

## FIRST READING

**A reading from the prophet Amos 6:1, 4-7**

The almighty Lord says this:

Woe to those ensconced so snugly in Zion  
and to those who feel so safe on the mountain  
of Samaria.

Lying on ivory beds  
and sprawling on their divans,  
they dine on lambs from the flock,  
and stall-fattened veal;  
they bawl to the sound of the harp,  
they invent new instruments of music like David,  
they drink wine by the bowlful,  
and use the finest oil for anointing themselves,  
but about the ruin of Joseph they do not care at all.  
That is why they will be the first to be exiled;  
the sprawlers' revelry is over.

**The Word of the Lord.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R./ Praise the Lord, my soul!*

## SECOND READING

**A reading from the first letter of St Paul  
to Timothy 1 Tim 6:11-16**

As a man dedicated to God, you must aim to be  
saintly and religious, filled with faith and love, patient  
and gentle. Fight the good fight of the faith and win  
for yourself the eternal life to which you were called  
when you made your profession and spoke up for the  
truth in front of many witnesses. Now, before God the  
source of all life and before Jesus Christ, who spoke  
up as a witness for the truth in front of Pontius Pilate,  
I put to you the duty of doing all that you have been  
told, with no faults or failures, until the Appearing of  
our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who at the due time will be revealed  
by God, the blessed and only Ruler of all,  
the King of kings and the Lord of lords,  
who alone is immortal,  
whose home is in inaccessible light,  
whom no man has seen and no man is able to see:  
to him be honour and everlasting power. Amen.

**The Word of the Lord.**



**SEASON OF  
CREATION**

## GOSEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor,  
to make you rich out of his poverty*

*Alleluia!*

## GOSEL

**A reading from the holy Gospel according  
to Luke 16:19-31**

Jesus said to the Pharisees: 'There was a rich man who  
used to dress in purple and fine linen and feast  
magnificently every day. And at his gate there lay a poor  
man called Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to  
fill himself with the scraps that fell from the rich man's  
table. Dogs even came and licked his sores. Now the  
poor man died and was carried away by angels to the  
bosom of Abraham. The rich man also died and was  
buried.

'In his torment in Hades he looked up and  
saw Abraham a long way off with Lazarus in his bosom.  
So he cried out, "Father Abraham, pity me and  
send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool  
my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames." "My  
son," Abraham replied "remember that during your life  
good things come your way, just as bad things came the  
way of Lazarus. Now he is being comforted here while  
you are in agony. But that is not all: between us and you  
a great gulf has been fixed, to stop anyone, if he wanted  
to, crossing from our side to yours, and to stop any  
crossing from your side to ours."

'The rich man replied, "Father, I beg you then  
to send Lazarus to my father's house, since I have five  
brothers, to give them warning, so that they do not come  
to this place of torment too." "They have Moses and the  
prophets," said Abraham "let them listen to them." "Ah  
no, father Abraham," said the rich man "but if someone  
comes to them from the dead, they will repent." Then  
Abraham said to him, "If they will not listen either  
to Moses or to the prophets, they will not be convinced  
even if someone should rise from the dead."

**The Gospel of the Lord.**



**ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH**

**Knox Deanery**

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**26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary time -Year C  
27<sup>th</sup>/ 28<sup>th</sup> September 2025 -Year of Jubilee**

*Lord and Master of our lives,  
May we be faithful in serving you  
and wise in using the things,  
You have generously given us.*

*Help us to pause and review our use of earthly resources.  
Detach us from anything  
that draws us away from You.*

*We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen*



**FOCUS on the WORD** The parable of an unnamed rich man and a poor man named Lazarus challenges our globalised world where actions in one country can so directly affect another. Pointedly, the rich man remains as anonymous as he is uncaring. He is a consumer of fine things. He does not seek to harm Lazarus as such; rather, the rich man simply fails to see the other person. Even in Jesus' time the story upended a social focus on the rich few and the unimportant rest. **The world ignores them, but God will not. Lazarus' very name means one God has helped.** In later times, the name's significance endured and framed part of what would now be termed social welfare. 'Lazaretti' and 'lazar houses' were medieval European terms for leper foundations. In these were diseased people, usually very poor, living apart from the wider community. They were often sited beyond the city gate. Now we know of communities in need far beyond our city limits. Many people labour in sweatshops making clothing for rich countries, have their forests destroyed for foreign cups of coffee, and watch the waters lap higher on their islands for the sake of foreign consumer habits. **The question is:** Do we see them and act? © Nick Brodie

## PARISH NEWS

**BIBLE COURSES:** A new initiative for St John the Baptist Parish – A 6 week short course on a book or theme of the Bible to help develop confidence and appreciation of reading the bible: NO previous learning required. Beginning on the 6<sup>th</sup> October, until the 17<sup>th</sup> November. 7pm-8.30pm Contact: Carlo : Email: [Escobar.carlos.juan@gmail.com](mailto:Escobar.carlos.juan@gmail.com)

**SALE IN THE FOYER:** On the 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> of September there will be handcrafted olivewood biblical items for sale. These items are hand crafted in Bethlehem the Holy Land by the Catholic families there. Any purchase will help support the Catholic community in the Holy Land and improve their livelihood and also support maintaining the Holy sites there.

**FIRST FRIDAY MASS** **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 11am.** Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament from 10 am. Please stay for a cup of tea/coffee after Mass.

**FEAST DAYS** Mon 29<sup>th</sup> Sept **Sts Michael, Gabriel, Raphael Archangels** Tues 30<sup>th</sup> Sept **St Jerome**  
Wed 1<sup>st</sup> Oct **St Therese of the Child Jesus.** Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct. **The Holy Guardian Angels**  
Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct **St Francis of Assisi**

**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

**Assistant Priest:**  
Fr Rembert Fernando

Email: rebertfernandomgl@gmail.com

**Deacon:** Rev. Peter Stringfellow  
Email: Peter.Stringfellow@cam.org.au

**FAITH DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATOR**  
Mary Makarucha 9758 1029  
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@siferntreegully.catholic.edu.au  
**St. Joseph's College** 9758 2000  
Principal: Catherine Livingston  
**Mater Christi College** 9754 6611  
Principal: Maria Haggett

**MASS TIMES: ( change coming in October)**  
**Saturday** 6:00 pm  
**Sunday** 9.00am and 11am  
**Tuesday.** 7.00pm  
**Wed** 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** 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.

26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Yr C  
27<sup>th</sup> /28<sup>th</sup> September, 2025 Year of Jubilee.

**PRAYING FOR...**

*All who have died recently:*

*Beverley McNamara*

*Those who we remember at this time:*  
*Frances Wallace, Anna Maria Bimbi, Fame Pelgrim, Genowefa Haeyen, Leonilda Parrella, Pamela Bentham.*

**The Sick:** Annette Scutt, 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.

**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 Thursday 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 We welcome you all 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](mailto:jacquiandcarlos@gmail.com)

**YOUTH GROUP TRIVIA NIGHT** Thanks to everyone who made it to the Youth Group Trivia Night last Saturday! Everyone had lots of fun, and special congratulations to team "Insert Team Name Here" who won some awesome prizes! Also, **special thanks to the Breisch family** for generously donating the prizes. Stay tuned to hear about upcoming Youth Group activities as we prepare for the Australian Catholic Youth Festival later this year. @sjtb.youth or [sjtbvouth@gmail.com](mailto:sjtbvouth@gmail.com)

**DIRECT DEBIT AND CREDIT CARD CONTRIBUTORS**  
If you notice anything unusual on your bank statement related to your pledge to our parish, please contact the parish office promptly. We'll investigate the matter the matter for you."9758 1029 [office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au](mailto:office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au)

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CHURCH CLEANING**  
Dear Parishioners,  
we are still looking for volunteer church cleaners. If you can help, please contact the Parish Office. Thank you for being part of this mission of love and care!

**October: The Month of the Holy Rosary – A Prayer of Peace, Faith, and Hope**

The month of October is traditionally dedicated to the Holy Rosary in the Catholic Church. The Rosary is more than just a set of prayers—it is a spiritual weapon, a meditation on the life of Christ, and a way of drawing closer to Mary, the Mother of God. Here are a few key points on its importance:

**A Prayer of Mary's Intercession:** The Rosary is a Christ-centered prayer prayed with Mary. By meditating on the mysteries, we walk with Mary through the life of Jesus—His birth, ministry, passion, death, and resurrection. Mary always leads us closer to her Son.

**A Weapon of Peace and Protection:** History shows the power of the Rosary. The Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary (October 7) commemorates the victory at the Battle of Lepanto in 1571, attributed to Christians praying the Rosary. It remains a spiritual weapon for peace in our world, in our families, and in our hearts.

**Strengthening Families and Communities:** Saint John Paul II called the family the “domestic Church” and encouraged families to pray the Rosary together. It unites families in prayer and strengthens love and faith at home. As the saying goes, “The family that prays together, stays together.”

**A Pathway to Meditation:** In our busy lives, the Rosary slows us down. It allows us to reflect deeply on God's love, His mysteries, and His plan for us. The repetition is not empty; it helps us rest in God's presence.

**A Call to Conversion and Hope:** At Fatima, Our Lady asked the children to pray the Rosary daily for the conversion of sinners and for peace in the world. Each October, the Church renews this call, inviting us to join in Mary's mission of hope.

October is a special month in the Church, reminding us that the Rosary is more than a Marian devotion—it is a powerful Gospel prayer. Through the Rosary, we walk with Mary as she leads us closer to Jesus, finding peace for our hearts, strength for our faith, and hope for our families and communities. During this month, the Church invites us to rediscover the Rosary as a prayer of faith, hope, and love, asking Mary's intercession for the needs of the Church and the world. By praying it daily or regularly, we deepen our relationship with Christ, grow in trust, and help bring God's peace into our homes and into the world.

In this spirit, **every Saturday in October after the 9:00 am Mass at St Thomas More Parish, Belgrave**, we will gather in front of the Blessed Sacrament to recite **all the mysteries of the Rosary—Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful, and Glorious.** The prayer will take about an hour and thirty minutes.

**At every Mass center, the Rosary will be recited half an hour before Holy Mass on weekdays and weekends in October.** We wholeheartedly invite everyone to join us and experience the beauty of praying the Rosary together, as

we ask for the intercession of our Mother Mary to bring peace to our world and our families.

**FUNERAL MASS** for the late *Beverley McNamara* will be held here at St Johns, 1pm on **Tues 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025.**

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS ON 5<sup>TH</sup> OCT, 2025, be sure to check, so that you don't miss the only Mass at 10.30am**



**Upcoming Changes to Weekend Mass Times**

Please be aware that, beginning the first week of October, there will be changes to the weekend Mass times at St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave, and St. John the Baptist Church, Ferntree Gully.

The new schedule will be:

- Saturday Vigil – Ferntree Gully: 6:00 pm**
- Saturday Vigil – Emerald: 6:00 pm**
- Sunday – Belgrave: 8:30 am**
- Sunday – Gembrook: 9:00 am**
- Sunday – Ferntree Gully: 10:30 am**
- Sunday – Monbulk: 11:00 am**

These changes are being made to better serve our parish community. We sincerely thank you for your understanding and support.

**Our Parish Recipe Book- “From our Table to Yours”** can be ordered for \$20- per copy. \$8- is going to support our parish community. Please purchase your book after weekend masses, at the Parish Office and the School Office. It would make a great Christmas gift!

**DEFIB. SPECIAL COLLECTION** Our application for a defibrillator grant from Knox Council has been successful, and we have received **\$2,500**. However, we still have a shortfall of **\$1,090** in order to purchase two defibrillators, one for our church and one for our community centre. **Today**, we will hold a **special**

**ROSTERS: Mon 29<sup>th</sup> Sept - Sun 5<sup>th</sup> Oct 2025**

Flowers	Ann P & Connie B
Linen	Sue O'H
Welcomers	6pm Myra N & Help wanted 9am Terry S, Joanna C, Thelma B 11am Patrick S & Anna M
Lectors	6pm Rosina L 9am Pamela E 11am Chris G
Counters <sup>b</sup>	Joan R, Peter C, Ruben P
Gardening	Theresa N