

## FIRST READING

*A reading from the prophet Isaiah 8:23-9:3*

In days past the Lord humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in days to come he will confer glory on the Way of the Sea on the far side of Jordan, province of the nations.

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase, they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils. For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian.

*The Word of the Lord.*

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R/ The Lord is my light and my salvation.*

## SECOND READING

*A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 1 Cor 1: 10-13,17*

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, to make up the differences between you, and instead of disagreeing among yourselves, to be united again in your belief and practice. From what Chloe's people have been telling me, my dear brothers, it is clear that there are serious differences among you. What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am for Apollos', 'I am for Cephas', 'I am for Christ'. Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul?

For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good News, and not to preach that in the terms of philosophy in which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be expressed.

*The Word of the Lord.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 4: 12-23*

Hearing that John had been arrested Jesus went back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled: Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali!

Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan, Galilee of the nations! The people that lived in darkness has seen a great light; on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death a light has dawned.

From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee he saw two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew; they were making a cast in the lake with their net, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.' And they left their nets at once and followed him.

Going on from there he saw another pair of brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they were in their boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. At once, leaving the boat and their father, they followed him.

He went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people.

*The Gospel of the Lord*



## ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

Knox Deanery

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Website: [www.stjohnthebaptist.net.au](http://www.stjohnthebaptist.net.au)



**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time– Year A**

**21<sup>st</sup> / 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2023**

*Lord Jesus,  
give us the courage  
to answer your call without hesitation.  
May we all in some way share in your mission,  
so that your light may shine  
in all the dark places of our world.  
Through Christ our Lord, Amen.*



**FOCUS ON THE WORD:** Discipleship is not something that we take upon ourselves.

We are called to it. Some people are very conscious of this call. They are aware of it in their aspirations and dreams; they recognise it in the events of their lives. They hear the call as clearly as Simon, Andrew, James and John heard the voice of Jesus. For others, the call to discipleship is not so clear. They may experience an undefined restlessness, a dissatisfaction with their lives. People can respond to the call in one of two ways. They can consider the mere suggestion of discipleship an intrusion into their plans, or they can drop what they are doing, leave their former concerns behind and follow Jesus.

There is a misunderstanding about being called and leaving everything behind. Although the gospel says that the four men left their occupation of fishing in order to follow Jesus, this kind of 'leaving behind' was not, and still is not, required of all, for it is in the ordinary events of life that our salvation unfolds. For most people, this is precisely where they are to function as disciples.

**Still, disciples of Jesus are called to leave behind certain ways of living as they follow him.**

**They are called away from lives of pettiness and division.** They are called away from the kind of factionalism that seems to have threatened the unity of the Corinthian community. They are called away from narrow-mindedness and mean-spirited competition. It is much easier to leave nets than to leave the web of one's prejudices. © Dianne Bergant CSA

**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](http://www.catholic.org.au/responseandprevention)

**FEAST DAYS** Tue 24<sup>th</sup> Jan St Francis de Sales Wed 25<sup>th</sup> Jan The Conversion of St Paul  
Thur 26<sup>th</sup> Jan Australia Day Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Jan St Angela Merici, Sts Timothy & Titus  
Sat 28<sup>th</sup> Jan St Thomas Aquinas.

*I have come that you may have life and have it to the full  
(John 10:10)*

**PARISH PRIEST:**  
Fr Thomas Kuruwila 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**  
Principal: Kelli Johnston  
Email: kjohnston@siferntreegully.catholic.edu.au  
**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](mailto:office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au)**

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

**3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A**  
**21st /22nd January, 2023.**

**PRAYING FOR...**

*All who have died recently:*



**Those who we remember at this time:**

Patrick Masterson, Margherita Crivellaro, Margherita Lizza, Jadwiga Godsmark, Geoffrey Winters, Kenneth Lowden, Hazel Maybus.

**The sick:** Peter Collyer, Lourdes Oracion, Ann Good, Catherine Ziegfried, Ben McLae, 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.

**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** has already resumed meeting in the Parish Hall. The group meets informally every Thursday, at 10am. Please drop in for a cuppa, a chat, or perhaps a game of cards. All welcome

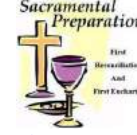
**CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP** Is now in recess until 7th February 2023. Enjoy your summer break.

**MOTHERS' PRAYER GROUP is now in recess**

**POPE BENEDICT 'Month's Mind' Mass – at St Patrick's Cathedral** A memorial Mass for Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI will be celebrated by Archbishop Comensoli at St Patrick's Cathedral on **Sunday 29 January, 6.30pm** - approximately one month after his death. More details will follow

**ELECTRONIC THANKSGIVING is available through CDFPay.** Should you wish to Donate using this method All gifts are gratefully received Please.. [click here](#) for the link. Thank you.

**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, followed by First Eucharist, later in the year.** If you have children who are at these grade levels and interested in celebrating the sacraments, please contact the parish office: via [marymakarucha@stjohnthebaptist.net.au](mailto:marymakarucha@stjohnthebaptist.net.au) or Phone: 9758 1029 , or complete the online application form, under the Liturgy Tab, then Sacraments Tab on our website: <https://stjohnthebaptist.net.au/sacraments/>



**PIETY STALL** reopens before and after Mass from 21st January, for purchases. Please come and have a look!

**VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED** Our **SVDP VINNIES OP SHOP in Ferntree Gully Road** urgently requires volunteers. **NO experience required.** If you can offer a few hours per week to assist with the storage and sale of donated goods, **please contact the store Manager on 9758 8501.** Your assistance would be greatly appreciated. Working in a team environment is very rewarding.

**MADE FOR MORE: Visions of the Promised Land** creatively blends live music, media and sacred art for an evening of beauty and reflection on the meaning of life, love and human destiny. Join Christopher West and team as they offer a vision of the Gospel through the lens of St John Paul II's *Theology of the Body*. Choose from:  
**Tuesday 24 January 2023, St Francis of Assisi Parish Hall, 290 Childs Rd, Mill Park**  
**Wednesday 25 January 2023, St Mary's Community Centre, 26 New Street, Dandenong**  
Schedule: **6pm - food for purchase, 7pm start, 9.30pm finish.** Open to all. *All children under 18 years must be supervised by an adult.* Tickets: \$25 general, \$10 concession/student, free for children 10 and under. Register: [www.trybooking.com/CETXQ](http://www.trybooking.com/CETXQ)

**WYD: MELBOURNE- LISBON PILGRIM REGISTRATION** Join 500 young people from across the Archdiocese of Melbourne as we go on pilgrimage together to the largest youth gathering in the world- World Youth Day 2023, Lisbon, Portugal. **Register today to secure your place** on one of our amazing pilgrimage options from Melbourne to Lisbon for World Youth Day 2023. Pilgrims can secure a place on Pilgrimage with a \$800 non-refundable deposit. A member of our team will then contact you to arrange a payment plan, as well as provide further information regarding World Youth Day, including setting up your personalised fundraising page through CDF. **Ready to experience World Youth Day for yourself?** Take the first step and register today- click [here](#).

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD** will resume on Sunday 5th February at **11am mass**. We are looking forward to seeing all current families again plus new families. **We are hoping to run sessions of Children's Liturgy at the 6pm mass also.** Parishioners who attend the 6pm mass and would like to assist with the children's liturgy please contact the parish office. It would be very much appreciated if we had some extra volunteers for the sessions. The Children's Liturgy of the Word gives the children the opportunity to celebrate and reflect on the gospel reading adapted to their level of understanding.

**THE SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL** Conference would like to thank all of our Parishioners for your tremendous support toward our ongoing work in assisting the disadvantaged in our parish area. Thank you for the donations of gift cards and Christmas items of non-perishable food for the distribution to our families. Our appeal continued to raise the awareness of our varied work for those who are experiencing hardship. We are pleased to inform you that all non-perishable food and cash that you donated has been used directly to support those most in need this Christmas. Once again, we thank you, our parishioners for your generous donations over the Christmas period. Cash donations and gift cards from the Primary School totaled: **\$1025.70**. Parishioner donations totaled **\$3,373** cash, and in gift cards as well as some non-perishable food. We had also earlier received a Knox Council Pandemic recovery grant, which went toward the purchase of food for our hampers. Our members packed and delivered 70 hampers with a total cost of **\$4,398**. Each hamper contained Christmas non-perishable food, plus two \$50 Woolworth cards as well as your gift cards for the children in that family. We sincerely thank Fr Thomas and everyone who supported us in so many ways. **We are always delighted to welcome people to join us as we continue to support those in need.** May god's blessing be upon you and may you be blessed for who you are. - SVDP – FTG Conference.

**THE FIFTH INTERNATIONAL DAY OF EDUCATION WILL BE CELEBRATED ON 24 JAN, 2023** under the theme **"to invest in people, prioritize education"**. This year's Day will call for maintaining strong political mobilization. To read more, click [here](#)

<b>ROSTERS: Mon 23rd Jan to Sun 29th Jan 2023</b>	
<b>Flowers</b>	Sue N & Lynne K
<b>Linen</b>	Jean B
<b>Welcomers</b>	<b>6pm:</b> Kathryn C <b>9am:</b> Terry S, Joanna C, Thelma B <b>11am:</b> Patrick S & Anna M
<b>Lectors</b>	<b>6pm</b> Rosina L <b>9am:</b> Caroline Q <b>11am:</b> Priya F
<b>Counters</b>	George & Genevieve
<b>Gardening</b>	