

THE COMMEMORATION OF THE LORD'S ENTRANCE INTO JERUSALEM

Matthew 21:1-11

When they were near Jerusalem and had come in sight of Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go to the village facing you, and you will immediately find a tethered donkey and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, you are to say, "The Master needs them and will send them back directly."' 'This took place to fulfill the prophesy: Say to the daughter of Zion: Look, your king comes to you: he is humble, he rides on a donkey and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden. So the disciples went out and did as Jesus had told them. They brought the donkey and the colt, and they laid their cloaks on their backs and he sat on them. Great crowds of people spread their cloaks on the road, while others were cutting branches from the trees and spreading them in his path. The crowds who went in front of him and those who followed were all shouting:

'Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heavens!'

And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil. 'Who is this?' people asked, and the crowds answered, 'This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.'



FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 50:4-7 14
The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied he provides me with speech. Each morning he

wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R./ My God, my God,
why have You abandoned me?*

SECOND READING

A reading from the second letter of St. Paul to the Philippians 2:6-11

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are, and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
king of endless glory!
Christ became obedient for us even to death,
dying on the cross.
Therefore God raised him on high
and gave him a name above all other names.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
king of endless glory!
will not die for ever.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!*

GOSPEL

Matt 26:14 – 27:66

Please refer to separate sheet below for
**THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS
CHRIST ACCORDING TO MATTHEW**



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

Knox Deanery

19 Forest Road, Ferntree Gully, 3156

Phone: 9758 1029

Email: office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au

Website: www.stjohnthebaptist.net.au



Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord – Year A

1st / 2nd April, 2023

Caritas – Project Compassion

*God our Father,
You sent Your only Son into the world,
so that the world might be saved
from sin and death.*

*Through His Passion and death,
may we come to share eternal life
in His kingdom.*

We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen

Hosanna!



FOCUS ON THE WORD As a child I can remember our diocese having large processions for the feasts of Corpus Christi, Christ the King and one of the Marian feast days. They were called 'public demonstrations of Catholic faith'. For children they were sometimes long and boring, but they did give us a sense that we belonged to something big, and someone bigger, and that our faith had a 'stand up and be counted' dimension to it. For many Catholics today large-scale religious processions are quickly becoming a thing of the past. That's a pity. The point of religious processions is not just to get us from one location to the next. It is also to mark a rite of passage. Think of the smaller processions most Christians undertake in their lives: to the baptismal font; down the aisle to take their marriage vows, or to graduate from a school or college and to be farewelled. In each case we recess out of the Church differently from how we entered it: as a newly initiated member of the Christian community; as a husband or wife; as a graduate; and to be buried. The Palm Sunday Procession is the last congregational one mandated by the Missal to be observed throughout the entire Church. Recalling Jesus' procession into Jerusalem this procession is not meant to be an historical pageant. Like all liturgical moments it's meant to intersect with our own lives and speak to our journey of faith. What makes this procession so powerful is that it starts with hysteria and ends in death. And that tells us something we need to hear. As we process into Holy Week, this annual rite of passage for our faith, may we model our lives on Jesus in every way by creating the silence we need in our lives to sort out our priorities, by using silence powerfully in a world that loves words but has very little to say about our meaning and destiny and allowing our sacrificial love, even to the point of death, to do all the talking. © Richard Leonard 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 THIS WEEK: Thurs 6th April Holy Thursday (the Lord's Supper) 8pm Mass

Fri 7th April The Passion of the Lord (Good Friday) 3pm Mass

Sat 8th April Holy Saturday Easter Vigil Mass 8pm Mass

Sun 9th April Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord. Mass at 9am & 11am

*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
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

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

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord - Year A - 1st / 2nd April, 2023- Project Compassion

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently:

Fr. John Tollan, Anthony (Tony) Silva.

Those who we remember at this time:

Debbie Fowles, Sheila McDonald, Peter Reed, Luigi Macario, Maisie Gallenti, Christopher Nguyen, Christian Van Oosterom.

The sick: Elsie Johnson, Peggy Spencer, Alan Alcock,, Ann Good, Ben McLaey, Don Roberts, Maureen Wilson, Lucy Denzin, Gabby Sundstrom, Kathryn Kircos, Ruby Samtoy, 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.



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

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP in the Parish Hall from 10.15am Tuesdays, followed by a shared lunch. All welcome. We will have a guest speaker on Tuesday 4th April, the following week, the 11th April there will be no meeting owing to the Easter Break.

MOTHERS' PRAYER GROUP 9am-10am, in the Parish Office. There will be **no Mother's Pray Meeting over the School Holiday Period.**

LECTORS ROSTER: A new roster is being prepared for lectors for the months of May to September 2023. Could those who are currently on the roster please notify me if they are unavailable during that period or if there are any other changes required. Please contact the parish office before Tuesday, 4th April. Details: 9758 1029 or email marymakarucha@stjohnthebaptist.net.au. Thank you to all our volunteers.- Mary Makarucha.

PARISH OFFICE HOLIDAY CLOSURE The parish office will be closed from Mon 10th Apr – Fri 14th Apr. Easter blessings to all our Parishioners.



SIGN UP SHEETS FOR THE REMAINING LITURGIES OF HOLY WEEK AND EASTER are on the glass wall. If you would like to help out in any of the tasks that are available, please write your name in the spaces provided.

TUESDAY, 4th April : RECONCILIATION

7 pm: Mass with extended Penitential Rite.

7.30 pm-8.30pm Individual Reconciliation

GOOD FRIDAY 9AM : ECUMENICAL WALK


Friday, 7th April The Walk begins from the car park of St John the Baptist Parish, finishing at the Ferntree Gully Uniting Church, for a 9.30am Service of the Stations of the Cross. Following the service, tea, coffee & hot cross buns will be served.

EASTER VIGIL CELEBRATIONS

Saturday, 8th April – after the Vigil Mass everyone is invited to the School Hall to celebrate the Resurrection of Christ, and the Initiation of Emily to the church. **You may like to bring some food to share.** The School Hall will be open before Mass to drop off any food, no hot food please. Thank you.

FERNTREE GULLY VINNIES 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 are able to help out. **BAYSWATER VINNIES, VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** The Bayswater SVDP shop is in **urgent need** of volunteers to assist them in the Op Shop. If you have a few spare hours, and would like to assist, please contact the Manager on 9729 6317. All help is gratefully accepted.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PRIMARY, HOT CROSS BUNS FUNDRAISER. The SJB Parents & Friends are thank parishioners who have ordered Hot Crossed Buns. **Delivery as follows: orders will be available for pick up on Wednesday 5th April from 2.30pm outside the School office** Thank you for your support - SJB Parents & Friends.

 **Caritas AUSTRALIA PROJECT COMPASSION** Please remember to bring your **Project Compassion boxes and envelopes for collection** at Holy Thursday's 'Mass of the Lord's Supper'. - **If at all possible, please return them earlier.**

ST JOHN'S SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP TRIVIA NIGHT Thanks to the 41 people who attended the Trivia Night. Thanks also to the many who made donations, especially, The Royal Hotel, Vision Plumbing, Decathlon, Coles, IGA FTG, Daniela DeMartino MP, and Bunnings. Everyone seemed to have a great time. **We raised \$854 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. 😊

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR STUDENTS WHO HAVE MADE THEIR FIRST RECONCILIATION on Thursday 30th March. Thank you to all our teachers, parents & parishioners for your support and prayers during their formation.



GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION The annual collection for the support of the Church in the Holy Land takes place on Good Friday. This collection promotes the missionary work in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance in areas such as health, education, employment and housing. Envelopes will be available on Good Friday from the trolleys in the Church. Please give generously.

WALK FOR JUSTICE FOR REFUGEES This year's walk will call for **Justice for Refugees: Permanent Visas for all, Fair Processes and income support for people who are seeking recognition as refugees.** While the change of government at the federal election last year has brought hope for more compassionate policies, thousands of refugees and people seeking asylum are still in limbo waiting for certainty about their future. **Walk with us this Palm Sunday at Walk for Justice for Refugees!** Invite your friends, family and colleagues to join too! **When?** Palm Sunday, 2nd April 2023

Time? Join the **gathering at 1:00pm** for a group reflection and prayer led by Fr Andy Hamilton SJ, with official Walk for Justice music and speeches starting around 1:30pm.

Where? We will be meeting at the far right side of the State Library of Victoria (near the Joan of Arc statue and next to Little Lonsdale St – you'll see a large 'CAPSA', 'Jesusuit Social Services' or 'Xavier Social Justice Network' or 'CSSV' banner). To Register click [here](#):

The ANZAC DAY DAWN WATCH the Ferntree Gully Rotary



Club invites our Parishioners and Friends, to join the ANZAC DAY Dawn Service, which will be held on **Tuesday 25th April, 2023 at Quarry Park, Quarry Road, Ferntree Gully.** Arrive at 5.45am, for a **6.00am start.** Bring a torch and chair if

needed.

ROSTERS: Mon 3rd April to Sun 9th April 2023

Flowers	Sue N & Lynne K
Linen	Sue N
Welcomers	6pm: Rosina L, Myra N 9am Lia U & Help Needed pls 11am: Shamindri & Chamal A
Lectors	6pm Holy Week Volunteers 9am: Holy Week Volunteers 11am: Holy Week Volunteers
Counters	Tony B, Steph H, Peter F
Gardening	Patrick S & Harry R