

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

33:7-9

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

R/. O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

13:8-10

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

*God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself;
and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us..*

Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

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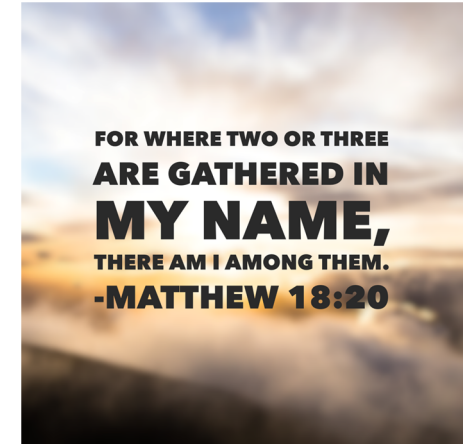


SAFEGAURDING SUNDAY

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time – Yr A

9th / 10th September 2023

*God our Father,
We trust that you are among us as
we gather in united prayer.
Bless us all and guide us to make
good decisions towards
reconciliation both locally and
globally. Give us the wisdom to
act with your loving
commandments in mind.
We ask this through Christ our
Lord. Amen*



FOCUS ON THE WORD:

It can be very difficult when we feel that someone has hurt us to actually go and speak to them about how we are feeling. It is so much easier to revel in our hurt or seek payback for the hurt. Sometimes we feel that we might ruin a friendship by speaking to our friend about a way in which they have hurt us. But a hurt that goes unaddressed will continue to hurt and will probably be repeated. This week's gospel reminds us of the need to challenge our friends when they hurt us but it also reminds us that when we have hurt others we need to be challenged about it and called to account for our actions.

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 Thursday 14th September The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

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
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.

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time – Yr A
9th / 10th September 2023
SAFEGAURDING SUNDAY

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently:

Those who we remember at this time:

Ken Collins, Giovanni Maccagnini, Dennis Rodney James, Lucy Rainsford, Valentina Parente, Marie Thomas, Philomena Windebank, Carmine Mazzone, Maureen Addicott, Emmanuel Deidun, Rosa Lotrionte, Peter Atkinson, Patricia Gallus, Alfea Cursaro

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 Jayawardena, 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 ACROSS THE ARCHDIOCESE Details can be found on the Archdiocese of Melbourne website for various administrative and liturgical positions. For more information visit... www.cam.org.au/jobs




A big **THANK YOU** for your generous donations to the appeal, which creates one of the four main income streams for the Foundation to support the Retired Priests, who have served actively in the Archdiocese of Melbourne, but who are now retired or sick. Total contributions amounted to **\$1,282.00.**

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.



BAPTISMS Our Congratulations go out to **Oscar William Alarcon** child of Daniel & Rebecca and **Zayde Landon Macpherson** child of Andrew & Kelly who are to be Baptised this weekend. The Church of God welcomes you with great joy.

Fr Paddy Duggan will be joining us on Saturday **16th September** for the **6pm Mass**, as we acknowledge and celebrate His 70 years of Ordination to the Priesthood. He was ordained on 7th June 1953. Fr Paddy has always been a wonderful support to St John's. Please come and join us on this special occasion. A cuppa will follow 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

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY 10th September
Child protection week is a national campaign held each year to raise awareness of child-abuse prevention in our communities. It is highlighted through Safeguarding Sunday. Today we are inviting children and young people to participate in a safeguarding survey which asks a number of questions related to their wellbeing in our parish. A questionnaire is available to fill in and return to the box at the back of the church or take home and return next week. You can also fill in the electronic copy attached to the church bulletin and return by email to the parish office.

ROSTERS: Mon 11th Sep to Sun 17th Sept 2023	
Flowers	Anne P & Connie B
Linen	Laurel Stephens
Welcomers	6pm Myra N & Wilma H 9am Terry S, Neil & Loraine R, Peter C 11am: Priya F-H & Patrick S
Lectors	6pm Rosina L 9am: Terry S 11am: Vincente M
Counters	Genevieve & George W & Bindu M
Gardening	Theresa N & Help needed please