

## FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Wisdom 2:12

17-20

The godless say to themselves, 'Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man, since he annoys us and opposes our way of life, reproaches us for our breaches of the law and accuses us of playing false to our upbringing. Let us see if what he says is true, let us observe what kind of end he himself will have. If the virtuous man is God's son, God will take his part and rescue him from the clutches of his enemies. Let us test him with cruelty and with torture, and thus explore this gentleness of his and put his endurance to the proof. Let us condemn him to a shameful death since he will be looked after – we have his word for it.'

**The Word of the Lord.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R/. The Lord upholds my life.*

## SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St James 3:16-4:3

Take the Wherever you find jealousy and ambition, you find disharmony, and wicked things of every kind being done; whereas the wisdom that comes down from above is essentially something pure; it also makes for peace, and is kindly and considerate; it is full of compassion and shows itself by doing good; nor is there any trace of partiality or hypocrisy in it. Peacemakers, when they work for peace, sow the seeds which will bear fruit in holiness.

Where do these wars and battles between yourselves first start? Isn't it precisely in the desires fighting inside your own selves? You want something and you haven't got it; so you are prepared to kill. You have an ambition that you cannot satisfy; so you fight to get your way by force. Why you don't have what you want is because you don't pray for it; when you do pray and don't get it, it is because you have not prayed properly, you have prayed for something to indulge your own desires.

**The Word of the Lord.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*God has called us with the Gospel  
to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ  
Alleluia!*

## GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

9:30-37

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his disciples made their way through Galilee; and he did not want anyone to know, because he was instructing his disciples; he was telling them, 'The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of men; they will put him to death; and three days after he has been put to death he will rise again.' But they did not understand what he said and were afraid to ask him.

They came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the road?' They said nothing because they had been arguing which of them was the greatest. So he sat down, called the Twelve to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself last of all and servant of all.' He then took a little child, set him in front of them, put his arms round him, and said to them, 'Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name, welcomes me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

**The Gospel of the Lord.**



**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)**



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

**21<sup>st</sup> / 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2024 – Year of Prayer  
Season of Creation**

*Heavenly Father,*

*You ask us to continue the mission of Jesus*

*by serving others. Inspire us today to make a positive  
difference, and kindle in our hearts*

*the desire to serve others with gentleness and  
compassion. We ask this through Christ our Lord.*

*Amen.*



**FOCUS ON THE GOSPEL 'Marginal people'**

Jesus was well aware of the constant temptation for the leaders amongst his followers to be conditioned by the surrounding social and political structures. So, when he became aware that his disciples were disputing 'who is the greatest', he decided to teach them a lesson by engaging in some counter-cultural street theatre.

Jesus saw a young boy on the edge of the crowd and beckoned him into the middle of his group of disciples. This was not because of some sentimental idea that all kids are little innocents, but because in his society, children were absolutely at the bottom of the social scale. Jesus moved an utter nobody from the margins of society to the centre, challenging his disciples to change their perspective.

This challenge is made to all of us. We must identify those on the margins, some of whom we have quite literally dis-located like indigenous communities or asylum seekers, and bring them into the centre of our concern. There may be pain, personal and social, in changing perspective.

We might pause for a moment to pray for a new way of seeing, for perseverance in re-locating someone in the centre of our concerns, for the graceful insight that in welcoming that person we have welcomed Christ.

© Fr Michael Tate; [mtate@bigpond.com](mailto:mtate@bigpond.com)

**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**

*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@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**  
**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.

**25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Yr B**  
**21<sup>st</sup> /22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2024 - Year of Prayer**  
**Season of Creation**

**PRAYING FOR...**

**All who have died recently:**  
Father Desmond (Des) Magennis PE



**Those who we remember at this time:**  
Ray Loel, John Ryan, Genowefa Haeyen, Leonilda Parrella, Bill Kelly, James McDonald

**The sick:** Trish Walton, Sabrina McKevever,, Celia Ellis, Eamon Smith, Fame Pelgrim, Elsie Johnson, Ann Good, Ben McLae, 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.

**YOUTH GROUP**

**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.

**PIETY STALL NEWS** We have been overwhelmed with kindness! A very generous donor has given us a considerable variety of cards and small gifts to sell. Also, Sr Clare's **beautiful hand made flower cards** will be available. A sale is planned for the weekend **14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> September and all cards will be priced at \$2.00 each.** Please come and have a look - and support our "Vinnies" stall. - Peter & Dawn.

**MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER** A Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME) is a weekend away, offering married couples, a special kind of "time out", a different kind of "weekend getaway" **4-6 October, 2024** Live-in Weekend, St Paul's Missionary College, Wantima. **Contact:** Mercy & James Bvirakare Ph: 0409 183 676



**LITURGY † NEWS † EVENTS**

Saturday	21 <sup>st</sup> Sept	International Day of Peace
Thursday	26 <sup>th</sup>	FRIENDSHIP GATHERING SPRING LUNCHEON
Friday	27 <sup>th</sup>	Feast of St Vincent De Paul Public Holiday
Sunday	29 <sup>th</sup>	Word Day of Refugees & Migrants
OCTOBER	MONTH	of the HOLY ROSARY
Tuesday	1 <sup>st</sup> Oct	Teresa Of the Child Jesus
Wednesday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Holy Guardian Angels
Friday	4 <sup>th</sup>	St Francis of Assisi
Sunday	6 <sup>th</sup>	Daylight Saving begins

**Congratulations to Genevieve and George**  
**On their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary**

May your lives continue together with love joy and health. May God's blessings upon, Genevieve and George, today and always.

*Happy 50<sup>th</sup> Golden Jubilee*

**INVITATION FOR ALTAR SERVERS**

We are inviting children from grade 4 upwards to assist with the mass celebration by becoming Altar Servers. Training will be provided for those who have served in the past and all those interested in joining.. Please contact the parish office of your interest: [office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au](mailto:office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au) or speak to Fr Thomas or Mary



**FRIENDSHIP GATHERING SPRING LUNCHEON**  
**Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> September 2024. The Friendship Gathering invites Parish Friends to join them for a shared lunch in the Parish Community Centre at 12 noon.**

**THE COMBINED PARISHES RAFFLE IS BACK!**  
With tickets only \$2.00ea, or \$20.00 per book. This Year the **1<sup>st</sup> Prize – All New KIA PICANTO \$21,690**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize Gift Card to the value \$5,000**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize Gift Card to the value \$ 3,000 +more**  
PLEASE support this raffle, which will give proceeds to the Parish and St Vincent de Paul FTG conference, Tickets on sale 17<sup>th</sup> Aug – 27<sup>th</sup> Oct. **Sales close 14<sup>th</sup> November, with the draw on Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2024.**



**PARISH OFFICE TEMPORARY CHANGE OF HOURS** to accommodate staff leave, the Parish Office hours for this week will be Mon & Tues 10am-3pm. Wed & Thurs 10am-3pm. Friday closed due to Public Holiday

**SEASON OF CREATION Continues until Oct 4,**



This week we take a look at the seven Laudato Si goals. These goals provide guidance on urgent and immediate actions each one of us can take in the care of our common home. "All of us can cooperate as instruments of God for the care of creation, each according to his or her own culture, experience, involvements and talents. (Laudato Si 14).

**International Day of Peace**

In the next couple of weeks, two international days will emphasise peace in our communities and world. The International Day of Peace will be held on 21 September and the International Day of Non-Violence will be held on 2 October.

**Social Justice Statement 2024- 2025**

Truth and Peace: A Gospel Word: in a Violent World  
Can be found on the following Link:  
[Social Justice Statement 2024-25 - Office For Justice, Ecology and Peace \(catholic.org.au\)](https://www.catholic.org.au/social-justice-statement-2024-25-office-for-justice-ecology-and-peace)

**ROSTERS: Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> to Sun28<sup>th</sup> Sept 2024**

Flowers	Mary & Judy
Linen	Carole D'S
Welcomers	6pm Lia & Kathryn 9am Rosa & Florence 11am Shami & Chamal
Lectors	6pm: Jan R 9am Pamela E 11am Bonnie H
Counters	Bryon M, Ruby S & Guil W
Gardening	Theresa N & Help needed.