

## FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Numbers 11:25-29

‘The Lord came down in the Cloud. He spoke with Moses, but took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. When the spirit came on them they prophesied, but not again.

Two men had stayed back in the camp; one was called Eldad and the other Medad. The spirit came down on them; though they had not gone to the Tent, their names were enrolled among the rest. These began to prophesy in the camp. The young man ran to tell this to Moses, ‘Look’, he said, ‘Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.’ Then said Joshua the son of Nun, who had served Moses from his youth, ‘My Lord Moses, stop them!’ Moses answered him, ‘Are you jealous on my account? If only the whole people of the Lord were prophets, and the Lord gave his Spirit to them all!’ **The Word of the Lord.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R/. The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart*

## SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St James 3:5-1:6

An answer for the rich. Start crying, weep for the miseries that are coming to you. Your wealth is all rotting, your clothes are all eaten up by moths. All your gold and your silver are corroding away, and the same corrosion will be your own sentence, and eat into your body. It was a burning fire that you stored up as your treasure for the last days. Labourers mowed your fields, and you cheated them – listen to the wages that you kept back, calling out; realise that the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. On earth you have had a life of comfort and luxury; in the time of slaughter you went on eating to your heart’s content. It was you who condemned the innocent and killed them; they offered you no resistance.

**The Word of the Lord.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Your word, O Lord, is truth:  
make us holy in the truth.*

*Alleluia!*

## GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark  
9:38-43, 47-48

John said to Jesus, ‘Master, we saw a man who is not one of us casting out devils in your name; and because he was not one of us we tried to stop him.’ But Jesus said, ‘You must not stop him: no one who works a miracle in my name is likely to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us is for us.

‘If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink just because you belong to Christ, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.

‘But anyone who is an obstacle to bring down one of these little ones who have faith, would be better thrown into the sea with a great millstone round his neck. And if your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life crippled, than to have two hands and go to hell, into the fire that cannot be put out. And if your foot should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life lame, than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye should cause you to sin, tear it out; it is better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell where their worm does not die nor their fire go out.’

**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)**



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

**28<sup>th</sup> / 29<sup>th</sup> September 2024 – Year of Prayer**

**Migrant and Refugee Sunday**

*Pour out Your Spirit, O God, Over all the world*

*To inspire every heart*

*with knowledge and love of You.*

*Grant that we who confess Jesus as Lord*

*may shun whatever is contrary to this faith*

*and give witness to Your love*

*that has saved us in Christ,*

*who lives and reigns with You*

*in the unity of the Holy Spirit,*

*God for ever and ever. Amen.*



**FOCUS ON THE GOSPEL** As so often in the Gospel, Jesus takes the way we are tempted to think and flips it on its head: ‘Anyone who is not against us is for us.’

Pope Francis suggests that Jesus invites us ‘not to hinder those who do good, because they contribute to the fulfilment of God’s plan.’ This includes the Church, the Pope points out, noting that ‘we need to be vigilant about closure in the Church’ and falling prey to the devil’s temptation ‘to divide and exclude people.’

The Pope reminds us that unless we are ‘humble and open communities’ there is a risk that the Church or groups within it can easily ‘give the impression of being the “top of the class” and keep others at a distance.’ He warns against cliques that form around certain priests, closed-circle pastoral groups, and so on, which ‘runs the risk of turning Christian communities into places of separation and not of communion.’

‘The Holy Spirit does not want closure,’ the Pope affirms. ‘He wants openness, welcoming communities where there is a place for everyone.’

After all, Jesus exhorted us to rein in our own attitudes rather than worrying about the attributes of others. As the Pope notes, ‘the risk is to be inflexible towards others and indulgent towards ourselves.’ Therefore, he suggests that ‘instead of judging everything and everyone, let us be attentive to ourselves!’

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

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

28<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Yr B  
28<sup>th</sup> /29<sup>th</sup> September, 2024 - Year of Prayer  
Season of Creation

**PRAYING FOR...**

*All who have died recently:*

*Those who we remember at this time:*

Paul Fernandes, Dorothy Healey, Janie Ingram, Leonilda Parrella, Concetta Rodolico, Raymond Marshall, Pamela Bentham

**The sick:** Trish Walton, Sabrina McKeeverne., 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** will be back in Term 4.

**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**

|               |                       |  |
|---------------|-----------------------|--|
| Sunday        | 29 <sup>th</sup>      | Word Day of Refugees & Migrants          |
| OCTOBER       | MONTH                 | of the HOLY ROSARY                       |
|               | WORLD                 | MISSION MONTH                            |
| Tuesday       | 1 <sup>st</sup> Oct   | St Teresa Of the Child Jesus             |
| Wednesday     | 2 <sup>nd</sup>       | Holy Guardian Angels                     |
| Friday        | 4 <sup>th</sup>       | St Francis of Assisi                     |
|               | Adoration             | First Friday of the month                |
| <b>Sunday</b> | <b>6<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>DAYLIGHT SAVING BEGINS</b>            |
|               |                       | 27 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time |

**Children's Liturgy Team Meeting**

We will have a Children's liturgy team meeting **next Sunday 6 October at 10am in the Parish Community Centre.** This is a catchup to have a debrief, discuss any concerns, any new ideas for going forward and Advent. All team members please attend.

*Parents of children are welcome to attend to share any suggestions which they may have.*

**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

**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.**



**WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES  
GOD WALKS WITH HIS PEOPLE**

This day is dedicated to raising awareness of the struggles faced by displaced individuals and to encourage solidarity, compassion, and action from the global community, it also gives us an opportunity to reflect on the Christian responsibility to care for and support those who are forced to flee their homes due to conflict, persecution, or economic hardship. In his message for World Migrant and Refugee Day 2024, Pope Francis draws a powerful parallel between the Church's synodal journey and the experiences of modern migrants.

[MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR THE 110th WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES 2024](#)

**The Presentation Sisters of Victoria** recently commemorated their 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of foundation in Victoria, and to mark this significant milestone, more than 250 people – including Presentation Sisters across the state and interstate, family and friends, staff and students from Star of the Sea College and Presentation Sisters alumni came together at St Mary's Catholic Church St Kilda East.

**Pets Spirituality Day – Janssen Spirituality Centre**

Pet owners are invited to bring their pets and share the significance of owning pets:  
Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> October (1:00pm-4:00)  
Janssen Spirituality Centre 22 Woodvale Rd Boronia  
RSVP: [enquiries@janssencentre.au](mailto:enquiries@janssencentre.au)

**ROSTERS: Mon 30<sup>th</sup> to Sun 5<sup>th</sup> Oct 2024**

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Flowers   | Ann & Connie  |
| Linen     | Laurel S  |
| Welcomers | 6pm Peter G & Wilma H<br>9am Joanna & Thelma<br>11am Anna & Priya |
| Lectors   | 6pm: Louise B<br>9am Terry S<br>11am Phoung B                     |
| Counters  | Bryon M, Ruby S & Guil W  |
| Gardening | Theresa N & Help needed.  |