

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

2:14, 36-41

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.'

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R./ The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.*

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St. Peter

1 Pt 2:20-25

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty.

This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have

come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;

I know my sheep, and mine know me.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
10:1-10

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly,

I am the gate of the sheepfold.

All others who have come

are thieves and brigands;

but the sheep took no notice of them.

I am the gate.

Anyone who enters through me will be safe:

he will go freely in and out

and be sure of finding pasture.

The thief comes

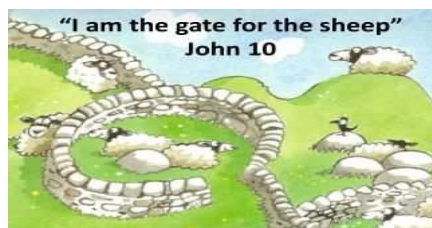
only to steal and kill and destroy.

I have come

so that they may have life

and have it to the full.'

The Gospel of the Lord



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

Knox Deanery

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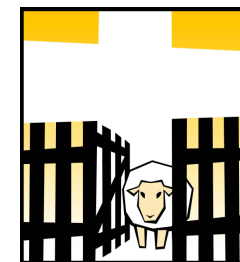
Website: www.stjohnthebaptist.net.au



4th Sunday of Easter – Good Shepherd Sunday Year A

29th /30th April, 2023

**Lord God,
Attune our ears to the voice
of the Good Shepherd,
who leads us always to You,
that we may find under Your tender
protection, life in all its fullness.
We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.**



FOCUS ON THE WORD

The fourth Sunday of Easter is sometimes known as Good Shepherd Sunday. In the three different cycles of the liturgical year, the gospel on this Sunday comes from John, chapter 10 – an extended discourse by Jesus on the image of himself as the good shepherd. This year the reading is the beginning of the chapter and stops just immediately before the words, 'I am the good shepherd'. Our understanding of this whole image and the scene that is set in today's passage is very dependent upon a contextual understanding of the times. Whilst shepherds were generally regarded as being little better than criminals, they often put their lives in danger to tend to their flocks. Of a night time, several flocks of sheep would be penned in a communal sheepfold, usually made of stone walls. There was only one entrance to the sheepfold and **one of the shepherds would effectively become the gate by sleeping across the entranceway**. This was to keep the sheep in but also to guard against thieves. Thieves might climb over the wall into the sheepfold but the sheep were trained to respond to their shepherd's voice alone so thieves could only steal what sheep they could carry off or those that were not sufficiently trained to their shepherd's commands. When Jesus described himself as the gate of the sheepfold, his audience would have immediately understood the analogy. For a shepherd to become the gate to the sheepfold of a night **was to risk his life for not only his own sheep but all the sheep in the fold overnight**. It took courage and demonstrated utter commitment. © Greg Sunter

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 Mon 1st May
Wed 3rd May

St Joseph the Worker
Sts Philip & James

Tues 2nd May -St Athanasius

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@sjferntreegully.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.

4th Sunday of Easter - Year A 29th/30th April, 2023

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently:

Giovanni (Johnny) Lorusso, Terence Merry.

Those who we remember at this time:

Orlando Luciano, Bruce Bellman, Rosaria Ranaudo, Fred Delaney, Andy, Giuseppina, Angelo, Federico & Silva Zarro, Margherita, Damiano, Luigi, Cosimo and Jilda Coviello, Omar Foda, Chris Watson, Mary Rosenbrock, Lidia Segato.

The sick: ,Elsie Johnson, Peggy Spencer, Alan Alcock,, Ann Good, Ben McLacy, 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.



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.

MOTHERS' PRAYER GROUP 9am-10am, in the Parish Office. **Mother's Pray Meetings will resume on Tuesday 2nd May, 2023**

THE ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY, are having a special card sale in the Piety Stall next weekend 29th & 30th April, also on 6th & 7th May. Beautiful cards priced at \$3.00 each. **"First in best dressed"** - just ahead of Mother's Day!




Corpus Christi College &
Catholic Theological College

Good Shepherd Sunday Appeal

*Support the training of priests
for tomorrow's Church*

Your tax-deductible donation will support the costs of Corpus Christi College seminarians.
<https://ctc.edu.au/community/good-shepherd-sunday-appeal/>



DIARY DATES FOR UPCOMING EVENTS...

29/30 April Children's Liturgy resumes
14 May Mother's Day
WYD – 28 May Bunnings Sausage Sizzle
Pentecost Sunday – Volunteer and Liturgy and Social Group Expo
WYD – 11 June Cake Stall and raffle
17 June First Eucharist
25 June First Eucharist
Feast of Saint John the Baptist (special Parish event)



FEAST OF ST JOSEPH Mon 1st May, an Example and witness for our times. Pope Francis prayed: "Today, on the feast of St. Joseph the Worker and the day dedicated to workers, let us pray for all workers, so that no one might be without work and all might be paid a just wage. May they benefit from the dignity of work and the beauty of rest."

PLEDGE TO PRAY The Vocations Office in Melbourne has partnered with some others in a project, 'Pledge to Pray' - an on-line platform for individuals to pledge prayers for vocations. It is based upon the idea of the 'Invisible Monastery'. I invite you to 'pledge a prayer' for vocations at www.pledgetoprayer.com.au this is a site dedicated to encouraging prayer for vocations in Australia. You can find out more: vocations@cam.org.au **SEMINARY ENQUIRY DAY at CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE – Sat 27th May, 2023.** Enquiries welcomed. Ph 9926 5733 or visit the website: <https://vocations.melbourne.catholic.org/>

LECTORS ROSTER the new roster has been distributed. Please check your email account for the latest information.

MOTHER'S DAY – 14 MAY 2023 As usual we will be celebrating all our mothers on Mother's Day. I would like



to make a PowerPoint which includes a photo of your mother, or a photo of you and your mother, you can be any age and the

picture of your mum can be of any age. The PowerPoint will be displayed after all masses on the 13/ 14 May. Please forward your photo to marymakarucha@stjohnthebaptist.net.au or bring a hardcopy into the office and we will scan it for you. The PowerPoint will be strictly for the parish only and not used in any other way except for Mother's Day.

INVITATION TO ALL PARISHIONERS: PENTECOST SUNDAY EVENT – 28 MAY 2023 – SAVE THE DATE
We invite all parishioners to attend the school hall after the 11am mass on Pentecost Sunday to *celebrate our parish community and all its gifts and services.* We would like to have a display of all our liturgy and social groups. **OUR WYD CANDIDATES**, Vicente and Elyssa, will host the sausage sizzle and have a cake stall and a raffle. **Please save Sunday 28 May 12pm for this special event.**

WORLD YOUTH DAY NEWS

WYD Volunteers Needed Mother's Day Sunday 14th May: Bunning Bayswater Sausage Sizzle 9 am-4 pm

If you have spare time on the day, we need volunteers to cook and serve sausages. If you can help, please sign up on the volunteer's sheet of the glass doors.

WYD Cake Stall May 28th Pentecost WYD Cake Stall May 28th Pentecost

Calling all bakers! We need your help to make cakes, muffins, and cookies. We need volunteers to bake and make the sweets, wrap and label the ingredients. There will be a packing and tagging session after the 9 am mass on Sunday 28th. If you can assist, ingredient slips are available in the foyer or contact 0414264116 for more information.

WYD Prayer Request

If you would like for Elyssa and Vicente to bring your prayers with them to WYD in Lisbon, please fill in a prayer slip and place it in the box and your prayers will journey with them.

FUNERAL PRAYERS for the late **Giovanni Lorusso** will be offered here at St John's Church on **Tuesday 2nd May at 11am.**

DO YOU FEEL LIKE BEING CALLED TO SERVE?

The **Permanent Diaconate** is open to single and married men who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. **COME & SEE!** An Information Session about the Permanent Diaconate will be held on **Sat 3 June 2023, 10:00 -11.45 am** at the Catholic Theological College (CTC), 278 Victorian Parade, East Melbourne. For more information: Vocations website for the Archdiocese is now available. The links below (copy, then paste) are a source of additional information. **Watch:** Melbourne's Deacons

<https://youtu.be/q2RhNDbrTS0> or **Visit:** Archdiocese of Melbourne permanent diaconate webpage <https://vocations.melbourne.catholic.org/about/what-is-a-vocation/permanent-diaconate>

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PRIMARY OPEN DAY.

St John's final **School Open Day** for this year is coming up. Open days are a great way to see our school in action. Please invite your neighbours/family/friends. The Open Day will be held on: **May 11th 2023** Bookings can be made by calling **9758 1013.**

ROSTERS: Mon 1st May to Sun 7th May 2023	
Flowers	Ann P & Connie B
Linen	Sue O'H
Welcomers	6pm: Myra N & Help needed 9am Terry S, Joanna C, Thelma B 11am: Patrick S & Anna M
Lectors	6pm Gab V 9am: Gordon V 11am: Edward M
Counters	Peter G, Peter C, Florence J, Joan R
Gardening	Theresa N