

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 45:1. 4-6

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whom he has taken by his right hand to subdue nations before him and strip the loins of kings, to force gateways before him that their gates be closed no more: It is for the sake of my servant Jacob, of Israel my chosen one, that I have called you by your name, conferring a title though you do not know me.

I am the Lord, unrivalled; there is no other God besides me. Though you do not know me, I arm you that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that, apart from me, all is nothing.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/ Give the Lord glory and honour.

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians 1:1-5

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.*

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 22:15-21

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius and he said, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

"One of the most important things you can do on this earth, is to let people know they are not alone."

Shannon L. Alder



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

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29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A

World Mission Sunday

21st & 22nd October, 2017

*O God,
whose image we bear
and whose name we carry,
Yours is the world and all it contains.
Recall us to our true allegiance,
so that above the powers and rulers of this world
You alone may claim our fullest loyalty and love.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*



FOCUS ON THE READINGS

Both our readings focus on the uniqueness of God: there is only one God!

The reading from *Isaiah*, apart from stating this reality again and again, makes its point through the pagan Cyrus. Though he is pagan, he too was named by God. There are no pagan Gods; there is only one God who acts in and through all!

The Gospel makes the distinction between Caesar, thought to be a god, and God, the only true God. The question behind "should we honor him?": Jesus chooses to distinguish between the state and God. The state has its rightful place (of which taxes are a part) but there is only one God – and it's not Caesar!

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Saturday 28th October

St Simon and St Jude, apostles

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: deaconstringfellow@gmail.com

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 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.

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A
21st & 22nd October, 2017

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently:
Denis Buckley



Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:
Theresa Starrs, Katy Taylor, Angelo, Federico and Silvia Zarro, Margherita, Damiano, Jilda and Luigi Coviello.

The sick – Catherine Turner, 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.

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

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.

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.

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.

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



2017 WORLD MISSION APPEAL THIS SUNDAY 22ND OCTOBER

This year, we are invited to reach out and support the crucial work of the Vietnamese Catholic Church in providing critical community resources such as clean drinking water and medical care to the country's 12 million forgotten farming families, living in the coastal mountain regions. Please give generously.

ST JOHNS' PARISH MUSICAL – 2018
SJB PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS:
"IT'S NOT ABOUT THE GIRL!"

We are looking for 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. Sign up sheets are on the glass walls in the church. Consider taking this opportunity to be involved in a wonderful community building experience, and please do contact me, via email at: csombekkesjb@gmail.com or contact the parish office on 9758 1029 to let me know how you'd like to be involved. Auditions commence Sunday 19th November, 2017. Cast 12 years old and above. Thanks, Carolyn Sombekke

CATHOLIC CARE APPEAL THANK YOU to all those parishioners who generously contributed. Total collection amounted to **\$1936.35**

FAMILY CARE SISTERS are offering a variety of one day programs throughout November and December at their 'Kewn Kreestha' Wholistic Centre for Women in Croydon For further details please contact Sr Jill Harding on 9723 6797 or institute.mercy.org.au/about-us/ismapng/family-care-sisters/

KNOX COUNCIL SCHOOL AWARDS SCHEME Congratulations to Elyssa B, from our primary school who was the recipient of this Knox Council Award in recognition of her commitment to our Parish Community.

ALL SOULS' DAY – Thursday, 2nd November Masses to remember all those who have gone before us, will be held at **9.15am** and **7pm**.

NOVEMBER CROSS November is the month of the Holy Souls where we pray for parishioners, friends and members of our families who have died. We pray that they will live forever with the Lord. As is our custom at St John's, from 1st November you'll have the opportunity to write the names of those you would like remembered on our Memorial Cross. For those who would like to have a Mass offered for their deceased relatives and friends, November offering envelopes will be available on the trolleys.



INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is an opportunity to explore the Catholic faith in a non-confronting environment. RCIA is for those who may be searching for God, for those not baptised, for those baptised in another Christian tradition, for those baptised but who have not received first Eucharist and / or Confirmation. Who may be interested? Yourself, your partner, your family, Mum, Dad, child, grandparents or friends. If you would like to come to our introductory meeting on Wednesday, 15th November at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre to find out more, without commitment, please phone the Parish Office on 9758 1029.

BAPTISM – We offer our congratulations to *Alice Brooke Gibson* daughter of Anthony & Ashlea, who is to be baptised this weekend: The Church of God welcomes you with great joy.



SICK LIST – If you are aware that any names on the sick list need to be removed, please contact the Parish Office on 9758 1029.

ROSTERS: Mon 23rd to Sun 29th Oct	
Flowers	Marg, Ange
Altar Servers	6pm: Nicholas
Linen	Sue N
Welcomers	6pm: Queenie 9am: Peter, Neil, Lorraine, Joanna 11am: Tony, Christine
Lectors	6pm: Jenny 9am: Pamela 11am: Carolyn
Counters	Tony, Sasty
Gardening	Barry