

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Malachi

Ma 3:19-20

The day is coming now, burning like a furnace; and all the arrogant and the evil-doers will be like stubble. The day that is coming is going to burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, leaving them neither root nor stalk. But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness will shine out with healing in its rays.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/. The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice.

SECOND READING

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians *2 Thes 3:7-12*

You know how you are supposed to imitate us: now we were not idle when we were with you, nor did we ever have our meals at anyone's table without paying for them; no, we worked night and day, slaving and straining, so as not to be a burden on any of you. This was not because we had no right to be, but in order to make ourselves an example for you to follow.

We gave you a rule when we were with you: not to let anyone have any food if he refused to do any work. Now we hear that there are some of you who are living in idleness, doing no work themselves but interfering with everyone else's. In the Lord Jesus Christ, we order and call on people of this kind to go on quietly working and earning the food that they eat.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lift up your heads and see; your redemption is near at hand.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke *21:5-19*

When some were talking about the Temple, remarking how it was adorned with fine stonework and votive offerings, Jesus said, 'All these things you are staring at now – the time will come when not a single stone will be left on another: everything will be destroyed.' And they put to him this question: 'Master,' they said, 'when will this happen, then, and what sign will there be that this is about to take place?'

'Take care not to be deceived,' he said, 'because many will come using my name and saying, "I am he" and, "The time is near at hand." Refuse to join them. And when you hear of wars and revolutions, do not be frightened, for this is something that must happen but the end is not soon.' Then he said to them, 'Nation will fight against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes and plagues and famines here and there; there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.

'But before all this happens, men will seize you and persecute you; they will hand you over to the synagogues and to imprisonment, and bring you before kings and governors because of my name – and that will be your opportunity to bear witness. Keep this carefully in mind: you are not to prepare your defence, because I myself shall give you an eloquence and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to resist or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relations and friends; and some of you will be put to death. You will be hated by all men on account of my name, but not a hair of your head will be lost. Your endurance will win you your lives.'

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



33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time -Year C

15th /16th November, 2025 -Year of Jubilee -World day of the Poor.

*Lord God of all the ages,
the One who is, who was, and who is to come,
stir up within us a longing for Your kingdom,
steady our hearts in time of trial,
and grant us patient endurance
until the sun of justice dawns.*

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



FOCUS on YEAR OF JUBILEE This Year of Jubilee in the universal Church calls us to embrace, and be renewed in, the hope of Christ—a hope that does not disappoint. **16th November is Jubilee of the Poor.** The Jubilee of the Poor is an opportunity for us to renew and deepen our commitment to accompany those who are poor in their struggle for justice.

Through our celebration of the Jubilee, we are reminded that poor people are powerful teachers of God's truth.

FOCUS on the WORD This week marks the final week of Ordinary Time in the Church's liturgical calendar and draws us almost to the end of our journey through the gospel of Luke. Next week's reading of the crucifixion concludes the Year of Luke. It is in this context that we need to read today's gospel passage. Jesus and his disciples are gathered around the Temple in Jerusalem in the final days before he is to be put to death. The end is imminent and **Jesus takes the opportunity to reassure the disciples** that, although they are about to experience a period of distress, betrayal and persecution that will stretch well into the future, ultimately, **God's love and mercy will triumph** – not only in their own lives but also in the world. Hollywood has done very well out of movies about the end of the world and the term 'apocalypse' has come to have this meaning. However, **'apocalypse' comes from the Greek word meaning, 'to lift a veil' or 'to reveal'**. The apocalypse is not the end of the world, but rather the revelation that will come at the end of the world. Writings such as today's gospel passage about what will happen at the end of the world and how God will be revealed are described in the Christian tradition as 'apocalyptic writing'. The most famous of these writings is the book of Revelation. © Greg Sunter St Thomas Aquinas teaches us that **hope, along with faith and love, is one of the prongs in the anchor of Christian belief. No matter how stormy are the waters, how much we are tossed and buffeted by life's winds, this anchor keeps us rooted in God until calmer seas return. Hope is about holding on, come what may.** Today's Gospel is not interested in a timetable for disaster. It's about encouraging us to drop the anchor of hope overboard when the times get tough. **May this Eucharist help us to keep choosing to hope until the end of time.** © Richard Leonard SJ

FEAST DAYS Mon 17th Nov **St Elizabeth of Hungary**

Tues 18th Nov **Dedication of Basilicas of Sts Peter and Paul.** Wed 19th Nov **Red Wednesday**

Fri 21st Nov **Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary** Sat 22nd Nov **St Cecilia**

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/responceandprevention

*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@sjferntreegully.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 12.00pm 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

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C
15th /16th November, 2025 Year of Jubilee.
World Day of the Poor – Holy See

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently:

Those who we remember at this time:
Jim Moloney, Thelma Gribble, Jose Puey, Barry Beavis, Clive Royle, Judy Sharp, Elizabeth Dvoracek, Mary Stewart.

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.

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! For fun, craft and fellowship.

YOUTH GROUP Retreat Day in preparation of AYPE will be on Saturday Nov 22nd the Parish Community Centre. 12pm -6pm. **Contact :** Vicente @sjtb.youth or Email: sitbyouth@gmail.com

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. **Where:** FEAST – at the Femtree Gully Hotel 1130 Burwood Highway, Femtree 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) **RSVP by 16th November.**
Please sign up to let us know numbers: ● All You Can Eat Buffet
Cost: Adults \$45 | Seniors \$27 | Kids \$19.50 | Children 3 yrs & under – Free.
Sign up sheet in Foyer.

BIBLE COURSES Running until 17th November, 7pm -8.30pm in the Parish Community Centre. All welcome.



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.

WORLD DAY OF THE POOR – Today is the World Day of the Poor. It offers us an opportunity to renew our solidarity with those who are poor in our own community and across the world. In his message for the World Day of the Poor, Pope Leo XIV reminds us that “the poor are not a distraction for the Church, but our beloved brothers and sisters, for by their lives, their words and their wisdom, they put us in contact with the truth of the Gospel.” The full text of Pope Leo’s message may be found at:

<https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/messages/poor/documents/20250613-messaggio-giornata-poveri.html>

Pope Leo has also issued an Apostolic Exhortation, *Dilexi te* I Have Loved You, which explores in greater depth our relationship with those who are poor. It encourages us to reflect on how we think about those who live in poverty and how we take action to address their plight. *The text of Pope Leo's Dilexi te is at:* https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/apost_exhortations/documents/20251004-dilexi-te.html *The Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development has prepared some resources to assist in the study of Dilexi te:* https://www.humandevlopment.va/en/news/2025/dilexi-te_esortazione_apostolica_di_papa_leone_xiv_sull_amore_verso_i_poveri.html

The US Catholic Bishops Conference has also developed some resources to assist further reflection on Dilexi te: <https://www.usccb.org/dilexi-te#main-content>

ADVENT WORKSHOP *Dear parishioners,* the Children’s Liturgy team will be running an Advent Workshop, the First Sunday of Advent, for all families on **Sunday, 30th November, at 11:30am in the school hall.** Please come along to enjoy activities and refreshments plus a time to chat with fellow parishioners. All Welcome!

REMEMBERING OUR FAITHFUL DEPARTED November is the month of the Holy Souls where we pray for parishioners, friends and members of our families who have died. We pray that they will live forever with the Lord. As is our custom at St John’s, you’re invited to write the names of those you would like remembered on our Memorial Cross. For those who would like to have a Mass offered for their deceased relatives and friends, November offering envelopes are available on the trolleys.

We are delighted to share the wonderful success of the



Archbishop’s Campaign and extend our heartfelt thanks for your generosity and support. Together, parishes across the Archdiocese have raised over \$1.1 million, **including \$1,664,15 contributed by St John the Baptist Parish, Femtree Gully.** These funds will strengthen key mission areas across our Archdiocese, including the Priests Retirement Foundation, the John Pierce Centre, Melbourne Overseas Mission, Corpus Christi College, Catholic Theological College, and the Archbishop’s Evangelisation Initiatives. **Thank you** for your commitment to this important mission and for expressing your faith through your generous response. – *Archbishop Peter Comensoli.*



WEDDING Congratulations to Ryan McNair & Emilly Mattsson who are to be married this weekend.

WORKING BEE We are having a working bee on Saturday 29th November at 9am, Helpers are needed for a tidy up of the Parish Grounds. weeding pruning, sweeping, windows washed, trimming of trees and hedges, help with serving morning tea. Please join us!



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL Learn More at: <https://acyf.org.au/about/> PLEASE PRAY for our Youth preparing for Aust Catholic Youth Festival, and our state, Victoria – hosting this event.



RED NOVEMBER: Pray for persecuted Christians *Aid to the Church in Need* invites all Catholics to remember, pray for and support persecuted Christians throughout **Red November.** Please pray especially for our brothers and sisters in Nigeria, Sudan and the Middle East, where Christians are facing grave danger right now. Watch the official video and download your Red Rosary prayer card by scanning the QR code or visiting www.rednovember.org



CARITAS URGENT APPEAL FOR THE PHILIPPINES **Caritas AND VIETNAM.** A series of compounding AUSTRALIA weather events have struck the Philippines and Vietnam, leaving communities devastated. Many lives have been lost, with people also missing, and thousands displaced. Our partners on the ground are providing urgent support to affected families amid absolute exhaustion. Your support will provide emergency relief and help communities rebuild. Donate via the Caritas webpage: <https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/asia-storms/asia-storms/> Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

ZIMBABWE – HELP NEEDED a community in Zimbabwe that look after disabled families, have a great shortage of water. They depend on bore water but due to drought conditions the bores no longer reach the water table. They need to drill a new bore to go deeper. A “GOFUNDME” page, has been started for the L’Arche organisation. They are affiliated with the Catholic Church and the community in Zimbabwe that supports disabled people. If you would like to help with this project, please go to: <https://gofund.me/046f52bee>. Thank you.

ROSTERS: Mon 17 th Nov - Sun 23 rd Nov 2025	
Flowers	Marg H & Judy G
Linen	Carole D’S
Welcomers	6pm Lia U & Help needed 10.30am Florence, Shamindri & Chamal
Lectors	6pm Gab V 10.30am Peter F & Shami A
Counters	Bryon M, Ruby S, Suil W
Gardening	Carlos E