

FIRST READING

*A reading from the book of Wisdom
12:13, 16-19*

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly. Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you expose the insolence of those who know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, you govern us with great lenience, for you have only to will, and your power is there. By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R./ Lord, you are good and forgiving.

SECOND READING

*A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans
8:26-27*

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father,
Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones
the mysteries of the kingdom.
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
13:24-30*

Jesus put another parable before the crowds: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

Knox Deanery

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SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A

22nd / 23rd July, 2017

*God of gentleness and power,
to build the reign of heaven
You work through ordinary people.
Use us as Your helpers.
Though we are vulnerable,
You fill us with Your strength.
Listen to our prayer which we make
through Christ, our Lord. Amen.*



FOCUS ON THE READINGS

In this week's Gospel, Jesus compares the kingdom to the sowing of the good seed. However, the darnel that is sown by the enemy, whilst growing next to the stalk of wheat, cannot be distinguished from the real wheat. It will not be until near the time of harvest, when the wheat comes into ear or sprouts its fruit, that the discernment of which of the two offers real grain, will be revealed.

This parable encourage us to see beyond the present and to know that what can and will be is already here in small, hidden ways. The reign of God is already among us.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Tuesday 25th July St James, Apostle
Wednesday 26th July Saints Joachim & Anne – parents of Mary
Saturday 29th July St Martha

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

PARISH PRIEST:
Fr Alan Fox 9758 1029
Email: Alan.Fox@cam.org.au

DEACON:
Rev. Peter Stringfellow 9758 1029
Email: Peter.Stringfellow@cam.org.au

FAITH DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATOR
Carolyn Sombekke 9758 1029
Email: csombekkesjb@gmail.com

PARISH OFFICE: 9758 1029
Monday to Friday 9am – 3pm
Secretaries: Carol Leatham, Carole D'Souza
Accountant: Sara Luk
Email: office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au

SCHOOLS:
St John the Baptist 9758 1013
Principal: Catherine Mason

St. Joseph's College 9758 2000
Principal: Catherine Livingston

Mater Christi College 9754 6611
Principal: Mary Fitz-Gerald

MASS TIMES:
Saturday 6:00 pm
Sunday 9:00 am, 11:00 am
Tuesday 7.00 pm
Wednesday & Thursday 9.15 am
Friday 11.00 am

RECONCILIATION: Saturdays at 5.15 pm

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 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.

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A
22nd / 23rd July, 2017

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently:
Palma Kaali-Nagy, Marie Hume



We remember the anniversaries of:
Adriana Bekkers, Jack Turner, Clara Coviello,
Private Benjamin Ranaldo and Federico Ranaldo

The sick – Denis Buckley, Therese Edmunds, Keith Scutt, Peter Commons, Wilma Neville, Mary Brimelow, Steve Reid, Ron Prince, Patricia Quinn, Charles Kelly, Bonnie Williams, Kathleen Hatton, Edward Kitain, Scott Warner, Grace Gamley, Lilian Luiyf, Kayden McDevitt, David Merton, Rosa Jones, Peter Mitchell, Jemma Du Buisson Perrine, Lisa Whittaker, Brock McAvaney, Beryl Turner, Bernard Guerin, Michael Byrne, Ann Jayawardena, Mary Edmunds, Anabelyn Malabed, Fran Middlebrook, Miep Wirth, Ethel Arrowsmith, Eillien Patrick, Brendan Kearns, Elsie Johnson, Jill Neville, Maria Iaconis, Bev McNamara, Anthony McNamara, Victoria Lewis, Nicole Moore, Peter Fairhurst, Hans Whitaker, Edward Osborne, Charles Gatt, Allida Serafin, Barbara Kenny, Clive Geach.

GROUP ROSARY SESSION FOR PEACE

Date: *Saturday, 5th August, at 10.30 am*
Venue: 37 Lane Road, FTG. All are welcome.
Contact: Pauline Barlow on 9758 5106.


CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP: We meet *every Tuesday at 10.05 am* in the Parish Hall for praise and worship, inspiring teaching and prayer ministry. All are warmly welcome. Enquiries: Tineke 9763 1096, Judy 9752 2986 or Andrew 9755 2443.

MOTHERS' PRAYER GROUP: Come and join with mothers, grandmothers, spiritual mothers and godmothers, to pray together on *Tuesdays from 9 am to 10 am* during school term in the Parish Centre. For enquiries, contact the office.

FRIENDSHIP GATHERING: Everyone welcome on Thursdays between 10am and 1pm for a chat over a cuppa, join a card game, knit or just sit for a while.

PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH APPEAL is being held this weekend. We thank you for your ongoing support for Catholic Mission.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP An annual statement for all contributors to our Parish Stewardship Program is available for collection in the foyer. Thank you for your ongoing generous support.

FAITH SEEKING UNDERSTANDING:
 Reflection entitled "You watch my back & I'll watch yours" by Carolyn is on the trollies for you to take home.

FUNERAL MASS – The Funeral Mass for the late Palma Kaali-Nagy will be celebrated here at St John's this coming Tuesday, 25th July at 11.30am.

ST LUKE'S PARISH invites you to a Dinner Dance on Friday 18th August, 7.30pm at the Hungarian Community Centre, Boronia Road, Wantirna. A fully catered 2 course meal \$35 per head BYO drinks. Details from Chris Williams on 0415 747 003 or at: www.saintlukeswantirna.net

KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS invite members, parishioners and all others to celebrate the feast day of the Order's Patron, St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday 8th August at St Clare's Parish, 1 Killara Street, Box Hill North, at 11am. Light refreshments will be served after Mass in the community centre. For further information contact Peter Finn on 9758 2275 or Brian Philp on 9758 7805.

THE DOMINICAN FRIARS invite young men (17-36) to a vocations discernment day to be held at St Dominic's Church, Riversdale Road, Camberwell on Saturday 29th July at 9am-4pm. The day will include Eucharistic adoration as well as half hourly talks on various topics, a tour of the church/priory and lunch. No cost but please RSVP to Fr Thomas Azzi OP by 25th July via email: vocations@op.org.au

FAMILY CARE SISTERS WHOLISTIC CENTRE in 69 Alto Ave Croydon are showing a film on Wednesday 15th August, 9.50am-3pm. BYO lunch, tea/coffee and morning tea provided. The film is about a man who is shipwrecked on an island and must face challenges of nature and survival. Cost \$25 for bookings phone 9723 6797.

MARY MACKILLOP CENTRE OPEN DAY on Saturday, 5th August from 10am-4pm. Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre, 362 Albert Street, East Melbourne. A local 'walking tour' will take place at 11am to visit Mary's birth place. Everyone is welcome. Details: 9926 9300.

Mass for the Feast of Mary of the Cross will be celebrated in the chapel where she prayed on Tuesday 8th August at 12.30pm.

ST IGNATIUS CHURCH, 326 Church Street Richmond is celebrating 150 years on Sunday 30th July. All past parishioners are invited to the special Mass at 9.30am.

ROMAN RITE CATHOLIC MASS IN ARABIC: On Friday 11th August and on the second Friday of each month at 6pm at St Ambrose's Church, 287 Sydney Road Brunswick. Prayers for peace in the Middle East are an integral part of these services. The liturgy is displayed in both languages in the church.

COG (Call of Guadalupe) THEATRE produces entertaining and inspiring musicals and this year they will be performing in **MAGDALENE: A WANTON SAINT** at the Renaissance Theatre, East Kew on October 4-7. If you are interested in being involved in either behind-the-scenes, on-stage, or in the chorus, please contact Geraldine Lee on 0413 398 518 or via email: geraldine343@gmail.com

FATIMA MAGAZINE celebrating 100 years of Fatima, is now available. Phone 02 9390 5411 or email: william.hill@catholicweekly.com.au

ROSTERS: Monday 24th July to Sunday 31st July 2017	
Flowers	Ann, Connie
Altar Servers	6pm: Kiara, Nicholas
Linen	Sue N
Welcomers	6pm: Sue N, Anna 9am: Rosa, Terry, Laurel 11am: Gina, Pat
Lectors	6pm: Louise 9am: Caroline Q 11am: Stephanie
Counters	Tony, Sasty
Gardeners	Michael