

## FIRST READING

### A reading from the book of Exodus 2 Kings 17:8-13

The Amalekites came and attacked Israel at Rephidim. Moses said to Joshua, 'Pick out men for yourself, and tomorrow morning march out to engage Amalek. I, meanwhile, will stand on the hilltop, the staff of God in my hand.' Joshua did as Moses told him and marched out to engage Amalek, while Moses and Aaron and Hur went up to the top of the hill. As long as Moses kept his arms raised, Israel had the advantage; when he let his arms fall, the advantage went to Amalek. But Moses arms grew heavy, so they took a stone and put it under him and on this he sat, Aaron and Hur supporting his arms, one on one side, one on the other; and his arms remained firm till sunset. With the edge of the sword Joshua cut down Amalek and his people.

### The Word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) *Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.*

1. I lift up my eyes to the mountains: from where shall come my help? My help shall come from the Lord who made heaven and earth. (R.)

2. May he never allow you to stumble! Let him sleep not, your guard. No, he sleeps not nor slumbers, Israel's guard. (R.)

3. The Lord is your guard and your shade; at your right side he stands. By day the sun shall not smite you nor the moon in the night. (R.)

4. The Lord will guard you from evil, he will guard your soul. The Lord will guard your going and coming both now and for ever. (R.)

## SECOND READING

### A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy 2 Tim 3:14-23

You must keep to what you have been taught and know to be true; remember who your teachers were, and how, ever since you were a child, you have known the holy scriptures – from these you can learn the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and can profitably be used for teaching, for refuting error, for

guiding people's lives and teaching them to be holy. This is how the man who is dedicated to God becomes fully equipped and ready for any good work. Before God and before Christ Jesus who is to be judge of the living and the dead, I put this duty to you, in the name of his Appearing and of his kingdom: proclaim the message and, welcome or unwelcome, insist on it. Refute falsehood, correct error, call to obedience – but do all with patience and with the intention of teaching.

### The Word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*The word of God is living and active; it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart.*

*Alleluia!*

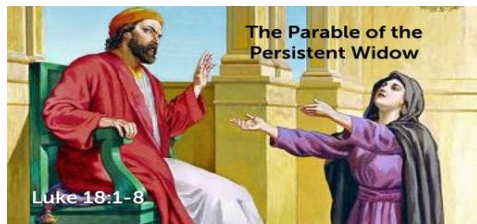
## GOSPEL

### A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 18:1-8

Jesus told his disciples a parable about the need to pray continually and never lose heart. 'There was a judge in a certain town' he said 'who had neither fear of God nor respect for man. In the same town there was a widow who kept on coming to him and saying, "I want justice from you against my enemy!" For a long time he refused, but at last he said to himself, "Maybe I have neither fear of God nor respect for man, but since she keeps pestering me I must give this widow her just rights, or she will persist in coming and worry me to death."'

And the Lord said, 'You notice what the unjust judge has to say? Now will not God see justice done to his chosen who cry to him day and night even when he delays to help them? I promise you, he will see justice done to them, and done speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find any faith on earth?'

### The Gospel of the Lord.



**PARISH LUNCHEON 2025 You're Invited**  
Sun 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2025  
11.30am-2.30pm  
Sign up sheet in the Foyer, or call Parish office.

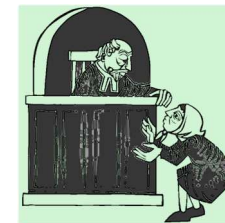


**ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH**  
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**29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary time -Year C**  
**18<sup>th</sup> / 19<sup>th</sup> October 2025 -Year of Jubilee**

*O Lord, tireless guardian of Your people, teach us to rely, day and night, on Your care. Support our prayer, lest we grow weary. Help us to seek Your enduring justice & peace. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen*



**FOCUS on World Mission Sunday** Over one billion Catholics all over the world observe today as *World Mission Sunday*. This annual observance was instituted 98 years ago in 1926 by Pope Pius XI's Papal decree. Every year since then, the universal Church has dedicated the month of October to reflection on, and prayer for, the missions. On *World Mission Sunday*, Catholics gather to celebrate the Eucharist and to contribute to a collection for the work of evangelization around the world. This annual celebration gives us a chance to reflect on the importance of mission work for the life of the Church. It reminds us that we are one with the Church around the world and that we are all committed to carrying on the mission of Christ, however different our situations may be.

**FOCUS on the WORD** In the gospel of Luke, widows represent the lowly of society. **They also are a measure of how the society is travelling.** In the Old Testament, **God commanded the people to care for widows, orphans and strangers.** Widows, in particular, were to be cared for by the whole community. From that point on, the level of compassion within the society could be measured by the care extended to the widows. A number of the prophets point to neglect of the widows as a sign that the community has turned its back on the covenant with God. The gospel of Luke picks up this prophetic tradition and on several occasions uses widows as the key figures in stories or parables.

In this parable, the widow is petitioning her local judge for justice, but the judge fobs her off repeatedly. The widow, knowing that her cause is just, persists and finally wears down the judge. When Jesus tells this parable about the widow and the judge, **he is actually painting a picture about God for his disciples.** This is not to suggest that God needs to be worn down by persistence but rather it is a description of what God is not. If such a wicked and unjust judge can eventually be worn down, how much more quickly will God respond to a just cause? Yet the parable is told to reinforce the need to pray continually. **The continuous prayer is not to wear God down – like the judge – but rather to demonstrate the genuine need.**

**FEAST DAYS** Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct St John Paul II Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct St John of Capistrano  
Fri 24<sup>th</sup> Oct St Anthony Claret

**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 Kuruvila 9758 1029  
Email: thomas@stjohnthebaptist.net.au

**Assistant Priest:**  
Fr Rembert Fernando  
Email: rebertfermandomgl@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**  
Saturday Vigil Emerald and FTG 6:00 pm  
Sunday Belgrave 8.30am FTG 10.30am  
Gembrook 9.00am and Monbulk 11.00am

**Weekday Mass Times**  
Tuesday Belgrave 9am FTG 7.00pm  
Wed Belgrave 9am FTG 9.15am  
Thurs Belgrave 9am FTG 9.15 am  
Friday Belgrave 9am FTG 11.00 am  
Saturday Belgrave 9am Reconciliation Belg 9.45am

**RECONCILIATION:** FTG 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.

29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Yr C  
18<sup>th</sup> /19<sup>th</sup> October, 2025 Year of Jubilee.

**PRAYING FOR...**

*All who have died recently:*

Fr John Prest SDB, Brian Johnson

*Those who we remember at this time:*

Anna Loan & Joseph Phong Tran, Wilma Neville, Giovanni Francesca, Danny Rossi, Mary Kift, Lesina Maio (month mind) Paula Porcaro (month mind)

*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 10.30am 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 meet after the 10.30am Mass Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2025 in the Parish Community Centre. **for games, arts and crafts, and morning tea.** Contact Jacqui & Carlos email [jacquiandcarlos@gmail.com](mailto:jacquiandcarlos@gmail.com) **Come and join us!**

**YOUTH GROUP** The next Youth Group session will be on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> Oct at 6pm in the Parish Community Centre. We invite youth to come and join us.

**BIBLE COURSES** NO previous learning required Running until 17<sup>th</sup> November, 7pm -8.30pm in the Parish Community Centre. All welcome. Contact Carlos

**ROSTERS: Mon 20<sup>th</sup> Oct - Sun 26<sup>th</sup> Oct 2025**

Flowers	Marg H & Judy G
Linen	Sue N
Welcomers	6pm Lia U & Help needed 10.30am Rosa L & Florence J and Shamindri & Chamal A
Lectors	6pm Louise D 10.30am Terry S & Henner C
Counters <sup>h</sup>	George & Genevieve W, Bindu M
Gardening	Roger K & Henner T



**DEAR LECTORS AND EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS,** It is time to start looking at updating the Liturgy roster for December 2025 to March 2026. Given that we have a new combined time for our Sunday mass, 10:30am, it would be best that we refresh our data. I am requesting that lectors and ministers give a new commitment to the ministry by completing the table below.

Please complete the table below with your commitment and return it to me by Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November:

Name	Contact details Mobile/ email	Lector	Extraordinary Minister of Communion	Mass Time 6pm or 10.30am

Please also forward of any times that you are aware of that you will be unable to serve in the months from December to March. Thanking you and sending you blessings. -Mary

**SPECIAL COLLECTION THIS SUNDAY**  
This week, you're invited to partner with the Church in Zambia to help women overcome poverty and mothers give birth safely.

**The Women's Cooperative, led by Sr Jane will provide women with the training and support required to break the cycle of scarcity, and the Chilonga Mission Hospital is determined to ensure every woman and baby receives a safe and dignified start to life.**

During World Mission Sunday, we are called to be 'Missionaries of hope among all peoples', and we invite you to extend Christ's love to those in need in Zambia. You can support this work by using the appeal envelope, going online at [catholicmission.org.au/mission](http://catholicmission.org.au/mission), or scanning the QR code. Your gift will also assist many other Church programs around the world.

**catholic mission** Freecall: 1800 257 296  
[catholicmission.org.au/mission](http://catholicmission.org.au/mission)

**STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES** for those making their stewardship offering via envelopes, you will find your new packet of envelopes in the foyer, near the noticeboard. **Please pop down after Mass to collect them.** And, grateful thanks to everyone who supports our Parish Finances.

**ANTI POVERTY WEEK 2025** St Vincent De Paul—Ferntree Gully Conference—supports this year's Anti- Poverty Campaign by recognising those who are disadvantaged and marginalised in our community and our country: ABUSE; ADDICTIONS; HOMELESS; UNEMPLOYED; MENTAL/ PHYSICAL/ SPIRITUAL HEALTH issues; FAMILY VIOLENCE. SVDP reaches out each day/ week, through our volunteer Conference members, in meeting those companions face to face to support their needs. **We thank you for your ongoing support** through your non perishable food and financial donations. It is very much appreciated. CHRIS MARKWICK - President

**YOUTH GROUP SAUSAGE** Thanks to all who came along to the Youth Group sausage sizzle last weekend! **We raised \$1000.35** from the sausage sizzle and \$2347.20 in total across all 3 fundraising events. Special congratulations to our raffle prize winners! If you are one of the lucky people with any of the following tickets: **Red-A01, Green-C05. We will be in touch soon and will bring your prize to the Mass this Sunday at 10:30am.**

**ADVENT BOOKLET- The Promise** There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer for anyone who would like to order an Advent booklet. Cost: \$6.-each plus postage.

**FUNERAL MASS** for the late *Brian Francis Johnson* will be held here at St Johns, **Thurs 30<sup>th</sup> October 2025, at 11.30am**

**THE COMBINED PARISH RAFFLE IS Still selling. Please support** our Parish Raffle tickets on sale now! \$2 each or \$20 a book. And, if you have already sold your tickets – thank you, **please bring the butt back to be ticked off.** Thank you.



**A Pastoral Letter to the Catholics of Victoria on Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide**

The State Government is seeking to amend Victoria's euthanasia and assisted suicide laws. If passed, the new laws would further weaken protections for vulnerable patients and reduce protections for nurses, doctors and other medical practitioners who conscientiously object. In response, the Bishops of Victoria have written a pastoral letter asking that we contact our local Members of Parliament and urge them to vote against these laws.

You can read the letter online and find out more by scanning the QR code or via: [www.bit.ly/EuthanasiaBill](http://www.bit.ly/EuthanasiaBill).

