

FIRST READING

A reading from the first book of the Kings

1 Kings 17:10-16

Elijah the Prophet went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks; addressing her he said, 'Please bring a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please' he said, 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives', she replied, 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel:

"Jar of meal shall not be spent, jug of oil shall not be emptied, before the day when the Lord sends rain on the face of the earth."

The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/. Praise the Lord, my soul!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith forever who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord who sets prisoners free. (R.)

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down.

It is the Lord who loves the just, the Lord who protects the stranger. (R.)

3. The Lord upholds the widow and orphan but thwarts the path of the wicked.

The Lord will reign for ever,

Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews 9:24-28

It is not as though Christ had entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgement, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!
Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs.
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 12:38-44

In his teaching Jesus said, 'Beware of the scribes who like to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market squares, to take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets; these are the men who swallow the property of widows, while making a show of lengthy prayers. The more severe will be the sentence they receive.'

He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called to his disciples and said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

Knox Deanery

19 Forest Road, Ferntree Gully, 3156

Phone: 9758 1029

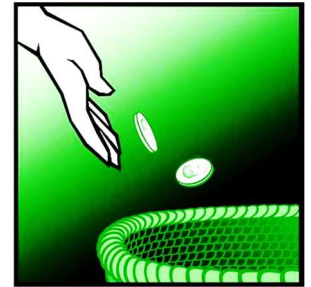
Email: office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au

Website: www.stjohnthebaptist.net.au



**32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B
9th / 10th November 2024 – Year of Prayer**

*Lord Jesus our Saviour and Friend,
Give us grace we pray, not to count the cost.
Help us let go of our coins.
Let us trust Your promises
just as the widow trusted.
We ask that your grace be enough for us,
Through Christ our Lord, Amen.*



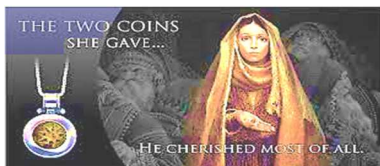
FOCUS ON THE WORD: The first reading and the Gospel today present poor widows who sacrificially gave their whole lives and means of livelihood to God, **symbolizing the supreme sacrifice Jesus would offer by giving His life for others.** In the first reading, taken from the First Book of Kings, a poor widow who has barely enough food for herself and her son welcomes the prophet Elijah as a man of God, offers all her food to him and receives her reward from God in the form of a continuing daily supply of food. In the Gospel, Jesus contrasts the external signs of honor sought by the scribes with **the humble, sacrificial offering of a poor widow and declares that she has found true honor in God's eyes.** The poor widows in both the first reading and the Gospel gave away all that they possessed for the glory of God. The sacrificial self-giving of the widows in the first reading and the Gospel reflects God's love in giving His only Son for us, and Christ's love in sacrificing himself on the cross. So, the second reading tells us how Jesus, as the High Priest of the New Testament, surrendered His life to God His Father totally and unconditionally as a sacrificial offering for our sins – a sacrifice far beyond the sacrifices made by the poor widows.. **Life messages: # 1:** We need to appreciate the widows of our parish: Even in seemingly prosperous societies, widows (and widowers), in addition to their deep grief, often suffer from economic loss, from the burden of rearing a family alone, and from a strange isolation from friends, which often sets in soon after protestations of support at their spouses' funerals. <https://frtonyshomilies.com/blog/>

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 Mon 11th Nov **St Martin of Tours** Tues 12th Nov **St Josaphat**
Fri 15th Nov **St Albert the Great** Sat 16th Nov **St Margaret of Scotland, St Gertrude**

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.

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Yr B
9th /10th November 2024 - Year of Prayer

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently:

Beverly Mackie

Those who we remember at this time:

Juan Sanhueza, Eufronia Oracion; Michael Palandri, Niall Hargreaves, Margaret Cecchin, Patricia McCann, Patricia Danaher, Clorinda Pelusu, Noel Clarke, Ivka Krulijac, Judy Sharp, Elvira Macario.

The sick: Bonnie Hoefer, Sabrina McKeever,, Celia Ellis, Eamon Smith, 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.

SICK LIST: If you are aware that any names on the sick list need to be removed, please contact the Parish Office on 97581029. Thank you.



ROSARY the Rosary will be recited 30 minutes prior to all weekdav Masses in the Church. All welcome to join in the recitation.



CHILDREN' LITURGY is held at the:
6pm Mass Saturday
11am Mass Sunday

SAVE THE DATE: ADVENT WORKSHOP 1st December 2024 from 12pm. Fun crafts for Christmas.



ST. JOHN'S CHARISMATIC PRAYERGROUP Meet each Tuesday Morning at 10.15am for a 10.30am Start. Come and Join us for Praise & Worship, prayer, and interesting guest speakers, followed by a shared lunch.

FRIENDSHIP GATHERING We meet Thurs 10am in the Parish Community Centre. Please come and join us for a Chat, sit and knit or perhaps a game of cards

YOUTH GROUP Friday 8th November 2024, in the Parish Community Centre.

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.

This year we will celebrate **THE MEMORIAL MASS OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED** on Tuesday 19th November at 7.00pm. All are most welcome.



POT-LUCK DINNER - ALL INVITED! To prepare for the Advent season the Youth Group will be hosting a **pot-luck dinner in the Parish Community Centre after 6pm Mass on Saturday Nov 23rd**. All parishioners are welcome to attend and bring a dish to share - savoury or sweet! Please also extend this invitation to any young people who may be interested. **RSVP sheets can be found in the Church foyer**. If you have any questions, please contact Vicente (0420450604, vicente_mm@yahoo.com).

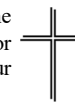


NEW FAMILIES GROUP After a very successful first meeting on the 27th of October, **we would love to extend another invitation** to all families with children of primary school age and below to our next meeting **on Sunday the 24th of November. The meeting will take place at 10am - 11am at the Parish Community Centre**.

Whether your child is 10 or 10 weeks, we hope you'll join us for games, craft and fun.

Any questions, please contact Jacqui and Carlos. jacquiandcarlos@gmail.com or 0427 937 253

NOVEMBER CROSS November is the month of the Holy Souls, where we pray for parishioners, friends, and members of our families, who have gone before us in faith.



Our prayer is that they will live forever with the Lord. As is our custom at St John's, during November you'll have the opportunity to write the names of those you wish to remember on our November Cross. For those who would like to have a Mass offered for deceased relatives and friends, November Offering envelopes are available on the trolleys.

"A CONVERSATION WITH FR CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN, CP ON THE LOST GOSPELS" Thursday 14th November 2024, 5:30pm - 8:30pm at Janssen Spirituality Centre 22 Woodvale Road, Boronia, 3155 Program includes welcome and social gathering, 3-course meal, presentation by Fr Chris, discussion and conversation. Reservation is required, **RSVP by Monday 11th November** to: enquiries@janssencentre.au Suggested donation: \$25 All welcome!

PRISON SUNDAY the 10th November, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Prison Sunday, bringing attention to the plight of prisoners and highlighting the important work of prison chaplains. CatholicCare Victoria's (CCV) Prison Ministry supports thousands of vulnerable, isolated and marginalised people in every prison and correctional centre in Victoria. For many, it is the worst time in their life, and so Prison Chaplains reach out to them, and show that they care. Your compassionate support ensures Chaplains can continue their much-needed work.

<https://www.catholiccarevic.org.au/article/pastoral-care-appeal/>

BAPTISMS Congratulations to **Zaviyan Lobo, son of Rohit & Prahal, Bailey Sheedy, son of Nicholas & Jessica, and Willow & Zac Pfeiffer, children of Glenn & Jessica** who are to be baptised this weekend. The Church of God welcomes you with great joy.



UPDATE: ST JOHN'S TENNIS CLUB SOCIAL DAY more than 35 people turned up - including lots of kids. Phil did a great job with the BBQ and the day was perfect for a hit of tennis. Rob was great at welcoming all of the visitors. **Father Thomas called in and had done a great job publicising our event (as had St John's school and St Joseph's college)**. We had quite a few families come along to see what we had to offer and some have already signed up - they are very welcome!! It was good to have Maureen regale a few stories from her long commitment to the club. Chris and Peter Bluett kept all of the action going on the courts. The grounds, the club house and the courts looked great. **If you missed out**, due to the cup weekend holiday, and are interested in joining the club **please don't hesitate to get in touch with the friendly team: Enquiries:** Maureen Ph 0438 053 343, (Pres) Beth Ph 0423 759 850 or Peter Kenny (Sec) ph 0403 183 272



A REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY will commence on **Sun 10th Nov, at 10.55am at the Knox War Memorial**, preceded by a march starting at the Francis St rotunda at 10.45am at the Tim Neville Arboretum. All welcome.



FRIENDS, THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL will be getting together for our year end dinner on **Thursday 28th November, at 6pm** Venue: **Royal Hotel Upper Ferntree Gully** We would like to invite friends from the parish to join us as we take the time to chat and remember 2024. Kindly please **RSVP to Connie on Tel: 0413 747 685 by Sunday 17th November** as bookings need to be confirmed. Thanking you all.



KNOX COUNCIL YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE Applications are currently open for young people who have a connection to Knox to join our 2025 Youth Advisory Committee. It is a great way to build on your leadership skills and help shape the future for young people in Knox. Expressions of interest close Wednesday 20 November 2024. More Info: Knox City Council

ROSTERS: Mon 11th to Sun 17th Nov 2024	
Flowers	Marg H & Ange C
Linen	Laurel Stephens
Welcomers	6pm Myra N & Wilma H 9am Terry S, Neil & Loraine, Peter C 11am Shamindri & Chamal A
Lectors	6pm: Jan R 9am Gordon V 11am Carolyn S
Counters	Tony B, Steph H, Peter F, Rosina L
Gardening	Carlos E