

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Exodus 19:2-6

From Rephidim the Israelites set out again; and when they reached the wilderness of Sinai, there in the wilderness they pitched their camp; there facing the mountain Israel pitched camp.

Moses then went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, 'Say this to the House of Jacob, declare this to the sons of Israel, "You yourselves have seen what I did with the Egyptians, how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. From this you know that now, if you obey my voice and hold fast to my covenant, you of all the nations shall be my very own, for all the earth is mine. I will count you a kingdom of priests, a consecrated nation.'"

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R./ We are his people:
the sheep of his flock.**

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans
Romans 5:6-11

We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners. Having died to make us righteous, is it likely that he would now fail to save us from God's anger? When we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, we were still enemies; now that we have been reconciled surely we may count on being saved by the life of his Son? Not merely because we have been reconciled but because we are filled with joyful trust in God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have already gained our reconciliation.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
The kingdom of God is near;
repent and believe the Good News!
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
9:36-10:8

When Jesus saw the crowds he felt sorry for them because they were harassed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest.'

He summoned his twelve disciples, and gave them authority over unclean spirits with power to cast them out and to cure all kinds of diseases and sickness.

These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew; James the son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, the one who was to betray him. These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them as follows:

'Do not turn your steps to pagan territory, and do not enter any Samaritan town; go rather to the lost sheep of the House of Israel. And as you go, proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is close at hand. Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out devils. You received without charge, give without charge.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC PARISH

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11th Sunday in Ordinary Time- YR A

13th / 14th June 2026. - Year of St Francis



FOCUS on the WORD: The main theme of today's readings is that **we are commissioned or sent, to transform others with the "Good News"** of God's love, mercy, forgiveness, and salvation through Jesus His Son. **Today's Gospel** is, in effect, a reminder from God to each one of us, saying, "*You have received grace and talents from Me without charge, and so you have to give without charge through your simple, responsible and sharing lives.*" This, indeed, is the core of the priestly vocation and of the vocation of every Christian through his or her Baptism. Today's lesson marks a turning point in the establishment of the Christian Church as presented in the Gospels. Up to this point in the story, Jesus himself was the focus of the healing, teaching, and controversy. **With the commissioning of his disciples, others began to assume some of the responsibility** for the new movement that heralded the kingdom of God. That new movement was destined to grow later, with increasing diversity, as it extended beyond the borders of Galilee, into the Gentile world and became the Universal Christian Church. **The preaching mission:** "*As you go, make this proclamation: 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.'*" **The healing mission:** "*Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, and drive out demons.*"



14. Synodality begins locally



Synodality is lived first in parishes, schools, families, and communities. When people feel heard and valued locally, the Church becomes more credible and more missionary.

The synod assembly will be held across the weekend of 4-6 December 2026, more information is available at melbournecatholic.org/synod2026

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 everyone.** You can find out more about the church's work in this area at: www.catholic.org.au/responseandprevention safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

MEMORIALS/FEASTS Fri 19th June St Romuald, Abbot.
15th June – World Elder Abuse awareness day. & Refugee Week.

*I have come that you may have life and have it to the full
(John 10:10)*

PARISH PRIEST:
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FAITH DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATOR
Mary Makarucha 9758 1029
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PARISH OFFICE: 9758 1029
Monday Tuesday 10.00am-4.00pm
Wednesday to Friday 9.00am-3.00pm
Secretaries: Charmaine Premaratne & Maree Wilson
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PPG CHAIR Carolyn Sombekke
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SCHOOLS:
St John the Baptist 9758 1013
Principal: Kelli Johnston
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St. Joseph's College 9758 2000
Principal: Catherine Livingston
Mater Christi College 9754 6611
Principal: Maria Hagggett

REGULAR MASS TIMES:
Saturday Vigil Emerald and FTG 6:00 pm
Sunday Belgrave 8.30am FTG 10.30 am
Gembrook 9am Monbulk 11.00am
Tuesday Belgrave 9am FTG 7:00pm
Wednesday Belgrave 9am FTG 9.15am
& Thurs Belgrave 9am FTG 9.15am
Friday Belgrave 9am FTG 11.00 am
RECONCILIATION: Saturdays 5.15 pm

GLENGOLLAN VILLAGE MASS 1st Friday 2pm
WILLOWBROOK MASS 2nd Thursday 11am

BAPTISMS: are celebrated either during the weekend Masses on the second Sunday at any of the Mass centres, or at 12:00 pm on the second Sunday of the month at St John's, Ferntree Gully. A six weeks' notice is required. Please refer to our Guidelines for Infant Baptism on the Parish website. Contact the Parish Office on 97581029 or via email at marymakarucha@stjohnthebaptist.net.au.

WEDDINGS: By appointment, 6 months' notice required. Saturdays or weekdays (not Sundays). Contact the Parish Office: on 9758 1029.

PROCLAIM DAY TWO: Sat 27th June 2026-For All – whether clergy, lay leader, or someone interested in sharing the Good News. Cost : \$30 per person per day, or 2 day ticket \$50 Ticket includes lunch, refreshments, access to the keynote sessions and workshops. Find out more [Proclaim26 | Melbourne Catholic](https://www.melbourne.catholic.org.au/proclaim26) REGISTER NOW!

11th Sunday in Ordinary - Yr A
13th / 14th June, 2026 - Year of St Francis

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently:

Those who we remember at this time

Antonietta & Giovanni Sartori, Giuseppe Cecchin, Giuseppe Petracca, Carmela DiDonato, David Ritchie, Sheila Thompson, Anne Yeo, Donald Alexander.

The sick: Angela Lorusso, Rosa Lisle, Lyle & Bonnie Hoefler, Barbara Kenny.

ROSARY the Rosary will be recited 30 minutes prior to all weekday Masses in the Church. All welcome to join in.

GROUP ROSARY SESSION FOR PEACE

When: **First Saturday of the Month** Please contact Joan Ryan on 0408 411 096 for details.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY Our children's liturgy sessions are held in the room at the rear of the church.

ST. JOHN'S CHARISMATIC PRAYER on Tuesday Mornings in the Parish Community Centre , 10.15am for a 10.30am start. All welcome

FRIENDSHIP GATHERING Come and join us each Thurs Morning at 10am in the Parish Community Centre for a chat, a game of cards, may just a cuppa and to sit and knit. All welcome.

PARENTS AND KIDS GROUP will meet after the 10.30am Mass **Every First & Third Sunday of the Month** in the Parish Community Centre. Email jacquiandcarlos@gmail.com.

YOUTH GROUP Please dm us on Instagram @sjtb.youth or email us at sjbyouth@gmail.com if you would like to know more or if you have any questions

St. Francis of Assisi SHOWCASE
For the Franciscan Jubilee Year, COG Theatre is seeking more performers, technicians and administrators to help host a musical showcase celebrating the life of St. Francis of Assisi. Auditions, interviews are still open, please Contact cogtheatre@group@gmail.com OR 0413 398 528 to get involved!

ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY 15th JUNE 2026
Recognised by The U.N. General Assembly and celebrated annually, it asks communities to stand together against the abuse, mistreatment, and neglect of older people. "Ageism impacts how society perceives the worth of an older person, and can lead to their abuse and mistreatment," said CEO of Seniors Rights Victoria and COTA Victoria, Ben Rogers. "Therefore, Beyond Age is crucial as we work towards a safer and more inclusive society for older people, and directly combat ageism as one of the significant drivers of elder abuse." **Together, we can stop elder abuse.**

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY CONFERENCE OF FERNTREE GULLY ANNUAL SACRED HEART WINTER APPEAL 2026 Our conference has worked throughout the year each day responding selflessly to the many instances of disadvantaged people in our area. We have supported many companions who have had the following experiences: UNEMPLOYMENT. DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE, MENTAL / PHYSICAL / EMOTIONAL ABUSE, HOMELESSNESS, FAMILY VIOLENCE.

On behalf of the conference, we invite you to support our Winter Appeal by:

- Donating a variety of non-perishable food/toiletries for our weekly food hampers
- Making generous financial donations through our **SPECIAL COLLECTION APPEAL on Saturday 13th June 6p.m. and Sunday 14th June at 10.30a.m.**
- Volunteering your time in our Op Shop (1821 Ferntree Gully Road)
- Donating household items to the Op Shop (1821 Ferntree Gully Road)

YOU CAN DONATE NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS IN BASKETS AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH. Thank you very much for your generous support.

SACRAMENTAL CLASSES FOR FIRST EUCHARIST 2026 Dear Parishioners, the Sacramental

classes for children who do not attend catholic schools and are ready to make their First Eucharist, will begin in July. If you have a child who is in grade 4 or upwards and has made their First Reconciliation, please contact Mary via email at: marymakarucha@stjohnthebaptist.net.au or Phone 9758 1029.

PARISH FEAST OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST Celebrated on Sunday 28th June at 10:30am mass.

EVERYONE IS INVITED! Refreshments will follow in the School Hall. A sign up sheet is at the back of the church, your support would be appreciated! Please join in on this day of our Patron Saint!

EXPLORING STUDY IN THEOLOGY, PHILOSOPHY SPIRITUALITY, PASTORAL & SPIRITUAL CARE, MINISTRY AND COUNSELLING? Join CTC's online information session on Monday 15 June 2026 at 7pm and discover the pathway that is right for you. [Click here](https://www.ctc.edu.au/news-and-events/information-sessions) to register. **Information Sessions – Catholic Theological College** [ctc.edu.au/news-and-events/information-sessions](https://www.ctc.edu.au/news-and-events/information-sessions).

BAPTISMS Congratulations to *Hadley Armstrong*, daughter of Dylan & Taylah, *Milla & Evie Pratt-Linnell* daughters of Glynn & Kelly, *Hudson Genio* son of Phillip & Emily who are to be baptised this weekend. The Church of God welcomes you with great joy.

St Johns Tennis Club
Closing

St John's Tennis Club, opened by Fr Bill Bainbridge on 15th April 1986 has welcomed hundreds of families over the past 40years – for competition, coaching, friendship and social tennis. We are deeply grateful to the Parish Community for its support throughout this time.

As the Club prepares to close and the land transitions to St Joseph's College for future use, all past and present members, parishioners, and friends are warmly invited to a **FINAL BBQ at the courts Sunday 28 June 2026 at 12.30pm** Food and drinks will be provided. Everyone is welcome.

CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION Stepping out boldly More than 5,000 Catholics gathered in Melbourne last Sunday for the annual public witness to faith. Archbishop Peter A Comensoli said, the procession was a way to carry Christ into places marked by struggle

and need. "We carry the Blessed Eucharist through the streets, because Christ desires to enter every heart and every place, especially those marked by anxiety, suffering and the wounds that we carry," he said. He also urged the faithful to see the procession as a public act of hope: "Come, let us witness publicly to the hope that brings healing and life." <https://www.melbourne.catholic.org/news/jov-fills-the-hearts-of-thousands-at-corpus-christi-procession>

ROSTERS: Mon 15 th to Sun 21 st June 2026	
Flowers	Sue N, Lynne K
Linen	Sue N
Welcomers	6.00 pm Myra N, Wilma H 10.30am Terry S, Peter C, Priya H
Lectors	6.00pm Rosina L 10.30am Terry S
Counters	George & Genevieve W, Bindu M, Connie
Gardening	Roger K & Henner T