

FIRST READING

A reading from the First book of Kings
1 Kings 19:4-8

Elijah went into the wilderness, a day's journey, and sitting under a furze bush wished he were dead. 'Lord', he said 'I have had enough. Take my life: I am no better than my ancestors.' Then he lay down and went to sleep. But an angel touched him and said, 'Get up and eat.' He looked round, and there at his head was a scone baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again. But the angel of the Lord came back a second time and touched him and said, 'Get up and eat, or the journey will be too long for you.' So he got up and ate and drank, and strengthened by that food he walked for forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/. *Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Ephesians 4:30-5:2

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God who has marked you with his seal for you to be set free when the day comes. Never have grudges against others, or lose your temper, or raise your voice to anybody, or call each other names, or allow any sort of spitefulness. Be friends with one another, and kind, forgiving each other as readily as God forgave you in Christ. Try, then, to imitate God, as children of his that he loves, and follow Christ by loving as he loved you, giving himself up in our place as a fragrant offering and a sacrifice to God.

The Word of the Lord.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the living bread from heaven,
says the Lord;
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
6: 41-51

The Jews were complaining to each other about Jesus, because he had said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven.' 'Surely this is Jesus son of Joseph' they said. 'We know his father and mother. How can he now say, "I have come down from heaven"?' Jesus said in reply, 'Stop complaining to each other.

'No one can come to me unless he is drawn by the Father who sent me, and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the prophets:

They will all be taught by God, and to hear the teaching of the Father, and learn from it, is to come to me. Not that anybody has seen the Father, except the one who comes from God: he has seen the Father. I tell you most solemnly, everybody who believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life.

Your fathers ate the manna in the desert and they are dead; but this is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that a man may eat it and not die.

I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

What are Holy Days of Obligation and when are they? "Holy Days of Obligation" are special occasions on which Catholics are obliged to attend Mass. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states: "On Sundays and other holy days of obligation, the faithful are to refrain from engaging in work or activities that hinder the worship owed to God, the joy proper to the Lord's Day, the performance of the works of mercy, and the appropriate relaxation of mind and body" (ccc #2185). **Aside from every Sunday of the year, there are two "Holy Days of Obligation" in Australia. These are Christmas Day (25 December) and the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (15 August).** These two holy days are to be observed each year, regardless of the day of the week on which they fall.



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

Knox Deanery

19 Forest Road, Ferntree Gully, 3156

Phone: 9758 1029

Email: office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au

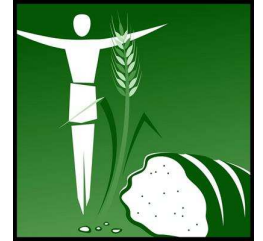
Website: www.stjohnthebaptist.net.au



19th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B

10th /11th August, 2024 – Year of Prayer

*Lord Jesus,
hungering and thirsting,
we come to You our living bread!
Fed by Your love and healing power,
may we connect our faith and daily living,
to share in Your purpose
of giving life to our world.
Through Christ our Lord, Amen.*



FOCUS ON THE WORD Our focus on the readings this week is twofold: the bread God provides is both strength and divine presence. Elijah is told to eat the food provided by God so he will have the strength to go to Mount Horeb where he will meet God. In the Gospel, Jesus tells the people, "anyone who eats this bread will live forever."

Jesus is the one sent by God, and it is in him (the Bread of Life) that we meet God. The feast is laid out, the invitation is given and the table is before us. So if we go away hungry, why did that happen? What is stopping us from joining in the feast? We have to open ourselves to receive the gift. We have to make the effort to come to the table. We have to believe in the power of the meal, the cup and the Word. We have to believe we are worthy of the feast.

God has big plans for Elijah, who already has done so much work telling people about God. And God is there for Elijah, helping him out when he doesn't know what to do or where to go.

Do you think God has big plans for you? What might God's plans be for you?

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
SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONES RESPONSIBILITY

FEAST DAYS 12th Aug St Jane Frances de Chantal **13th Aug** –Sts Pontian, & Hippolytus ,

14th Aug – St Maximilian Kolbe, **15th Aug** – **The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary** –Holy day of Obligation

16th Aug – St Stephen of Hungary

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 & 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 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.

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Yr B
10th / 11th August, 2024 - Year of Prayer

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently:

Antonio Brotto

Those who we remember at this time:

Clara Vaz, Janice Mottram, Adriana Warmerdam, Len Wilson, Waldemar Leos, Maria Veltri, Joan Lineen, Mark Grant, Brian Hayman.

The sick: Trish Walton, Sabrina McKeever,, Celia Ellis, Eamon Smith, Fame Pelgrim, Elsie Johnson, Ann Good, Ben McLacey, 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.

THE CHURCH AND SPORT can learn from each other in many ways. A new document, [Open the Way to Christ](#), published by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, explains how sport is a gift that can draw people closer to Christ. You can see and read the booklet via this link: <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/BCELM-Sports-Statement-FINAL.pdf>


Together we pray.
Loving God, You have given us the gift of sport as a means to draw closer to you. May we use our gifts and talents in ways that bring you glory, By demonstrating humility, charity, and gratitude. May we strive to bring Jesus into the rich harvest of sport, And in doing so, gently allow all people to encounter your love and mercy. Amen.



WE SAY FAREWELL TO FR JOE CADDY on Tuesday 6 August—his last day as Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Melbourne before departing for Far North Queensland to take up his new role as Bishop of Cairns—Fr Joe Caddy was joined by friends, colleagues and brother priests from across the Archdiocese for a special farewell celebration in the Grand Ballroom of Melbourne's Windsor Hotel. Among those paying tribute to the guest of honour was his friend Fr Brendan Reed, who has known Fr Caddy for more than 40 years. 'From the beginning of his seminary days he was not going to give himself over to a narrow and inwardly looking approach either to the priesthood or the Church', Fr Reed observed. **The Episcopal Ordination of Most Rev Joseph John Caddy AM, as Eighth Bishop of Cairns, will take place at 6pm AEST on 15 August 2024, on the solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. View the livestream [here](#).**

FUNERAL MASS for the late Antonio Brotto will be celebrated here at St John's Church on **Thursday 15th August 2024 at 11.30am.**

2024 ARCHBISHOP'S CAMPAIGN: Supporting the future of our faith community. This weekend marks the launch of the 2024 Archbishop's Campaign across the Archdiocese of Melbourne. The focus of this year's campaign honours the priests who have faithfully served our community of faith in the past and invites us to invest in those preparing to serve the community of faith in the future. **This new annual campaign is more than just a fundraising effort; it's a chance for us to show our gratitude and to support the next generation** of priests who will continue this vital and sacred ministry. The goal of this year's campaign is ambitious: to raise \$1 million. Inspired by Jesus' call to the first disciples, 'Come, follow me,' every member of the vast and diverse Archdiocese of Melbourne is asked to answer this call. **The collection will be next weekend.**

THE COMBINED PARISHES RAFFLE IS COMING BACK! With tickets only \$2.00ea. PLEASE  LOOK OUT FOR OUR FRIENDLY TICKET SELLERS, NEXT WEEKEND! .

WHAT IS GOD ASKING OF ME? WEEKEND DISCERNMENT RETREAT If you ever wonder what God may be asking of you? Come and join us as we explore ways of discerning the voice of God speaking to us at the core of our being.
Friday 13 Sept 2024 @ 4:00 pm - Sunday 15 Sept 2024 @ 2:00 pm **NEW LOCATION** Holy Name Spirituality Centre, 40 Cavanagh Street, Cheltenham VIC
Price: \$480 including accommodation, all meals, retreat input, facilitation, and reflection materials
Bring: your own single bed linen, towels provided. **For bookings and enquiries,** contact Sandra on **1300 EXAMEN (1300-392-636)** or info@jisa.org.au



We offer our congratulations to **Skye Van Heuzen**, daughter of Leigh & Kerriane, **Arlo Connolly** son of Hadyn & Jaime, and **Rafael Puerta** son of Juan & Daniela who are to be baptised this weekend: The

Church of God welcomes you with great joy

FEAST OF ASSUMPTION 15TH AUGUST
Masses on the Feast of Assumption, a **Holy Day of Obligation**, are at **9.15am & 7pm.**



NEXT WEEKEND: AUGUST EVENT The Parish Singles Group invites **all Parishioners** to a Theme: **TRAVEL SHOW**



DATE: **Sunday 18TH Aug 2024 TIME: 2.00pm - 4.00pm**
APPROX PLACE: **PARISH COMMUNITY CENTRE** Guest **Speaker:** Carolyn Sombekke to lead the discussion for the first half of the session with her travel adventures. Attendees can make a short 2min presentation thereafter.

CASUAL CLEANING POSITION from mid September, we are seeking to employ a part-time cleaner here at St John the Baptist. The successful applicant must be well motivated to work for the Church and ideally possess a strong commitment to its practices and values. **Tasks and Responsibility**

- Perform routine cleaning tasks: Clean Parish Church, office and Parish Community Centre by performing duties such as dusting and vacuuming, cleaning toilet facilities.
- Work within the Australian hygiene standards and Guidelines
- Maintain professional & respectful working relationship with Parish Priest and Staff
- Communicate well with Parish Priest and Staff,
- Working with Children Check – Mandatory, Police Check (new Check required) Valid Driver License

Please send your expression of interest to the attention of Fr Thomas, office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au

NEXT YOUTH GROUP GATHERING FRI 16th AUG, please join us in the Parish Community Centre from 5:30-7:30pm for a Bible study session and pizza dinner. Please come along and bring a friend!

GOD AND BEER Mon 12th August, 2024 6.00pm-9.30pm please note change of venue to St Gerard's Parish Hall Dandenong Nth. Former Aust Prime Min. Tony Abbot. Info: [Here](#).

ROSTERS: Mon 5th August to Sun 11th Aug 2024	
Flowers	Genevieve W & Gina P
Linen	Carole D'S
Welcomers	6pm Rosina L & Myra N 9am Lia Unmack & Help needed please 11am Shamindri & Chamal A
Lectors	6pm: Louise Di B 9am Peter Finn 11am Carolyn S
Counters	Florence J, Peter C, Joan R, Ruben P
Gardening	Patrick S, Harry R