

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus Sirach 35:12-14, 16-18

The Lord is a judge
who is no respecter of personages.
He shows no respect of personages to the detriment
of a poor man,
he listens to the plea of the injured party.
He does not ignore the orphan's supplication,
nor the widow's as she pours out her story.
The man who with his whole heart serves God will be
accepted,
his petitions will carry to the clouds.
The humble man's prayer pierces the clouds,
until it arrives he is inconsolable
nor will he desist until the Most High takes notice of
him,
acquits the virtuous and delivers judgement.
And the Lord will not be slow,
nor will he be dilatory on their behalf.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. (R.)
2. The Lord turns his face against the wicked
to destroy their remembrance from the earth.
The just call and the Lord hears
and rescues them in all their distress. (R.)
3. The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;
those whose spirit is crushed he will save.
The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.
Those who hide in him shall not be condemned.
(R.)

SECOND READING

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy 2 Tim 4:6-8, 16-18

My life is already being poured away as a libation,
and the time has come for me to be gone. I have
fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to
the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come
now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me,
which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me
on that Day; and not only to me but to all those who
have longed for his Appearing.

The first time I had to present my defence, there was not
a single witness to support me. Every one of them
deserted me – may they not be held accountable for it.
But the Lord stood by me and gave me power, so that
through me the whole message might be proclaimed for
all the pagans to hear; and so I was rescued from the
lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from all evil
attempts on me, and bring me safely to his heavenly
kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!
God was in Christ, to reconcile
the world to himself;
and the Good News of reconciliation
he has entrusted to us.
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 18:9-14

Jesus spoke the following parable to some people who
prided themselves on being virtuous and despised
everyone else, 'Two men went up to the Temple to pray,
one a Pharisee, the other a tax collector. The Pharisee
stood there and said this prayer to himself, "I thank you,
God, that I am not grasping, unjust, adulterous like the
rest of mankind, and particularly that I am not like this
tax collector here. I fast twice a week; I pay tithes on all I
get." The tax collector stood some distance away, not
daring even to raise his eyes to heaven; but he beat his
breast and said, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner." This
man, I tell you, went home again at rights with God; the
other did not. For everyone who exalts himself will be
humbled, but the man who humbles himself will be
exalted.'?

The Gospel of the Lord.



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH
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30th Sunday in Ordinary time -Year C
25th / 26th October 2025 -Year of Jubilee

Loving God,
You alone can probe the depths of the heart,
hear the prayer of the humble
and justify the repentant sinner.
As we stand before You,
grant us the gift of humility,
that we may see our own sins clearly
and refrain from judging our neighbour.
We ask this, through Christ our Lord. Amen.



FOCUS on YEAR OF JUBILEE In celebration of the Jubilee Year, Our Lady of Pentecost Parish will host a series of monthly pilgrimages at Our Lady of Victories Basilica in Camberwell. These pilgrimages will be held on the first Saturday of each Month until November. **On Saturday 1st November, Prof. Margaret O'Connor AM will present on care at the end of life.**

The structure of each pilgrimage:

- 9.00 am to 9.30 am – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (Individual Confessions in confessional)
- 9.30 am to 10.00 am – Celebration of Eucharist
- 10.00 am to 11.00 am – Pilgrimage presentation
- 11.00 am to 12 noon – Light refreshments – tea/coffee provided

FOCUS on the WORD The proud Pharisee and the humble sinner seem to be opposites, but they can also be seen as complements as well. The proud Pharisee was able to understand the good things about himself. This gave him confidence to pray in thanksgiving for his blessings. It's good to be thankful for blessings, but Jesus would probably say the proud Pharisee took it a bit too far. Why do you think so?

The humble sinner was able to understand the flaws in himself. But still he had the confidence to pray for forgiveness and mercy. It's good to be aware of all your flaws, but a person could take this a bit too far as well. **Do you think Jesus wants us to focus only on our sinfulness, and to be obsessed with being an unworthy, 'second-class' citizen?** Is it possible to have a healthy pride in your talents, as well as a healthy humility in your place on earth as a servant of God? What would that look like? How would you know when you had achieved such a balance? ©St Mary's Press

FEAST DAYS Tues 28th Oct **Sts Simon & Jude** Saturday 1st Nov **Solemnity All Saints**
Sunday 2nd Nov **Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed (All Soul's Day)**

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

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 9754 2141
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@sferntreegully.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 1st Friday 2pm
WILLOWBROOK MASS 2nd 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.

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Yr C
25th /26th October, 2025 Year of Jubilee.

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently:

Those who we remember at this time:

Giovanni Francesca, Danny Rossi, Daisy Sason-Lim, Brigida Mazzone, Teresa Stars, Maria D'Alessio, Dean Platt, Carmela Mazzeo, Umberto Patemoster.

Angelo, Giuseppina, Andy, Federico & Silvia Zarro, Margherita, Damiano, Luigi, Cosimo & Jilda Coviello

The Sick: Bonnie Hoefer, 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 10.30am, some worship, 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 16th November, 2025 in the Parish Community Centre. email jacquiandcarlos@gmail.com Come and join us!

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

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

STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES New sets of Stewardship envelopes are now available for collection in the church foyer. A big thank you to everyone for your generosity in supporting the mission of our Parish. **Please pop down after Mass to collect them.** And, grateful thanks to everyone who supports our Parish Finances.

THE COMBINED PARISH RAFFLE, if you have already sold your tickets – thank you, **please bring the butt back to be ticked off.** Thank you.

ORDINATIONS TO THE DIACONATE please pray for **Dominic Lawes, and Rhys Lowther** who will be giving their life to God, being ordained to the transitional diaconate.

Find out more: <https://melbournecatholic.org/events/ordinations-to-the-diaconate-3>



We would like to thank you for your generosity supporting the Church in Zambia and missionaries like Sr Jane and Kayula.

Thanks to your kindness, women like Sharon will have the skills to provide for their families, and mothers like Grace can give birth with dignity. Your gift will also support a variety of Church programs around the world.

To learn more about the impact your support is making, please visit catholicmission.org.au/our-work. Here, you can also sign up to our regular newsletter to keep up to date with the latest news.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to give, please do so at catholicmission.org.au/mission. Your action will make a profound change on people's lives.

Amount Raised: \$1011.40



Free call: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/mission



ST VINCENT DE PAUL REVITALISATION WEEKEND St Vincent De Paul—Ferntree Gully Conference supports 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. **Perhaps you would like to join us or know a little more about what we do.** Come and see us at the rear of the church after Mass - . Chris Marwick - President

COMBINED PARISH LUNCHEON 2025 You are warmly invited to join our **End of Year Parish Luncheon** — a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our parish community and share a meal together.

Where: FEAST – at the Ferntree Gully Hotel **1130 Burwood Highway, Ferntree Gully (Parking at rear)** All are Welcome!! Let's celebrate our community!

When: Sunday **23rd November 2025**

Time: Lunch served from **11.30am – 2.30pm** (You're welcome to stay and chat until 3pm)

All You Can Eat Buffet

\$ Cost: Adults \$45 | Seniors \$27 | Kids \$19.50 | Children 3 yrs & under – Free. Sign up sheet in Foyer.

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

ADVENT BOOKLET- The Promise The Advent Program is a pocket-sized book that includes daily reflections from the beginning of Advent to the Baptism of the Lord. The book also includes beautiful artwork from the Masters with accompanying artwork reflections.

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

KNITTING ANGELS FOR K.O.G.O please return all items **by October 30th** for the last bag to go to KOGO for 2025. Many thanks from the Friendship Gathering.

THE SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS AND ALL SOULS DAY- MASS TIMES

St Johns FTG Friday 31st October, Vigil Mass at 7pm
St Thomas' Belgrave Saturday 1st November at 9.00am
ALL SOULS Day - All the weekend Masses at all Mass Centres will be celebrated remembering All Souls.
THE MEMORIAL MASS FOR ALL THE FAITHFUL departed from the parish during the past year will be celebrated on **Tuesday, 18th November, at 7.00 pm at St. John the Baptist.** All are most welcome.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE- MELBOURNE CUP DAY Just a reminder that the Parish office will be closed on the Melbourne Cup Public Holiday. Thank you. .

FIRST FRIDAY MASS – Friday 7th November at 11am. Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament from 10 am. Please stay for a cup of tea/coffee after Mass.

UPDATE OF OUR LITURGY ROSTER It is time to start looking at updating the liturgy roster for the next quarter 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 provided at the back of the church. Parishioners who would like to express interest in joining our liturgy roster please complete the information on the back of the church also or send your information to the parish office: marymakarucha@stjohnthebaptist.net.au



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL
Less than 2 weeks till registrations close. Please pray for our Youth preparing for Aust Catholic Youth Festival.

ROSTERS: Mon 27th Oct - Sun 2nd Nov 2025

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| Flowers | Ann P & Connie B |
| Linen | Alvi M |
| Welcomers | 6pm Peter G, Wilma H 10.30am Johanna C, Thelma B Anna M Priya H |
| Lectors | 6pm Alvi M 10.30am Caroline Q & Peter J |
| Counters ^h | Tony B, Stephanie H, Peter F, Rosina L |
| Gardening | Carlos E |