

## FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Wisdom 18: 6-9

That night had been foretold to our ancestors, so that, once they saw what kind of oaths they had put their trust in, they would joyfully take courage. This was the expectation of your people, the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies; for by the same act with which you took vengeance on our foes you made us glorious by calling us to you. The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in secret and this divine pact they struck with one accord: that the saints would share the same blessings and dangers alike; and forthwith they had begun to chant the hymns of the fathers.

**The Word of the Lord.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R./ Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.*

## SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews  
11:1-2, 8-19

Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commended.

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. By faith he arrived, as a foreigner, in the Promised Land, and lived there as if in a strange country, with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. They lived there in tents while he looked forward to a city founded, designed and built by God.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

**The Word of the Lord.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Be watchful and ready:*

*You know not when the Son of Man is coming.*

*Alleluia!*

## GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke  
12:32-48

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There is no need to be afraid, little flock, for it has pleased your Father to give you the kingdom. 'Sell your possessions and give alms. Get yourselves purses that do not wear out, treasure that will not fail you, in heaven where no thief can reach it and no moth destroy it. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

'See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

Peter said, 'Lord, do you mean this parable for us, or for everyone?' The Lord replied, 'What sort of steward, then, is faithful and wise enough for the master to place him over his household to give them their allowance of food at the proper time? Happy that servant if his master's arrival finds him at this employment. I tell you truly, he will place him over everything he owns. But as for the servant who says to himself, "My master is taking his time coming", and sets about beating the menservants and the maids, and eating and drinking and getting drunk, his master will come on a day he does not expect and at an hour he does not know. The master will cut him off and send him to the same fate as the unfaithful.

'The servant who knows what his master wants, but has not even started to carry out those wishes, will receive very many strokes of the lash. The one who did not know, but deserves to be beaten for what he has done, will receive fewer strokes. When a man has had a great deal given him, a great deal will be demanded of him; when a man has had a great deal given him on trust, even more will be expected of him.'

*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)**



**19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time -Year C**  
**9<sup>th</sup> / 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2025 -Year of Jubilee**

*Faithful God,  
Keep our lamps burning brightly  
and our hearts ever watchful  
for your Son's return,  
that we may open the door  
as soon as he knocks.*

*Grant that one day we may be welcomed  
by him to the eternal banquet.*

*We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen*



**FOCUS ON THE WORD** The central theme of today's readings is the necessity for trusting Faith in God's promises and vigilant preparedness among Christ's followers to meet their God as their Judge and Rewarder, at the time of their death. Fidelity in doing God's will is the best preparation for our death. In the Gospel, Jesus challenges his disciples to trust the Father's promise to give them eternal happiness in His kingdom. But they are to be prepared at all times, because the Son of Man will come at an unexpected hour, either at the moment of their death or at the end of the world, whichever is comes first. Using the master-thief parable, Jesus warns us to be on our guard so that the thief (the devil), may not steal our treasure of Divine grace or our relationship with God by his temptations. Using the master-servant parable, Jesus reminds us always to do the will of God by obeying Jesus' commandment of love and offering humble and sacrificial service to others. **Life message:** We always need to be prepared to meet Our Lord as our judge 20: 1) Let us always remember the words of the Book of Revelation: "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will enter his house and dine with him and he with me" (3:20). Since no one is sure about the time and circumstances of one's death, we must be ever prepared to face Jesus our Lord and Savior as our Judge at the moment of our death to give an account of our lives. Jesus wants to see that we have kept our personal relationship with him by growing in holiness. Such a growth is assisted by daily talking to him and listening to him in Bible reading; by asking for the guidance of the Holy Spirit every day; by recharging our spiritual batteries through offering our lives on the altar and getting spiritual nourishment in Holy Communion during the Holy Mass; by getting reconciled with God every day, asking for His pardon and forgiveness with a repentant heart, and seeking His forgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation for serious sins, and obeying Jesus' command to Love. © Fr Anthony Kadavil <https://frtonyshomilies.com>

**FEAST DAYS** Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Aug **St John Vianney** Mon 11<sup>th</sup> Aug **St Clare** Tues 12<sup>th</sup> Aug **St Jane Frances de Chantal**  
Wed 13<sup>th</sup> Aug **Sts Pontian and Hippolytus**. 14<sup>th</sup> Aug **St Maximilian Kolbe** 15<sup>th</sup> Aug **Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

**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)

*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 10.00am – 4.00pm  
Tuesday 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 9.00am and 11am  
Tuesday No Mass during Fr's Leave. 7.00pm  
Wed Communion Service 9.15am  
Thurs No Mass during Fr's Leave. 9.45 am  
Friday Visiting Priest 11.00 am

**RECONCILIATION:** Saturdays 5.15 pm

**GLENGOLLAN VILLAGE MASS** 1<sup>st</sup>-Friday 2pm  
**WILLOWBROOK MASS** 2<sup>nd</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.

19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Yr C  
9<sup>th</sup> /10<sup>th</sup> August, 2025 Year of Jubilee.

**PRAYING FOR...**

*All who have died recently:*

**Those who we remember at this time:**

Maria Veltri, Janice Motteram, Waldemar Leos, Adriana Warmerdam, Mary Ryan, Mark Grant, Brian Hayman, Joan Lineen.

**The sick,** Bonnie Hoefler, Ann Jayawardena

**ROSARY** is recited prior to Morning Weekday Mass on Wed, Thurs, Friday, in the Church. All welcome to join in the recitation.

**GROUP ROSARY FOR PEACE –**  
When: Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> Sept at 10.30am venue to be advised.  
Contact: Sally 0422048215 Stay for a cuppa afterward

**CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC PRAYER Meet in the Parish Community Centre on TUESDAYS** at 10.15am. There will be Praise and Worship starting at 10.30am, some teaching and a shared lunch from 12pm. All welcome.

**FRIENDSHIP GATHERING** meet in the Parish Community Centre between 9.30am and 12.30pm. Drop in for a chat over a cuppa, join a card game, knit or just sit for a while Come and join us!

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY** operates at the 6pm Saturday and 11am Sunday Masses. returns for term 3 this weekend. We welcome you all back after the break, to share prayers, songs and readings.

**6PM MASS MUSIC MINISTRY** children are invited in our Saturday night Mass come sing with the choir.

**PARENTS AND KIDS GROUP** will follow the 11:00am mass meet at 12pm on 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month., in the Parish Community Centre. Contact Jacqui & Carlos email jacquiandcarlos@gmail.com

**FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION**  
**FRIDAY 15<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 11am Mass**

**St THOMAS MORE PARISH BELGRAVE** is having a FAREWELL MORNING TEA, for Fr Anthony Cruz, as he returns to India, having been elected as the provincial of his order of priests. The morning tea will take place on **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> August** in their Hall after the 9am Mass.

**YOUTH GROUP SESSION** is planned on 15<sup>th</sup> August at 6pm-8pm in the Parish Community Centre. Check the instagram: @sjtb.youth or Email: sjtb youth@gmail.com

**FUNDRAISING COOKBOOK.** Thanks to all who have contributed recipes, we have approximately 80! Well done. Work is now underway to format and publish. Stay tuned! - from the Friendship Gathering.



**IMPORTANT JULY/AUG MASS SCHEDULE CHANGES:** to our weekday Mass availability from **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2025 – 16<sup>th</sup> August 2025:**  
**Tuesday Evening: No Mass**  
**Wednesday 9.15am Communion Service**  
**Thursday No Mass**  
**Friday 11.00am Mass with Salesian Priest**  
**Saturday 6pm Mass with Salesian Priest**  
**Sunday 9am & 11am Mass with Salesian Priest.**

**THE FUNERAL** for the late **Margaret Sainato** will be held at here at St Johns on **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2025.** Viewing 11am, Mass at 11.30pm then on to Springvale Mausoleum.

**THE FUNERAL** for the late **Ada Arnold** will be held here at St Johns, **11am on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2025.** For more information, please Contact Heritage Funerals Wantirna.

**SJB SCHOOL NEWS, REGARDING THE NEW BUILDING.**

Our school principal, Kelli Johnson is extremely excited to announce that the new school building is scheduled to open on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2025. On Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August, Kelli would like to WARMLY WELCOME PARISHIONERS, WHO WOULD LIKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO WALK THROUGH THE BUILDING to take a walk through, between Sunday Masses



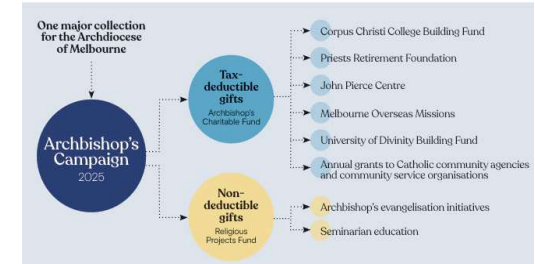
**CARD SALE** The St Vincent de Paul Piety Stall will be having our last sale of donated cards on the weekend of 9<sup>th</sup> /10<sup>th</sup> August. These are from a very generous parishioner and will be only \$2 each. As always, thanks for your support. – Peter & Dawn.

**2026 MATER CHRISTI SENIOR SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN!**

Are you a current Year 9 student with big dreams and a passion for learning? Mater Christi is offering a limited number of scholarships (up to 50% off tuition fees) for students entering Year 10 in 2026 – open to students from Mater Christi and other schools. This three-year scholarship supports students through Year 10, 11 & 12 (VCE) and is awarded to those who have shown: ✨ Outstanding academic achievement and effort ✨ Strong leadership and involvement in school or community life If that sounds like you – APPLY NOW! Applications close **Monday 11 August 2025** Email: [mcc@materchristi.edu.au](mailto:mcc@materchristi.edu.au)



**ARCHBISHOPS CAMPAIGN** The Archbishop's Campaign will begin next weekend. I encourage you to think about what a vibrant faith community means for you and your family and to consider making a personal and recurring monthly gift to support the vital ministries that serve all in our Archdiocese. From next week, you will notice posters and campaign envelopes with tear-off pledge cards around the church,



a banner on our website and images supporting the campaign. More information about this is coming; in the meantime, I encourage you to prayerfully begin discerning your gift. – **Archbishop Peter A Comensoli.**

**ALTAR SERVER TRAINING** for youth will take place on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August at 10am, in the church. Girls and boys are all welcome to attend the training. Youth of all ages from grade 4 upwards who have celebrated their First Holy Communion. New altar servers as well as current servers.

**ENCOUNTER ACYF Edition** Join hundreds of young pilgrims across the Archdiocese of Melbourne for a powerful night of prayer, talks and live. 7pm-9.30pm 9<sup>th</sup> Aug 2025 Cathedral Hall Australian Catholic University, Fitzroy Sign-in commences at 7.00pm. Enquiries: [proclaim@cam.org.au](mailto:proclaim@cam.org.au)

**VIBRANT PARISH SERIES – Service: Beyond the Church Doors** In my own local community, do I love my neighbour. When: 6.30pm –, 9.00pm on Tues 12<sup>th</sup> August 2025, at Mulgrave Country Club Wheelers Hill, Cost: \$15 including refreshments Enquiries: [proclaim@cam.org.au](mailto:proclaim@cam.org.au) or (03) 9926 5761

ROSTERS: Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> Aug - Sun 17 <sup>th</sup> Aug, 2025	
Flowers	Sue N & Lynne K
Linen	Sabrina M
Welcomers	6pm Myra N & Wilma H 9am Terry S, Neil & Loraine, Peter C 11am Priya H & Patrick S
Lectors	6pm Rosina L 9am Terry S 11am Joan R
Counters <sup>h</sup>	George & Genevieve, Bindu
Gardening	Patrick S & Harry R