

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

20:7-9

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced;
you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.

I am a daily laughing-stock,
everybody's butt.

Each time I speak the word, I have to howl
and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!'

The word of the Lord has meant for me
insult, derision, all day long.

I used to say, I will not think about him,
I will not speak in his name any more.

Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my
heart,

imprisoned in my bones.

The effort to restrain it wearied me,

I could not bear it.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R/. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord
my God.*

SECOND READING

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Romans*

12:1-2

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and
worship him, I beg you, in a way that is
worthy of thinking beings, by offering your
living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly
pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves
on the behaviour of the world around you,
but let your behaviour change, modelled by
your new mind. This is the only way to
discover the will of God and know what is
good, what it is that God wants, what is the
perfect thing to do.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

*May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our heart,
that we might see how great is the hope
to which we are called.*

Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Matthew**

16:21-27

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he
was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer
grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests
and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on
the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to
remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,'
he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned
and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an
obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not
God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to
be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and
take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who
wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who
loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will
a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his
life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his
life?'

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of
his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will
reward each one according to his behaviour.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

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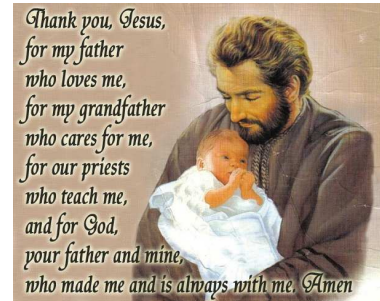
Website: www.stjohnthebaptist.net.au



22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time – Yr A

2nd / 3rd September 2023

*God our Father,
bless all fathers in the world.
Guide them to be good role models
and loving to all their children.
Help them to be a father like you are.
Give them grace and patience
to handle situations in a loving way.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen*



FOCUS ON THE WORD: This week's gospel is the first of three predictions of Jesus' death and resurrection in Matthew's gospel (see also Mark and Luke). Despite Peter's confession of faith that immediately precedes this passage (see last week's gospel), the disciples still do not have a very solid understanding of Jesus' purpose. They may regard him as the Messiah, but still do not fully understand what that means. In this passage, Jesus is beginning to prepare them for the events of the passion – his death and resurrection. He is trying to lead them to a greater understanding of his mission and message. But Peter abruptly 'rebukes' Jesus and tells him not to speak like that. One can almost hear Peter saying, 'Look, Jesus, you've got a good thing going here, don't spoil it by talking about dying!' However, Jesus responds to Peter very sharply, suggesting that his lack of understanding is inspired by evil and reflects human thought, not divine wisdom. The passage then leads in to a description of the challenge of discipleship. To be a follower of Jesus means to 'deny' oneself, take up one's cross and follow Jesus. In the context of this passage, to 'deny' oneself means to not be concerned about 'I' but to be concerned about 'You' – to put others before self. To be a follower of Jesus means to be selfless, not self-centred. In the ultimate example of this, Jesus tells his disciples that whoever wishes to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for Jesus' sake will find it. To 'save' your life is to hold back from giving yourself fully to the message of Jesus – to be 'half-hearted' in your faith. But to 'lose' yourself in the message of Jesus is to fully give yourself over to living the reign of God and through 'losing' yourself in this way, Jesus tells us, is how to truly find life.

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 DAY Friday 8th September The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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
PPG CHAIR Carolyn Sombekke
Email: csombekkesjb@gmail.com

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.

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time – Yr A
26th / 27th August 2023
SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY OBSERVANCE

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently:
Mary Francis, Michael Jones

Those who we remember at this time:
Sabina Parrella, John Zerella

The sick:
Eamon Smith, Fame Pelgrim, Barry Beavis, Elsie Johnson, Peggy Spencer, Alan Alcock, Ann Good, Ben Mc Laey, Don Roberts, Maureen Wilson, Lucy Denzin, Gabby Sundstrom, Kathryn Kircos, Ruby Samtoy, Barbara Kenny, Anne Jaywardena, Lea Hatley, Patricia Quinn, David Merton, Michael Byrne, Bev McNamara, Anthony McNamara, Victoria Lewis, Nicole Moore, Peter Fairhurst, Hans Whitaker, Edward Osborne

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 to borrow a book from our library, or perhaps a have a game of cards, All welcome.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP in the Parish Hall from **10.15am – 12.30pm Tuesdays.** discover a deeper relationship with the Holy Spirit. All Welcome.

MOTHERS' PRAYER GROUP a great way to pray for your children, join us in the Parish Office, **Tues 9am-10am.**

POSITIONS VACANT: Parish Positions

- **Parish Coordinator- St Jude's Parish, Scoresby**
- **Cleaner & Housekeeper, Corpus Christi College : 5-10hrs per week. Carlton.**
- **Audio Technician Radio Maria (Preston) To Find out more, and see job descriptions at: <https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies>**



Father's Day this Sunday, 3rd September, is the traditional day for the annual collection for the Priests' Retirement Foundation. This appeal creates one of the four main income streams for the Foundation to support retired priests, who have served actively in the Archdiocese of Melbourne but who are now retired or sick. 95 Melbourne priests are currently retired. Most have served over 50 years in parish ministry before retiring. They are grateful for your support now and in the future. There will be an average of 6-8 retirements per year. Please donate generously. Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUPS Family groups help people get to know other members of their parish community. Family groups bring together people of all ages and help us involve our children in our Christian sharing. We are looking for more people to join this movement. Want to know more? Watch this video. <https://youtu.be/aMAZR0BDYII>

Embrace the Call to Global Mission Opportunities in Global Development Webinar September 14 @ 6:00 pm 7:00 pm AEST Drawing on the support of Palms, Rofina Aifuan has led a local team to build the capacity of their Community Learning Centre in Balibo, Timor Leste. **Be inspired** by Rofina and current program participants Michele and Anjelica Rankin from Queensland as they reveal this story of life changing cooperation. **Register at <https://palms.org.au/event/discover-global-mission-webinar/>** to find out how to start your story on assignment with Palms at our September 14th Webinar.



Mission: Transform Lives - theirs...and yours

Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills and knowledge with those who have few other chances for training. Build enduring global relationships while assisting sustainable, self-reliant, community development. Want to find out more? Join our **Global Development Webinar** happening on the 14th of September 2023 at 6pm to 7pm AEST **02 9560 5333** palms@palms.org.au



COMBINED CATHOLIC PARISH RAFFLE – 2023

Victorian Commission for Gambling Regulation Permit No 10175/23
Dear Parishioners, kindly please support this fundraising raffle, by either purchasing a book, or taking one home to on-sell to your friends... **Tickets \$2.00ea, or \$20.00 for a book. Sale starts:** Sat 26th Aug ends Sun 12th Nov 2023. All unsold books **MUST** be return at the 11am mass on 12th Nov, 23. **Draw will be on Saturday 2nd December 2023 at Resurrection Keysborough Parish @ 7:30pm- Great Prizes.....**
1st Prize: New Kia Picanto S Auto Valued @ \$19,890.00 Drive away.
2nd Prize: Gift Card to the value of \$5,000.00
3rd Prize: Gift Card to the value of \$3,000.00
4th & 5th Prize: Gift Cards to the value of \$1,000.00 each 6th & 7th Prize: Gift Cards to the value of \$500.00 each Please see our friendly ticket sellers in the foyer after Mass.

THE SEASON OF CREATION began on September 1, World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, and ends on October 4, the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology beloved by many Christian denominations. is a time of grace that the Church, in ecumenical dialogue, offers to **humanity to renew its relationship with the Creator and with creation, through celebration, conversion and commitment together.** This year's theme inspired by the Prophet Amos: is **"Let Justice and Peace Flow. [In his message](#)** for the 2023 World Day of Prayer for Creation, which marks the beginning of the Season of Creation, Pope Francis said that the image offered by Amos **'speaks to us of what God desires'** 'God wants justice to reign; it is as essential to our life as God's children made in his likeness

as water is essential for our physical survival,' he said. 'This justice must flow forth wherever it is needed, neither remaining hidden deep beneath the ground nor vanishing like water that evaporates before it can bring sustenance. 'To celebrate the Season of Creation, Caritas Australia **invites Catholic communities nationwide to attend an online launch on September 4th at 6:00 PM AEST,** offering participants an enriching and informative experience through its **Catholic Earthcare program. FOR MORE INFORMATION and to register for the free launch event, please visit <https://www.trybooking.com/CJUOQ>.**

ROSTERS: Mon 4th Sep to Sun 10th Sept 2023	
Flowers	Marg H & Judy G
Linen	Carole D'Souza
Welcomers	6pm Rosina L & Myra N 9am Lia U 11am: Shamindri & Chamal A
Lectors	6pm Louise Di B 9am: Caroline Q 11am: Phuong B
Counters	Genevieve & George W & Bindu M
Gardening	Theresa N & Help needed please