugh, SJ

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 Tue 1st Nov All Saints Wed 2nd Nov All Souls
Thurs 3rd Nov St Martin de Porres Fri 4th Nov St Charles Borromeo

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 11am

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.

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C
29th / 30th October, 2022.


PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently:

Brigida Mazzone
Those who we remember at this time:
Angela Simioni, George Edmunds, David Howell, Carmel McGough, Francis Cassar, Alan Lawson, Michael Johnson, Umberto Paternoster, Elena Catalano.

The sick: Ben McLaey, Ray Stackpole, Don Roberts, Maureen Wilson, Lucy Denzin, Gabby Sundstrom, Kathryn Kircos, Ruby Santoy, 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. There will be NO Prayer Group on Tues 1st Nov, owing to the Melbourne Cup Public Holiday. We resume on 8th Nov.

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


FRIDAY 28TH OCTOBER WAS - WORLD TEACHERS DAY! With its theme, "Hats off to Teachers". Our teachers at St John the Baptist are SIMPLY FABULOUS - they are truly:

- ✔ amazing ✔ hardworking
 - ✔ talented ✔ kind and caring
 - ✔ 100% committed
- So, we recognise their hard work and dedication. Thank you to our Teachers.



PLEASE NOTE THAT THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON MELBOURNE CUP DAY
Mass will be at 10am this day, not the usual 7pm.

Fr THOMAS INVITES YOU TO A PARISH LUNCH on Sunday 20th November at 12pm At FEAST,F.T.G HOTEL Please indicate your interest on the sign-up sheet
Cost: **Adults \$35,Seniors \$22 4y-12y \$15 All welcome**

 **CATHOLIC MISSION APPEAL 2022** A huge Thank you, for your generous donations to our special appeal last weekend. **The Amount Raised was: \$1,641.60** Your generous Donations are helping the Church and the local community work towards constructing the Centre, supplying feed and veterinary medication, and procuring goats to provide nutritious milk to help address problems like malnutrition in babies and children. Visit catholicmission.org.au/our-work where you can also sign up for our regular newsletter. If you missed your opportunity to learn about this vital mission program, or wish to contribute again, please go to catholicmission.org.au/ethiopia or scan the QR code below.



WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023 - THE JOURNEY BEGINS! Q Do I need to be a member of a parish or school to join the Pilgrimage? A No. While some people will join our pilgrimage as a member of a group already, there will be plenty of pilgrims who will come as individuals. **World Youth Day is open to participants between the age of 16 and 35.** If you are aged 16-18 we encourage you to **reach out to your local parish or Catholic school** to begin conversations about attending World Youth Day. **Can I join a pilgrimage as a leader or volunteer?** Yes! In the next few months, we will be calling for volunteers and small group leaders. Keep an eye out on the website for more information. **HOW DO I REGISTER FOR WYD? Registration for the Archdiocese of Melbourne's pilgrimage to World Youth Day will open in the next few months.** In the meantime, start saving, and fill out our expression of interest [form](#) to let us know you are keen

CONGRATULATIONS Alan Bailey, for your recent award on 50+ years of service, to St Vincent de Paul.

ST VINCENT de PAUL CONFERENCE - VOLUNTEERS/ PARISHIONERS You are invited to share a table with conference members at our forthcoming Parish meal on: **SUN 20TH NOV, 2022, FROM 12 NOON. THE FEAST, FERN TREE GULLY HOTEL** Please contact: **Connie: 0413 747 685 ; OR: Jenny 0400 210 727** to let them know if you are interested. Please sign your name on the sheet in the church anyway to give Fr Thomas a commitment of your attendance. We understand if you would like to share another table with another group.

THE SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS
Mass of the Day: Tuesday 1st November at 10.00am
Please note there will be **no 7pm Mass this day.**
ALL SOULS DAY Wednesday 2nd November Mass at 9.15am am & 7pm
Owing to the Melbourne Cup long weekend, this year we will celebrate **THE MEMORIAL MASS OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED** on Tuesday 22nd November at 7.00pm. All are most welcome.

ST JOHN'S SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP TRIVIA NIGHT Thanks to the 46 who attended the Trivia Night. Thanks also to the many who made donations. Everyone seemed to have a great time. **We raised \$905 ☺ A great result. ☺.** We will be donating this equally to Opening the Doors Foundation (<https://www.openingthedoors.org.au>) in Thornbury and Alfajiri Street Kids Art (<https://www.alfajiri.org>) in the Kenya.- Thanks again. ☺

SVPD FLOOD APPEAL The Archbishop has asked that I commend to the Parish communities, the Society of St Vincent de Paul's Flood Appeal for those who have been effected by these devastating floods particularly in the north of the State.



Contributions can be made by:
1. **Calling** 13 18 12
2. **Visit** <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-vic/vinnies-vic-flood-appeal-2022>.
3. **Making a monetary donation** through any Vinnies Shops at point of purchase; or
4. **Via your local IGA** where the purchase of a token supports the recovery of Victorians devastated by these recent floods.
I ask also for your thoughts and prayers for all who are impacted by the floods as well as the volunteers and emergency workers assisting them in their needs at this challenging time

ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE MASS FOR DECEASED LOVED ONES We invite you to our Annual Memorial Mass for deceased Past Pupils, Staff and Loved Ones. **Thursday 3rd Nov, 2022 at 7pm in the College Chapel**

ROSTERS: Mon 31st Oct to Sun 6th Nov, 2022

Flowers	Ann P, Connie B
Linen	Jean B
Welcomers	6pm Peter G, Wilma H 9am Joanna C, Thelma B 11am: Anna M & Priya H
Lectors	6pm: Tess D 9am: Terry S 11am Peter J
Counters	Tony B, Steph H, Connie B, Peter F
Gardening	Carlo E & Help Needed