

## FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah 20:10-13

Jeremiah said:

‘I hear so many disparaging me,

“Terror from every side!

Denounce him! Let us denounce him!”

All those who used to be my friends

watched for my downfall,

“Perhaps he will be seduced into error.

Then we will master him

and take our revenge!”

But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero;

my opponents will stumble, mastered,

confounded by their failure;

everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be

theirs.

But you, Lord of Hosts, you who probe with

justice, who scrutinise the loins and heart,

let me see the vengeance you will take on

them, for I have committed my cause to you.

Sing to the Lord, praise the Lord,

for he has delivered the soul of the needy

from the hands of evil men.’

**The Word of the Lord.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R./** Lord, in your great love, answer me.

## SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 5:12-15

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of ‘law-breaking’, yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man’s fall so many

died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

**The Word of the Lord.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of Truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord, and you also will be my witnesses.

Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 10:26-33

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: ‘Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the house-tops.

‘Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.

‘So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.’

**The Gospel of the Lord.**



# ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC PARISH

19 Forest Road, Ferntree Gully, 3156

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**12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time- YRA**

**20<sup>th</sup> / 21<sup>st</sup> June 2026. - Year of St Francis**

**FOCUS on the WORD:** ‘Do not be afraid’ is one of the most commonly

repeated sentences in the Bible. In one form or another, the command to ‘**be not afraid**’ or ‘**fear not**’ appears several hundred times throughout the Old and New Testaments.

Today’s gospel passage is part of the sending out of the Twelve that occupies all of Chapter

10 in the gospel. It follows a little later in the chapter from last week’s

reading in which Jesus called the Twelve and sent them out as

Apostles. The remainder of the chapter provides an extended **teaching**

**on what it means and what it costs to take the message of Jesus**

**out** into the world. Jesus teaches the Twelve that the message they

bear will not always be well received and there will be those who will

seek to silence the Apostles through violent means. But then the teaching comes to the

section of today’s passage and Jesus commands the Twelve, ‘Do not be afraid’. The

message to not be afraid is as much for the original intended audience of the gospel as it was

for the apostles. The community for whom this gospel was written were on the verge of

being ‘squeezed out’ and forced into secret. The passage reminds them to have courage and

to have the courage of their convictions; to shout from the housetops their message, not

whisper it in darkness. It is a reminder of the abundant love of God who cares for them and

sees all their efforts to continue to live out the message and ministry of Jesus. It is equally a

message for us, today. We are called to continue the spread of the gospel message;

continuing the work of those early Christian communities, the Twelve and Jesus himself.



## **15. A listening Church is a credible Church**

In a world where many feel ignored or dismissed, a Church that listens becomes a sign of hope. Synodality teaches us that listening can heal wounds and rebuild trust. The synod assembly will be held across the weekend of 4-6 December 2026, more information is available at [melbournecatholic.org/synod2026](http://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](http://www.catholic.org.au/responseandprevention) safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility.

**MEMORIALS/FEASTS** Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> June Sts John Fisher & Thomas More, Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> St Paulinus of Nola

Wed 24<sup>th</sup> June the Nativity of St John the Baptist.

Sat 27<sup>th</sup> June – St Cyril of Alexandria.

*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  
Tuesdays and Wednesdays. 10.00am -2.00pm  
Email: [marymakarucha@stjohnthebaptist.net.au](mailto:marymakarucha@stjohnthebaptist.net.au)

**PARISH OFFICE:** 9758 1029  
Monday Tuesday 10.00am-4.00pm  
Wednesday to Friday 9.00am -3.00pm  
**Secretaries:** Charmaine Premaratne & Maree Wilson  
**Accountant:** Bernard Negline  
Email: [office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au](mailto:office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au)  
**PPG CHAIR** Carolyn Sombekke  
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**SCHOOLS:**  
**St John the Baptist** 9758 1013  
Principal: Kelli Johnston  
Email: [kjohnston@sjferntreegully.catholic.edu.au](mailto:kjohnston@sjferntreegully.catholic.edu.au)  
**St. Joseph's College** 9758 2000  
Principal: Catherine Livingston  
**Mater Christi College** 9754 6611  
Principal: Maria Haggett

**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** 1<sup>st</sup> Friday 2pm  
**WILLOWBROOK MASS** 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday 11am

**BAPTISMS:** are celebrated either during the weekend Masses on the second Sunday at any of the Mass centers, 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](mailto:marymakarucha@stjohnthebaptist.net.au).

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

**PROCLAIM26** Workshops to make renewal real. On Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2026 **How can we bring young people into a life of discipleship? How do we respond when people reach out looking to know more about faith? What does parish renewal actually look like? Register NOW** [Proclaim26 | Melbourne Catholic](http://Proclaim26 | Melbourne Catholic)

12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary - Yr A  
20<sup>th</sup> / 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2026 - Year of St Francis

**PRAYING FOR...**

**All who have died recently:**

**Those who we remember at this time**

Noreen Royle, William Rodgers, Amparo M.Judit. Luigi Albicini, Lucia Abbatangelo, Angelo Mazzone, Salvatore Lo Giudice.

**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' 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](mailto:jacquiandcarlos@gmail.com).

**YOUTH GROUP** Please dm us on Instagram @sjtb.youth or email us at [sjtb youth@gmail.com](mailto:sjtb youth@gmail.com) if you would like to know more or if you have any questions

**CELEBRATING REFUGEE WEEK** This year marks the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Refugee week, and the more than one million permanent humanitarian visas issued by Australia since World War II. This year's theme, "A Million Stories," highlights the human experience behind the staggering statistic and celebrates those whose presence has fundamentally reshaped Australian Society. Read [more here](http://more here) at the Melbourne Catholic News website.



**ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY- FERNTREE GULLY CONFERENCE - SACRED HEART WINTER APPEAL 2026--- THANK YOU** The Society of St. Vincent de Paul- Femtree Gully Conference-would like to thank all of our parishioners for your tremendous support for our ongoing work in assisting the disadvantaged in our parish area. Thank you for items of non-perishable food for distribution to our families. Our Appeal continued to raise the awareness of our varied work for the those who are experiencing hardship. We are pleased to inform you that all non -perishable food and gift cards that you donated has been used directly to support the needy in our parish area. Thanks to Fr. Thomas/ Fr Peter--and each one of you who supports our unique charity in so many ways.

**The amount** contributed by the Parish Appeal: **\$1340.65** Please remember that a basket is always available at the doors of church for any ongoing non- perishable food donations. The PIETY STORE is available each Sunday at each mass for your personal religious purchases. Monies from the sale of items at the Piety Store further supports the work of St Vincent De Paul.

We are always delighted to welcome more volunteers to continue this vital work in supporting our neighbor. Our Vinnies Op Shop is open for your donations at: Unit 7/ 1821 Femtree Gully Road.

**ST VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY**  
**Ferntree Gully Conference**

**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](mailto:marymakarucha@stjohnthebaptist.net.au) or Phone 9758 1029.

**SAVE THE DATE:** for our St John's Parish Social Lunch **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October, 2026 from 12pm -4pm.** More details to follow... Fun for Everyone!



**St Johns Tennis Club**  
**Closing**

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.

**CALLING ALL KNITTERS** for K.O.G.O (Knit one Give One) charity. **There will be a table of wools for you to take and knit or crochet,** and return as a warm item for someone in need. Please take a look in the church foyer before or after Mass this weekend, or chat to one of the friendly Friendship Gathering group who will help you.



**PARISH FEAST OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST** Celebrated on **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> 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!

...And Belgrave Parish has a special feast day too, All welcome.

**PARISH OF ST. THOMAS MORE FEAST DAY CELEBRATION**  
MASS: SUNDAY 21<sup>st</sup> JUNE  
**FEAST DAY MASS at 10:00 AM**  
followed by **COMMUNITY REFRESHMENTS**  
ALL ARE WELCOME  
ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH

**ROSTERS: Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> to Sun 28<sup>th</sup> June 2026**

Flowers	Genevieve W & Tess D'L
Linen	Alvi M
Welcomers	6.00 pm Lia U & Kathryn C 10.30am Florence J, Shami & Chamal A
Lectors	6.00pm Tess D 10.30am Shami A
Counters	Tony B, Steph H, Peter F, Rosina L
Gardening	Roger K & Henner T

**CDF** Help fund projects across Catholic organisations, including parishes, hospital wings and classrooms, with a CDF Community Fund savings account.

With competitive interest rates, it's a greater reward than money alone.

Visit [www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund](http://www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund) or call our team on 1800 134 135 for more information