

## FIRST READING

*A reading from the prophet Isaiah*  
56:1,6-7

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest. Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

*The Word of the Lord.*

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R./ O God, let all the nations  
praise you!*

## SECOND READING

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans*  
11:13-15, 29-32

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice. Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

*The Word of the Lord.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
Jesus preached the Good News  
of the kingdom,  
and healed all who were sick.  
Alleluia!*

## GOSPEL

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew*  
15:21-28

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

*Take a break from all  
the chaos of life and  
spend time alone with  
Jesus today. You will  
find peace, strength  
and hope when you  
leave your burdens at  
His feet.*



## **ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH**

**Knox Deanery**

**19 Forest Road, Ferntree Gully, 3156**

**Phone: 9758 1029 Fax: 9758 9234**

**Email: office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au**

**Website: www.stjohnthebaptist.net.au**

## **TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A**

**19<sup>th</sup> / 20<sup>th</sup> August, 2017**

*God of the nations,  
to Your table all are invited  
and in Your family  
no one is a stranger.  
Satisfy the hunger of all who  
gather in this house of prayer,  
and mercifully extend to all  
peoples of the earth,  
the joy of Your salvation.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.*



## FOCUS ON THE READINGS

Our readings focus mainly on the universality of God's church. The reading from Isaiah tells us that the day is coming when people from every nation will come to praise and worship God. For God, this equality, this unity, is a matter of justice. The people are commanded to act in the same way.

This prophecy from Isaiah is clearly realized in Jesus and especially in today's Gospel. The point of the story is that a Canaanite woman – a foreigner, a non-Jew – shows faith in Jesus and is welcomed by him her faith is an act of praise, for which Jesus praises her!

## FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

*Monday 21<sup>st</sup> August*

*St Pius X, Pope*

*Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> August*

*The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

*Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> August*

*St Bartholomew the Apostle*

***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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A**  
**19<sup>th</sup> / 20<sup>th</sup> August, 2017**

**PRAYING FOR...**

*All who have died recently:*  
Eddie Barry



*We remember the anniversaries of:*  
Albert Boyd, Rosemary Cameron, Margarete Felicetti, Mary Gannan, Caterina Mazzone, Yvonne Petrova.

*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, 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 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 10.15 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.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Fr Alan who is celebrating the 23<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood this weekend. We ask God to continue to bless his priestly ministry among us. As a Parish community we thank him for his leadership over the last 12 years. Please stay for a cuppa after Mass to celebrate Fr Alan's Anniversary.

**NO MASS - WEDNESDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST.** All clergy of the Archdiocese are to attend a compulsory briefing this coming Wednesday. As a consequence there will be no 9.15am Mass.

**FAMILY GROUPS ANNIVERSARY MASS** this weekend at 11am Mass – Passionist Family Groups were established at St John's 29 years ago, with the aim of building, within our community, an extended family atmosphere, enabling support for one another. For further information please contact John & Sue O'Halloran on 9758 2902.


**AUSTRALIAN MARRIAGE LAW POSTAL SURVEY** – Archbishop Denis Hart and the Australian Bishops, wish to remind parishioners eligible to be on the electoral roll, who have not as yet enrolled, to do so before the closing date of Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> August. This way, the minds of as many Catholics as possible will be reflected in the upcoming survey. Survey info: [aec.gov.au/](http://aec.gov.au/)

**CATHOLICCARE APPEAL** Last weekend the total collection amounted to **\$1,936.35**. A big thank you for your ongoing generosity.

**KNOX DEANERY** cordially invites you to attend the General Deanery Gathering on Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> September, from 7.30 - 9.15pm at St Joseph's Parish Hall, Boronia Road, Boronia. The guest speaker is Fr Lawrence Nemer SVD. Fr Larry's field of specialisation is Mission History, especially the 19<sup>th</sup> Century Missionary Movement from Europe. Cuppa provided afterwards.

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING & SLAVERY** Talk given by Sr Claire Griffin CSB, on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August from 2.00-3.30pm at St Clare's Church, 138 Woodhouse Gr, Box Hill North. Booking 9890 2231.

**AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS MAGAZINE** (Spring Edition) is available in the church foyer.

**BAPTISMS** – We congratulate **Tristan James Hadden** who will be baptised this weekend. 

*The Church of God welcomes you with great joy.*

**AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS MAGAZINE** (Spring Edition) is available in the church foyer.

**FINDING SPIRITUALITY IN OUR TROUBLED WORLD: Christian & Muslim Perspectives** lecture at Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert Street East Melbourne on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September from 6.30-7.30pm. Free entry. Light refreshments will be offered. To register: <https://findingspirituality.eventbrite.com.au>

**ANNUAL MASS OF ALL NATIONS** will be celebrated by Archbishop Denis Hart on Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> August in St Patrick's Cathedral at 3pm with the rosary recited at 2pm. All are most welcome.

**'REST, PRAY AND RECREATE' RETREAT WEEKEND** Friday 8<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September at Pallotti College, 80 McNamaras Rd, Millgrove. Cost \$190. Details & bookings: contact Denis on 0427 449 434 or email: [deo.gratias@bigpond.com](mailto:deo.gratias@bigpond.com)

**DARING TO BE DIFFERENT FORUM 2017** "Dust on my shoes. Accompanying others". Xavier College Social Justice Network is presenting this forum, with 3 guest speakers, this Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> August, 7.30-9.30pm at Xavier College, 135 Barkers Rd, Kew. Tickets \$15 or \$5 concession. Contact: Bronwen Kellett 0427 413 503, or go to: [trybooking.com/QSAE](http://trybooking.com/QSAE)

**MELBOURNE CATHOLIC MAGAZINE** is available for purchase in the foyer for \$4 a copy.

<b>ROSTERS:</b> <b>Monday 21<sup>st</sup> to Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August</b>	
<b>Flowers</b>	Sue
<b>Altar Servers</b>	6pm: Kiara & Nicholas
<b>Linen</b>	Susan
<b>Welcomers</b>	6pm: Sue & Anna 9am: Rosa, Terry & Laurel 11am: Gina & Pat
<b>Lectors</b>	6pm: Raul 9am: Peter F 11am: Carolyn S
<b>Counters</b>	Ruby & Stephanie
<b>Gardeners</b>	Harry & Patrick