

## FIRST READING

### *A reading from the book of Exodus 22:20-26*

The Lord said to Moses, ‘Tell the sons of Israel this, “You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

“If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

“If you take another’s cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity.”

*The Word of the Lord.*

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R/ I love You, Lord, my strength.*

## SECOND READING

### *A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians 1:5-10*

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living

God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

*The Word of the Lord.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
All who love me will keep my words,  
and my Father will love them  
and we will come to them.  
Alleluia!*

## GOSPEL

### *A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 22:34-40*

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, ‘Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?’ Jesus said, ‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.’

*The Gospel of the Lord.*



## **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**

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**30<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A**

**28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2017**

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*Your love, O God, is boundless.*

*We who were strangers*

*have been made your children.*

*We who were defenceless*

*have been brought into your household.*

*Keep us mindful of Your deeds of mercy,*

*that we may love You with all our hearts*

*and love our neighbour as ourselves.*

*We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*



## FOCUS ON THE READINGS

Our readings focus on love of God and neighbour. Our first reading gives us a list of commandments relating to the treatment of others. The list includes foreigners, widows, orphans, the poor. In short, we are commanded to love everyone and to take special care of those in need.

The Gospel is a simple, straight-forward presentation of the “greatest commandment.” The focus is clear. Love of God and neighbour is not merely an option but the definition of what it means to be Christian.

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## FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

*Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November All Saints*

*Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November All Souls*

*Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November St Charles Borromeo, bishop*

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***I have come that you may have life and have it to the full***

***(John 10:10)***

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

**30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A**  
**28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2017**

**PRAYING FOR...**

*All who have died recently:*  
Fr Anthony Guelen



*Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:*  
Danny Rossi, George Edmunds, Daisy Sason-Lim, Pius and Florence Silva.

*The sick* – Baby Daniel Delaney, 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, 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.

**FIRST FRIDAY MASS 3<sup>rd</sup> November Holy Hour**  
before the Blessed Sacrament from 10 am.  
**Anointing Mass at 11 am**  
Please stay for a cup of tea/coffee after Mass.

**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!"**

We are looking for volunteers to be involved in our Parish musical. There will be a number of performances between the 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2017. Cast 12 years old and above. Thanks, Carolyn Sombekke

**ST. VINNIES VOLUNTEERS AND FRIENDS:**  
Our annual dinner with friends and volunteers will be held on Monday 13th November 2017, at the Royal Hotel Ferntree Gully, from 6:30pm. Kindly please RSVP to: Connie Bala 9753 5000 or Beverley McNamara 9758 2818. Hope to see many of you there."

**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

**FAITH SEEKING UNDERSTANDING:**  
Reflection entitled "Forgiveness" by Carolyn is on the trollies for you to take home.

**ALL SOULS' DAY – Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 are available on the trollies.



**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, 15<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre to find out more, without commitment, please phone the Parish Office on 9758 1029.

**PARISH BASED 'MENALIVE' WEEKEND**  
Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 November St Patrick's Pakenham142 Princes Highway, Pakenham  
Enquiries: Jamie Floyd on 0433 055 114 or jamiefloyd@me.com

**GERMAN CHRISTMAS MARKET** – Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November, 10am – 2pm. 51 Elizabeth St, Bayswater. In association with Tabulam & Templar Homes for the Aged.

<b>ROSTERS: Mon 30<sup>th</sup> Oct to Sun 5<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>	
<b>Flowers</b>	Sue N, Lynne
<b>Altar Servers</b>	<b>6pm:</b> Nicholas
<b>Linen</b>	Alvi
<b>Welcomers</b>	<b>6pm:</b> Louise, Peter G <b>9am:</b> Sue, David, Thelma <b>11am:</b> Kath, Andrew, Maria
<b>Lectors</b>	<b>6pm:</b> Raul <b>9am:</b> Tony D <b>11am:</b> Sarah
<b>Counters</b>	Tony, Sasty
<b>Gardening</b>	Michael