

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 2:1-5

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In the days to come

the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills.

All the nations will stream to it,

peoples without number will come to it; and they will say:

‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways

so that we may walk in his paths;

since the Law will go out from Zion,

and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.’

He will wield authority over the nations

and adjudicate between many peoples;

these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles.

Nation will not lift sword against nation,

there will be no more training for war.

O House of Jacob, come,

let us walk in the light of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

13: 11-14

You know ‘the time’ has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under the cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew *24: 37-44*

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘As it was in Noah’s day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

‘So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.’

The Gospel of the Lord.



5 WAYS TO PREPARE YOUR HEART THIS ADVENT

- 1 Prepare room at the Inn**
Make room in your heart for Jesus.
- 2 Clean out the cobwebs**
After an Examination of Conscience, go to Confession.
- 3 Hang new curtains**
“Decorate” your heart with joy and hope.
- 4 Get out the fine china and set the table**
Let your attitude be one of enthusiastic expectation.
- 5 Open the front door and wait**
Wait for Christ’s arrival silently and in a spirit of prayer.

INFORMATION BY CATHOLICNEWSAGENCY.COM CatholicLink



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

Knox Deanery

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Phone: 9758 1029

Email: office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au

Website: www.stjohnthebaptist.net.au



1st Sunday of Advent– Year A

26th/27th November, 2022

Come, Lord Jesus, make us ready.

We yearn to walk in your light, washed in your peace.

Keep us always awake, watching for you, prepared, with our hearts open wide.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Stay Awake

FOCUS ON THE WORD: Why do we have Advent? You say, “I don’t know, it always just comes along,” or, “I don’t know, no one ever told me.” I have heard these answers and others a number of times. Especially this question: if Christ has already been born, what is this Advent waiting about? Are we supposed to have forgotten about his birth? Strangely that is part of the answer. Our hearts get drowsy and lazy, tired out by the anxieties of daily life. Maybe we distract ourselves from our troubles by working very hard, or by becoming depressed, or becoming fascinated with drink, or sex, or out-of-control emotions, or gambling, or email, or golf, or surfing the web, or pride, or, or, or (you name yours). Whatever it is for you, the very clear message of **Advent is, “Settle down for a while.” Open the door just a crack and let God in.** To help, the Church has a liturgical strategy. Each week’s first two readings of the Advent Sundays give the carrot: usually positive, a promise of good. Then the Gospel hits you with a *big stick* to wake you up. Take the encouraging First Reading this Sunday. It reminds us of the promise God has made to his people: rightness and justice. Security. The day of the Lord will arrive, though long delayed. Peace in our day. The Second Reading urges us to put God’s promise of peace into action, even if we are not yet sure what it means. Love others and be loved. But then comes the Gospel. It tries to wake us up, especially if the above has not helped. “But I am perfectly awake,” you say. Alright then, go ahead and read the Gospel. It is the “stick.” Let yourself imagine what it might be like. Picture it scene by scene and don’t worry about being exact. Just experience it. If you can say “You are right, I am afraid of these,” then go back to the Responsorial Psalm. Beg that Christ be given birth in your soul and in so many others in this world that need it so badly. - *Fr John Foley, 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 Wed 30th Nov St Andrew 3rd Dec St Francis Xavier

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.

1st Sunday of Advent - Year A
26th / 27th November, 2022.

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently:

Jill Stanley, Alonzo Puey, Joy Pape
Those who we remember at this time:

Damien Welch, Giuseppina DiDonato, Laura Fabrizio, Margaret O'Rourke, May Ferguson, Noreen Hilet, Francesco Caliguri, Kathleen Sage.

The sick: Catherine Ziegfried, Ben McLaey, Ray Stackpole, Don Roberts, Maureen Wilson, Lucy Denzin, Gabby Sundstrom, Kathryn Kircos, Ruby Samtoy, 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 Meet in the Parish Hall at 10.15am, for a 10.30am start. Praise & Worship, prayer and teaching, followed by a shared lunch. All welcome.

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

CALL OF GUADALUPE: THE MUSICAL is BACK again in all its glory!. **24-27 November** at Chelsea Town Hall Bookings at: <https://www.trybooking.com>

PARISH LUNCH Thank you to all who attended on Sunday 20th November at 12pm At FEAST, F.T.G HOTEL It was a great atmosphere, and lovely to gather together again after all the lockdowns.



RCIA NEWS This weekend we introduce to you **Emily** our RCIA candidate and **Sally** our RCIA catechumen. Please make them feel welcome in our church and community. Please keep Emily and Sally in your daily prayers as they continue on their journey towards reception of the sacraments and with the Church at the Easter vigil.



ADVENT REFLECTION GROUP FOR "Heart of the Disciple" for Wednesday morning will begin on **Wednesday, 30 December at 10am** in the Parish administration building. You are most welcome to attend. Please contact Mary if you have any queries: marymakarucha@stjohnthebaptist.net.au Or, **Monday, 28th November at 7.30pm** in the Parish Hall with Phuong Breisch. Enquiries: Ph 0400 086 073

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2023 The Sacramental program for children **who do not attend** a catholic school, will begin early in term 1 2023, for the grade 3 and 4 students to **celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation**. If you have children who are at these grade levels and interested in celebrating the sacraments, please contact the parish office: Phone: 9758 1029 or email marymakarucha@stjohnthebaptist.net.au



FIRST FRIDAY MASS (with the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick) – Friday 1st December, 2022 at 11am. Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament from 10 am. Please stay for a cuppa after Mass.

THREE NEW PRIESTS, and DEACONS On



Saturday 19 November, three new priests and three new transitional deacons were ordained for the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne in a joyful Ordination Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral. The ordinations of **Fr Huy Nguyen, Fr Vinh Do and Fr An Le to the priesthood, and of Rev Thomas Christie, Rev Tien Tran and Rev Peter (Ngoc) Nguyen** to the transitional diaconate. Some of our Parishioners may remember Tom, from his placement here in our Parish in 2018. Watch on Youtube: <https://youtu.be/WaZPaKIGb-o>

FAREWELL & THANK YOU MEGAN, Megan Wallace will officially be departing her role as Parish Cleaner on Thursday 8th Dec, 2022. She has done a wonderful job, and we wish to thank and acknowledge her 10 years of diligent service to the community of St John's. We are grateful for all you have done, and wish you the very best in your future.

POSITION VACANT: CASUAL CLEANER we are looking for someone to assist with cleaning duties in the Church and Parish Hall equivalent to **3 hrs per week**. Must be available during normal office hours, and hold a current Working with Children Check. If you feel this is an opportunity for you, please send your application to office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au by Fri 16th December. Please submit a brief cover letter along with a current resume. If you would like a detailed position description, contact the Parish Office on 9758 1029. We look forward to hearing from you.

LECTOR ROSTER We are at that time once again to renew our Lector roster for the next term from weekend 30/12/2022 / 1/1 2023 to the end of April 2023. Please contact the parish, by Tuesday, 6 December, if you are unavailable at any time during that period from Jan to April 2023. Email marymakarucha@stjohnthebaptist.net.au or Phone 9758 1029. Thank you for your continued service in this ministry.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST BOOK CLUB UPDATE

Our book club have just finished reading a most interesting book, Out of the Forest by Gregory Smith. Our next two books for our Christmas and holiday reading are: The Red Tent by Anita Diamant, and The Girl in his Shadow by Audrey Blake. The club will be catching up in January for lunch. Would you like to join our club? Contact the parish office: via email: marymakarucha@stjohnthebaptist.net.au or phone: 9758 1029, you are most welcome!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY ASSISTING REFUGEE STUDENTS - MERCY CONNECT MELBOURNE is currently recruiting volunteers to support Refugee Students and Asylum Seekers in Primary and Secondary schools across the Melbourne Archdiocese. A Training Day for new volunteers with emphasis on Child Safeguarding will take place prior to commencement in 2023. Email: somml@bigpond.com T 9326 1895

ROSTERS: Mon 28th Nov to Sun 4th Dec, 2022

Flowers	Marg H & Judy G
Linen	Sue N
Welcomers	6pm Lia U & Kathryn C 9am Rosa L & Florence J 11am: Shamindri & Chamal A
Lectors	6pm: Jan R 9am: Pamela E 11am Shami A
Counters	Tony B, Setph H, Connie B Peter F
Gardening	Carlos E & Help Needed