

FIRST READING

A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah 23 :1-6

‘Doom for the shepherds who allow the flock of my pasture to be destroyed and scattered – it is the Lord who speaks! This, therefore, is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says about the shepherds in charge of my people: You have let my flock be scattered and go wandering and have not taken care of them. Right, I will take care of you for your misdeeds – it is the Lord who speaks! But the remnant of my flock I myself will gather from all the countries where I have dispersed them, and will bring them back to their pastures: they shall be fruitful and increase in numbers. I will raise up shepherds to look after them and pasture them; no fear, no terror for them anymore; not one shall be lost – it is the Lord who speaks!’

‘See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks –when I will raise a virtuous Branch for David, who will reign as true king and be wise, practising honesty and integrity in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel dwell in confidence. And this is the name he will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.’

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R/. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.*

SECOND READING

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Ephesians 2:13-18

In Christ Jesus, you that used to be so far from us have been brought very close, by the blood of Christ. For he is the peace between us, and has made the two into one and broken down the barrier which used to keep them apart, actually destroying in his own person the hostility caused by the rules and decrees of the Law. This was to create one single New Man in himself out of the two of them and by restoring peace through the cross, to unite them both in a single Body and reconcile them with God. In his own person he killed the hostility. Later he came to bring the

good news of peace, peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near at hand. Through him, both of us have in the one Spirit our way to come to the Father.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!
My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;
I know them, and they follow me.
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 6:30-34

The apostles rejoined Jesus and told him all they had done and taught. Then he said to them, ‘You must come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while’; for there were so many coming and going that the apostles had no time even to eat. So they went off in a boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But people saw them going, and many could guess where; and from every town they all hurried to the place on foot and reached it before them. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he set himself to teach them at some length.

The Gospel of the Lord.



*Come away
to some
lonely
place by
yourselves
and rest
for a while
Mark 6:31*



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

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Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

21st / 22nd July, 2018

*Lord Jesus,
You know our human frailties and daily busyness.
You invite us to come away and rest a while with you.
Shepherd us and enable us to find sacred moments each day,
to know our peace in You. Amen.*



FOCUS ON THE READINGS

Jesus chose disciples to continue his work; he instructed them and empowered them. He sent them out on a mission, and they returned. Excessive demands on one's time, no matter how great the needs and rewards, were issues for Jesus and the Apostles then, as they are for us today. The best translation of the Greek text for today's gospel says that after the apostles returned from their missionary journeys 'there were many coming and going and they had no leisure, even to eat'. Jesus' call to 'come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while' is not just about good work practices and ethical employment policies. It is about humanizing our work, making sense of what we do and seeing our work as means to an end, not an end in itself. There are so many searching people in the world today, people hungering for instruction, good people looking for direction. People who are angry and confused because they believe that the church is no longer dependable. They are people who are looking for answers and for meaning. They are like sheep without a shepherd, and Jesus looks to us to shepherd them.

In the midst of this confusion, there are reliable shepherds who walk with us in the dark valleys. They are willing to share the dangers through which we pass, even at the risk of their own safety. They do not scatter the sheep and drive them away. Instead, they work to dismantle the walls that divide us. They speak the word that gathers us together. They reconcile us with God and with each other. They may not give us easy answers, but their primary concern is to lead us to Jesus, the one who is our peace. Jesus was moved to compassion by the needs of the crowd, he also knew that their needs were not the only ones that had to be met. Jesus teaches his disciples and us, that the balance between work and rest is an obligation of faith. This applies equally to work inside and outside the family home. So this Sunday's Gospel carries a critical message for the modern world. Rest, recreation and leisure are not indulgences about which we should feel guilty. They are rights defended by Christ and protect our human dignity. I hope today you have a well-earned break.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

23rd July St Bridget, religious
25th July St James, apostle

24th July St Sharbel Makhlof, priest.
26th July Ss. Joachim & Anne, parents of Blessed Virgin Mary

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
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PARISH OFFICE:

9758 1029
 Monday to Friday 9 am – 3 pm
 Secretaries: Carole D'Souza, Maree Wilson
 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.

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B**21st / 22nd July, 2018****YEAR OF YOUTH****PRAYING FOR...****All who have died recently:**

Anna Salgado, Sr Eileen Sheehy SJC

**Those who we remember at this time:**

Private Benjamin Ranaldo, Federico Ranaldo, Jack Turner, Clara Coviello, Margaret Haines, John Bekkers, Ettore Luciano

The sick: Peter Collyer, Tom McMahon, Paddy McCann, Brigida Mazzone, Stanley De Silva, Wilhelmina Weerden, Daniel Vincent-Smith, Mary Hill, 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, Brock McAvaney, Beryl Turner, 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, and Clive Geach.

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

GROUP ROSARY SESSION FOR PEACE

Date: **Sat, 4th August, 2018 at 10.30 am**
 Venue: 37 Lane Road, FTG. All are welcome.
 Contact: Pauline Barlow on: 9758 5106

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

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP meet every **Tuesday at 10.00am** in the Parish Hall a cuppa prior, to the meeting. Praise and worship begins at 10.15am, followed by inspiring teaching and prayer ministry. All are warmly welcome. Enquiries: Judy: 9752 2986 or Andrew: 9755 2443.

MOTHERS' PRAYER We welcome all mothers, grandmothers, spiritual mothers and godmothers, to pray together from **9 am–10** For enquiries, please contact the Parish Office.

CATHOLIC MISSION APPEAL NEXT WEEK

The 2018 Catholic Mission Church Appeal highlights the important work of Catholic Mission in Myanmar; through programs aimed to improve education for children, specifically through teacher training and the implementation of alternative, child-centred education around the country. Parishioners are invited to reach out through their financial gifts and prayers in support of the work of the Church in Myanmar, as they support education and the training of teachers, even in the most remote and disadvantaged areas. Together we can help heal a nation through education in Myanmar and all around the world. Please give generously to this appeal on 28th / 29th July.

SENIOR YOUTH Let's talk! Your opinions do matter! Knox Deanery invite you to join in for an informal chat to explore the challenges of participating in your local church community. Come along to St Joseph's Parish Hall 22 Boronia Rd Boronia on Wednesday 22nd August from 7.30pm to 9.15pm Enquiries: yahe@bigpond.com or Tel.: 0430 194 590 Refreshments – Pizza and drinks provided.

EMMAUS COLLEGE INFORMATION EVENING AND OPEN MORNING

there will be **EMMAUS COLLEGE** an Information Evening on Monday 23rd July, 2018 at 7.00pm and an Open Morning on Friday, 3rd August 2018 at 9am-10.30am at the Vermont South Campus located at 503 Springvale Road, Vermont South. Ph 9845 3211. For tour bookings or more information please see the College website: emmaus.vic.edu.au.

MATER CHRISTI COLLEGE:

Bring your family and friends to our upcoming tour, Sunday 29th July 2018, commencing **MaterChristi** at 10.00am. Mater Christi girls consistently achieve region leading VCE and vocational results. A visit will enable your family to witness our vibrant, inclusive and warm community Visit materchristi.edu.au to book your tour.

SAVE THE DATE: RCIA NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2018.

A wonderful opportunity for our parish to enliven our RCIA Team or set up a new one. Keynote Speakers: Shane Dwyer- Director National Centre for Evangelisation; Dr Elio Capra SDB-Catholic Theological College; Louise Campbell-Director National Liturgy Office, New Zealand. For more information go to <http://www.cianetwork.net> or email: treasurer-cianetwork@outlook.com Places are limited and can now be secured through Trybooking.: www.trybooking.com/UHCM

BAPTISMS Congratulations to **Hunter Cannestra and Zoe Mollica** who are to be baptised this weekend. The Church of God welcomes you with great joy.

SOLEMN INSTALLATION MASS FOR THE NINTH ARCHBISHOP OF MELBOURNE

Wednesday 1st August, 7pm, St Patrick's Cathedral. You are warmly invited to attend the liturgical reception and Solemn Mass of the ninth Archbishop of Melbourne, Most Reverend Peter A Comensoli, who will be installed as Archbishop at this Mass. Refreshments will follow at Central Hall, 20 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy. All welcome. With limited space in the cathedral, guests are requested to book to ensure a place. Guest bookings via TryBooking link: www.trybooking.com/WXSE

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED Can you spare an hour each week to visit a newly arrived refugee or migrant to help them learn English? There are isolated people across Melbourne who need your help to settle into their new communities in Australia. Melbourne Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP) is currently seeking volunteers. Tutors work one-on-one with students, or in small groups if you'd prefer to work as a team. Free training and support is provided and will commence in August. Contact: 9269 1514 or Email: amepvts@melbournepolytechnic.com.au or see the website: www.melbourneamep.com.au/volunteer/

TREASURING OUR LATER YEARS Heart of Life Spirituality Centre in Box Hill is offering a Reflection day on Saturday, 11 August from 10am – 4pm Cost \$60 (BYO Lunch). Enquiries and bookings by reply email: holsc@bigpond.com or T: 9890 1101 or by visiting: www.heartoflife.melbourne.

ST JOHNS TENNIS CLUB the Thursday Morning Ladies Mid-week tennis team is urgently looking for players, either on an emergency basis or full time to join our friendly team. For more information please phone Beth on 0423 759 850

ROSTERS: Mon 23rd July to Sun 30th July	
Flowers	Sue N
Altar Servers	6pm Nicholas D
Linen	Laurel S
Welcomers	6pm Sue N 9am Rosa L & Terry & Laurel S 11am: Gina M & Pat O'Brien,
Lectors	6pm. Phuong B 9am: Pamela E 11am Sue S
Counters	Peter & Dawn G, George & Genevieve W
Gardening	JULY Michael D..