

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 5: 1 - 7
Let me sing to my friend the song of his love for his vineyard.

My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. He dug the soil, cleared it of stones, and planted choice vines in it. In the middle he built a tower, he dug a press there too. He expected it to yield grapes, but sour grapes were all that it gave.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, I ask you to judge between my vineyard and me. What could I have done for my vineyard that I have not done? I expected it to yield grapes. Why did it yield sour grapes instead?

Very well, I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on, and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on. I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug; overgrown by the briar and the thorn. I will command the clouds to rain no rain on it. Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the House of Israel, and the men of Judah that chosen plant. He expected justice, but found bloodshed, integrity, but only a cry of distress. '

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R/ The vineyard of the Lord
is the House of Israel.*

SECOND READING

*A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the
Philippians 4: 6 - 9*

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise.

Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!
I call you friends, says the Lord,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from My Father.
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Matthew 21: 33 - 43*

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son" he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, ("This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance.") So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures: It was the stone rejected by the builders that became the keystone. This was the Lord's doing and it is wonderful to see? 'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH
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27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A

7th & 8th October, 2017

*O God,
Yours is the vineyard and its harvest,
Yours is the kingdom of justice and peace.
You call Your people to tend its growth.
Bless the work entrusted to our hands,
that we may offer You
an abundance of just works,
and a rich harvest of peace.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen*



FOCUS ON THE READINGS

Both of our readings focus on the rejection of God's message.

The first reading is a parable of the loving, caring owner of the vineyard who did everything possible for the vineyard. Even after God's constant loving care and grace, there are those who turn away. What more could God have done? God does not force a positive response.

The Gospel parable presents the same theme with more drama. Each time God sent a prophet, he and his message were rejected by God's chosen people. God never gives up. But even the most loving offer, God's own Son, is rejected!

What more could God have done? God does not force a positive response.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Monday 9th October St Denis, bishop, martyr and St John Leonardi, priest
Wednesday 11th October St John XXIII, pope
Saturday 14th October St Callistus I, pope, martyr

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

PARISH PRIEST:
Fr Alan Fox 9758 1029
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DEACON:
Rev. Peter Stringfellow 9758 1029
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FAITH DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATOR
Carolyn Sombekke 9758 1029
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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 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.

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A
7th & 8th October, 2017

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently:
Teresa Coviello (Italy).



Those whose anniversaries occur at this time
Angelina Furno, Nicola Mazzei, Bernadette Hopkins, Rosario Tudisca, Liam Rogers.

The sick – Jim McNeill, Catherine Turner, Denis Buckley, Therese Edmunds, Keith Scutt, Peter Commons, Wilma Neville, Mary Brimelow, Steve Reid, Ron Prince, Patricia Quinn, Charlie Kelly, Bonnie Williams, Kathleen Hatton, Edward Kitain, Scott Warner, 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, Allida Serafin, Barbara Kenny, Clive Geach.

GROUP ROSARY SESSION FOR PEACE
Date: *Saturday, 4th November, 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: Judy 9752 2986 or Andrew 9755 2443.

FRIENDSHIP GATHERING: Everyone is welcome on Thursdays between 10 am and 1 pm for a chat over a cuppa, join a card game, knit or just sit for a while. A special informative and interesting presentation on the community called "Hope in Christ Education Centre" in Zambia will now take place on **12 October at 10.30 am** (change of date) in the parish hall. This presentation will be approximately one hour followed by a cup of tea.

MOTHERS' PRAYER GROUP Come and join with mothers, grandmothers, spiritual mothers and godmothers, to pray together from 9am–10am each Tuesday (during school term) in the Parish Centre. For enquiries, please contact the Parish Office.

FAMILY | FOOD | FAITH – Life, Marriage and Family Sunday, 8th October, 2017. Enhancing the aroma and flavour of your family life. Booklets are available on the trolleys at the doors of the church.

SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP – Trivia Night

☺ Come and join the fun.☺
☺ You need not be an expert.☺

Date: **Saturday 21st October**
Venue: **School Hall starting at 7.00 for 7.30 pm**
Cost: **\$10 per adult. BYO drinks & nibbles.**

Make up a table or come and join one.

Tickets are on sale after all weekend masses from this weekend, or contact Patrick on 0434 072 831 (call or text). Proceeds in aid of the "Opening the Doors Foundation" (Aboriginal students support), in Thornbury, & the "Community Based Rehabilitation Foundation" (via Columban Fathers) in the Philippines. Donations most welcome.

LECTORS' ROSTER – The new roster for Oct–Dec 2017 is ready for collection in the church foyer. A big thank you for your commitment to this church ministry.

MELBOURNE CATHOLIC MAGAZINE The October issue is available in the church foyer for \$4 a copy.

ANNUAL MISSION FAIR – The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver will hold their fair on Saturday 14th, October. 9.00am – 3.00pm. Convent Grounds, 154 Cotham Road, Kew.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL: REGISTRATIONS OPEN – The Australian Catholic Youth Festival will be held in Sydney this year, from Thursday 7th December to Saturday 9th December. 2017 Go to the links below for further information and Registration.

Details: cam.org.au/youth/ACYF-2017/Overview
Register: youthfestival.catholic.org.au/register

BUILDING A HEALTHIER CHURCH Thursday 12 October, 7.30-9.30pm, YTU Study Centre, 34 Bedford Street, Box Hill Yarra Theological Union is hosting an evening conversation with Bishop Vincent Long, Maria Kirkwood and Francis Sullivan on 'Building a healthier Church: where to from here?' All welcome.
Cost: Free, no need to RSVP

BAPTISMS – We congratulate **Asher Mario Falzon** and **Lochlan Adeen McCullum** who are to be baptised this weekend. *The Church of God welcomes these children with great joy.*



THANK YOU We, the family of the late Grace Gamley, wish to thank Fr Alan and the parishioners of St John's Parish for the support and expressions of sympathy afforded us at the time of Mum's passing. We were very grateful for your care.

HELP NEEDED The 9am Sunday Mass choir here at St Johns desperately needs new members. **Singers/Musicians Wanted** Perhaps you could help out weekly, fortnightly or monthly? Please let us know how we can make it happen. For information contact Maree Wilson on 9758 6585



ST JOHNS' PARISH MUSICAL – 2018
SJB PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS:

"IT'S NOT ABOUT THE GIRL!"

For more detailed information, please refer to the flyer/insert in this week's Parish Bulletin, requesting volunteers to be involved in our Parish musical. There will be a number of performances between the 5th – 8th July, 2018 however there's a great deal of work to be done before then. We need as much help as we can possibly get. There are many roles and responsibilities both big and small, on stage and off stage, singing and non-singing parts too. Consider taking this opportunity to be involved in a wonderful community building experience, and please do contact me, via email at: csombekkesjb@gmail.com to let me know how you'd like to be involved.

Thanks, Carolyn Sombekke

ROSTERS: Mon 9th to Sun 15th Oct

Flowers	Marg, Judy
Altar Servers	6pm: Kiara, Nicholas
Linen	Anne
Welcomers	6pm: Jayne, Myra 9am: Marg, Adrian, Anastasia 11am: Patrick, Angie, Coral
Lectors	6pm: Louise 9am: Caroline Q 11am: Peter J
Counters	Peter, Dawn, George, Genevieve
Gardening	Barry