

**PARISH PRIEST:**  
Fr Thomas Kuruvila 9758 1029  
Email: [Thomas.Kuruvila@cam.org.au](mailto:Thomas.Kuruvila@cam.org.au)

**DEACON:**  
Rev. Peter Stringfellow 9758 1029  
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**FAITH DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATOR:**  
Mary Makarucha 9758 1029  
Email: [Mary.Makarucha@stjohnthebaptist.net.au](mailto:Mary.Makarucha@stjohnthebaptist.net.au)

**PARISH OFFICE:** 9758 1029  
Monday 9.45am -3.45pm  
Tuesday to Friday 9:00 am – 3:00 pm  
Secretaries: Charmaine Premaratne, Maree Wilson  
Accountant: Sara Luk  
Email: [office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au](mailto:office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au)

**SCHOOLS:**  
**St John the Baptist** 9758 1013  
Acting Principal:2022 Ursula DeCorrado  
New Principal 2023 Kelly Johnston

**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 7.00 pm  
Wednesday & Thursday 9.15 am  
Friday 11.00 am

**GLENGOLLAN VILLAGE MASS** 1<sup>st</sup> Friday 2pm

**WILLOWBROOK MASS** 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 11am

**RECONCILIATION:** Saturdays at 5.15 pm

**BAPTISMS:**  
Either during a weekend Mass or at 12.30pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**CHURCH GROUPS:**  
**CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP**  
The Prayer Group will take a break during January 2023 and resume their meeting on **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023** at 10.15 am in the Parish Hall for praise and worship, inspiring teaching and prayer ministry. All are warmly welcome.

**FRIENDSHIP GATHERING** will take a break from Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2022 **resuming Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2023.** We look forward to meeting old friends and new then. But for now, we wish everyone a Happy Christmas and New Year.

**Sundays 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2022 – 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2023**  
(inclusive)

**PRAYING FOR...**

*All those who have died recently  
and those whose anniversaries  
occur around this time.*



**RECENTLY DECEASED:**  
Charlie Kelly.

**ANNIVERSARIES: Mon 26<sup>th</sup> Dec to Sun 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2023**  
John Van der Staak, Rosy Harris, Peter South, Catherine Theobald, Alain Sirmel-Newton.

**ANNIVERSARIES: Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan to Sun 8<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023**  
Brian Maguire, Pietro (Peter) Russo, Margaret James, Domenico Nicosia, Delia Worth, Roger Berriman, Hans Hauer, Andrea Samtoy, Anne Van Prooyen, Frances Breen, Pauline Witt, John Lourens, Eunice Bermingham. Rosita Stavropoulos.

**ANNIVERSARIES: Mon 9<sup>th</sup> Jan to Sun 15<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023**  
Moya McDonald, Geraldine Fitzpatrick, Linda Hughes, Frances Fenton, Carmel Dow, Tom McCristal, Jon Abraham, Pasquale Picicelli, Carlo Vitale.

**ANNIVERSARIES: Mon 16<sup>th</sup> Jan to Sun 22 Jan 2023**  
Elaine Brain, Riccardo Garbuio, Anthony Gannan, Irene Barron, Elizabeth (Lilly ) McNeill, Maureen Meyer, Therese Mueller, Canio Daraio, Chris Quinn, Giovanni Di Donato.

**ANNIVERSARIES: Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan to Sun 29<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023**  
Margherita Crivellaro, Margherita Lizza, Jadwiga Godsmark, Geoffrey Winters, Kenneth Lowden, Hazel Maybus.

**AND ALL THOSE WHO ARE SICK** Ann Good, 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.**

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS THROUGHOUT THE CHRISTMAS / JANUARY HOLIDAYS**



**Closed from 3pm Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December, 2022**

**The Office will re-open on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2023**

A very **Merry Christmas** to all our Parishioners, from your **Parish Office Staff.**

**MOTHERS' PRAYER GROUP:** will take a break in January and resume their meeting on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> February from 9 am. We wish everyone a Happy Christmas and New Year. For enquiries, please contact the Parish Office.

**EDMUND RICE CAMPS VICTORIA** provide recreational camps and programs for children, adolescents and families, experiencing adversity, marginalisation and social isolation in the community. 2023 Summer Program open - January 2023 **Applications and registrations are now open** for Volunteers and Participants for Edmund Rice Camp Victoria's 2023 summer camp programs. ERCV summer programs aim to provide a chance to build confidence, social skills, self-esteem and life skills and have fun through the power of their 1:1 ratio. Spread the word and sign up now.. **2023 Summer Family Camp (16-20 January, all ages)** If you have any queries, please contact their office at [programs@ercvic.com](mailto:programs@ercvic.com) or, to visit the website click [here](#)

**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](mailto:marymakarucha@stjohnthebaptist.net.au)

**CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE Why choose the University of Divinity?** Experience a unique engagement with Christian theological traditions at the University of Divinity, a collegiate Australian University. Whether you are interested in the academic study of theology, exploration of your Christian faith, personal growth, ordained ministry, or training as a lay-worker, at the University of Divinity you can take the next step in your vocation. You can study diplomas, undergraduate degrees, graduate certificates and diplomas, postgraduate degrees and higher degrees by research. These are located at levels 5 to 10 of the [Australian Qualifications Framework](#). All the University's awards are in Divinity and its associated disciplines, in the broad field of [Society and Culture](#). Each course is offered by one or more Colleges of the University. Students enrol in a course through a College but may take units at other Colleges of the University. Email: [ctc@ctc.edu.au](mailto:ctc@ctc.edu.au)

**THE 2022 AUSTRALIAN NATIVITY SCENE (ANS)** 5 December, 2022 - 13 January, 2023 St Elizabeth's Parish - Dandenong North. Australian Nativity Scene (ANS) Event display\*: **Monday, 5 December, 2022 to Friday, 13 January, 2023.** Times: 10.30AM to 8.00PM **Where:** St Elizabeth's Parish, 107 Baker Rd, Dandenong North \*Note: Closed on Christmas Day | Boxing Day | New Year's Day This event is open to everyone, children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Cost: Free and open to all age groups Viewing time: By appointments only Contact Wilson on 0428 927 110 or 9795 6217 (parish office) <https://www.onlymelbourne.com.au/aus-nativity-scene-dandenong-north>

**ANNOUNCING THE DAMASCUS SPIRITUAL LEADERS PROGRAM!** Part-time in Feb-Nov 2023 - either in person or online - through Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation. This program is designed for people in various positions of leadership, spiritual formation and parish or outreach ministries. It will equip individuals to lead with integrity, vulnerability and resilience, and will focus on the inner spiritual journey in order to create fully-formed leaders who listen, learn and accompany others with strength and sensitivity. 'Damascus' can be studied as a Graduate Certificate in Divinity through the University of Divinity (Yarra Theological Union/Catholic Theological College), or as an audit student to receive a Certificate in Spiritual Leadership from Heart of Life. Attendance on Monday mornings and some Saturdays. Read more about the program on the [Heart of Life website](#) or contact us on (03) 9890 1101. Applications close on 6/1/23. Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation Rear 41 Stanhope Street, Malvern Victoria 3144, Email: [info@heartoflife.melbourne](mailto:info@heartoflife.melbourne)

**SERVING OUR COMMUNITY,** the services and agencies that comprise our Melbourne Catholic community are many and varied. God's Holy Spirit, present and active in our midst, may be glimpsed in our care for the unborn and infant, in assistance given to the young and old, the aged and sick and especially those most in need. This work extends to the wider community—with all invited to join this work of God. **For positions vacant** in our parishes, Archdiocesan offices and the Catholic Development Fund, see below.

- <https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies>
- <https://www.macs.vic.edu.au/Work-in-our-schools/Job-Search.aspx>
- <https://www.catholiccarevic.org.au/page/181/current-job-vacancies>

**THE FOCUS SESSIONS** are a series of podcasts to help families be the best they can be. Covering a wide range of issues families face the sessions are designed to give expert advice. We are pleased to have Derek Boylen with us on our Focus Sessions. Go to: [Focus Sessions – Majellan Media](#), to listen to the practical advice on many topics.

**ROSTERS...**

Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2022 to Sun 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2023	
Flowers	Genevieve & Gina
Linen	Carole D
Welcomers	6pm: Peter G & Wilma H 9am: Joanna C & Thelma B 11am: Anna M & Priya H
Lectors	6pm: Alvi M 9am: Gordon V 11am: Eduardo M
Counters	
Gardening	Patrick S & Harry R

Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> Jan to Sun 8 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2023	
Flowers	Marg H & Judy G
Linen	Laurel S
Welcomers	6pm: Rosina L & Myra N 9am: Lia U & Marg & Adrian D 11am: Shamindri & Chamal A
Lectors	6pm: Gab V 9am: Pamela E 11am: Joan Ryan
Counters	
Gardening	Looking for New Volunteers Please!

Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> Jan to Sun 15 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2023	
Flowers	Ann P & Connie B
Linen	Sue N
Welcomers	6pm: Myra N, Neil & Loraine, Peter C 9am: Peter, Neil, Lorraine, Joanna 11am: Priya H & Patrick S
Lectors	6pm: Jan R 9am: Peter F 11am: Peter J
Counters	Peter G, Peter C, Florence J
Gardening	Looking for New Volunteers Please!

Mon 16 <sup>th</sup> Jan to Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup> Jan 2023	
Flowers	Marg H & Ange C
Linen	Alvi M
Welcomers	6pm: Lia U & Kathryn C 9am: Rosa L & Florence J 11am: Shamindri A & Chamal A
Lectors	6pm Louise D 9am: Terry S 11am: Phuong B
Counters	Peter G, Peter C, Florence J
Gardening	Looking for New Volunteers Please!

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

**DO YOU HAVE THE GIFT OF GARDENING?** If so, and if you are willing and able, why not join our Gardening Roster. Your help would be greatly appreciated. Please, Contact the Parish Office.



## FEAST DAYS

### Mon 26<sup>th</sup> Dec 22 to Sun 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2023

Mon 26 <sup>th</sup>	St Stephen
Tue 27 <sup>th</sup>	St John the apostle
Wed 28 <sup>th</sup>	The Holy Innocents
Thurs 29 <sup>th</sup>	St Thomas Becket (optional)
Fri 30 <sup>th</sup>	<b>The Holy Family</b> (Mass 11am)
Sat 31 <sup>st</sup>	St Sylvester (optional)
Sun 1 <sup>st</sup>	Mary, the Holy Mother of God

### Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan 2023 - to Sun 8<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023

Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup>	St Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen
Tue 3 <sup>rd</sup>	The Most Holy Name of Jesus (Mass 7pm)
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup>	St Raymond of Penyafort
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup>	The Epiphany of the Lord (Mass 9am/11am)

### Mon 9<sup>th</sup> Jan to Sun 15<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023

Mon 9 <sup>th</sup>	The Baptism of the Lord
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### Mon 16<sup>th</sup> Jan to Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan, 2023

Tue 17 <sup>th</sup>	St Anthony
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup>	St Fabian, pope, martyr St Sebastian, martyr
Sat 21 <sup>st</sup>	St Agnes, virgin, martyr

### Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan to Sun 29<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2023

Tue 24 <sup>th</sup>	St Francis de Sales
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup>	The Conversion of St Paul
Thur 26 <sup>th</sup>	Australia Day
Fri 27 <sup>th</sup>	St Angela Merici & Sts Timothy & Titus
Sat 28 <sup>th</sup>	St Thomas Aquinas
Sun 29 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time.

### Scripture for 2023.

See, I will create new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I will create, for I will create Jerusalem to be a delight and its people a joy. I will rejoice over Jerusalem and take delight in my people; the sound of weeping and of crying will be heard in it no more.

Isaiah 65:17-19



## POST COMMUNION PRAYERS

### 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> December, 2022 – The Nativity of the Lord

God, our Father,  
as we honour with joyful devotion  
the Nativity of your Son,  
Grant that we may come to know Jesus  
More and More, and draw new vigour  
To work for Your Kingdom in the year ahead.  
We ask this, through Christ our Lord, Amen.

### 31<sup>st</sup> Dec/ 1<sup>st</sup> Jan, 2023 – Mary, the Holy Mother of God

O Jesus,  
We thank and bless Your most merciful Heart for  
having given us Mary most holy as our Mother,  
Teacher and Queen.  
From the cross You placed us all in her hands.  
We rejoice to proclaim the blessed ever-Virgin Mary  
Both Your Mother and Mother of the Church.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### 7<sup>th</sup> /8<sup>th</sup> January, 2023 – The Epiphany of the Lord

Lord God,  
You Love all people,  
And want them to know Jesus Your Son.  
Make us know Him better,  
And, by the way we live,  
May others get to know him through us. Amen.

### 14<sup>th</sup> / 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2023 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sun in Ordinary Time

Lord God, at Jesus Baptism, you revealed your Holy  
Spirit anointing upon him,  
Pour on us, O Lord, the Spirit of your love,  
and in your kindness  
inspire us to do your Holy Will. Amen.

### 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2023 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

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.  
Amen.

### 28<sup>th</sup> /29<sup>th</sup> January, 2023 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Great and glorious God,  
All we have and all we are  
Comes from You.  
Give us a spirit of Gratitude,  
And send us out, to be a blessing to others.  
We ask this, through Christ our Lord, Amen.



## ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

Knox Deanery

19 Forest Road, Ferntree Gully, 3156

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

### Weekends of 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2022 – 28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup> January, 2023 (inclusive)



Normal weekday Mass schedule resumes with 9.15am Mass on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023

### Readings for this liturgical year are from Year A

Should you wish to view the Scripture Readings for Daily Mass (Australian Liturgical Calendar) please visit:

<http://www.universalis.com/Australia/1000/mass.htm>

Navigate the texts of the week ahead via the right-hand column index.

31<sup>st</sup> December, 2023– 7<sup>th</sup> day in the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord (6pm Mass)

Readings: 1 Jn 2:18-21, Ps 95:1-2,11-13, Jn 1:1-18

1<sup>st</sup> January, 2023 - Solemnity of Mary the Holy Mother of God (9am & 11 am Mass)

Readings - Num 6:22-27; Ps 66:2-3,5,6,8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21.

7<sup>th</sup> / 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2023 – The Epiphany of the Lord

Readings: Is 60:1-6; Ps 71:1-2,7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12.

14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> January, 2023 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Yr A

Readings: Is 49:3, 5-6; Ps 39:2, 4, 7-10; 1 Cor 1:1-3; John 1:29-34

21<sup>st</sup> /22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2023 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Yr A

Readings: Is 8:23-9:3; Ps 26:1,4, 13-14; 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17; Matt 4:12-23

28<sup>th</sup> /29<sup>th</sup> January, 2023 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Yr A

Readings: Zeph 2:3,3:12-13; Ps 145:7-10; 1 Cor 1:26-31; Mt 5:1-12

*I have come that you may have life and have it to the full*

(John 10:10)