

## FIRST READING

A reading from the second book of the Kings  
2 Kings 4:42-44

A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing Elisha, the man of God, bread from the first-fruits, twenty barley loaves and fresh grain in the ear. 'Give it to the people to eat,' Elisha said. But his servant replied, 'How can I serve this to a hundred men?' 'Give it to the people to eat' he insisted 'for the Lord says this, "They will eat and have some left over."' He served them; they ate and had some over, as the Lord had said.

The Word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/. *The hand of the Lord feeds us;  
he answers all our needs.*

## SECOND READING

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Ephesians 4:1-6

I, the prisoner in the Lord, implore you to lead a life worthy of your vocation. Bear with one another charitably, in complete selflessness, gentleness and patience. Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together. There is one Body, one Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is Father of all, through all and within all.

The Word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*A great prophet has appeared among us;  
God has visited his people.*

*Alleluia!*

## GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 6: 1-15

Jesus went off to the other side of the Sea of Galilee – or of Tiberias – and a large crowd followed him, impressed by the signs he gave by curing the sick. Jesus climbed the hillside, and sat down there with his disciples. It was shortly before the Jewish feast of Passover.

Looking up, Jesus saw the crowds approaching and said to Philip, 'Where can we buy some bread for these people to eat?' He only said this to test Philip; he himself knew exactly what he was going to do. Philip answered, 'Two hundred denarii would only buy enough to give them a small piece each.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said, 'There is a small boy here with five barley loaves and two fish; but what is that between so many?' Jesus said to them, 'Make the people sit down.' There was plenty of grass there, and as many as five thousand men sat down. Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks and gave them out to all who were sitting ready; he then did the same with the fish, giving out as much as was wanted. When they had eaten enough he said to the disciples, 'Pick up the pieces left over, so that nothing gets wasted.' So they picked them up, and filled twelve hampers with scraps left over from the meal of five barley loaves. The people, seeing this sign that he had given, said, 'This really is the prophet who is to come into the world.' Jesus, who could see they were about to come and take him by force and make him king, escaped back to the hills by himself.

The Gospel of the Lord.

## A blessing Prayer for Grandparents

Heavenly Father,  
may saints Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of your Son, Jesus, be an everlasting model for grandparents.

Your wisdom and word are eternal, meant for all generations. Help grandparents, we pray, as they pass on the rich traditions of the faith to their beloved Family members, especially their grandchildren. Lord bless our Grandparents with long life, happiness and health.

May they remain constant in  
Your love and be living signs of Your presence to their Children and Grandchildren.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
AMEN.



**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)**



**17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B**

**27<sup>th</sup>/28 July, 2024 – Year of Prayer – Grandparents/Elderly**

*God of love,*

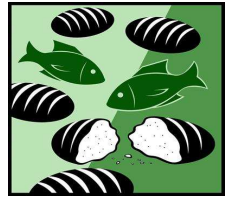
*Your care for us stretches through generations upon generations.*

*The love between grandparents and grandchildren  
is a special expression of your gift of love for us all.*

*Bless our grandfathers and grandmothers*

*and all who bring your loving presence into this world.*

*We make this prayer through Saints Joachim and Anne,  
the grandparents of Jesus. Amen*



**FOCUS ON THE WORD** Pope Francis draws our attention to the boy's role in today's Gospel passage. He 'makes us think', the Pope says. 'His compassion moved him to offer what he had.' There is no suggestion in the Gospel that the loaves and fish were forcibly taken from the boy. Rather, it is implied that they were his gift. An act of human charity is, therefore, a key element in Jesus' miracle. Another noteworthy factor is Jesus' sense of priority. This episode, the Pope points out, 'shows us again that Jesus is attentive to people's primary needs'. This has implications for we who seek to follow him. After all, the boy was discovered because Jesus prompted his disciples to think about how they could feed the crowd. As the Pope says, 'the people were hungry and Jesus engaged his disciples so that this hunger could be satisfied.' **While Jesus offered the crowd much more than food – 'his Word, his solace, his salvation, ultimately his life' – he did not neglect their physical needs. 'And we, his disciples, cannot ignore this', the Pope affirms. We are called to follow the example of Jesus, his apostles, and the boy with a few loaves and fish. We must not turn our backs on the people or retreat from the world. We must face up to the reality we find – and do what we can.** ©Nick Brodie.

**WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY** Pope Francis has chosen a line from Psalm 71 – "Do not cast me off in my old age" – as the theme for the 2024 celebration of the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. "By cherishing the charisms of grandparents and the elderly, and the contribution they make to the life of the Church, the World Day seeks to support the efforts of every ecclesial community to forge bonds between the generations and to combat loneliness," the statement said. To read the Popes Message [click here](#)



**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) SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONES RESPONSIBILITY

**FEAST DAYS** Sun 28<sup>th</sup> July **World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly (Holy See)**  
Mon 29<sup>th</sup> July **Sts Martha, Mary, & Lazarus** Tues 30<sup>th</sup> July **St Peter Chrysologus**  
Wed 31<sup>st</sup> July **St Ignatius of Loyola** Thur 1<sup>st</sup> Aug **St Alphonsus Liguori**

*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 & Tuesday 10.00am 4.00pm  
Wednesday 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](mailto:office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au)

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

17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Yr B  
27<sup>th</sup> / 28<sup>th</sup> July, 2024 - Year of Prayer

**PRAYING FOR...**

*All who have died recently:*

Carlo Rossi, Christine Beyer, Edgar Silva.

*Those who we remember at this time:*

Teresa de Leon, Haydee Torrealba, Mary Rizza, Beryl Holsinger, Beverly O'Connor, Shaun Chapman, Theresa Campion.

*The sick:* Trish Walton, Sabrina McKeeverne, Aileen Knox, Celia Ellis, Eamon Smith, Fame Pelgrim, Elsie Johnson, Ann Good, Ben McLaey, 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** Meet on each Tuesday Morning at 9am in the Parish Office. Come and join us to pray for your children.

**ST. JOHN'S CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP** meet in the Parish Community Centre each Tuesday at 10.15am for a 10.30am start, followed by shared lunch.

**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.



Tickets on SALE for the **1<sup>st</sup> Aug- 3<sup>rd</sup> August** Adults \$33 Youth U16yrs, \$16 BOOK YOURS NOW here [Burrinja.org.au](http://Burrinja.org.au)




**MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR THE IV WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY**

God never abandons his children, never. Even when our age advances and our powers decline, when our hair grows white and our role in society lessens, when our lives become less productive and can risk appearing useless. God does not regard appearances (cf. 1 Sam 16:7); he does not disdain to choose those who, to many people, may seem irrelevant. God discards no stone; indeed, the "oldest" are the firm foundation on which "new" stones can rest, in order to join in erecting a spiritual edifice (cf. 1 Peter 2:5)... Pope Francis ends by saying: "On this Fourth World Day devoted to them, let us show our tender love for the grandparents and the elderly members of our families. Let us spend time with those who are disheartened and no longer hope in the possibility of a different future. In place of the self-centred attitude that leads to loneliness and abandonment, let us instead show the open heart and the joyful face of men and women who have the courage to say "I will not abandon you", and to set out on a different path. To all of you, dear grandparents and elderly persons, and to all those who are close to you I send my blessing, accompanied by my prayers. And I ask you, please, not to forget to pray for me. - You can read the whole message at: [IV World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, 2024](http://IV World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, 2024) - "Do not cast me off in my old age" (cf. [Psalm 71:9](http://Psalm 71:9)) | [Francis \(vatican.va\)](http://Francis (vatican.va))


**SPECIAL COLLECTION THANK YOU FOR** your generous support of the Stella Maris Sea Sunday Appeal. **The amount raised was \$738.80** you can still support this important organisation. Funds can be transferred to: **Account Name** : The Apostleship of the Sea **BSB** : 062-784 **Account Number**: 100012583 **Or Cheques**: Payee: The Apostleship of the Sea **Mail**: Stella Maris Australia. GPO Box 368 Canberra 2601 - **Thank you for your kind support.**



**KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS ARCHBISHOP'S DINNER 2024** Fri 30<sup>th</sup> August 2024 7pm -11-30pm. Join the Knights of the Southern Cross Victoria to celebrate the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Archbishops Dinner to help raise funds for the Priests Support and Education Fund. Cost: \$160 per person Enquiries: Nadia Bolzonello at [giveback@optusnet.com.au](mailto:giveback@optusnet.com.au) or call 0407055237

**ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE** Enrolments  for year 7 in 2026 close on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> August.

**PETITION TO RETAIN THE LORD'S FORCES PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE.** A debate is now listed for 31<sup>st</sup> July. follow proceedings at: [www.parliament.vic.gov.au](http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au)

**BAPTISMS** – We offer our congratulations to **Albert Collins**, Son of Ezra Collins and Lara Czarnota-Bojarski who is to be baptised this weekend: The Church of God welcomes you with great joy 


**FUNERAL MASS** for the late **Christine Beyer** will be celebrated here at St John's Church on **Wed 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2024 at 12.30pm.**

**FUNERAL MASS** for the late Carlo Rossi will be celebrated here on **Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> Aug, 10.30 Rosary, 11am Mass**

**FUNERAL MASS** for the late **Clare Clarke** will be celebrated here at St John's Church on **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2024 at 11.00am.**

**POSITIONS AVAILABLE**  
**Where:** DON BOSCO RETREAT CENTRE Lysterfield 465 Lysterfield Rd Lysterfield.  
**Roles:** CLEANER & MAINTENANCE PERSON  
**Hours:** Cleaner-10 hours over 2 days per week MAINTENANCE PERSON- 6 hrs per week  
Experience desirable but not essential.  
Please send your expression of interest through to Fr Shane [@dbrclysterfield@gmail.com](mailto:dbrclysterfield@gmail.com)

**SAVE THE DATE: AUGUST EVENT**  
The Parish Singles Group invites all Parishioners to a Theme: **TRAVEL SHOW**  
DATE: **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2024**  
TIME: 2.00pm - 4.00pm APPROX  
PLACE: PARISH COMMUNITY CENTRE 

**QUIET TIME IN THE BUSH** Kew VIC The Jesuit and Ignatian Spirituality Australia *Being with God in Nature* ministry provides opportunities to spend some contemplative time in nature. All of creation is a revelation of God's love and we receive grace to **renew our spirit by being in nature using insights from St Ignatius of Loyola.** At the Bush Hut in Studley Park in Kew, 10.30am to 12noon on the fourth Monday of the month: 26 Aug, 23 Sep, 28 Oct, and 25 Nov. [Quiet Time in the Bush, Kew VIC - Jesuit and Ignatian Spirituality Australia \(jisa.org.au\)](http://Quiet Time in the Bush, Kew VIC - Jesuit and Ignatian Spirituality Australia (jisa.org.au)) - Cost \$20.00 

ROSTERS: Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> August to Sun 11 <sup>th</sup> Aug 2024	
Flowers	Marg H & Ange C
Linen	Sabrina McK
Welcomers	6pm Lia U & Kathryn C 9am Rosa L & Florence J 11am Shamindri & Chamal A
Lectors	6pm: Alvi M 9am Caroline Q 11am Phuong B
Counters	Bryon M, Ruby S & Guil W
Gardening	Patrick S, Harry R