

## FIRST READING

*A reading from the book of Deuteronomy*

*4:32-34, 39-40*

Moses said to the people: 'Put this question to the ages that are past, that went before you, from the time God created man on earth: Was there ever a word so majestic, from one end of heaven to the other? Was anything ever heard? Did ever a people hear the voice of the living God speaking from the heart of the fire, as you heard it, and remain alive? Has any god ventured to take to himself one nation from the midst of another by ordeals, signs, wonders, war with mighty hand and outstretched arm, by fearsome terrors – all this that the Lord your God did for you before your eyes in Egypt?

'Understand this today, therefore, and take it to heart: The Lord is God indeed, in heaven above as on earth beneath, he and no other. Keep his laws and commandments as I give them to you today so that you and your children may prosper and live long in the land that the Lord your God gives you for ever.'

**The word of the Lord**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R/...Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.*

1. The word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted.

The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love. (R.)

2. With his word the heavens were made, by the breath of his mouth all the stars.

He spoke; and they came to be.

He commanded; they sprang into being. (R.)

3. The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. (R.)

4. Our soul is waiting for the Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield. May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you. (R.)

## SECOND READING

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

*Romans*

*8:14-17*

Everyone moved by the Spirit is a son of God. The spirit you received is not the spirit of slaves bringing fear into your lives again; it is the spirit of sons, and it makes us cry out, 'Abba, Father!' The Spirit himself and our spirit bear united witness that we are children of God. And if we are children we are heirs as well: heirs of God and coheirs with Christ, sharing his sufferings so as to share his glory.

*The word of the Lord.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: to God who is, who was, and who is to come.*

*Alleluia!*

## GOSPEL

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 28:16-20*

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

**The Gospel of the Lord**



**Baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.**



**ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH**

**Knox Deanery**

**19 Forest Road, Ferntree Gully, 3156**

**Phone: 9758 1029**

**Email: [office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au](mailto:office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au)**

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



**The Most Holy Trinity – Year B**

**25<sup>th</sup> /26<sup>th</sup> May 2024 – Year of Prayer**

*God of all creation,*

*You embrace us with parental love.*

*You send Your own Son, Jesus, to save us.*

*Through the power of Your Holy Spirit,*

*You raise us to everlasting life.*

*This is a mystery that we will celebrate*

*and proclaim forever and ever.*

*Amen.*

**THE TRINITY**



**FOCUS ON THE WORD** Jesus' instruction that the disciples go out to all the nations and baptise them 'in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit' is an instruction that is still being carried on today. Those precise words are used by the priest at every baptism. They are also the words used in the sign of the cross – whether that is a personal, private blessing of oneself or a blessing of a group as in the introductory and dismissal rites as part of a Eucharistic celebration.

**When we make the sign of the cross we use the words of Jesus.** The word 'Trinity' does not appear anywhere in the New Testament although one can certainly see the beginnings of ideas about a Trinitarian God. It was not until 325, at the Council of Nicea, that the doctrine of the trinity was established as being orthodox teaching. This council sought to officially define the relationship between the Father and the Son as a response to the arguments of Arius (later known as Arian heresy). The statement of beliefs developed by this council in 325 is the Creed (credo = I believe) that is used in Catholic churches around the world today.. *Have you thought? Mystery*

I always thought that to describe the Trinity as a 'mystery' was a bit of a 'cop out' for not offering a decent explanation. However, a theological 'mystery' is defined as something that not only are we incapable of discovering except through divine revelation, but that even when its truth has been fully revealed, we are incapable of fully grasping it. Our understanding can never be any more than partial, even when we fully accept it. This is a concept with which our world struggles – that there is something that is not fully able to be known but it's OK not to fully understand it.

© 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](http://www.catholic.org.au/responseandprevention)

*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: Bernard Negline  
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@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  
**Wednesday** 9.15am  
**& Thurs** 9.15 am  
**Friday** 11.00 am

**RECONCILIATION:** Saturdays 5.15 pm

**GLENGOLLAN VILLAGE MASS** 1<sup>st</sup> Friday 2pm  
**WILLOWBROOK MASS** 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 11am

**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**

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

**The Most Holy Trinity – Yr B**  
**25<sup>th</sup> / 26<sup>th</sup> May 2024 - Year of Prayer**

**PRAYING FOR...**

*All who have died recently:*



*Those who we remember at this time:*

Angeline Pereira, Ivo Battaglioni, Jacob Warmerdam, Lorna Feeny, Betty Cameron, Raymond Daniels, Margaret McCluskey.

**The sick:** Sabrina McKeeverne, Aileen Knox, Janet Roffey, Celia Ellis, Eamon Smith, Fame Pelgrim, Elsie Johnson, Ann Good, Ben Mc Laey, Don Roberts, Maureen Wilson, Lucy Denzin, Gabby Sundstrom, Kathryn Kircos, Ruby Santoy, 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.

**ST. JOHN'S CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP** are meeting in the new Parish Community Centre this week, 10.15am for a 10.30am start.

**FRIENDSHIP GATHERING** We meet Thursdays in the New Parish Community Centre. Please come and join us for a Chat, sit and knit or perhaps a game of cards.

**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.



**ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE OPEN DAYS**  
**Enrolments are OPEN for 2025, 2026 and beyond.** Enquire now to secure the chance of gaining a place. Open Days (Principal's Tours)

**2024, Sun 1<sup>st</sup> June.** A tour of the College takes place with our Principal and is a fantastic opportunity to view the College including the new facilities.

- Visual and Performing Arts Complex
- Science Complex (Physics, Chemistry, Biology, General Science, Outdoor Science, Hub Space, Aquarium and Vivarium)
- STEM, Digital Technologies, Robotics Complex
- Sports Complex

You are invited to attend one of our many Open Days or alternatively, contact 9756 3112 to organise attending one of our small group tours. Register on the College website for your tour: <https://stjosephs.com.au/register-now/>

**LITURGY† NEWS †EVENTS**

Sunday **May 26** The Holy Trinity  
Safeguarding Essential Training for all volunteers  
**May 26** National Sorry Day  
National Reconciliation Week 27<sup>th</sup> May – 3<sup>rd</sup> June.  
Friday **May 31** The Visitation

**SAFEGUARDING ESSENTIALS TRAINING**  
**this is an important meeting for all volunteers** in our parish. **On this Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2024 at 12.30pm-1.30pm** we will run a special training day with our

archdiocese Safeguarding Office, Brech Burgess, who will go through all the relevant safeguarding training. **We will be updating all Code of Conduct forms** Please bring your WWCC card or VIT to this event.

**PRAYER IN PARLIAMENT**

In response to a push by some parliamentarians to end the recitation of prayer in the Victorian Parliament, together with other religious leaders, Archbishop Comensoli has written to all Members of Parliament about the fundamental and ongoing importance of prayer. The letter can be found at: [www.bit.ly/parliamentaryprayer](http://www.bit.ly/parliamentaryprayer).

There are two simple ways you can support the continuation of prayer in parliament:

- Sign this petition to the Legislative Council: [www.bit.ly/petitionparlprayer](http://www.bit.ly/petitionparlprayer)
- Write to your local state members of parliament to respectfully let them know your views. You can find out who your local MPs are at: [findelectorate.parliament.vic.gov.au](http://findelectorate.parliament.vic.gov.au). Writing to both your Legislative Assembly member and to some or all of your five Legislative Council members is recommended.

**WORLD CHILDREN'S DAY Rome, St. PETER'S SQUARE** On May 25-26 we will celebrate the first World Children's Day in Vatican City. Sponsored by the Dicastery of Culture and Education. [www.worldchildrenday.org](http://www.worldchildrenday.org)



**ST VINCENT DE PAUL ANNUAL WINTER APPEAL.** Next weekend we invite you to please



support our Winter appeal by donating non-perishable food, assisting in our Op shop, donating household items to the Op shop or making a financial donation. Your donations assist the unemployed, those affected by drug & alcohol abuse, Mental/Physical /Emotional abuse & homelessness/ rising cost of living/ rental stress.

**ST JOHN THE BAPTIST SACRAMENTAL CLASSES**

for the Sacrament of Confirmation. These classes are for children who do not attend Catholic Schools, who have received the sacrament of Reconciliation and First Eucharist and are in grade 5 or upwards. If your child is in this category and you are interested that they attend the Confirmation classes, please contact the parish office for an application form: 9758 1029 or [marymakarucha@stjohnthebaptist.net.au](mailto:marymakarucha@stjohnthebaptist.net.au). **Classes will commence in June, 2024.**

*Confirmation Class*



**BAPTISMS** – We offer our congratulations to **Elsie Sanders, & Cameron Cato-Parents: Deborah & Leigh and Ava & Elijah Allan, Parents Stephen and Krism,** who are to be baptised this weekend: The Church of God welcomes you with great joy.

**MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT ONLINE PROGRAM**

**Starts on 7<sup>th</sup> June – 6 Fortnightly sessions** Calling all couples in the midst of LIFE! Are you a couple with school children, stuck in the busy-ness?? Wanting to deepen your connection with your spouse? Our Online Marriage Enrichment Course is here to help! Please click on the link below for further information.

[Upcoming Courses | Family Enrichment Australia \(fea.org.au\)](http://Upcoming Courses | Family Enrichment Australia (fea.org.au))



**Victorian Council of Churches (VCC) Emergency Ministries Personal Support training sessions which you are most welcome to attend please click on the link below for further information:**  
<https://vccem.org.au/training/>

ROSTERS: Mon 27 <sup>th</sup> May to Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2024	
Flowers	Sue N & Lynne K
Linen	Laurel S
Welcomers	6pm Lia 9am Rosa L and Florence J 11am Shamindra and Chamal
Lectors	6pm: Gab V 9am Terry S 11am: Peter J
Counters	Tony, Stephanie, Peter and Rosina
Gardening	Tom N & Theresa N