

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Ezekiel 17:22-24

The Lord says this:

‘From the top of the cedar,
from the highest branch I will take a shoot
and plant it myself on a very high mountain.
I will plant it on the high mountain of Israel.
It will sprout branches and bear fruit,
and become a noble cedar.

Every kind of bird will live beneath it,
every winged creature rest in the shade of its
branches.

And every tree of the field will learn that I, the
Lord, am the one who stunts tall trees and makes
the low ones grow, who withers green trees and
makes the withered green.

I, the Lord, have spoken, and I will do it.’

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/. Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

1. It is good to give thanks to the Lord
to make music to your name, O Most High,
to proclaim your love in the morning
and your truth in the watches of the night. (R.)

2. The just will flourish like the palm-tree
and grow like a Lebanon cedar. (R.)

3. Planted in the house of the Lord
they will flourish in the courts of our God,
still bearing fruit when they are old,
still full of sap, still green,
to proclaim that the Lord is just.
In him, my rock, there is no wrong. (R.)

SECOND READING

A reading from the Second Letter of St Paul to
the Corinthians 2 Cor 5:6-10

We are always full of confidence when we
remember that to live in the body means to be
exiled from the Lord, going as we do by faith and
not by sight – we are full of confidence, I say, and
actually want to be exiled from the body and make
our home with the Lord. Whether we are living in
the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing
him. For all the truth about us will be brought out
in the law court of Christ, and each of us will get
what he deserves for the things he did in the body,
good or bad.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!
The seed is the word of God,
Christ is the sower;
all who come to him will live for ever.
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark
4:26-34

Jesus said to the crowds, ‘This is what the
kingdom of God is like. A man throws seed on
the land. Night and day, while he sleeps, when
he is awake, the seed is sprouting and growing;
how, he does not know. Of its own accord the
land produces first the shoot, then the ear, then
the full grain in the ear. And when the crop is
ready, he loses no time; he starts to reap because
the harvest has come.’

He also said, ‘What can we say the kingdom of
God is like? What parable can we find for it? It
is like a mustard seed which at the time of its
sowing in the soil is the smallest of all the seeds
on earth; yet once it is sown it grows into the
biggest shrub of them all and puts out big
branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in
its shade.’

Using many parables like these, he spoke the
word to them, so far as they were capable of
understanding it. He would not speak to them
except in parables, but he explained everything
to his disciples when they were alone.

The Gospel of the Lord.



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

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11th Sunday in Ordinary – Year B

15th /16th June, 2024 – Year of Prayer

All powerful God,

You have sown the seed of your word in us.

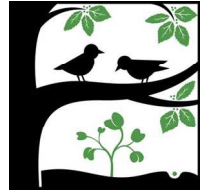
May it grow and bear abundant fruit.

Make us trust in your hidden ways,

that we may pray with confidence

and wait for your kingdom now growing in our midst.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



REFUGEE WEEK – 16TH JUNE – 22ND JUNE 2024

FOCUS ON THE WORD In today’s Gospel, Pope Francis reminds us, Jesus ‘teaches us
that even everyday things ... are inhabited by God’s hidden presence.’

This should encourage us. As the Pope suggests, ‘with this parable Jesus wants to instil us
with confidence.’ We can trust that God is still mysteriously at work building His Kingdom.
After all, the Kingdom of God is already growing – even if we do not readily see it. ‘At
times,’ the Pope says, ‘the din of the world, along with the many activities that fill our days,
prevent us from stopping and seeing how the Lord is conducting history.’ ‘The Gospel asks
us to take a fresh look at ourselves and at reality,’ the Pope says. He adds that ‘it asks us to
have bigger eyes, that are able to see further, especially beyond appearances, in order to
discover the presence of God who as humble love is always at work in the soil of our life
and that of history.’ We should, therefore, be open to seeing God at work in the smallest of
places. But we are also called to be more than passive spectators. **Jesus wants us to become
cultivators of the Kingdom.** While the mysterious growth of the Kingdom is the work of
God, we all have a part to play in God’s plan. ‘It is up to us to sow,’ the Pope points out,
‘and to sow with love, with dedication and with patience.’ © Nick Brodie

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 Wed 19th June St Romuald Fri 21st June St Aloysius Gonzaga
Sat 22nd June St John Fisher and St Thomas More.

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 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.

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time– Yr B
15th & 16th June, 2024 - Year of Prayer

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently:
Stephen Windebank



Those who we remember at this time:

Frederico, Giuseppina, Angelo, Andy & Silvia Zarro, Margherita, Damiano, Luigi, Cosimo & Jilda Coviello, Amparo M Judit, Camela Di Donato, David Ritchie, Luigi Brotto, Salvatore Lo Giudice, William Rodgers, Giuseppe Cecchin, and Antonietta & Giovanni Sartori.

The sick: Trish Walton, 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 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.

MOTHERS PRAYERS Take heart! Jesus urges us to bring our burdens/problems to him. Join us to pray, **Tues 9am-10am, in the Parish Office. All welcome.**

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 **Thurs 10am** 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.

Catholic Theological College- C.T.C. Online Information Session Monday 17 June at 7.30pm (AEST) Register via our website: ctc.edu.au/information-session For more information contact: Dr Maureen Saclot ctc@ctc.edu.au



MAKE HUNGER HISTORY Your compassion can help farmers like Chiquito feed their families and make hunger history.
Donate online at
www.caritas.org.au/make-hunger-history

LITURGY † NEWS † EVENT

Mid June: Confirmation Classes begin
Sun June 23rd Parish celebration of **The Nativity of St John the Baptist - Combined Sunday Mass 10am only.**

REFUGEE WEEK 16TH -22ND JUNE 2024 In a world marked by displacement and the search for refuge, this year's Refugee Week theme "**Finding Freedom**" – **with a focus on family** – encapsulates the profound journey of resilience, strength and unity that defines the refugee experience. Find out more at refugeeweek.org.au and www.refugeecouncil.org.au

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN/WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECKS AND SAFEGUARDING ESSENTIALS. With the new Safeguarding Children Protocols, **all people who volunteer in our Parish**, either in choir, Linen roster person, in a Family Group ,as a reader, with Childrens' Liturgy, or any other role **need a current Working with Children Check.** If you don't have a current one, or a VIT, Working with Children's Checks **are free for volunteers**, and you can apply on line using this link: <https://www.service.vic.gov.au/services/working-with-children> Please forward a copy to the Parish office, once you have a valid card, and we will keep a copy on record. Looking forward to receiving the card as soon as possible. Thank you all. 😊

GOD AND BEER: 'Religious freedom in Australia' with Daniel Simon At the next God and Beer, we will hear from Daniel Simon of the Human Rights Law Alliance on current



challenges to religious freedom in Australia.
Mon 17th June at 6.30pm for dinner (available for purchase) 7.30pm –9.00pm for the Talk.
Notting Hill Hotel (Steakhouse Room)
260-262 Ferntree Gully Road Notting Hill. Cost: \$ 0.00
Tickets: tickets.org.au - **Australia's Premier Ticketing System For Organisations**

ST SIMON'S PARISH RETREAT ON 24th -25th August 2024 at HOLY CROSS RETREAT CENTRE – TEMPLESTOWE. **Theme:** Fan the flame, the gift of God in You. **Facilitator :** Fr Ken Barker MGL
Option: Live in or Travel.
Cost: includes overnight stay, all meals, and use of conference room and chapel. Breakfast complimentary.
Single (Shared room)- \$210 Seniors Single: \$190
Couples with double bed \$345 or
Day cost with all meals \$100.00.
Enquiries: email loretta@stsimonsparish.com.au

VINNIES CEO SLEEPOUT TIME FOR A CHANGE

Help break the cycle of homelessness. In Victoria we're confronting the stark reality of too many people languishing on housing waiting lists, where half of renters fear homelessness and where individuals go hungry to keep a roof overhead. We're urging our leaders and their supporters to stand with us and declare 'enough is enough'.

WHERE? The Timber Yard, Port Melbourne,
WHEN: Thursday 20th June, 2024 6pm -6qm.
Find out more on the website at: <https://www.ceosleepout.org.au/event/victoria> You can choose a team or individual to sponsor.

MSC MISSIONS OFFICE WABAG Diocese ENGA Province PAPUA NEW GUINEA The MSC Mission Office Australia immediately sent \$AU10,000 to assist with the relief operation. **Thanks to your generosity, we will be able to send a further \$AU45,000** when approved by the Board meeting next week. More donations are welcome, via our website 2024.Enga Landslide Relief MSC Mission Office Australia Immediately after the disaster as a Diocese of Wabag we went directly to the spot and met the survivors and collected data regarding the survivors, people with minor health problems, major injured people, number of deaths and other damages due to the massive landslide. At initial stage quick response to the disaster; Wabag diocese distributed 10kg rice, tin fish and Noodles to 625 survivors at 125 households directly affected by the disaster. On order for blankets, pillows and mattresses has been placed for 962 survivors, in 230 households directly affected by the disaster. More than 1,500 people are likely impacted. Landslide have left debris up to 8 meters deep across 200 square km, cutting off road access, which was making relief efforts difficult. Thank you very much and kindly continue to pray for us and for our mission. United in prayers
St. John Mary- Catholic Diocese of Wabag.

ROSTERS: Mon 17 th June to Sun 23 rd June 2024	
Flowers	Ann P & Connie B
Linen	Sabrina McK
Welcomers	6pm Myra N & Help needed 10am Terry S, Neil & Loraine, Peter C Priya H, Patrick S combined Mass There is no 9am or 11am on Sun 23rd June.
Lectors	6pm: Help needed NOTE 10am 10 am Pamela E / : Priya There is no 9am or 11am on Sun 23rd June.
Counters	Florence J, Peter C, Joan R, Ruben P
Gardening	Roger K & Henner T